

Second WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine

17-19 December 2025, New Delhi, India

Jointly organized by
WHO and the Government
of the Republic of India



World Health
Organization

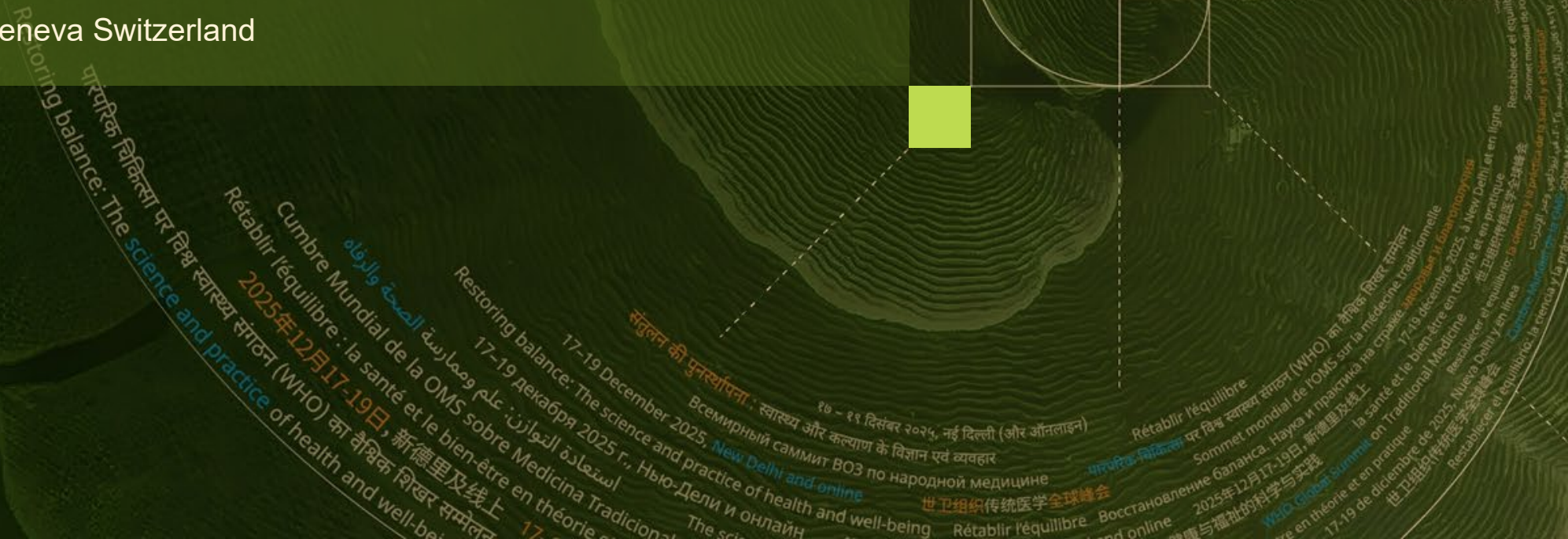


Global Summit on Traditional Medicine: Country Leadership

WHO Member State Information Session

Dr Shyama Kuruvilla, Director ai. WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre

27 November 2025, Geneva Switzerland



WHO Global TM Strategy (2025-2034): Adopted WHA 78

Vision

A world in which there is universal access to safe, effective and people-centred TCIM for the health and well-being of all

Goal

To advance the contribution of evidence-based TCIM to the highest attainable standard of health and well-being

Guiding principles

- Evidence-based
- Sustainability and biodiversity
- Indigenous Peoples' rights
- People-centred care and community engagement
- Integrated health services
- Holism and health
- The right to health and autonomy
- Culture and health
- Health equity

Strategic objective 1

Strengthen the evidence base for TCIM

Direction 1.1

Facilitate high-quality TCIM research through increased resource allocation

Direction 1.2

Explore relevant research approaches and optimize the utilization of technological advancements

Strategic objective 2

Support the provision of safe and effective TCIM through appropriate regulatory mechanisms

Direction 2.1

Provide appropriate regulatory mechanisms for TCIM products that are sustainably produced and supplied

Direction 2.2

Provide appropriate regulatory mechanisms for TCIM practice and practitioners

Strategic objective 3

Integrate safe and effective TCIM into health systems

Direction 3.1

Incorporate safe and effective TCIM services into national and local health-related frameworks and policies for the integration of safe and effective TCIM into health systems

Direction 3.2

Facilitate the integration of safe and effective TCIM services across the care continuum and life course

Strategic objective 4

Optimize the cross-sector value of TCIM and empower communities

Direction 4.1

Include TCIM in cross-sector policies and action plans for health, well-being societies, One Health and Sustainable Development Goals

