

Seville, Andalusia  
Spain

03 November 2023

15–17 November 2023

Original: English

## 28th annual meeting of the Regions for Health Network (RHN)

# Draft provisional programme

## Wednesday 15 November 2023

Venue: Fundación Cajasol Plaza San Francisco

Time	Session
13:00–13:30	<b>Registration</b>
13:30–13:40	<p><b>Welcome, and outline of the scope and purpose of the meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Ana M Carriazo</b>, Senior Adviser, Regional Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs of Andalusia, Spain</li> <li>○ <b>Bettina Menne</b>, Senior Policy Adviser, Healthy Settings, WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development, Venice, Italy</li> </ul>
13:40–14:15	<p><b>The role of regions or subnational authorities in national and subnational policy implementation</b></p> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Natasha Azzopardi-Muscat</b>, Director of the Division of Country Health Policies and Systems, WHO Regional Office for Europe (<i>online</i>)</li> <li>○ <b>Catalina García Carrasco</b>, Regional Minister of Health and Consumer Affairs of Andalusia, Spain</li> <li>○ <b>George Patoulis</b>, Governor of Attica, Greece</li> </ul>
14:15–17:15	<b>Session 1. Climate change and One Health</b>
14:15–15:15	<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>Climate change and global environmental changes are affecting the whole of society and all regions across the WHO European Region. Healthy cities and the RHN supported adoption of the Declaration of the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in Budapest, Hungary, on 5–7 July</p>

2023.<sup>1</sup> Clear action opportunities for the RHN should be discussed, in line with the draft RHN roadmap for health and well-being, which identifies climate and One Health as core priorities of the Network.

#### **Aims of the session**

- To update on the implementation of the Budapest Declaration and health-related aspects of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- To discuss One Health as an approach to adapt to climate change
- To capitalize on experiences of member regions of the RHN

#### **Moderator**

- **Bettina Menne**, Senior Policy Adviser, Healthy Settings, WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development, Venice, Italy

#### **Speakers**

- *International and regional action on health and climate change*
  - **Dorota Iwona Jarosinska**, Programme Manager, WHO European Centre for Environment and Health, Bonn, Germany (*online*)
- *Developing a new a climate health plan in Flanders*
  - **Bart Bautmans**, Environmental Health Team Leader, Flanders Agency for Care and Health, Belgium (*online*)

#### **Presentations and roundtable discussion on One Health**

- *Making One Health operational for a sustainable and healthy future: the role of the WHO Regional Office for Europe*
  - **Simona Seravesi**, Technical Officer (One Health), WHO Regional Office for Europe
- *The One Health approach in Andalusia*
  - **Jorge del Diego Salas**, General Director for Public Health and Pharmacies Regulation, Regional Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs of Andalusia, Spain
- *One Health: from concept to public health practice*
  - **Carmen Cabezas**, Secretary of Public Health, Catalonia, Spain
- *One Health from a youth perspective*
  - **Kristina Almazidou**, President, International Student One Health Alliance (ISOHA) and Member of the WHO Youth Council, Romania (*online*)

#### **Guided discussion**

<sup>1</sup> Declaration of the Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health: Budapest, Hungary 5–7 July 2023. Copenhagen: WHO Regional Office for Europe; 2023 (<https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/371461>, accessed 31 October 2023).

15:15–15:45	Speed networking
15:45–16:15	Coffee break
16:15–17:30	<p><b>Promoting health and well-being: climate change, environment and One Health</b></p> <p><b>Aim of the session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To discuss in groups experiences in regions, priority near-term action points, RHN support required and approaches to support the implementation of the Budapest Declaration</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Bettina Menne</b>, Senior Policy Adviser, Healthy Settings, WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development, Venice, Italy</li> </ul> <p><b>Group discussion</b></p> <p><b>Reporting back to plenary</b></p>
17:30–17:45	Summary of the day
19:00–20:30	Guided visit to the Alcázar of Seville, a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Site
20:30	Walk to Rio Grande Restaurant – Dinner

