Statements by NGOs in official relations with WHO at the WHO governing body meetings

15.7 International Society of Radiology

Agenda Item:
15.7 Health intervention and technology assessment in support of universal health coverage

Statement:
On behalf of the International Society of Radiology (ISR)
Delivered by Dr Lawrence Lau, Executive Committee Member, ISR
Basic radiology improves health, saves lives and ensures early diagnosis and intervention of many conditions. One of the community’s needs and priorities is to improve access to basic radiology and to achieve more equitable and universal health coverage.
Poor access to basic radiology is not confined to resource-limited countries but occurs in the remote and rural regions of better-resourced countries.
Access to services depends on a combination of: 1) the capacity of trained health professionals and 2) the use of innovative and sustainable technologies. These 2 elements are complementary and underpin successful implementation. Improvement in universal health coverage is a team effort. Different stakeholders play complementary roles. As an NGO in official relations with the WHO on Health Technologies, the ISR is ready to collaborate with the WHO and other stakeholders in Health Intervention and Technology Assessment by:
1) Facilitating education and training of health professionals to improve capacity, capability and competency; and
2) Advising the selection and use of safe, affordable, appropriate, innovative, reliable and sustainable technologies for a given setting with a cost-effective life cycle. The ISR urges
the WHA to adopt a resolution to improve universal health coverage through the strengthening of access to basic radiology by prioritizing education and training of health professionals and applying affordable, sustainable and innovative technologies.