

Commission: World Health Organization

Question: Bioethics, transhumanism, vaccinations: towards a New Deal for global health?

Author: Malaysia

Malaysia supports an ethical approach to international health. Malaysia is a country known for being one of the most efficient in both private and public healthcare in southeast Asia. In Malaysia we believe that healthcare is one of the most important building blocks of any thriving society, which is why we believe healthcare is of utmost importance and we truly believe a healthier society is a better functioning society.

Malaysia understands how important the emergence of new, medical technologies ranging from smart inhalers, robotic surgery, wireless brain sensors, 3-D printing, artificial organs, health wearables, virtual reality to precision medicine, and gene editing are, and the opportunities they leave for tremendous breakthroughs that were never once deemed possible. Our support of the World Health Organization's digital health strategy, which emphasizes the importance of leveraging technology to enhance health systems and outcomes proves where our priorities lie. Malaysia's participation in various United Nations health initiatives has fostered a framework for the adoption of AI in diagnostics and patient management, as evidenced by the success of pilot programs in telemedicine and data analysis such as the advancement in hospital information systems and telemedicine in relation to Malaysia's cluster affect.

Our country truly believes the future beholds technologies that give the possibility to treat illnesses that were once incurable in the medical field for example the CRISPR-Cas9 and the coming of mRNA vaccines. Our commencement of the National COVID-19 Vaccination program in COVID times which allowed a nationwide access to the vaccine, free of charge shows our willingness to adapt. Furthermore, we support initiatives like the Global Compact for Inclusive Health Policies, promoted by the WHO, which highlights the importance of equity for all in healthcare as we believe universal access to vaccinations and medical aid is vital. This is why we make sure our budget is used as an effective, efficient investment to procure ample medicine supplies, vaccines, consumables and reagents and invest in modern technologies. However, the WHO is familiar and mindful of the use of these new technologies, like CRISPR, a genome editing tool which allows scientist to precisely cut and modify DNA sequences, as they can lead, without acceptable regulation, to harmful drifts in the use of biohacking and the experimentation and manipulation of the human-genome, like last year's bacterial crisis in America.

Malaysia strives for an ethical approach to global health. Biohacking and the forever increasing threat of cybercrime is a huge problem for our society which is why we have stressed for the urgent need of proactive measures to counter this growing menace while simultaneously joining with NACSA with the objectives of securing and strengthening Malaysia's resilience in facing the threats of cyber-attacks, by co-ordinating and consolidating the nation's best experts and resources in the field of cyber security. Our cyber security landscape is governed by various laws such as the Computer Crimes Act of 1997, the Communications and multimedia act 1998, the Malaysian penal code and the personal data protection act of 2010. As these threats continue to evolve, the Security Bill aims to provide a comprehensive legal framework to safeguard digital infrastructure. Moreover, Malaysia's participation in the international CSHU (Cyber Security in Healthcare Union) meeting, between ASEAN and UN countries in 2025, shows our willingness to not only help to procure national cyber safety but internationally as well.

Malaysia is a signatory to the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights, adopted in 2005, which makes sure biotechnological processes benefit mankind while respecting the ethical

principles and boundaries in biomedicine. Additionally, Malaysia has also been involved in the ASEAN Framework on Bioethics, promoting regional cooperation in ethical standards related to biomedical research and practices. Meaning we promote and recognize the potential of new, on-the-way technologies (for example the use of AI to create new Antibiotics in 2026) if they respect and have the safety of Malaysia as its main standard and priority. Our participation in these agreements reflects our commitment to upholding ethical standards in health while still encouraging the responsible integration of transhumanism.

Transhumanism is a concept Malaysia supports at a responsible, integrational level. It must align with the views of the treaties above and our National Bioethics Council (BEC), implemented in 2010, acting as an advisory body on bioethics issues that may have an impact on our society. This council sets a standard for global cooperation in bioethical governance, offering a structure for regulating innovations like gene editing, new advancements of AI in healthcare, and other new technologies. To be clear Malaysia's aim is not to stop the selective modifying of the DNA but to prevent the manipulation of the human genome through appropriate ethical oversight and governmental involvement.

Malaysia envisions a holistic approach to health in 2030 and in the years that follow, integrating bioethics, transhumanism, and universal access to vaccinations to better our policies and strengthen the relationship with Asian and western world countries. In conclusion, Malaysia remains determined to evolve towards a New Deal for global health, combining technological innovation with ethics to ensure a healthy and equitable future for all.