Direction 4.2

Develop inclusive approaches and models for the protection of and access to traditional medical knowledge, and for the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge and/or associated genetic resources

Traditional Medicine

The term Traditional Medicine (TM) is used to encompass all of the following:

- **Traditional medicine:** codified or non-codified systems for healthcare and well-being, comprising practices, skills, knowledge and philosophies originating in different historical and cultural contexts, which are distinct from and pre-date biomedicine, evolving with science for current use from an experience-based origin. Traditional medicine emphasizes nature-based remedies and holistic, personalized approaches to restore balance of mind, body and environment.
- **Complementary medicine:** additional healthcare practices that are not part of a country's mainstream medicine. Evidence-based complementary medicine has the potential to support mainstream medicine and more comprehensively support people's health and well-being needs.
- **Integrative medicine:** an interdisciplinary and evidence-based approach to health and well-being by using a combination of biomedical and traditional and/or complementary medical knowledge, skills and practices.

Global Summit Objectives

- The Summit aims to advance a global movement to restore balance for people and the planet, grounded in the science and practice of Traditional Medicine.
- Guided by the Global Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025–2034 (World Health Assembly 78), the Summit will highlight the latest evidence and innovations, and address critical issues, including:
 - systems regulation and integration to ensure safety, efficacy and access;
 - respectful information exchange with Indigenous Peoples and across knowledge paradigms;
 - biodiversity preservation and intellectual property rights to secure equitable access and benefit sharing; and the
 - transformative potential of frontier science and innovation, including artificial intelligence and genomics.
- Key innovations and initiatives will be launched
- Multistakeholder commitments to advance the Global TM Strategy and movement.

Global TM Context and Trends



Billions of people use TM, bioculturally, epistemically grounded (Germany and Ghana 70%, India, China +90%)



Indigenous Peoples 6%, stewardship of 40% of terrestrial biodiversity; but inequities - < 20 years less than average life expectancy



UHC and PHC: TM professionals, practitioners, facilities. Accessibility, affordability, acceptability; but need global standards, regulation



Scientific, medical and innovation frontiers: past, present and future BUT < 1% of global health research funding



National self reliance, Global Markets: Trillion \$ industries eg.: health, pharma, wellness, tourism, bioeconomy nutraceuticals



One Health aligned, interconnected health of people, plants, animals and planet, sustainability



Holistic, personalized approaches; links to genomics, precision medicine, informed choices



Global frameworks: political commitments and legal agreements: Alma Ata, UNGA, WHA, WIPO, HRC



Shared global heritage, new 'world order' – inclusive, sustainable economies, mutual respect, equitable access and benefits & RESTORING BALANCE

Global Summit Overview

Interactive Programme

- In-person ($\cong 500$) & virtual ($\cong 5000$) global summit.
- Cutting-edge TM scientific programme
- High-level Inaugural and Ministerial Roundtable
- TM Innovation and Investment Initiatives
- Media and side events.

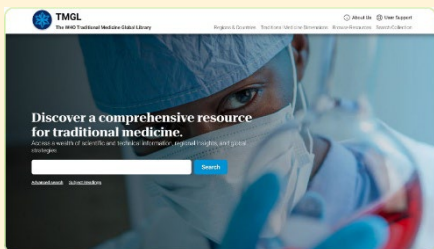


TM Discovery Experience

- Innovative, immersive «experience space»
- Interactive journey to explore how TM is essential to the past, present, and future of medical and scientific frontiers
- Participants can test their knowledge and learn new skills, in science and practice, to restore balance

10 Key Launches at the Global Summit

WHO Traditional Medicine Global Library



Global TM Research Priorities and Roadmap



WHO Bulletin Special Journal Issue on TM



Health Systems Integration & Indicator Frameworks



Health Heritage Innovations (H2I)



TM Global Data Standards and Network



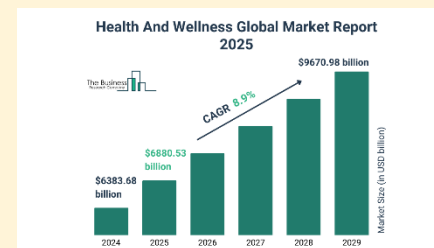
Indigenous Peoples' Knowledge Exchange



Informed Health Choices on TM



Traditional Medicine Investment Landscape



Country Commitments and Global Consortium



Summit Programme Agenda (being finalized)

Day 1 (17 December 2025)

