

**Statement of the  
International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA)  
150th World Health Organization Executive Board Meeting  
*Item 8: The global health sector strategies on, respectively, HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually  
transmitted infections & Item 10: Road map for neglected tropical diseases 2021–2030***

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Honourable Chairperson, distinguished delegates,

Today, AIDS is still a major cause of death and each day 1 million cases of STIs are acquired.

We, supported by the International Veterinary Students' Association, applaud the World Health Organization and its Member States' continuous efforts for tackling these epidemics. However, main challenges have remained unchanged for decades, such as social stigma and lack of implementation of comprehensive sexual education. The IFMSA works at the grassroots to mitigate these obstacles but collective efforts are needed to adequately respond to this, including accelerated efforts on vaccines including HPV and HIV vaccines, accessible testing and increasing availability of treatment.

Finally, we call upon the WHO and Member States to engage youth in strategic global health partnerships and national policies implementation as youth-led activities have an important role in the current situation and provide a unique perspective to the problem.

Thank you