



MSF Statement

Agenda Item 28.1 – Progress reports: Strengthening diagnostic capacity (resolution WHA76.5 (2023))

78th World Health Assembly, May 2025

Médecins Sans Frontières welcomes progress on WHA76.5 and efforts to improve access, quality, and prioritization of diagnostics. To be effective, these initiatives must ensure equitable access at all health care levels, including primary care, especially in low- and middle-income countries and among neglected, hard-to-reach, or conflict-affected populations.

Diagnostics are not a luxury, they are the foundation of quality care. Without them, appropriate treatment is impossible, causing poor outcomes and inefficiencies. In an era of declining donor support, investments in diagnostic must be protected, as weakening this capacity risks undermining entire health programs. Strengthening diagnostics requires a continuum—from affordable, accessible tools to services themselves.

We urge WHO and Member States to prioritize implementation that delivers measurable improvements in diagnostic access and aligns with frontline realities, not only global policies.