Side event application / Formulaire de demande de réunion parallèle

Contact

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Date of application/Date de la demande:

Delegation(s)/Délégation(s): Bangladesh / Italy

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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* :

Country and institutions co-sponsoring the event

Albania, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Greece, India, Italy, Lebanon, Malawi, Montenegro, Philippines, Tunisia, Uganda

Title of the event: “Nutrition4Health: Nutrition Innovations along with NCDs Prevention for Achieving Universal Health Coverage within the Context of the 2030 Agenda and the UN Nutrition Decade.”

Background

The current world faces multiple burdens due to malnutrition. Around 815 million people go hungry, a little less than 2 billion are overweight or obese and approximately 2 billion suffer from micronutrient deficiencies. Especially, malnutrition remains a major threat to the survival, growth and development of children. Globally 165 million children under five are estimated to be stunted and 45% of child deaths are attributable to malnutrition. On the other hand, the world is going through an epidemiological transition and the NCDs represent the largest and fastest growing threat to human health, including in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Above all, malnutrition and nutrition related NCDs disproportionately affect the poorest in society and perpetuates inter-generational poverty, especially in the urban poor settings. Hence, addressing malnutrition is critical to ensure the right to health and social justice. It is, moreover, high time to strengthen the health systems taking into account the close links between health and nutrition.

In September 2015, Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, committing them to achieving a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformational Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets, indispensable requirements for sustainable development. They placed high priority on addressing malnutrition by committing to all the SDGs, in particular under SDG 2 to “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture”. On the other hand, universal health coverage (UHC) is also clearly spelled out in the 2030 Agenda and relates to almost all SDGs aimed at ensuring better health and well-being for all, including the world’s poorest section. UHC is predominantly based on the WHO Constitution of 1948 declaring health a fundamental human right and on the Health for All agenda set by the Alma Ata Declaration in 1978. The essence of UHC is a strong and resilient people-centred health system with primary health care at the centre. Essential nutrition services, including prevention of malnutrition and noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) in all its forms are the integrated part of the primary and essential health services package, based on national nutrition policies, strategies and action plans.

Earlier, in November 2014, at the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2), Member States and the global community committed themselves to eliminating malnutrition in all its forms and articulated a common vision for global action in the Rome Declaration on Nutrition. In April 2016, the UN General Assembly, through its Resolution 70/259 - 4 also endorsed the ICN2 outcomes and proclaimed 2016-2025 the “United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition” (“Nutrition Decade”). The WHO/FAO Work Programme for “Nutrition Decade” identifies mechanisms through which Member States and other committed
stakeholders should collaborate to achieve the aims of the Nutrition Decade, with a lot of items. Among others: “The Nutrition Decade is inclusive, addressing all forms of malnutrition, maximizing participation by all actors and ensuring that the needs of all people are addressed. To this end, the Nutrition Decade: involves all countries, regardless of their income, the nature of their malnutrition challenges and the characteristics of their food and health systems”. Also, the programme comprises 6 areas of intervention, one of which is “Sustainable, resilient food systems for healthy diets”. Concerning the means of implementation of this specific Programme, Action Networks were suggested as a catalytic way to create alliances of countries, to accelerate and align efforts about specific topics linked to specific areas of the Nutrition Decade, with the engagement of civil society, academia and the private sector.

More recently, in 2018, nutrition was at the centre of discussions at the UN General Assembly, which adopted, with Resolution A/RES/73/2, the Political Declaration of the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, which was held in New York on 27 September 2018, and, with Resolution A/RES/73/132, the text of the annual “Foreign Policy and Global Health” resolution, dedicated to the topic “Global Health and Foreign Policy”, which for the first time called “on member States to promote and preserve traditional healthy diets, food diversity and healthy eating habits and lifestyles, considering the importance of food as part of the cultural heritage and a vehicle to promote nutrition literacy”.

While it is important to focus more on promoting and preserving traditional healthy diets, reliable data on nutrition services at country level would be the key for tracking nutritional status. A strong Nutrition Information System (NIS) within a country would add further impetus to this area. Across the member states of WHO, there are good evidences of monitoring the indicators of inputs, outputs and outcomes related to nutritional status. Sharing information and best practices in this area coupled with developing a NIS based on improved capacity for informed decisions on appropriate actions would contribute a lot to addressing malnutrition. This result based and innovative NIS within UHC policies will not only help ensure the priorities of nutrition interventions, deliverables and necessary budget from limited resources, but also help make better evidence-informed policy decisions. Lastly, as the world seeks to deliver on all global commitments related to hunger and nutrition, including achieving the UHC, member states must push for greater consideration of nutrition issues in the health sector.

Objectives:
- To raise awareness on the topics of nutrition, NCDs prevention and elimination of malnutrition in all its forms.
- To highlight the importance of nutrition and its linkages with NCDs for achieving UHC and the SDGs.
- To share country experiences in identifying potential examples of nutrition innovations, including nutrition information systems which would contribute to monitoring UHC progress.
- To inform international community of Italy’s initiative on Nutrition4Health within the context of the UN Nutrition Decade.
- To facilitate interaction between countries to build momentum towards the creation of a multi-countries’ alliance.
- To spread the principles of healthy eating and suggest models of traditional and sustainable diets (for example on the basis of the Mediterranean diet)
- To discuss the epidemiological transition for agenda setting and policy.
- To discuss the challenges faced by countries to develop nutrition policies as part of efforts towards advancing UHC.
- To recommend/inform the WHA on the lessons and help articulate resolutions linking nutrition, NCDs, UHC and SDGs.

Draft Programme (90 Minutes)

How Nutrition and its innovation could be better linked to UHC?

UN Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016-2025: Italian initiative - A Call to Action Network on healthy and sustainable diets (Mediterranean diets as other traditional ones)

- Opening remarks by Bangladesh
- Presentation on Impacts of Nutrition Innovations and their contributions to UHC by Bangladesh
- Secretary General of the Italian Ministry of health Dr Giuseppe Ruocco, CMO
- Bangladesh Ministry of Health
- Professor Andrea Pezzana, University of Turin, Italy
- Co-sponsoring countries
- Q&A
- Closing remarks by Italy

Event details / détails de la réunion

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Expected number of participants/Nombre de participants attendus :
**Exact title of the event/Titre exact de la réunion:**

- [ ]

**Interpretation/Interprétation**

Interpretation may be provided in the official languages and the estimated costs are as follows: 2 languages: 2568 CHF; 3 languages: 5136 CHF; 6 languages: 11985 CHF.

L'interprétation peut être assurée dans les langues officielles aux coûts estimés suivants : 2 langues-2568 CHF; 3 langues : 5136 CHF; 6 langues : 11985 CHF.

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**Invoice to be sent to/ Facture à envoyer à:**

Name/Nom
Postal address/ Adresse postale
E-mail/Courriel

**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


**Badges/ Badges d’accès**

WHA side events are for participants of the WHA and, as such, panelists 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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Please complete the form and send it to / Merci de remplir le formulaire et de l’envoyer à

**hqgoverningbodies@who.int**

by 29 March 2019