



SHEM HIGHLIGHTS

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Examining the World Health Assembly through the Lens of Civil Society Organizations Expectations

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The 77th World Health Assembly (WHA) convened under the slogan "Health for All, All for Health." This motto signifies the attendees' intention to establish agreements that will impact the lives of millions of people worldwide. After all, the **WHA** is a **pinnacle** political moment for **global health systems**, where the future of population health is envisioned. I analyze 15 statements from civil society organizations formally connected to the WHO in this piece.

The material focused on the Pandemic Agreement, with all organizations emphasizing the need for equity. They **denounced** prioritizing industrial and economic goals over health and the secret negotiations' lack of transparency. They **lamented** the Agreement's inconclusiveness and demanded effective equity to secure public R&D funding and rapid access to health products and technology transfer. They **advocated** for strengthening health systems guided by strong and protective Primary Care and person-centered, personalized services, and fair remuneration for health workers. They **recognized** the WHO's central role and the importance of international cooperation and solidarity. They **demand**ed legally binding obligations, transparent processes, and civil society participation in promoting the multilateral system.

The dispute over health as a public good or commodity gained reinforcement with the approval of the resolution on Social participation for universal health coverage, health, and well-being", expanding the spaces for national discussion and debate. How the disputes are going to happen in these arenas is something that we'll see in the upcoming Assemblies.

This is a shorter and edited version, read the original one [here](#).

ACHIEVEMENTS AND ANALYSIS

[World Health Assembly 2024: a historic loss and a handful of wins](#)

[The New Amendments to the International Health Regulations](#)

[A statement from UHC2030 on the adoption of the resolution on social participation](#)

[WHO Landmark resolution passed on Health and Climate Change](#)



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News from the field

EMPOWERING VOICES: CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION AT THE 77TH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

Civil society organizations embraced the slogan "All for health and health for all!" at the 77th World Health Assembly (WHA). Universal Health Coverage and Primary Health Care were the guiding principles, with social participation gaining a resolution of their relevance in the planning and implementation of national health policies. This paved the way for people, communities, and civil society to have a stronger voice in decisions affecting their health and well-being. The International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) recorded its participation in the side event "Social participation in universal health coverage: how the health workforce can help highlight that each community has unique needs for training and resources." The People's Health Movement promoted the participation of young health activists from different parts of the world in the Assembly's activities, aiming to analyze and discuss climate change, pollution and health, economy and health for all, and the agreement on pandemic prevention and response. The World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) held a side event to discuss strategies for protecting everyone through the vaccination of girls and boys against HPV. The event featured public health leaders advocating for the global implementation of gender-neutral HPV vaccination programs. STOPAIDS reported that members of the Digital Health and Rights Project emphasized that human rights must be at the center of digital health governance. They participated in the assembly to demand digital health governance that meets the needs of diverse young adults in developing countries. Continue reading [here](#).

VIDEO

[The 77th World Health Assembly, a review](#)

PODCAST

[An update from the 77th World Health Assembly](#)

[Back to the Future at the World Health Assembly](#)

ARTICLE

[Offline: The system is not working](#)

[The Resolutions of the 77th World Health Assembly of the WHO and Our Daily Epistemic Defeat: The Urgent Need for a Praxis Guided by Human Rights](#)

ENDEAVOURS: SHEM'S CONCERNS ABOUT HEALTH IN CONFLICT ZONES



To achieve health equity in Gaza, several strategies are essential. Protecting healthcare infrastructure and personnel is paramount, ensuring facilities are safeguarded and workers can operate safely. Strengthening health systems through rebuilding infrastructure and investing in workforce training is critical. Promoting community engagement empowers residents to participate actively in their health, ensuring services are culturally sensitive and context-specific. Collaboration and partnership at the international level can mobilize resources and support for health initiatives. Read the full **statement** [here](#).

POINT OF VIEW

SHEM MEMBERS' WRITINGS AND
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Sustainable health inequity today

SHEM STEERING COMMITTEE

**The imperative for health-centred
climate-resilient development**

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Introduction to IHR Monitoring and Evaluation

THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

In 2005, the World Health Organization (WHO) introduced a set of guidelines known as the International Health Regulations (IHR). This free course offers an accessible, entry-level overview of the IHR. Are you ready to broaden your understanding of global health governance and make a difference? **Register** [here](#).

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At SHEM we link citizens, public health and healthcare advocates, scientists, academics, and related institutions from all regions, cultures, and ideologies pursuing the universal right to health. We aim to promote sustainable health equity as an ethical principle that guides all national and international economic, social, and environmental policies.

SHEM's Highlights Curators: Andre Luis Sales, Diana Zeballos, Gustavo Buss