

World Organization of Family Doctors

Avenue des Arts 7-8, 1210 Brussels, Belgium

www.wonca.com

secretariat@wonca.com

+32 (0) 2 329 00 75



Intervention by the World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA)

Agenda item 6(b): A multi-communicable disease elimination approach for the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EM/RC73/7)

Seventy-third session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean, Cairo, Egypt, 13–15 October 2026

Delivered by Prof Nagwa Nashat Hegazy, Chair of the WONCA Working Party on Education, on 14 October 2026

Honourable Chair, Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

WONCA welcomes this draft resolution. Eliminating multiple communicable diseases requires shared health-system capacity, while preserving disease-specific expertise.

Family medicine translates integration into practice through first-contact access, comprehensive care, continuity and coordination. These functions connect vaccination, early diagnosis, treatment completion and surveillance with sustained community engagement.

WONCA's advocacy on vaccine equity, antimicrobial stewardship and outbreak preparedness provides a foundation for this agenda. Through our member organisations and professional networks, we can strengthen family medicine capacity, advance quality standards and share frontline evidence.

Action, access and equity require sustained investment in primary care teams, reliable diagnostics and medicines, and cross-border continuity for displaced populations.

We encourage monitoring elimination milestones alongside equitable coverage and continuity of care. National progress must not conceal communities still unreached.

Thank you.