Side event application / Formulaire de demande de réunion parallèle

Contact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name/Nom: Mr. Taras Popelniuk</th>
<th>Date of application/Date de la demande: 29/03/2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delegation(s)/Délégation(s): Ukraine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Telephone, Email/Téléphone, courriel: +41 77 984 07 38, taras.popelnjuk@mfa.gov.ua, viacheslav.maievskii.fellow@gmail.com

Concept

WHO has identified vaccine hesitancy as one of the ten global threats to health in 2019 as it may lead to reversing the progress made in tackling vaccine-preventable diseases. Vaccination is one of the most effective methods of preventing disease – it currently prevents 2-3 million deaths a year and a further 1.5 million deaths could be avoided if global vaccination coverage improved.

For various reasons, in many countries parents tend to seek advice about immunization on the Internet rather than from health professionals, placing them and their dependents under the threat of disinformation and targeted manipulations. According to recent research in the Journal of the American Public Health Association, there are special networks of Russian trolls and bots that produce and disseminate messages on Twitter focused on promoting discord over vaccination concerns, thus legitimizing “debates” about vaccination and its significant role in public health.

“Debates” about the benefits/quality/safety of vaccines create the impression of a lack of scientific consensus regarding immunization, thereby seriously undermining trust in vaccination. Myths about the danger of immunization, and false messages related to religious or ethnic “uniqueness’ of populations are often coordinated as part of the propaganda and political campaigns that undermine national security, and promote potential outbreaks and epidemics of diseases that can be prevented and controlled.

For the period from August 2018 to January 2019 the top 5 countries that reported the most confirmed measles cases are Madagascar (59388 cases), Ukraine (40031 cases), India (14304 cases), Brazil (9198 cases) and Philippines (8212 cases). Moreover, in the first two months of 2019 the measles outbreak increased in geometric proportions in some regions (in comparison to the same period of 2018): in AFRO region from 3783 to 49646 cases (by 13 times!!!), in EURO region from 5459 to 18169 cases (by 3 times), globally from 13733 to 74338 cases (by 5 times). Despite the high level of immunization in Europe, measles spread through large parts of the region causing a record number of cases and scores of deaths (82 596 cases, 72 deaths) in 2018. Nearly 60% of cases are children under 10. These statistics reflect the global threat of the anti-vaccination movement.
Objectives:
1. Showcase existing challenges of disinformation behind the anti-vaccination movement as part of a hybrid war on global health;
2. Discuss the countries’ experience in the field of counteracting anti-vaccine informational campaigns;
3. Mobilize and engage new partners to join forces against the global anti-vaccination movement.

Expected results:
The session is expected to generate global awareness of the negative effect of anti-vaccination communication campaigns and to develop regional and country-based actions aimed at combating anti-vaccination movements. The participants will be encouraged to support a high level political claim to the countries to keep alert about the anti-vaccination communication campaigns as global public health threat.

Proposed Programme and Speakers:
Co-Chairs
- Dr Ulana Suprun
- High level representative UNICEF
Moderator: Dr Kurpita
Participants:
• Ministers of health and state actors
• International Health NGOs
• Patient and media representatives

Detailed agenda: 1.5 h that includes:
• Introductory remarks
• Case presentations
• Panel discussion
• Q&A, closing remarks

What we need to do:
1) Submit the proposal
2) Identify partners for this event, particularly the PANEL (this might be U. Suprun, WHO, CDC and 1-2 countries, probably from the regions)
3) Prepare 2 presentations, cooperate with other countries for participation, maybe create the banner to advertise the event

Event details / détails de la réunion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>21 or 22 May 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time/Heure</td>
<td>lunch time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected number of participants/Nombre de participants attendus</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exact title of the event/Titre exact de la réunion</td>
<td>Measles on the rise: how disinformation and manipulation are fueling the anti-vaccination movement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Are interpretation services requested? / L’interprétation est-elle requise ?</th>
<th>Yes/Oui ☐</th>
<th>No/Non ☒</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(If yes, which languages)/(Si oui, en quelle langue)</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English/Anglais ☐</td>
<td>French/Français ☐</td>
<td>Russian/Russe ☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other language/autre langue:</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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.

| 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 |