World Organization of Family Doctors

Wonca
World family doctors. Caring for people.

Statement on climate change and health

78th World Health Assembly

Agenda Item 18.3 — One Billion More People Enjoying Better Health and Well-being – Climate Change and Health

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Environmental factors contribute to nearly a quarter of global deaths. Climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss are accelerating noncommunicable diseases and threatening global health security.

Following the 2025 Global Health Summit, WONCA reaffirms that climate action is health action. Primary healthcare must lead efforts in climate adaptation and mitigation.

WONCA promotes sustainable prescribing, “One Minute for the Planet” conversations in daily consultations, and the adoption of low-carbon, climate-resilient clinical practices.

Aligning healthy lifestyles with planetary health builds stronger, more resilient communities.

We urge WHO and policymakers to equip and train the primary care workforce in climate-conscious care, foster cross-sector collaboration, and invest in research and innovation.

A strong, climate-aware primary care system protects people today—and the planet tomorrow.