



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON
ENSURING HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTING
WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES

(Online meeting)
New York, 16-17 October 2024

UN DESA/POP/2024/EGM/NO. 1/INF.3
4 OCTOBER 2024

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Day 1: Wednesday, 16 October 2024

EDT (New York time)

8:00 – 8:30 am

Opening remarks

- o John Wilmoth, Population Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- o Catharina Jannigje Lasseur, Chair of the 58th session of the Commission on Population and Development
- o Julia Bunting, United Nations Population Fund
- o Pascale Allotey, World Health Organization

8:30 – 9:00 am

Session I. How are population trends likely to shape health and well-being going forward?

- o Thomas Spoorenberg, Population Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. *Key population trends relevant for health and well-being for all.*
- o Sarah Hawkes, Global Health 50/50. *Promoting women's health through the life course: challenges and opportunities resulting from major demographic shifts.*

Q&A

9:00 – 10:30 am

Session II. Promoting health and well-being for all across the life course: selected topics

- o **Moderator:** Alessio Cangiano, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- o Marcia Castro, Harvard University. *Triple burden of diseases and the importance of promoting healthy lifestyle choices.*
- o Onikepe Owolabi, Guttmacher Institute. *Sexual and reproductive health and rights for all.*
- o John Naslund, Harvard University. *The importance of mental health and well-being throughout the life course.*
- o Prabhat Jha, University of Toronto. *Preparing for healthy ageing.*



DESA

Population Division

Q&A

10:30 – 10:45 am

Break

10:45 am – 12:15 pm

Session III. Accelerating progress towards the target of universal health coverage and closing gaps in access to quality essential health-care services

o **Moderator:** Simone Cecchini, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

o Gabriela Flores Pentzke Saint-Germain, World Health Organization. *Tracking universal health coverage: critical steps to accelerate progress towards SDG target 3.8.*

o Kanitsorn Umriddetchkajorn, National Health Security Office, Thailand. *Best practices in reducing inequalities in access to health-care services.*

o Stella Umuhoza, University of Rwanda. *Addressing catastrophic out-of-pocket health spending for individuals and families and reducing financial barriers to access health care.*

o Ridhi Kashyap, Oxford University. *Leveraging technology to achieve progress on health for all.*

Q&A

12:15 – 1:00 pm

Interactive discussion: Main takeaways from first day

o **Moderator:** Vladimíra Kantorová, Population Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Day 2: Thursday, 17 October 2024

EDT (New York time)

8:00 – 9:30 am

Session IV. Strengthening the sustainability of health systems in countries confronting a variety of demographic situations and prospects

o **Moderator:** Sabine Henning, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).

o Agnès Couffignal, World Bank. *Critical approaches to strengthen financing for health systems.*

o Reiko Hayashi, National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, Japan. *Challenges and lessons learned from a country experiencing advanced population ageing.*

o Margaret Edison, National Population Commission, Nigeria. *Challenges and lessons learned from a country experiencing rapid population growth.*

o Ellen Mkondya-Senkoro, Mkapa Foundation, United Republic of Tanzania. *Best practices in recruitment, training and retention of medical professionals.*

Q&A

9:30 – 11:00 am

Session V. Enhancing the preparedness and resilience of health systems in the face of health emergencies, pandemics, conflicts, natural disasters and climate change

o **Moderator:** Werner Obermeyer, World Health Organization (WHO).

o Tamer Rabie, World Bank. *Preparing health systems for the impacts of climate change.*

o Lasha Gogvadze, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). *Enhancing the preparedness and resilience of health systems in humanitarian settings.*

o Francesca Colombo, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). *Lessons-learned from COVID-19 to prepare for future pandemics and health crises.*

o Jennifer Layden, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), United States of America. *Data systems, including surveillance data: Experience from the Data Modernization Initiative.*

Q&A

11:00 – 11:15 am

Break

11:15 am – 12:45 pm

Interactive discussion: Policy priorities for achieving healthy lives for all

o **Moderator:** Cheryl Sawyer, Population Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Q&A

12:45 – 1:00 pm

Closing remarks

o John Wilmoth, Population Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs