

## **Global Neurosurgery: Impact of Participation of Neurosurgeons in the World Health Organization and World Health Assembly**

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Since the creation of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1948, the annual World Health Assembly (WHA) has been the major forum for discussion, debate and approval of the global health agenda. As such, it forms the framework for the policies and budgets of many of its member states. For most of its history, a significant portion of the attention of health ministers and member nations has been on issues of clean water, vaccination and communicable diseases. For neurosurgeons, the adoption of WHA Resolution 68.15 changed the global health landscape. This resolution was adopted in 2015 after the publication that same year of the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery Report entitled “Global Surgery 2030: evidence and solutions for achieving health, welfare and economic development.” Mandating global strengthening of emergency and essential surgery, this resolution has led to formation of surgical and anesthesia collaborations which center on the WHA. Participation by neurosurgeons has grown dramatically, with the result that the neurosurgical global agenda is gaining momentum.