

## Side event application / Formulaire de demande de réunion parallèle

### Contact

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Delegation(s)/Délégation(s): Permanent Missions of Colombia, Mexico and Peru	
Organizers: Colombia, Ecuador, Luxembourg, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Sudan,	
Partners: Migration Strategic Initiative WHO, Lancet Migration, the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH), International Organization of Migrations (IOM), and World Bank	
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### Concept

**TITLE:** Universal health coverage and migration: leaving no one behind

#### OBJECTIVE

The event aims to highlight the links between Universal Health coverage, health security, migration, and development, and to discuss main challenges and opportunities for development while guaranteeing the right to health in context of migration.

This side event will also focus on improving global understanding of the dynamics in responding to the challenge of UHC through the prism of health and social development, and through international cooperation.

**The event will promote a discussion on the following issues:**

#### General topics

- Addressing Universal Health Coverage in the context of population mobility as a contribution to achieving the SDG's.
- International experiences and lessons learned to guarantee the right to health in the context of migration.
- The role of international organizations and partnerships in promoting UHC, including by providing support for States.
- The importance of international cooperation as a key component of national and regional responses to promote coordinated actions in responding to the health needs of people on the move, particularly those of people in situations of vulnerability, and in addressing cross-border challenges for public health and to contribute to UHC achievement and development of countries.

#### Key questions

1. What good practices across regions have been adopted in population mobility and how can they be used to promote and guide national action and international collaborative approaches?
2. How can contributions of people on the move be better understood and built on in national policies and programs in order to achieve universal health coverage?
3. What have been the main health sector strategies to addressing health and migration, and what have been the main challenges in government responses?
4. How can international cooperation support national efforts and challenges in addressing migration from the health sector?
5. How can States and other stakeholders protect and promote the right to health in the context of migration with a development and long term perspective?
6. How can the monitoring of health and migration be improved and used in assessing progress toward the achievement of UHC and SDGs? What mechanisms can be put in place to allow for continuity of care within and across borders?
7. How can health and welfare in the context of migration be best addressed and mainstreamed within national and international policies and programs?
8. How can specific challenges and risks in the context of health and migration, such as those faced by women, children and adolescents be addressed through coordination of policies and actions?

#### EXPECTED RESULTS

This Side Event will:

- Bring together high-level national and international stakeholders to address the linkages between health and welfare policies in the context of migration and the achievement of Universal Health Coverage and leaving no one behind.
- Build on the work of the Global Compact for Migration, the Global Compact for Refugees and the WHO Framework of Priorities and Guiding Principles to Promote the Health of Refugees and Migrants.
- Facilitate the exchange of experiences between relevant partners, to enhance strategies, policy and advocacy, to improve public engagement and to ensuring that no one is left behind
- Stress the importance of intercultural and human rights based approach, and multisectoral collaboration.
- Identify and create synergies and opportunities for collaborative projects and partnerships to manage migrant health-oriented cooperation and strengthen health system capacities
- Bringing together actors from diverse policy arenas to a multisectoral dialogue, the side-event aspires to move forward in multisectoral collaboration on improving integration of migrant health into universal health coverage and ensuring access to healthcare for all, within a framework of humanity, solidarity and leaving no one behind.
- Enhance capacity building, providing an opportunity to strengthen commitments on migration and health, through the exchange of policy experience
- Provide tools to Member States to guarantee and protect the right to health in the context of migration with a development perspective, allowing them to address challenges and to make accurate long-term decisions.
- 'Lancet Migration', a global initiative between The Lancet, academic institutions and multilateral agencies to tackle global migration and health challenges will present evidence on universal health coverage and migration building on the recent publication of the UCL-Lancet Commission on Migration and Health.
- PMNCH will launch its knowledge product series on this topic in order to highlight key issues related to the health and well-being of women, children and adolescents on the move and raise awareness of the importance for the most vulnerable groups, women, children and adolescents, to be at the center of the migration action plan and UHC particularly in humanitarian and fragile settings.
- Set the framework for continued dialogue in preparation of the High Level Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on Universal Health Coverage.

## GLOBAL CONTEXT

The Agenda for Sustainable Development 2030 and the commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Universal Health Coverage (UHC) arisen in a context of constant migratory movements. It has implied a growing recognition that ensuring no one is "left behind" means including migrants and refugees in all national and international health and welfare policies and plans.

In particular, the SDG 3 about Good Health and Well Being, and its related targets 3.1, 3.3, 3.8, cannot be fulfilled without the adoption of long term strategies on migration and taking into account the challenges and opportunities presented by migration.

The 2030 Agenda recognizes for the first time the contribution of migration to sustainable development. 11 of the 17 SDGs contain targets and indicators that are related to migration. The basic principle of the Agenda is "leaving no one behind," and this includes migrants.

Even though the right to health is encompassed in numerous human rights instruments, migrants and refugees often have difficulty accessing healthcare services. If and when this is so, public health in general stands to suffer and the health and well-being of women, children and adolescents is placed at particularly high risk.

Mass population movement is becoming more pronounced everywhere in the world and new socio-demographic configurations are emerging. Particular challenges arise given the composition of migrant groups, the difficulties experienced during departure, transit, arrival or return that result in social and health situations that need to be urgently addressed. Of particular concern are groups in situations of vulnerability and those that tend to face particular risks. If the SDGs and UHC goals are to be achieved the health and well-being of all, including of those facing particular situations of vulnerability, must be given greater priority. This means designing evidence-based approaches that recognize these needs and seek to meet them, as well as coordinating efforts as an integral part of all SDG and UHC policies and actions.

