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President, World Medical Association
Valedictory Address
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Members of the World Medical General Assembly, colleagues, guests and our hosts the Brazilian Medical Association:

Since my inauguration last year in Bangkok, it has been my privilege to represent the World Medical Association (WMA) around the world.

I've traveled to at a total of five continents, twelve countries and attended twenty-nine meetings and conferences.

I've also reported on my travels and the varied and important activities of this organization on the WMA website through the President's Blog.

The message I have carried may be summed up as follows:

1. The moral imperative of ethics in medicine
2. The challenge of noncommunicable disease and the social determinants of health
3. The threat of climate change

First, the moral imperative of ethics in medicine

As you all are aware, the WMA has been very involved in the process of bringing the Declaration of Helsinki (DOH) up to date in anticipation of its fiftieth anniversary in 2014.

3.

The WMA is committed to being involved in the mitigation of climate change - that is attempting to slow or reverse climate change by decreasing greenhouse gas production through implementation of green policies.

Including for example extremes of weather such as heat events and torrential downpours and flooding;

Changes in insect disease vector populations, and adverse effects on food sources brought on by droughts.

As another