Towards the Next Global Strategy on Digital Health 2028-2033

Member States Information Session

24 July 2026
9:00-10:30am CET



Data, Digital Health, Analytics and AI (DDA) Department
Health Systems, Access and Data (HSD) Division

World Health Organization

Agenda

Time (CET)	Agenda Item	Speaker
9:00– 9:05	Welcome & Opening Remarks	Dr Alain Labrique, Director, Data, Digital Health, Analytics and AI (DDA), WHO HQ
9:05-9:25	Presentation: Context, Roadmap, and Draft Global Strategy for 2028-2033	Dr Alain Labrique Dr Derrick Muneene, Team Lead, Assessments, Partnerships and Planning, DDA Dr David Novillo Ortiz, Unit Head and Regional Adviser, Data, Artificial Intelligence and Digital Health Division of Health Systems, WHO EURO (penholder)
9:25-10:20	Q&A: Strategy development roadmap/timeline	Moderator: Dr Melanie Bertram, Unit Head, Insights, Capacity, Operations, DDA
10:20-10:30	Closing Remarks	Dr Alain Labrique

Context and roadmap for development of the Global Strategy for 2028-2033

Dr Alain Labrique, Director, Data, Digital Health, Analytics & AI

Dr Derrick Muneene, Team Lead, Assessments, Partnerships and Planning, DDA

World Health Assembly requested the development of a new Global Strategy on Digital Health (2028 -2033)



(1) To **extend** the global strategy on digital health 2020 – 2025 **to 2027**;

(2)To **request** the Director-General to **develop**, guided by the global strategy on digital health 2020-2025 and in consultation with Member states and stakeholders, a **draft global strategy on digital** health for the period **2028-2033** and to submit the draft global strategy for consideration **by the 80th WHA in 2027**, through the EB at its 160 session

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WHA Press Release

DG Report to WHA78

Context: Transforming health systems in a digital age

- The health sector is undergoing a **profound transformation** driven by advances in digital technologies, artificial intelligence, and data science.

- Yet progress is uneven. Many Member States report **fragmented, parallel digital systems**. Lack of **interoperability architecture & standards**. **Inadequate** digital health **capacity, attributed to high dependence on vertical, ODA-dri ven systems**

- **Inadequate attention to digital foundations,** undermine the ability to: (i) collect, share, a**then**d analyze reliable data; (ii) harness digital and AI tools, (iii) strengthen disease surveillance, emergency response, and service delivery, and enable fiscal accountability



WHO Science Council Report



Independent International Scientific Panel on AI

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Key priority areas emerging from numerous engagements during WHA79

DDA Engagements

150+
Comments — MS, Non state actors &regional blocs

42 +
Side events on digital health & AI

30+
Ministries of health interventions

6
Official WHA Member state side events

79
Member states engaged, 6 WHO regions

2
Official agenda items (12.6 and 12.10)

20 Bilateral & Ministerial Meetings

19 Speeches & Keynotes Delivered

3 Resolutions on related topics

Key discussion themes

01 Governance & financing

Data sovereignty, country ownership, sustainable financing, and WHO-led normative standards demanded by all regions.

02 Architecture, infrastructure & systems

Near-universal consensus: strong data systems and interoperable digital public infrastructure (ICD-11, SNOMED) must precede AI adoption.

03 Capacity & partnerships

Technology transfer, workforce development, and multi-sectoral cooperation — especially for LMICs and SIDS.

04 Innovation & AI

Responsible AI with human oversight, ethical governance, regulatory sandboxes, and equity by design across all discussions.

Plenary · Committee A · Committee B · Agenda items 12.6 and 12.10

20+ years of evolution: from e-health to digital health and now to AI

2005 05 — WHA58.28 on eHealth
Consider drawing up a long-term strategic plan for developing and implementing eHealth services promote equitable, affordable and universal access to their benefits



2013 05 — WHA66.24 on eHealth standardization and interoperability

Consider developing… policies and legislative mechanisms linked to an overall national eHealth strategy



2018 05 — WHA71.7 Digital health
Develop… in close consultation with Member States and with inputs from relevant stakeholders… a global strategy on digital health, identifying priority areas including where WHO should focus its efforts".

