



IFMSA

International Federation of
Medical Students' Associations

Statement of International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) 69th World Health Assembly, Geneva, Switzerland

Agenda item 15.1. Draft global strategies on HIV, STIs and Hepatitis 2016-2021

Honorable Chair,
Distinguished Delegates,

The International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) have for a long time emphasized and pushed forward strategies on zero tolerance towards ignorance-fueled stigma and discrimination in healthcare against those living with HIV, hepatitis or any other STI and would like to congratulate the creation of the global health strategy on these topics.

We strongly believe the draft strategy offers a framework for Member States to implement best practice healthcare from a people-centered, holistic and human rights approach that ensures a healthy livelihood and promotes the wellbeing of those affected or at risk of being affected by HIV and other STIs.

IFMSA, as a member of The PACT, a UNAIDS Youth constituency, wants to reaffirm that Actions to End AIDS by 2030 will require an increased effort and sustainable investment in the field. We are still far from achieving our goal but broad intersectoral partnerships and the involvement of civil society organizations as important actors in efforts can help enormously.

As an organization with a strong focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights, we encourage in particular comprehensive sexuality education as a method in order to reach and protect those most vulnerable and at risk, particularly young people. We oppose any action by member states to restrict young people's access to education and information regarding their sexual and reproductive health.

As medical students, we understand that business as usual is not enough - we, as a global community must take rapid action to end AIDS, hepatitis and other STI's by 2030 and ensure that no one is left behind.

Thank you for your attention.