

## The Time for Increased Action and Investments on Health Workers is Now

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On the occasion of the 78th World Health Assembly, the Frontline Health Workers Coalition urges the adoption of the resolution, **Accelerating action on the global health and care workforce by 2030**, to achieve the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 3 and advance broader socio-economic goals.

Health workers are the foundation of health systems, providing crucial health services to communities around the world. In addition to primary and preventative care, health workers are the first line of defense against noncommunicable diseases, pandemics, and the health-related consequences of extreme weather and conflict. Greater investments are critical to strengthening long-term training, support and sustainable employment of health workers in environments that safeguard their physical and mental health.

“Health workers are the heart of health. Increased commitments and sustainable solutions across all cadres of the health workforce are crucial to maintaining gains and accelerating progress towards health and development goals,” said Crystal Lander, Chair, Frontline Health Workers Coalition.

Health workers are the best investment strategy for global health and development. By enabling good health and fueling economic growth, health workers offer an exceptional return on investment– up to a 9-fold economic return, according to the World Health Organization. Supporting them is cost-effective and essential to achieving development targets and ensuring a more prosperous future.

“With the revised estimate of a shortage of 11 million health workers by 2030, we urge Member States to move forward with the resolution, **Accelerating action on the global health and care workforce by 2030**. A robust and resilient health workforce is crucial in protecting against epidemics, addressing NCDs and advancing health in communities around the world,” said Tina Flores, Executive Director, Frontline Health Workers Coalition.

We stand at a critical juncture, and we must leverage best practices, optimize multi-sectoral partnerships and increase investments to grow and strengthen human resources for health.