2019 11 — Approval of the Global Strategy on Digital Health 2020 - 2025



Triple billion targets
(2019 – 2023)



2023 06 — Launch of the Global Digital Health Certification Network

07 — Launch of the Global Initiative on AI for Health

08 — Launch of the Global Initiative on Digital Health

2025 — **Kick off Global Strategy on Digital Health 2028-2033 development**

2026 — **Executive Board 158 content discussion + WHA 79**

2030 — 2030 SDGs



WHO Global Health Strategy 2025 - 2028

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Development timeline for the next strategy



May 2025

Mandate

WHA Resolution WHA78/22 mandates development of a new GSDH 2028-2033

Regional Committees briefed

July- November 2025

1. Roadmap development

MS Information session to outline strategy development process

Internal consultations and **establishment of drafting group** incl. regional leads

Strategy Development Roadmap finalization

Dec. – June 2026

2. Concept Note Draft development and consultations

Development of Concept Note

Regional & global consultations with stakeholders

Draft Strategy Development

July – September 2026

3. Finalization

GSDH is finalized with further stakeholder and MS consultation

Potential discussions during WHO Regional Committees

Supplementary documents, if needed, posted on WHO website

Final draft published as EB160 document



October – January 2026

4. Formal Considerations

Executive Board 160

GSDH 2028-2033 presented for consideration

Feb – March 2027

Completion of Strategy based on EB feedback; further MS consultations if needed

Strategy document submitted to WHA80

May 2027

Eightieth World Health Assembly in May 2027

GSDH 2028-2033 presented for adoption

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CONSULTATION DRAFT

Global Strategy on Digital Health 2028-2033

https://tinyurl.com/GSDH2028

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Background materials

https://www.who.int/teams/digital-health-and-innovation

Strategic objectives and directions

Strategic objective 1: Strengthen resilient and sustainable governance, country ownership, trust, and sustainable financing for the digital transformation of the health sector

Direction 1.1: Establish integrated governance and regulatory frameworks

Direction 1.2: Build trust frameworks

Direction 1.3: Establish sustainable financing and coordinated investments



Strategic objectives and directions

Strategic objective 2: Build and scale resilient, sustainable, interoperable, and inclusive information systems and digital public infrastructure for health

Direction 2.1: Advance global norms, standards and interoperability frameworks

Direction 2.2: Enable and scale national digital public infrastructure

Direction 2.3: Strengthen data governance, data sovereignty and cybersecurity



Strategic objectives and directions

Strategic objective 3: Strengthening enablers for country-led data and digital transformation: capacity, cooperation and partnerships

Direction 3.1: Build digital and data literacy, skills and competencies

Direction 3.2: Enhance coordinated global and regional action



Strategic objectives and directions

Strategic objective 4: Foster responsible and trustworthy innovation, including artificial intelligence and emerging technologies, to strengthen equitable person-centered health systems

Direction 4.1: Promote lifecycle governance and adoption of AI and emerging technologies

Direction 4.2: Embed equity, ethics and rights-based approaches across lifecycle of digital solutions



Discussion

Moderator: Dr Dr Melanie Bertram, Unit Head, Insights, Capacity, Operations, DDA

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Next steps: Key milestones

Finalization of Process Roadmap **completed**

Executive Board 158 and WHA79 discussions **completed**

Regional consultations for Zero Draft **completed**

Development of First Draft **completed**

Member State Information Session **TODAY**

Online consultation **OPEN UNTIL 1 SEPTEMBER 2026**

Regional Committees **August - October 2026**

Submission for 160th Executive Board **5 October 2026***

EB160: **25 January – 2 February 2027**

Submission for 80th World Health Assembly: **15 February 2027***

WHA80: **23 – 30 May 2027**

**Note: based on consultation feedback and/or EB160 discussions and decision, additional information session(s) and/or consultations may be scheduled as required*



Thank you!

Merci!

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