MORNING	Registration (at Summit hotels and hall); site visits		4:45–5:15 PM	Refreshment	
				Parallel 1.A Parallel 1.B Parallel 1.C Parallel 1.D	TM and the continuum of knowledge on health TM knowledge – balancing access and benefits TM in rebalancing ecosystems for planetary health TM – bringing balance to governance, equity and resources
TIME	SESSION	TOPIC			
2:00–3:30 PM	Opening ceremony		5:15–6:30 PM		
3:30–4:45 PM	Plenary 1	Restoring balance: The science and practice of health and well-being	7:00–8:00 PM	Traditional Medicine Discovery Experience opening and refreshments	

Day 2 (18 December 2025)

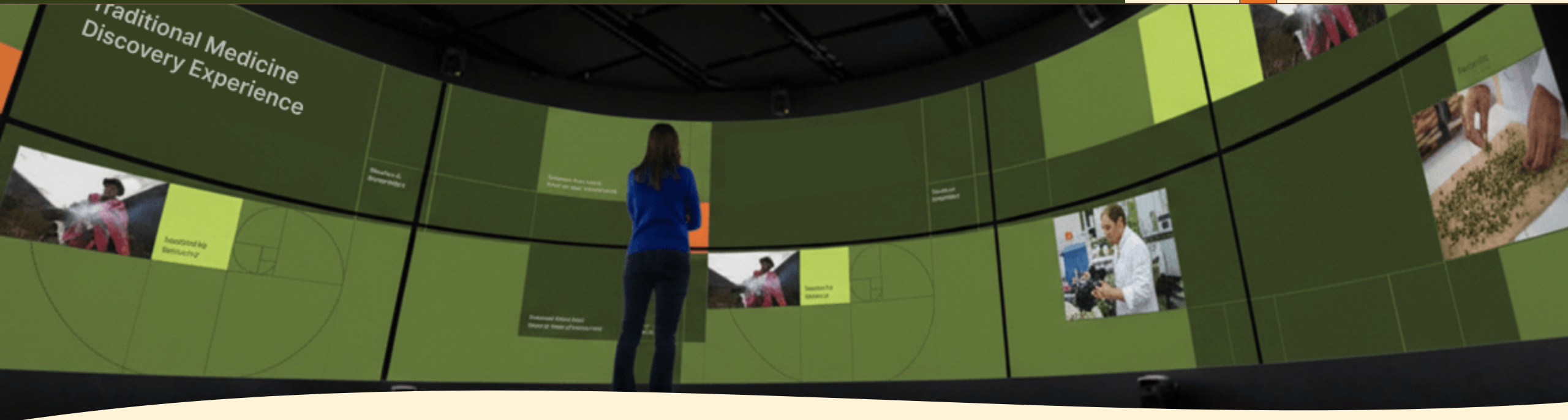
TIME	SESSION	TOPIC
9:00–10:15 AM	Plenary 2	Investing in science to drive TM progress
10:15–10:45 AM	Refreshment	
10:45 AM –12:00 PM	Parallel 2.A Parallel 2.B Parallel 2.C Parallel 2.D Parallel 2.E	Translating the TM Research Roadmap into global action Research methodologies and applications The science of well-being – evidence from traditional and integrative medicine From innovation to investment – building the TM pipeline for scale and equity Impact of meditation on health – restoring balance from individual to social and ecological well-being
12:00–12:45 PM	Traditional Medicine Discovery Experience	
12:45–1:45 PM	Lunch	
1:45–2:15 PM	Practising “Balance”	
2:15–3:30 PM	Plenary 3	Re-imagining health systems for balance, safety and resilience
3:30–4:00 PM	Refreshment	
4:00–5:15 PM	Parallel 3.A Parallel 3.B Parallel 3.C Parallel 3.D	Global frameworks and country implementation Quality, efficiency and patient safety Regulation of TM products Regulation of practice, practitioners, capacity building and TM in health system resilience
5:15–6:15 PM	Traditional Medicine Discovery Experience	
7:00–8:30 PM	Gala dinner	

Day 3 (19 December 2025)

TIME	SESSION	TOPIC
9:00–10:15 AM	Plenary 4	Measuring progress and charting the way forward: Standards, data and responsible AI – from ancestral knowledge to action
10:15–10:45 AM	Refreshment	
10:45 AM–12:00 PM	Parallel 4.A Parallel 4.B Parallel 4.C Parallel 4.D	Standards, data and information systems – the foundation for progress Harnessing ancestral knowledge in the digital age – equity, ethics and preservation From policy to practice – responsible AI and digital innovation in TM Charting the way forward – a global action plan for progress and accountability
12:00–1:00 PM	Lunch	
1:00–1:30 PM	Practising “Balance”	
1:30–3:30 PM	Ministerial Segment Ministerial Round Table	
4:30–6:00 PM	Closing ceremony	

