WHO - The Global Guardian of Public Health

Dr. Pavel Ursu
WHO Representative / Head of Office
WHO Country, Turkey

Origins of the World Health Organization

WHO is the UN specialized agency for global health.

WHO’s Constitution came into force on 7 April 1948 – a date we now celebrate every year as World Health Day.

Then 55 Member States - now 194 Member States

WHO is an intergovernmental organization

WHO’s mandate

The objective of World Health Organization is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health.

Health, as defined in the WHO Constitution, is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

WHO’s prime function is to act as the directing and coordinating authority on international health work.
What WHO does: core functions

- Provides leadership on global health matters
- Shapes the health research agenda
- Sets norms and standards
- Articulates evidence-based policy options
- Provides technical support to countries
- Monitors and assesses health trends

Core values of WHO

1. Equity
2. Social justice
3. Universality
4. People-centeredness
5. Community protection
6. Participation
7. Scientific soundness/evidence
8. Personal responsibility
9. Self reliance
10. Self determination

Some of WHO`s key global achievements
WHO’s key achievements 1.

**1948:** WHO took over the responsibility for the International Classification of Disease.

**1974:** The World Health Assembly adopted a resolution to create the expanded programme on immunization to bring basic vaccines to children worldwide.

**1977:** The first essential medicines list was published.

Key achievements 2.

**1978:** The international conference on Primary Health Care, in Alma-Ata Kazakhstan sets the historic goal of “Health for All.”

**1979:** The eradication of small pox.

**1988:** The Global Polio Eradication Initiative is established.

Key achievements 3.

**2003:** WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control; WHO’s first global public health treaty.

**2005:** The World Health Assembly revises the International Health Regulations.

WHO Director-General

- Dr Tedros was elected on 23 May 2017, by vote of Member States at the Seventieth World Health Assembly. It was the first time that WHO Member States at the World Health Assembly selected a Director-General from among multiple candidates.
WHO Regional Director for Europe

Zsuzsanna Jakab took up her duties as Regional Director on 1 February 2010. In January 2015, the WHO Executive Board appointed her for a second term, which began on 1 February 2015. A native of Hungary, she has held a number of high-profile national and international public health policy positions in the last three decades.

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

Categories and Programme Areas
2014-19

“Health is a human right. No one should get sick or die just because they are poor, or because they cannot access the services they need.” − Dr Tedros

Mission
Promote health – keep the world safe – serve the vulnerable

Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by:
Achieving universal health coverage − 1 billion more people benefiting from universal health coverage
Addressing health emergencies − 1 billion more people better protected from health emergencies
Promoting healthier populations − 1 billion more people enjoying better health and well-being

Global Programme of Work 13
− “The triple billion”
Having and delivering a Vision

Universal Health Coverage

✓ all people should have
✓ access to needed health services of sufficient quality to be effective
✓ without financial hardship

PHC - patient centered integrated service delivery

The Future: Understanding WHO’s place in the new global health architecture

Policy relevant | Action oriented | Pro poor

Country-level analysis that goes beyond the numbers provides evidence for action
GPW 13 areas cover:
Access to medicines, vaccines and pharmaceuticals, to address crosscutting challenges like AMR, rise in NCD, etc.

1 billion more people enjoying better health and well being

1 billion more people benefiting from UHC
1 billion more people protected from emergencies
1 billion more people enjoying better health well being

3.1. Determinants of health addressed leaving no one behind
3.2. Reduced risk factors through multisectoral action

Health Determinants

Source: Dahlgren and Whitehead, 1991
Health 2020

Health 2020 is the new European health policy framework.

It aims to support action across government and society to: “significantly improve the health and well-being of populations, reduce health inequalities, strengthen public health and ensure people-centred health systems that are universal, equitable, sustainable and of high quality”.

It has two strategic objectives, constructed around equity, gender and human rights and improved governance for health.

