



**PERMANENT MISSION OF PAKISTAN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

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The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan accredited to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations presents its compliments to the World Health Organization (WHO) and in continuation of this Mission's earlier Note Verbale dated 23 March 2018, has the honour to enclose, application form in latest version, for the side event on Assistive Technology from Government of Pakistan in the 71st World Health Assembly (WHA), which is scheduled to be held on 21-26 May 2018 in Geneva.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the WHO in Geneva the assurances of its highest consideration.

World Health Organization (WHO)
Geneva

hqgoverningbodies@who.int



Sideevent application / Formulaire de demande de réunion parallèle

Contact

Name/Nom: Dr. Assad Hafeez	Date of application: 20 th March 2018
Delegation(s)/Délégation(s): Ministry of National Health Services Regulation and Coordination Government of Pakistan	
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Member States confirmed as co-organizers of the event/Etats Membres confirmés comme co-organisateurs de la réunion:	

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* :

Assistive Technology : Making Universal Health Coverage Inclusive

Background :

1 billion people right now and 2 billion by 2050 would need one or more Assistive Products to remain healthy and productive. Today, only 1 in 10 people in need has access to Assistive Technology, owing to lack of financing, availability, awareness, trained personnel and high costs. With populations ageing and the prevalence of non-communicable diseases rising across the world, access to Assistive Technology is going to emerge as an enormous public health issue in the near future. There is an urgent need for focus of the Member States on this long neglected health technology sector, as people with their health conditions are going to live longer due to medical advancements and innovations.

The 2030 Agenda for SDGs with the principle of "leaving no one behind" calls for immediate action toward inclusive society and development, hence Member States needs to prioritize, Assistive Technology, as an essential component for inclusive sustainable development.

In the words of Stephen Hawking: "I have been fortunate to have access to cutting edge technologies, which has allowed me to continue with my work, and communicate my theories, thoughts, and ideas, even after my illness robbed me of my natural speaking voice. Without this technology I would be mute, a prisoner inside my own mind. My hope is that the kind of technologies I have trialled and helped develop will become easily and cheaply available to all who need them. We need to make sure this technology becomes available to those who need it, so that no one lives in silence. Please listen to me. I speak for the people you can't hear." (video address to UNESCO conference, New Delhi, 24 November 2014)

With this side event, we aim to showcase a number of initiatives already underway, which can serve to illustrate what we can achieve together - through partnership, innovation and technology. These initiatives, from market shaping to innovative financing models, highlight some cost-effective solutions to bring life-changing impact to 1 billion people. It will also focus on way forward towards better access to high-quality, affordable assistive products, delivered as part of the integrated health services for Universal Health Coverage.

Objectives of the side event :

- Raise awareness about assistive technology and its place within UHC
- Showcase good practice initiatives that Member States can draw on :
 - o Market shaping
 - o Financing models
 - o Harnessing technology for low-cost solutions
- Pay tribute to Stephen Hawking ; A spokesmodel for the use of Assistive Technology

Result :

- Agreement on collective action on improving access to assistive technology
- Collaborative agreement on market shaping of priority assistive products

Panel :

1. Ministry of National Health Services, Régulations and Coordination
2. Co-Sponsoring Member States
3. Sana Hafez (WHO ambassador for assistive technology (Pakistan)
4. Ms. Zhang Haidi, Chairperson of China Disabled Persons' Federation, (CDPF)
5. Ambassador Luis Gallegos
6. Lord Chris Holmes (former paralympic athlete)

Event details / details de la réunion

Expected number of participants/Nombre de participants attendus : 100

Exact title of the meeting/Titre exact de la réunion:

Assistive Technology: Making Universal Health Coverage inclusive

Interpretation/Interprétation

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 : 5123CHF; 6 langues : 11953 CHF.

Are interpretation services requested? / L'interprétation est-elle requise ? Yes/Oui No/Non

(If yes, which languages)/(Si oui, en quelle langue)

English/Anglais French/Français Russian/Russe Spanish/Espagnol Chinese/Chinois 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](http://www.unog.ch/80256EE60057CB67/(httpPages)/BAE3AF717207A5AF80256EF80049C552?OpenDocument)

Le type de mobilier et les installations techniques dans les salles ne permettent pas de modifier l'aménagement de celles-ci.

Pour tout renseignement sur l'emplacement ou la disposition des salles au Palais des Nations voir le lien :

[http://www.unog.ch/80256EE60057CB67/\(httpPages\)/BAE3AF717207A5AF80256EF80049C552?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/80256EE60057CB67/(httpPages)/BAE3AF717207A5AF80256EF80049C552?OpenDocument)

***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.

Please complete the form and send it to / Merci de remplir le formulaire et de l'envoyer à hqgoverningbodies@who.int