Statement from The G4 Alliance on Structural Racism

When empathy, kindness, mutual respect and hope lead the way, we see humanity at its best. Yet, history has made our human race witness some of the greatest injustices, with racism being amongst the most painful of all. Recent protests in the United States and globally remind us of the unthinkable losses and trauma inflicted by racism in all its forms, the suffering our brothers and sisters have endured, and our shared responsibility to help shape a future devoid of this manifestation of hatred.

As a global community, we are haunted by the words “I can’t breathe”, and the mercilessness shown by another human being as the life of George Floyd was slowly taken in front of our eyes. We are also deeply troubled by the reality that this tragedy is but one in an endless stream of similar hateful acts that occur in every nation in the world, causing trauma and leaving deep wounds in our communities.

The Global Alliance for Surgical, Obstetric, Trauma and Anaesthesia Care (The G4 Alliance) is committed to advocating for the neglected surgical patient and is driven by a mission to provide a collective voice for increased access to safe, essential, and timely surgical, obstetric, trauma, and anaesthesia care as part of universal health coverage to all who need it. Our cause seeks justice and opportunity through health for all people, regardless of race, gender, creed, or any other factors, sharing in solidarity with all who work towards a fairer society.

In the strongest and most emphatic terms, we condemn the senselessness of structural racism and the oppression it perpetuates. As an alliance, professionals focused on health, and human beings, we pledge to fulfill the values of the Hippocratic Oath, and to carry out the important work required to offer access to health and opportunity for all. We reaffirm our commitment to a shared sense of humanity and purpose.

With renewed strength, we will continue to endeavor in building a more diverse, inclusive and healthy society that thrives on the basis of equality, empathy, kindness and mutual respect.