

## **Intervention on the WHO EB meeting - point 5 WHO Reform (Document EB 130/5 Add. 4)**

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Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of the World Medical Association, the International Council of Nurses, the International Pharmaceutical Federation, the World Confederation for Physical Therapy, the World Dental Federation, the World Organization of Family Doctors and the International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation all representing current and future healthcare professionals.

We would like to commend the WHO Secretariat for its analysis on the need for reforming WHO and the solutions suggested in document EB 130/5 Add. 4.

We very much welcome the strong emphasis on the added value of engagement with stakeholders.

Through such engagement, our organisations can share the health workforce perspective more effectively. Our role in early identification of trends, critical consideration of best practices, competence and scope of practice help align health services and systems to patient needs. All these inputs ensure that evidence-based health policies are applicable to the daily practice of healthcare professionals. As well as, enable the capacity of our organisations and health professionals to implement needed change.

As mentioned in the last sentence of point 14a, the need for differentiating the types of NGOs, our organisations urge you to take a step further than the simple approach of differentiating NGOs into two categories: BINGOs (Business Interest NGOs) and PINGOs (People Interest NGOs). Such a differentiated approach may limit the richness of debate and result in polarisation of perspectives.

However if such an approach is to be followed, then we strongly recommend that WHO and the Executive Board recognise the importance of NGOs representing current and future healthcare professionals (HPINGO).

Indeed, such organisations represent individuals working both in public or private healthcare sectors, and who are subject in many countries, to a Code of Ethics and appropriate regulation to ensure that the interests of patients come first.

Therefore, the simple distinction between BINGOs and PINGOs is limited in its application to our organisations and we would ask that an HPINGO category be added.

Thank you for your attention.