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Written statement on behalf of AMEE, the Association for Medical Education in Europe

Health and education systems are facing challenging times with great implications for health care. Education programmes must be prepared to cope with current and future challenges namely with globalization, patients' new rights and new expectations, explosion of medical knowledge and new technologies, a need for more social accountability, for a culture of evidence to support decisions in practice and for a better alignment of health and educational priorities, just to name a few.

An authentic curriculum is necessary where the professionals trained will meet the needs of the population they will serve. This has implications in the curriculum design strategies, teaching and learning methods, assessment and selection of students to health care professions. In delivering, the curriculum there is a need for greater collaboration between the different stakeholders including patients and students, between the different phases of education and between health care professions schools with a move to unbundling the curriculum.

If these aims are to be achieved, there is a need for greater professionalism in education and for staff development. Evidence of best practices in education and Excellence in the field should be encouraged and recognized through initiatives such as the ASPIRE to Excellence programme (www.aspire-to-excellence.org).

AMEE, the Association for Medical Education in Europe (www.amee.org), is committed to achieving these changes and we are ready to collaborate with WHO and other NGOs with common aims. AMEE believes that only together the above changing goals can be successfully achieved.

*On behalf of AMEE (the Association for Medical Education in Europe)
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Past President of AMEE
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