



**RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE**  
LIBERTÉ • ÉGALITÉ • FRATERNITÉ



## **WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY**

*"It is now more than ever the case that no single Country has the answer to these challenges. It is this conviction that underpins France's resolute commitment to an international system that is more democratic, more just and more representative of the realities of today's world."*

M. J. Chirac, President of the French Republic

### **TOPIC AREA A: ECOSYSTEM AND HUMAN WELL-BEING**

Ecosystem and human health are closely related. According to the findings of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, immediate attitudes are needed in order to improve six specific aspects and, by doing so, guarantee the well-being of the global population. These are: *food; fresh water; fuel; nutrient and waste management, processing and detoxification; cultural, spiritual and recreational services from ecosystems and climate regulation*. These measures can either be preventive (in order to avoid dramatic changes in the factors) or protective (actions to protect people against the pejorative consequences of the inevitable changes).

France is deeply involved in the improvement and guaranteeing of health for needing populations. Our efforts are specially directed towards the African Sub-Saharan countries, which possess the most suffering populations. Over 75% of our funding for health is directed to Morocco, Mozambique, Senegal, Mali, Madagascar, Togo, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Cambodia, had, Central African Republic, Djibouti, Niger and Rwanda.

Although France's major investments concern the HIV and AIDS pandemic, we also provide funding for the enhancement of sanitation facilities and environmental protection, be it through bilateral or multilateral aid. The French Republic provides concentrated aid, bilaterally, to few, specific countries, which are the above nominated. The funding for these operations comes from several governmental instruments, such as the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, of Health and Social Protection, of Economy, Finance and Industry, of National Education, Higher Education and Research and the French Development Agency. Nevertheless, France strongly encourages and participates in multilateral assistance as well, through organizations such as the World Health Organization, UNAIDS and UNICEF.

It is keen to mention that the French Nation sharply acts through of multilateral agreements, involving both public and private sectors, with the major objective of establishing mutual cooperation in terms of environmental protection.

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**MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA FRANCE AUPRÈS DES NATIONS UNIES**  
**PERMANENT MISSION OF FRANCE TO THE UNITED NATIONS**



## **WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY**

### **TOPIC AREA B: HUMAN RESOURCES FOR HEALTH**

The lack of human resources for health, or the absence of preparation and training for them, can be considered one of the major obstacles to the achievement of health-related Millennium Development Goals, alongside bad governments, disregard of human and/or cultural local factors and under-funding, among others. Usually, there are not enough health-care professionals in developing countries (which are exactly the most needy) because of low wages, gender discrimination, poor working conditions, among others.

France recognizes the importance of investing in human resources for health, seeking to increase the number of professionals, assistants and volunteers in the field, as well as to provide them with consistent, qualified capacitating. We believe an effective intervention can solve the human resources crisis.

Actions must be directed towards human resources planning, management and training, including staff motivation and adaptation to the cultural, social and human aspects of the society in which

people work. The French Republic intends to demonstrate in the days to come that the above mentioned attitudes shall be entailed preferably, in a bilateral - and multilateral - basis, directed to specific problem areas, notably, the African Sub-Saharan countries. Partnerships between governments and private institutions should be encouraged. Moreover, governments should foment private initiatives towards training and recruiting of health professionals and others. Multilateralism should not be neglected, though. Partnerships with international organizations ought to be encouraged, especially in what refers to social security matters.

France understands that Investments shall also cover other important factors, which are indirectly connected to human resources. These include, *inter alia*, the improvement of health systems, providing better working conditions, in order to avoid the evasion of professionals, and increasing wages, as to make them more compatible with those offered by developed countries.