The social, economic, environmental and political context within which migration occurs is a dynamic one and constantly poses new challenges and opportunities in the field of health that may help to promote a decent and safe migration process. In developing approach proposals, the determinants of health, migration conditions and health issues related to migration in the region are examined. Policy-related responses at the global, regional and national levels are also analysed; moreover, a way to the future is proposed, so that that the health of migrants and the communities that receive them in the region is guaranteed.

Voluntary or forced movements have had direct and indirect effects on health, development and well-being. Since evidence shows that migrant populations are highly exposed to health problems and has less access to health systems, it is essential to develop strategies in the field of public health and perform specific actions for migrants.

The WHO has indicated that the health needs in the context of migration are similar to those of the host communities, but sometimes are more pronounced, reflecting the exposure of migrant population to particular risks, hazards and situations of vulnerability. As a consequence of migration, the demand for health services may increase and introduce challenges for the

protection of the human rights of migrants, in particular their human right to health, as well as the achievement of the Universal Health Coverage, access and quality.

On the other hand, because these similarities in health needs mean that efforts to strengthen health systems will benefit host as well as migrant populations, and interventions to address particular health needs will benefit the overall health system and help achieve universal health coverage. Indeed, different studies of the World Bank, OECD, and the IOM highlight that migrants represent an opportunity for development of countries in a medium and long term. The impact of migrants in countries' development will nevertheless depend on the approach taken to migration.

### **Policy background**

In September 2019, a High-Level Meeting on universal health coverage will be held during the 74<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). Such an important meeting calls for deep reflection on the path followed and the challenges presented so far, as well as on the future.

Migration is essential to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Recognizing it, on September of 2016 the General Assembly adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, in which UN Member States agreed to implement well-managed migration policies and reaffirmed that the human rights of migrants and refugees must be protected and their health-related needs addressed as a public health matter.

In the same lines, in May 2017, the 70th World Health Assembly (WHA) endorsed resolution WHA 70.15 on "Promoting the health of refugees and migrants". The resolution asked WHO, among other things, to provide health-related assistance to those countries hosting and receiving large populations of refugees and migrants, to identify and collect evidence-based information and participate in achieving universal health coverage which axiomatically includes refugees and migrants.

In 2018, the Global Compact for Secure, Orderly and Regular Migration was approved, benefiting both migrants and host communities, and showing the route towards humane and sensible actions to favor countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as the migrants themselves. As the first inter-governmentally negotiated agreement, covering all dimensions of migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner, the GCM presents a significant opportunity to improve the governance of migration, to address the challenges associated with today's migration, and to strengthen the contribution of migrants and migration to sustainable development. In this sense, its implementation will transform the way the international community responds to large movements of refugees.

WHO has worked towards advancing this area of work and Member States have supported this effort by committing themselves to promote the health of migrants through policies and programs, as established in World Health Assembly resolution 61.7. In the same lines, the WHO has developed a framework of priorities and guiding principles to promote the health of refugees and migrants, which was considered by the 70<sup>th</sup> WHA.

In January of this year IOM and WHO signed a Memorandum of Understanding to provide a framework of cooperation and understanding, and to facilitate collaboration, between the two Parties, and to further their shared goals and objectives in the subject of migration health and, in particular, in addressing the health needs of beneficiaries and host communities, and assisting Member States in addressing health issues associated with migration.

### **PROGRAMME**

The Side Event will be divided into two segments. The expert panel will provide the general context of the discussion. The Ministerial Segment will provide Ministers of Health with space to share their experiences at the national and regional level, provide good practices and reflect on arising and persistent challenges

1. Opening remarks: 2 speakers (5 min each)
2. EXPERT PANEL: 3 speakers (7 min each)

Experts representing the partner organizations will set the scene presetting the general policy developments, global challenges and opportunities. This would include presenting the work performed by their teams in HQ or in the fields, the partnerships established or initiatives

3. MINISTERIAL SEGMENT: (4 speakers - 7 min each)

Ministers of health will share national experiences

4. Questions and answers (20 minutes)
5. Closing remarks 1 speaker (5min)

### **High level participants**

- Colombia: Dr. Juan Pablo Uribe Restrepo, Minister of Health of Colombia
- Ecuador: Dra. Verónica Espinosa, Minister of Health of Ecuador
- Luxembourg: Minister of Health, Étienne Schneider

- Mexico: Dr. Jorge Alcocer Varela, Minister of Health of Mexico
- Peru: Dr. Zulema Tomás Gonzáles, Minister of Health of Peru
- Portugal, Marta Temido, Minister of Health of Portugal
- Sudan: Federal Minister of Health, H.E. Ustad Bahar Idris Abu Garda

**Target audience:** high-level stakeholders across policy, academic and operational sectors, including government officials, political leaders, heads of UN agencies, donors, staff of international and nongovernmental organizations, local officials, civil society representatives, distinct members of Academia and other relevant stakeholders.

#### Event details / détails de la réunion

Date <b>21 MAY</b>	Time/Heure
Expected number of participants/Nombre de participants attendus : <b>120</b>	
Exact title of the event/Titre exact de la réunion: <b>Universal health coverage and migration: leaving no one behind</b>	

#### 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.

Are interpretation services requested? / L'interprétation est-elle requise ?	Yes/Oui <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No/Non <input type="checkbox"/>
(If yes, which languages)/(Si oui, en quelle langue)		
English/Anglais <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	French/Français <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Russian/Russe <input type="checkbox"/>
Spanish/Espagnol <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chinese/Chinois <input type="checkbox"/>	Arabic/Arabe <input type="checkbox"/>
Other language/autre langue:		
<b>Invoice to be sent to/ Facture à envoyer à:</b>		
Name/Nom	WHO/World Bank	
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](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, 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.

Please complete the form and send it to / Merci de remplir le formulaire et de l'envoyer à

[hqgoverningbodies@who.int](mailto:hqgoverningbodies@who.int)

by 29 March 2019