

# Public health emergencies of international concern or catastrophes

## ISSUE NOTE

### BRICS 2025



## 1. Background Information

The major transformations in the economic globalization era have affected various segments of the world, impacting the commercial, productive, technological, monetary, and financial sectors.

This situation highlights the need for countries to be prepared to address the emerging demands that arise from these changes. In health, particularly following the COVID-19 pandemic, numerous scenarios have emerged, including the urgent need to establish a strong social protection system for workers. This encompasses ensuring adequate support for professionals in health systems, both public and private, enabling them to respond effectively to public health emergencies.

In such situations, it is crucial to develop strategies that ensure effective workforce planning and adequate provisioning to facilitate the mobilization of health professionals as part of humanitarian aid efforts. This is especially relevant in the context of epidemics, natural or environmental disasters, climate emergencies, and widespread workplace accidents.

Given the accumulated knowledge and experience of BRICS countries, sharing information on health workforce planning is essential. This includes ensuring decent working conditions and the availability of trained professionals to effectively address local, national, or international emergencies.

Moreover, it is acknowledged that the current pool of health professionals may not always meet the demands of an emergency. This underscores the importance of identifying and addressing potential administrative barriers to the movement of health professionals during crises.

## 2. Priorities

- 2.1. Health Workforce Planning and Management;
- 2.2. Health work regulation;
- 2.3. Social protection of health work;
- 2.4. Professional qualification;
- 2.5. Public health emergencies.



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