

PHM Statement at the WHA78 - 17-29 May 2025

Agenda Item 11.1

Universal health coverage

Concerningly, UHC, as implemented, prioritizes insurance-based models and private sector delivery, undermining public systems and deepening inequities. To resist further commodification, WHO and Member States must reorient UHC towards tax-funded, publicly delivered services that treat healthcare and medicine as public goods.

We caution against loan-based financing of PHC, which increases debt burdens and dependency. We call for debt cancellation, sustainable public financing and public sector strengthening through technology transfer, technical assistance and supportive tariff structures.

We urge Member States to integrate vertical programs and equitable access to medicines, in particular for rare diseases, into comprehensive primary care systems, , and ensure all health services are covered under UHC. We emphasize the need for robust and transparent health data that is publicly available and call for continued use of indicators that allow racial, gender, socioeconomic and migration-related inequalities to be addressed.