

**Statement of the
International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA)
74th World Health Assembly on COVID-19 Response
Item 17.1 COVID-19 Response**

Honourable Chairperson, distinguished delegates,

As the world reels from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on all spheres of our lives, the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations recognizes and appreciates the important efforts by the WHO and the Member States and affirms the benefit of consultation and collaboration in the response to this global health issue.

The IFMSA calls on the Member States to strengthen COVID-19 preparedness and response strategies by ensuring continuous capacity building and improvement of health conditions of the health workforce.

Moreover, we call upon you, Member States, and the WHO, to ensure equitable vaccine distribution, to promote research-based practice in healthcare, and to protect and vaccinate health workers and students globally who are fighting the pandemic.

Thank you.