

Seventy-first World Health Assembly / Soixante et onzième Assemblée mondiale de la Santé

Palais des Nations May 2018 / Mai 2018

Side event application / Formulaire de demande de réunion parallèle

Contact

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Concept

Description of proposed side event, including objective, expected results, proposed programme and speakers* / Description de la réunion parallèle proposée, y compris les objectifs, les résultats attendus, l'ordre du jour et les orateurs* :

Background

Progress achieved under the MDGs was tremendous and unprecedented, with maternal mortality falling by 45% since 1990 and under-five mortality declining by more than 50% in the same time period. Yet progress across interventions and regions, as well as within countries, is often undermined by poor quality of care and high levels of inequities. Preventable maternal and newborn mortality and stillbirths remain unacceptably high and continue to hinder the health and human rights of women, children and adolescents. In certain parts of the world, though rates of births taking place in facilities have increased, a commensurate decline in mortality has not been observed.

WHO Director-General has said "Universal health coverage is the center of gravity of global health – but women's, children's and adolescents' health is the center of gravity of universal health coverage." As countries expand their health systems towards achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC), both 'access to care' and 'quality of care' are critical for ending preventable maternal, newborn, child and adolescent deaths by 2030, as envisioned in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health. Health care professionals, especially midwives, have a crucial role to play in the provision of quality care to prevent maternal and newborn mortality and stillbirths, as well as to reduce avoidable morbidity and improve experience of care. This means ensuring that providers of care are fully competent and able to ensure a positive, respectful experience around pregnancy, birth and the post-natal period, as well as involving women, their families and their communities in the design and delivery of health services.

Building on WHO Director-General's call for Member States to make pledges towards UHC during the 71st World Health Assembly, this event will demonstrate how national UHC plans are integrating efforts to ensure quality, equity and dignity (QED) in services for maternal, newborn and child health. The examples will be extracted from countries that are incorporating QED standards in their health systems, especially those that are part of the WHO and UNICEF-led Network for Improving Quality of Care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health. In addition, the event will provide a platform for WHO Member States to make formal UHC commitments specifically focusing on QED for maternal, newborn and child health. The event will also highlight vital lessons and recommendations from NGOs, health providers and advocates on how community engagement interventions and advocacy campaigns on QED can lead to improved maternal, newborn and child health outcomes.

Event Objectives

- 1. Create a platform for Member States to announce formal commitments to achieve UHC with a focus on quality, equity and dignity (QED) for maternal, newborn and child health services;
- Present concrete country examples on how national UHC plans are integrating efforts to ensure QED in services for maternal, newborn and child health;
- Share best practices on how community engagement and advocacy campaigns can result in improved demand for QED in the context of maternal, newborn and child health.

Session Format

The session will take place in two parts: a keynote speech to set the scene and frame the importance of quality, equity and dignity in achieving UHC; followed by a high-level moderated panel, comprising Ministers and key partners from civil society and health professional associations, sharing best practices of improving quality of care for women, newborns and children through midwife-led care, and overcoming barriers to the implementation of effective developments. Time will be left for interventions and questions from the floor. The event will be closed by WHO Director-General (tbc) with a call for action on prioritizing quality, equity and dignity on the road to UHC.

Proposed agenda

Introductory remarks Moderator – PMNCH, WHO (Elizabeth Iro) or UHC2030

Short video on quality, equity, dignity

Hearing from women around the world about what they expect when they access

health services

Keynote address Helle Thorning-Schmidt

CEO, Save the Children

EWEC High-Level Champion for QED

Framing the importance of quality, equity and dignity in order to achieve UHC

High-level panel Ministers of Health from Network countries:

Bangladesh, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda

White Ribbon Alliance, TBD

Demand generation and participation of women, their families and communities

International Confederation of Midwives or Elizabeth Iro, Chief Nurse, WHO Midwives: working with women and families to increase access and improve quality of care in the childbirth continuum

Representative from UHC2030 (if not moderating)

Linking up the movements for QED and UHC - strengthening our partnerships

for action and accountability

Announcement of UHC commitments

focusing on QED:

Potential renewed commitment

Statements from the floor: Additional partners to speak from the floor expressing their commitments to

investing in QED as part of their UHC efforts (e.g. countries not on panel, Merck

for Mothers, other interested parties).

WHO Director-General

Call to action on raising the importance of quality in the UHC agenda (can try to

have a nice visual developed jointly with UHC2030)

Event details / details de la réunion

Expected number of participants/Nombre de participants attendus : 120

Exact title of the meeting/Titre exact de la réunion: Elevating Quality, Equity and Dignity for every woman and child on the road to UHC

Interpretation may be provided in the official languages and the estimated costs are as follows: 2 languages: 2561 CHF; 3 languages: 5123 CHF; 6 languages: 11953 CHF.

L'interprétation peut être assurée dans les langues officielles aux coûts estimés suivants : 2 langues-2561 CHF;

3 langues: 5123 CHF; 6 langues: 11953 CHF.

Are interpretation services requested? / L'interprétation est-elle requise ?				/Oui 🗵	No/Non	
(If yes, which languages)/(Si oui, en quelle langue)						
English/Anglais 🔲	French/Français 🛛	Russian/Russe 🔲	Spanish/Espagnol	Chinese/Ch	ninois 🔲	Arabic/Arabe
Other language/autre langue:						

Room Layout/Aménagement des salles

Due to type of furniture and technical equipment in the room, the layout of the rooms cannot be changed. For information regarding the location and layout of rooms at the Palais des Nations, please see: http://www.unog.ch/80256EE60057CB67/(httpPages)/BAE3AF717207A5AF80256EF80049C552?OpenDocument

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*Badges/ Badges d'accès

WHA side events are for participants of the WHA and, as such, panellists and participants should be drawn from those participating in the Health Assembly.

Les réunions parallèles sont réservées aux participants de l'Assemblée; Les orateurs de ces réunions doivent donc être choisis parmi ceux-ci.

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