



PRESS STATEMENT

MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA

WHA79: FROM RESOLUTION TO ACTION, TRANSLATING MALAYSIA'S HEALTH REFORMS FOR GLOBAL IMPACT

Minister of Health, YB Datuk Seri Dr. Dzulkefly Ahmad, is leading the Ministry of Health Malaysia's delegation to Geneva, Switzerland to attend the **79th World Health Assembly (WHA79)**, scheduled from 18 to 23 May 2026. The WHA is held annually and attended by Health Ministers, senior health officials and policymakers from member states of the World Health Organization (WHO).

Malaysia's participation this year signals a transformative era in the country's health diplomacy, transitioning from global recognition to the **decisive translation of policy into action** for the benefit of the people. A cornerstone of this mission is the delivery of the **Country Statement** on 19 May, where Malaysia will advocate for people-centred health reforms and unimpeded global humanitarian assistance.

Malaysia's intellectual leadership will be showcased through **18 strategic interventions** addressing critical issues such as malaria elimination, mental health, non-communicable diseases (NCD), and the economics of health for all. The Minister has also been honoured with invitations to deliver **keynote addresses** and lead high-level discussions at **six (6) prestigious international forums**, focusing on global lung health, eye health, behavioural sciences, hepatitis, and rare diseases.

Regionally, Malaysia is spearheading the proposed **ASEAN Declaration on Rare Diseases** to ensure that patients, particularly children, receive earlier diagnoses and equitable access to specialised care. Domestically, the launch of the *National Blueprint for Behavioural Sciences* will reinforce the **'War on 5S'**—targeting sugar, smoke, salt, stigma, and sedentary

lifestyles—as the core of Malaysia’s NCD prevention and mental health agenda.

Strategic bilateral engagements are scheduled with **Spain** to adapt their world-leading organ donation "gold standard" for Malaysian patients, alongside meetings with **Singapore, Vietnam, and Bangladesh** to strengthen regional digital health initiatives and health security.

Malaysia’s success in securing affordable access to critical medicines has also earned global acclaim, with the **Medicines Patent Pool (MPP)** selecting the nation as a global case study for its leadership in the national HIV response. These milestones reflect the Ministry of Health’s unwavering commitment under the **MADANI framework** to build a health system that is equitable, modern, and inclusive for the wellbeing of all Malaysians.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA
18 MAY 2025

