

**Statement of the
International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA)
150th World Health Organization Executive Board Meeting
*Item 21.2 WHO reform: involvement of non-State actors in WHO's governing bodies***

Honourable Chairperson, distinguished delegates,

Youth have a unique and essential perspective and therefore the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations, supported by the International Veterinary Students' Association, highlights our excitement about the launch of the WHO Youth Council. We call on you, the WHO and all Member States, to welcome this council as a meaningful new instrument for broad and impactful youth engagement. However, we would like to note an overall troublesome decrease of engagement with NSAs at WHO High-Level Meetings.

We underline the importance of improved engagement with civil society and particularly call upon you, the WHO and Member States, to urgently find new and innovative ways for engagement in the virtual setting, including providing ways for one-on-one interactions between all our delegations in virtual platforms - bridging the current major gap created - in all WHO high-level meetings.

Thank you.