The SDGs and Health 2020 are fully aligned

Sustainable Development Goal 3 and its targets
The new global framework: United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Health in all policies = health in all SDGs

Health 2020 – strategic objectives and four common policy priorities for health

1. Working to improve health for all and reducing the health divide
2. Improving leadership and participatory governance for health

1. Investing in health through a life course approach and empowering people
2. Tackling Europe’s major health challenges of non-communicable diseases and communicable diseases
3. Strengthening people-centered health systems and public health capacities, and emergency preparedness, surveillance and response
4. Creating resilient communities and supportive environments

Health and wellbeing accumulate over a lifetime

Health 'gains' and 'losses' are passed on to the next generation

Leaving no one behind calls for action

1 billion more people enjoying better health and well-being
1 billion more people benefitting from universal health coverage
1 billion more people better protected from health emergencies
1 billion more people enjoying better health and well-being
Major shifts in GPW 13

• WHO will drive public health impact in every country
• WHO will measure impact
• WHO will prioritize
• WHO will step up leadership at all levels
• WHO will strengthen its normative work
• WHO will transform its approach to resource mobilization
• WHO will act with a sense of urgency, scale and quality

1 billion more people enjoying better health and well being

1 billion more people benefiting from UHC

1 billion more people protected from emergencies

1 billion more people enjoying better health and well being

Policy frameworks
Addressing risk factors

Building active environments

Make physical activity a part of daily life during all stages of life

REGULAR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE LIFE-COURSE ENABLES PEOPLE TO LIVE BETTER AND LONGER LIVES

Management of NCDs

Country assessments
Country assessments identify health policy challenges to help countries and international partners develop the policies and measures needed to achieve the MDG health goals. They also provide a framework for evaluating policies and programs and a basis for international collaboration.
Norms/guidelines (recent or to be released soon)

SAFER
A WORLD FREE FROM ALCOHOL RELATED HARMs

SAFER is a WHO-led initiative to reduce death, disease and disorder caused by the harmful use of alcohol through high-impact, evidence-based, cost-effective interventions.

The SAFER action package
1. Strengthen restrictions on alcohol availability
2. Advance and enforce drink-driving counter measures
3. Facilitate access to screening, brief interventions and treatment
4. Enforce bans or comprehensive restrictions on alcohol advertising, sponsorship, and promotion
5. Raise prices on alcohol through excise taxes and pricing policies

SAFER initiative
The SAFER Initiative includes three interrelated components to support country implementation:
1. WHO action package of effective alcohol policy and programme interventions;
2. WHO/UNIHAP programme focusing on country action, and
3. Multi-stakeholder communications and advocacy campaign.

Monitor tobacco use & prevention policies
Protect people from tobacco smoke
Offer help to quit tobacco use
Warn about the dangers of tobacco
Enforce bans on tobacco advertising, promotion, & sponsorship
Raise taxes on tobacco
European Region: A long history and regional specificity

Regional (and global goods)
- WHO European Healthy Cities Network
- WHO Regions for Health Network
- WHO Health Promoting Schools Network
- WHO Health Promoting Hospitals
- WHO Prison Health
- Small countries initiative (SCI)

THE REGIONS for HEALTH NETWORK - RHN:
- 41 Regions
- 27 Countries
- 131 million people

Schools for Health in Europe
- WHO associated regional network active in 31 European countries
- Promoting health promoting schools through a whole school approach
- Provides materials ("SHE manual", assessment tool) and support
- Organises school health in healthy cities
Addressing the environmental determinants through the life-course

Impact framework targets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Impact</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mortality due to air pollution</td>
<td>↓ by 5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortality from climate-sensitive diseases</td>
<td>↓ by 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to safe drinking-water</td>
<td>↑ by 1 billion people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to safe sanitation</td>
<td>↑ by 800 million people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stunted children</td>
<td>↓ by 30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wasting among children</td>
<td>↓ to &lt;5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children developmentally on track in health</td>
<td>↑ to 80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children subject to violence</td>
<td>↓ by 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimate partner violence</td>
<td>↓ to 15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women making informed reproductive decisions</td>
<td>↑ to 60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Acting in partnership: the role of the European Environment and Health Process

Ostrava Declaration on Environment & Health

Ministerial Declaration

Develop national portfolios of action by end-2018

Compendium of possible actions
Ostrava public health priorities

- Improve indoor and outdoor air quality
- Ensure access to safe drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene
- Minimize adverse effects of chemicals
- Strengthen adaptation to and mitigation of climate change
- Prevent/eliminate adverse effects of waste mgmt. & contaminated sites
- Support cities and regions to become healthier
- Build the environmental sustainability of health systems

Ostrava Declaration

- Guides tailor-made prioritization in countries
- Aligns with aspirations of SDGs
- Informs country support
- Stipulates engagement on sub-national level
- Triggers engagement of non-health and work across sectors

