

## **IAHPC Statements 150<sup>th</sup> World Health Organization Executive Board Meeting**

<https://www.who.int/about/governance/executive-board/executive-board-150th-session>

January 24-29, 2022

### **Agenda Item 15, Grouping 1 a Health Emergencies**

The IAHPC humbly request that all member states, led by the Executive Board, support the inclusion of "palliative care" into any language pertaining to a pandemic treaty or framework that specifies health system responses to emergencies alongside "therapeutics, diagnostics and vaccines". The agreed language exists. In 2020, the WHA approved Resolution 73/1 calling on member states "to provide access to safe testing, treatment, and palliative care for COVID-19, paying particular attention to the protection of those with pre-existing health conditions, older people, and other people at risk, in particular health professionals, health workers and other relevant frontline workers. The need became acute during the pandemic, exposing health system shortcomings in this crucial area. Our request for inclusion of the agreed language is necessary to support the funding and civil society partnerships to help member states operationalize WHA 67/19, WHA73/1.

### **Agenda Item 18 – Triple Billion**

#### **Statement:**

One objective of the triple billion framework is to create a social movement for health equity. The IAHPC is building that movement by strengthening workforce capacity through training and advocacy for palliative care education in medical, nursing and pharmacy schools. Lack of trained professionals is an identified barrier to palliative care development. 75% of people globally need palliative care, the majority in LMICs, an inequitable situation on its face. Particularly affected are children, older persons, refugees and migrants and prisoners. Despite the universally recognized indispensability controlled medicines in tackling pain in medical settings, undertreatment of pain due to unavailability, represents a fundamental global inequity that member states must tackle to respect, protect and fulfill the right to health and reach SDG Goals 3 and 17. The agreed language to include these topics exists and can be provided upon request.