TM: Traditional Medicine

Hands-on, interactive, immersive journey of TM science and practice



- Walk-through journey, demonstrating how TM is essential to the past, present, and future of medical and scientific frontiers.
- The Discovery Experience forms a spiral journey, echoing the Fibonacci curve found in both science and nature.
- Learn new practices to restore balance through innovative digital displays, live demos and practice, film and photography.
- **Special feature:** *Government of India welcome to Ayush digital innovation exhibit.*

Four inter-connected zones to explore, linked to Summit programme themes

- 1. Understanding Balance:** Introduction to the history, philosophy and science of TM from around the world, including hands-on exploration of the new WHO Global Traditional Medicine Library
- 2. Restoring Balance:** Five “practice labs”: (i) Holistic health; (ii) Science of meditation; (iii) Nature’s pharmacy; (iv) TM data lab; (v) AI and future science
- 3. Sustaining Balance:** Evidence, tools and collective action to advance the *Global Traditional Medicine Strategy, 2025-2034*. Four dedicated exploration areas: Innovation, Research, Integration and Regulation, and Cross-Sectoral Engagement.
- 4. Convergence:** At the heart of the Discovery Experience, we find connection with each other. Attend mini-talks from the winners of the Health Heritages Innovation Challenge, sample teas from healing herbs, meet and chat, and visit the photo and film gallery.

Across four interconnected zones, participants engage in hands-on learning with real-world applications and examples



Participants in person (invited) and online: around 100 country delegations

Europe (17)

- Albania
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Denmark
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Italy
- Kyrgyzstan
- Netherlands
- Russian Federation
- Scotland
- Slovenia
- Switzerland
- Türkiye
- United Kingdom
- Uzbekistan

Southeast Asia (9)

- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- Maldives
- Nepal
- Sri Lanka
- Timor Leste
- Thailand
- India

Eastern Mediterranean (12)

- Egypt
- Iran
- Iraq
- Jordan
- Libya
- Morocco
- Oman
- Palestine
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Somalia
- United Arab Emirates

Africa (26)

- Angola
- Benin
- Botswana
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cameroun
- Comoros
- Congo
- Ethiopia
- Gabon
- Ghana
- Guinea
- Kenya
- Liberia
- Madagascar
- Mali
- Mauritius
- Mozambique
- Nigeria

- Senegal
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Tanzania
- Togo
- Uganda
- Zimbabwe

Western Pacific (13)

- Australia
- Cambodia
- China
- Micronesia
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Malaysia
- Mongolia
- New Zealand
- Philippines
- Republic of Korea
- Singapore
- Vietnam

Americas (19)

- Argentina
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- Colombia
- Cuba
- Ecuador
- Guatemala
- Guyana
- Honduras
- Jamaica
- Panama
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Dominican Republic
- Saint Lucia
- Uruguay
- Venezuela

***Urgent: Confirmation Required**

Please confirm **Ministerial participation** — either in person or online — for the **19th Dec. Ministerial Segment**.

Ministerial Roundtable: Showcasing Country Commitments & Rebalancing Multilateralism

Country Commitments Framework aligned with Global TM Strategy (supported by WHO TM dashboard, Summit online form, TA as needed)

1. Overall TM Financing – TM in national plans and budgets, sustainable financing
2. Leadership & Governance – ministry/ office, coordination, accountability
3. Research & Evidence – funding, institutions, data standards (eg ICD), info systems
4. Regulation, Quality & Safety – product and practice benchmarks, patient safety, regulation
5. Integration into Health Systems – PHC aligned, UHC packages, service delivery, outcomes
6. Multistakeholder Collaboration – IP, biodiversity, Indigenous Peoples, local communities
7. Multilateralism & Global Markets – investments, enabling ecosystem, access & benefits
8. Other TM Priorities – national/ regional focus priorities, sharing best practices...

Summit Invitations, Registration, Travel

WHO Circular Letter to all Member State Missions

- 17 September, Subject: C.L.29.2025 (2nd WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit)

WHO Regional and Country Offices Outreach to Governments

- Friday 24 October, nominations submitted

Dedicated Summit Website and Portal to Join Online

- Launched 31 October (Registration to Join Online)

WHO Cvent System: Individual Invitations, Registration, Travel

- From Tunis Center for HQ, EURO, PAHO countries
- From WHO RO for all other countries

Missions Outreach and Ministerial Roundtable Invitations

- Ongoing through WHO and Indian Embassies

Completion of Travel and Hotel Arrangements

- By end-Nov. (> 2 weeks before travel)

Member State Requests to Host Next Global Summit (TBC)

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of the Republic of India



World Health
Organization



THANK YOU AND SEE YOU AT THE SUMMIT

In person: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

Join online: tm-summit.org

Email: tmglobalsummit@who.int