Domains of work

- Development of normative guidelines and support policy/regulatory uptake at national level, for example:
  - Environmental noise guidelines
  - Air quality guidelines
  - Guidelines on drinking-water quality
  - Guidelines on sanitation and health
  - Heat health action planning
- Supporting tools to inform policy choices:
  - Health impact assessment
  - AirQ+ for health risk assessment of air pollution
  - Carbon reduction benefits on health (CaRBonH) calculation tool

Delivery/business models

- Multilateral mechanisms
  - WHO/UNECE Protocol on Water and Health (legally binding)
  - WHO/UNECE Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP)
- City and regional networks/platforms to enhance multi-level governance
- Impact aquis communautaire of European Union
Mission: Help countries, and coordinate international action, to prevent, prepare for, detect, rapidly respond to, and recover from outbreaks and emergencies.

1 billion better protected from health emergencies

1 billion more people benefiting from UHC

1 billion more people enjoying better health and well being

EURO Priorities - EUR/RC68/R7: Action plan to improve public health preparedness and response in the WHO European Region

Key guiding principles of the action plan
Pillar 1 - Build, strengthen and maintain States Parties' core capacities required under the IHR (2005)

- National policies, plans and legislation
- IHR (2005) coordination, communication and advocacy
- National laboratory systems
- National surveillance systems
- Risk communication
- Points of entry
- Synergies with health systems strengthening
- One Health
- Sustainable financing

Mainly 2.1.2 and all 2.2

Pillar 2 - Strengthen event management and compliance with the requirements under the IHR (2005)

- Notification and information sharing
- Emergency preparedness and response operations
- Medical countermeasures and personnel deployment (ECS, Packages of health services → UHC)

Mainly Outcome 2.1.3 and 2.3

Mission: Help countries, and coordinate international action, to prepare for, prevent, detect, rapidly respond to, and recover from outbreaks and emergencies

Mandatory annual reporting by State Parties

Assessment of capacities through use of voluntary tool

Mainly 2.1.1
Prevention

- EUR/RC68/R7 – Action plan to improve public health preparedness and response in the WHO European Region
- IHR (2005)
- WHA64.5 – PIP Framework
- (Global strategy for influenza 2018-2030)
- WHA65.17 – Global vaccine action plan
- Polio specific WHA resolutions, incl. WHA71.16
- etc.

Health emergencies rapidly detected and risks assessed and communicated

- Surveillance systems and networks
  - High threat infectious hazards (e.g. IDSR)
  - Integration with surveillance programmes (e.g. IVB, polio, RMNCH)
  - Cross-sectoral coordination (e.g. natural hazards, animal health/zoonotic, WASH, environment)
- Alert / early warning systems for signal detection (including media, social media, event based, facility based)
- Triage and verification (including IHR focal points)
- Risk assessment (hazard, exposure, context – draws on broad range of expertise)
- Operational and risk communication (DONs, EMS, EIOS, event dashboard)
- Support for country level Health EOC to continuously monitor/reports events and conduct risk assessments

Jukka,
Silviu

Acute health emergencies rapidly responded to

- Coordination of support countries with partners (GOARN, EMT, HC, SBP, etc.) as required:
  - Leadership and coordination (EOC/IMST, advocacy, communications)
  - Strategy, planning, costing and financing
  - Technical analysis and expertise
  - Health operations service delivery
  - Operational support (surge, supplies, logistics, staff safety and security)
  - Monitoring, review, reporting
- Emergency Response Framework (WHO performance standards)
- Continuous situational analysis + risk assessment to adjust support /escalate as needed
- International coordination (travel and trade, use of scarce resources) and escalation (IHR emergency committee, IASC/UN activation)
- Determination of end of event, transition/recovery, lessons learning
Essential health services and systems maintained and strengthened in FCVs

- Increased access to and quality of basic package of essential health services in priority countries
- Increase resilience of health system and address impediments to effective delivery of health services
- Develop innovative approaches to delivering health services and strengthening health systems in FCV context
- Improved coordination between humanitarian, development and peace-building actors to:
  - Strengthen national capacity and systems
  - Where necessary, deliver essential health services and systems support
- Specific migrant population concern
- Strengthening health systems to overcome constraints (e.g. availability of and access to essential medicines, shortages of health workforce..)
- Recovery
- Leadership advocacy, political, peacebuilding, protecting health care

Strengthening health systems towards people-centered and integrated services delivery

Rooting health systems functions to respond to needs and empower individuals

Monitoring and evaluation is a key to successful implementation
Thank you!

http://www.euro.who.int
http://www.who.int