

Statement from the International Society of Radiology (ISR)

represented through its partner organisation European Society of Radiology – ESR
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First of all, I would like to sincerely thank WHO for having granted the International Society of Radiology the opportunity to submit a written and now also an oral statement in this session and in which we are referring to agenda item 5a:

Lessons learned from Health 2020 implementation in the WHO European Region since 2012

The mission of the International Society of Radiology (ISR) is to facilitate the global endeavours of its member organisations to improve patient care and population health through medical imaging. The ISR supports its members in the WHO European Region in shaping their health policies in accordance with Health 2020 through its collaboration with the European Society of Radiology (ESR), whose Radiation Protection Subcommittee I am chairing. In this capacity I am also member of the EuroSafe Imaging Steering Committee, whose chairman, Prof. Guy Frija, is Co-Chair of the ISR Quality and Safety Alliance.

The ISR and the ESR believe that medical radiation protection, as well as high-quality radiological education and radiology related research are important aspects of fostering health and well-being. Since 2012 the ISR and the ESR have launched, and are constantly developing, a number of related initiatives that are freely accessible to their members and which aim to bridge the gap from raising awareness and advocacy to impacting the reality of clinical practice. Examples include the ESR's quality and safety initiative EuroSafe Imaging, the clinical decision support system ESR iGuide, the online education platform ESR Connect and various support programmes for less affluent members or regions. Although progress has been made, a lot still remains to be done to overcome health inequalities. This will need to go hand in hand with raising awareness among policy makers of the important contribution of radiology to value-based healthcare, which is still underestimated.

The ISR and the ESR agree that it is necessary to further stimulate conversation about the importance of health equity for the future of countries and communities and to continue contributing to reaching sustainable equitable growth and development from which everyone benefits.

- ISR and ESR therefore fully endorse the adoption of draft resolution
 <u>EUR/RC69/Conf.Doc./11</u> on Lessons learned from the implementation of Health 2020, the
 European policy framework for health and well-being.
- ISR and ESR fully support the adoption of draft resolution <u>EUR/RC69/Conf.Doc./10</u> on Accelerating progress towards healthy, prosperous lives for all, increasing equity in health and leaving no one behind in the WHO European Region.