## Thursday 16 November 2023

Time	Session
09:30–13:00	Session 2. Universal health coverage
09:30–10:30	<p><b>Session 2.A. Humanization of integrated, value-based and personalized health systems</b></p> <p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>The concept of humanization in health care revolves around transforming provision of care into a patient-centred approach. It emphasizes the integration of medical services, ensuring value-based decisions, and tailoring care to meet individual needs. By adopting an integrated, value-based and personalized care model, health-care systems can enhance patient experience, improve health outcomes and reduce health disparities.</p> <p><b>Aims of the session</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To discuss successful models and best practices from different regions that have implemented health system humanization efforts</li> <li>• To identify key strategies and policy frameworks that promote patient-centred care while addressing the challenges associated with resource allocation, workforce capacity and cross-sector collaboration</li> <li>• To explore the need for an RHN working group</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Alvise Forcellini</b>, RHN consultant, WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development, Venice, Italy</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Introductory remarks</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Miguel Ángel Guzmán Ruiz</b>, Deputy Regional Minister of Health and Consumer Affairs, Andalusia, Spain</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <i>Quality of care and country profiles: a WHO analysis</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Joao Breda</b>, Special Adviser to the WHO Regional Director for Europe, WHO Regional Office for Europe</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>TITLE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Javier Vázquez</b>, General Secretary for Humanization, Planning, Social and Health Care and Consumer Affairs, Regional Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs of Andalusia, Spain</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Interactive discussion</b></p>
10:30–11:00	Technical speed networking
11:00–11:30	Coffee break
11:30–13:00	<p><b>Session 2.B. Financial protection, health equity and well-being</b></p> <p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>The recent “permacrisis” – a term used to describe the multitude of crises related to climate change, war, and infectious and noncommunicable diseases – has highlighted vulnerabilities in social protection systems. The resilience of health systems has been challenged, and achieving universal health coverage has been put at risk. Action is required by multiple stakeholders at all health system levels, and financing mechanisms that enable and encourage provision of high-quality care and ensure that all can access high-quality health services are needed. An equity lens and consideration of local contexts and realities are essential.</p> <p><b>Aims of the session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide information about financial protection, and inspire action</li> <li>• To identify barriers and enablers to financial protection mechanisms in member regions of the RHN</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To examine opportunities and case studies on securing health equity and well-being at a regional level</li> <li>• To inspire action on financial protection</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Elisabeth Bengtsson</b>, Senior Adviser in Public Health, Västra Götaland, Sweden</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Financial protection and universal health coverage</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Jon Cylus</b>, Head of London Hubs at the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies and Senior Health Economist, WHO Barcelona Office for Health Systems Financing, Spain</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <i>Mapping fragilities in populations for improved resource allocation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Gianna Zamaro</b>, Director, Central Directorate for Health, Social Policy and Disability, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Italy</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <i>Implementing equity in prevention and public health: the Emilia-Romagna experience</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Luigi Palestini</b>, Directorate general of Health and Welfare, Emilia-Romagna, Italy</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion and game play</b></p>
13:00–14:00	Lunch
14:00–17:45	Session 3. Leveraging opportunities
14:00–15:15	<p><b>Session 3.A. Bolstering primary health care</b></p> <p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>Primary health care is a whole-of-society approach to organizing and strengthening national health systems effectively to bring services for health and well-being closer to communities. It has three components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• integrated health services to meet people’s health needs throughout their lives;</li> <li>• addressing the broader determinants of health through multisectoral policy and action; and</li> <li>• empowering individuals, families and communities to take charge of their own health.</li> </ul> <p>Member regions of the RHN have been at the forefront of primary health care evolution and implementation of innovations.</p> <p><b>Aims of the session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To understand ongoing international developments</li> <li>• To discuss RHN engagement in developing best practice examples</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Moderator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Ana M Carriazo</b>, Senior Adviser, Regional Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs of Andalusia, Spain</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Key findings from the Astana Primary Health Care Summit and population health management in primary health care</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>José Cerezo Cerezo</b>, Health Policy Analyst, WHO European Centre for Primary Health Care, Almaty, Kazakhstan (<i>online</i>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <i>Joint action on transfer of best practices in primary care (CIRCE-JA),</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Sebastian Tornero</b>, Head of Operational Planning Unit, Andalusian Health Service, Spain</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <i>Comparing and contrasting health outcomes and inequities across small areas using subnational regional demographic characteristics</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Cory Neudorf</b>, Professor, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Canada</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
<p><b>15:15–16:00</b></p>	<p><b>Session 3.B. Health crisis preparedness and response</b></p> <p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>In the aftermath of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), a new European health landscape is being shaped. This session will investigate how this is relevant to member regions of the RHN, and how it will affect regions in the coming years.</p> <p><b>Aims of the session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To discuss the evolving European Health Union landscape in the light of the European Union health security framework, including the prevention, preparedness and response plan and promotion of an effective and coordinated response to serious cross-border threats</li> <li>● To present the WHO Preparedness 2.0 strategy, whose goal is to anticipate and prepare for health emergencies that lie ahead.</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Bettina Menne</b>, Senior Policy Adviser, Healthy Settings, WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development, Venice, Italy</li> </ul> <p><b>Keynote speaker</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Can a stronger European Health Union help to confront the permacrisis?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Isabel De la Mata</b>, Principal Adviser on Health and Crisis Management, European Commission</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <i>Emergency response by WHO</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>WHO speaker to be confirmed</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<b>Question-and-answer session</b>
<b>16:00–16:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>16:30–17:45</b>	<p><b>Session 3.C. Funding opportunities, networking and research initiatives</b></p> <p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>This session will explore the crucial elements of securing funding for health-related projects, the importance of networking in identifying partners and relevant topics, and the potential for collaboration with ongoing research initiatives.</p> <p><b>Aims of the session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To understand and discuss key success factors to apply for new funding for health, networking and identifying partners and topics, based on successful experiences that will be shared</li> <li>• To identify current ongoing research initiatives relevant to or conducted by member regions of the RHN and their partners, and possibly to explore joint areas of interest</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Virginia Nieto</b>, International Projects Officer, Progress and Health Foundation, Spain</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Creating synergies, maximizing impacts through international partnerships</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Lisa Leonardini</b>, Coordinator, ProMIS International Health Programme, Veneto region, Italy</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <i>Findings and learning from EuroHealthNet experience in building and implementing successful projects</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Alison Maassen</b>, Programme Manager, EuroHealthNet</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <i>How to build consensus and participation in cross-border settings for joint action</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Brigitte Van der Zanden</b>, Director, euPrevent</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <i>How can collaboration across networks help to mobilize resources?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Michele Calabrò</b>, Director, European Regional and Local Health Authorities</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <i>Collecting and analysing data on public health workforce, training, funding and governance</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Cory Neudorf</b>, Professor, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Canada</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>

