

WGH Advocacy Messages for 77th World Health Assembly

1. Gender-responsive Health Systems

- Monitoring and evaluating health systems' performance and progress toward Universal Health Coverage (UHC) through data and analyses disaggregated by sex, race, gender identity, and other relevant stratifiers.
- Designing, properly resourcing, and delivering health systems based on gender-responsive policies and health services, ensuring the elimination of gender inequality and discrimination
- Fully delivering on all commitments to gender-responsive health systems, gender equality and the rights of women and girls in the 2019 and 2023 UHC High-Level Meetings' Political Declarations,
- The 14th General Programme of Work (GPW14) of the World Health Organization (WHO) is a pivotal roadmap in the global pursuit of equitable health for all. Adopting a gender-responsive approach to implementing and delivering the GPW14 is not just a matter of inclusivity; it is a fundamental imperative for achieving comprehensive and resilient health outcomes.
- Resourcing and delivering universal access to sexual and reproductive health services as essential services and mainstreaming them in national health policy frameworks.
- Ensure gender equality and inclusion in health systems leadership and decision-making at all levels, including the use of quotas, targets, and all-women shortlists for selection until gender parity is achieved.
- Ensure that gender-responsive UHC and health for all are on the agenda for the Summit of the Future and the Pact for the Future. There is no future with HER: Health, Equity, Rights.

2. Gender Equal Health and Care Workforce

The health sector globally is one of the biggest employers of women globally. About 70% of health and care workers and over 80% of CHWs globally are women. Yet, systemic gender inequities in health segregate women into lower status, lower paid - and often unpaid - work in health. In addition, only 25% of senior leaders in global health are women. *Our key priorities:*

- Ensuring gender parity in leadership for women health workers, in health governance, decision-making bodies and advisory committees.



- Ending gender inequities within the health workforce, including closing the gender pay gap, ending unpaid work in health systems, ensuring all health workers have safe, fairly paid work free from violence and sexual harassment, and protecting the physical and mental health of all health workers
- Incorporating Community Health Workers (CHWs) into the formal health sector and paying them fairly as a matter of economic justice for women health workers and to strengthen the capacity of health systems.
- Committing to providing safe and decent work environments for women health workers, including the provision of mental health and psychosocial support, medical countermeasures, sanitation, infection control, and fit-for-purpose personal protective equipment (PPE).

Enacting laws, policies, and accountability mechanisms to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment, especially of women and children