	- <i>Call for research projects</i>
<b>17:45–18:00</b>	<b>Summary of the day</b>

## Friday 17 November 2023

Time	Session
<b>08:30–09:00</b>	<b>Joint “speed networking walk” from Hotel Macarena to conference venue</b>
<b>09:00–11:00</b>	<b>Session 4. Empowering health through science, data and innovation (Digital health)</b>
<b>09:00–11:00</b>	<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>Digital health technologies encompass a wide range of applications, including telemedicine, electronic health records, mobile health applications, artificial intelligence and data analytics. This session will focus on regional strategies and their links with WHO and European Union global strategies, digitalization of primary health care (trends, opportunities and risks) and use of digital tools for communicating with populations.</p> <p><b>Aims of the session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide an overview of digital health in the WHO European Region</li> <li>• To discuss what the member regions of the RHN can do to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ strengthen subnational governance in the digital ecosystem</li> <li>○ discuss the integration and adoption of digital health technologies</li> <li>○ develop a specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound (SMART) approach that puts patients at the centre of digital care developments</li> <li>○ integrate, capitalize on and build capacity for telehealth in routine health and social services delivery</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Ana M Carriazo</b>, Senior Adviser, Regional Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs of Andalusia, Spain</li> </ul> <p><b>Keynote speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>How can WHO’s Regional Digital Health Action Plan 2023–2030 support member regions of the RHN?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>David Novillo Ortiz</b>, Regional Adviser on Data and Digital Health, WHO Regional Office for Europe</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Sharing experiences</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>The eHealth Strategy in Andalusia: risks and opportunities</i></li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Francisco Sanchez Laguna</b>, Deputy Director for Information and Communication Technology, Andalusian Health Service, Spain</li> </ul> <p>- <i>Where is digital health heading?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Chiara Sgarbossa</b>, Director, Digital Health Observatory, School of Management – Technical University of Milan, Italy (<i>online</i>)</li> </ul> <p>- <i>Living in digital exclusion – results from a Swedish region</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Richard Allan Dale</b>, Strategist, Västra Götaland, Sweden (<i>online</i>)</li> </ul> <p>- <i>Health-care innovation in Estonia: what are the key drivers?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Kristin Kuusk</b>, Innovation Specialist, Estonian Health Insurance Fund, Estonia</li> </ul> <p>- <i>Environment and health: epidemiological data to support air quality policies – the experience of Emilia-Romagna</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Nicola Caranci</b>, Directorate general of Health and Welfare, Emilia-Romagna, Italy</li> </ul> <p><b>Group work</b></p>
<b>11:00–11:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>11.30–12.45</b>	<p><b>RHN business meeting</b></p> <p><b>Aim of the session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● To discuss future areas of focus/collaboration in line with the draft RHN roadmap</li> </ul> <p>The session will start with a survey of participants to assess the level of satisfaction of RHN members with both the current event and activities carried out during the year. The survey results will be shared after the meeting.</p> <p>Specific output/activities will be presented and discussed, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● case studies</li> <li>● publications</li> <li>● webinars</li> <li>● other products.</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Bettina Menne</b>, Senior Policy Adviser, Healthy Settings, WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development, Venice, Italy</li> </ul>
<b>12:45–13:00</b>	<p><b>Endorsement of the Andalusia Statement</b></p> <p><b>Farewell address from Andalusia and WHO</b></p>
<b>13:00–14:00</b>	<b>Lunch (optional)</b>