

**PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS,
NON-STATE ACTORS IN OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH THE WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION AND OTHER INVITED OBSERVERS AT THE SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION
OF THE WHO REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC
21–25 October 2024**

The World Health Organization (WHO) values its partnerships with intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), non-State actors (NSAs) and other partners, and recognizes their importance in achieving global health outcomes. In this regard, their participation in sessions of the Regional Committee is encouraged.

Participation in such meetings is governed by the WHO Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors, adopted by the World Health Assembly in May 2016.¹ IGOs, NSAs and other invited partners may participate at the Regional Committee without the right to vote.

Time and place of the session

The seventy-fifth session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific will be held in Manila, Philippines, from 21 to 25 October 2024, with on-site participation only, at the main Conference Hall of the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific, located at the corner of United Nations and Taft avenues, Ermita, Manila. Please note that virtual attendance cannot be accommodated.

Registration

To register, an email should be sent to WPRpartnerships@who.int with the names of the individuals who are attending as observers. The correspondence should include a signed response to the invitation on the partner's letterhead indicating the name of the head of the delegation, the names of any other representatives, the function of each delegate and, where appropriate, the affiliated entity. A letter template is attached for reference.

Official registration should then be completed via the online registration system at <https://rcm.wpro.who.int/register>. Both email confirmation and the online registration must be completed by **22 September 2024**.

Registered representatives will appear in the official WHO records as participants. The Office of the Regional Director will verify the information received in the registration system to generate the List of Participants and the meeting badges.

Please be advised that seating within the Conference Hall at the WHO Regional Office is limited. Seating will be provided on the balcony level of the Conference Hall, with a small number of seats reserved on the ground floor for partners delivering a statement during a given agenda

¹ Resolution WHA69.10 (2016).

item. A dedicated overflow room near the Conference Hall will also be made available for other representatives to follow proceedings via webcast.

Documentation

Documents for the Regional Committee session are posted on the WHO website as they become available, at <https://www.who.int/westernpacific/about/governance/regional-committee/session-75>. The documents are available in Chinese, English and French, and include the Rules of Procedure, provisional agenda and timetable, and working documents for all agenda items. Documentation such as resolutions, decisions and daily journals will also be made accessible online during the session.

The General Information Booklet includes useful information for representatives and can be found at <https://rcm.wpro.who.int/rc75/gib>.

Statements

IGOs, NSAs in official relations with WHO, and other invited partners that have registered to participate in the Regional Committee session may request to make statements in person under a technical item related to their activities. Constituency statements will be implemented during this session of the Regional Committee in addition to individual statements.

The delivery of interventions will be at the discretion of the Chairperson and will depend on the time available for respective agenda items. Constituency statements will be given consideration before individual statements.

For the purpose of collaboratively developing constituency statements, the list of partners invited to attend the Regional Committee may be used to identify and coordinate with partners.

Please be guided by the following instructions for preparing statements:

- Individual statements should not exceed three minutes speaking time; constituency statements should not exceed five minutes speaking time. A countdown timer will be used to help speakers observe time limits during the session.
- Written statements should not exceed 300 words for individual statements and 500 words for constituency statements.
- Statements should focus on technical issues, should be directly relevant to the technical item and should not contain promotional and/or commercial references. Accuracy of the technical components should be considered. The titles of organizations and/or specific doctrines are expected to be correct and there should be no spelling or grammatical errors.
- Statements should not raise issues of a purely political nature that are unrelated to the agenda item, and they should never contain any inappropriate or potentially offensive references to Member States.

- The nomenclature used to refer to Member States, or areas of Member States, must follow that of the United Nations. Titles of individuals, organizations and/or specific documents should be correct.
- Partners may join more than one constituency statement, but those joining constituency statements cannot make additional individual statements on any of the same agenda items.
- Speakers are invited to follow the proceedings and webcast to be informed of the precise time when items will be discussed and apprised of any changes in schedule.
- While every attempt is made to keep NSAs informed of the status of their requests, it is the responsibility of the NSA delegates to follow discussions and the procedures and any guidance that may be updated.

Representatives of IGOs, NSAs and other invited partners who wish to deliver statements in person are requested to submit them in writing, indicating the relevant agenda item, via email to WPRpartnerships@who.int, no later than **Monday, 7 October 2024 at 17:00** (Philippine Standard Time).

In line with WHO's commitment to transparency, all statements will be made publicly available online. In this regard, your submission of written statements signifies your concurrence that the file will be made available to the public. Please note that statements reflect solely the views of IGOs or NSAs concerned. Posted statements do not necessarily reflect the views of WHO, including its Member States and the Secretariat.

Information on events and exhibitions at the Regional Committee

Dinner hosted by the Regional Director

Invited partner organizations are cordially invited to send one representative to a dinner hosted by the Regional Director on Monday, 21 October, 18:00–20:00 at the Manila Hotel.

Other events

During the week of the Regional Committee session several other events will also take place at the meeting venue, the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific. All participants are welcome to attend these events.

- Tuesday, 22 October, 12:00–12:45: Special Event on the Investment Round
- Tuesday, 22 October, 16:00–17:00: Side Event on Tobacco Control
- Wednesday, 23 October, 16:00–17:00: Side Event on One Health

WHO Exhibitions

Exhibitions on a number of themes will be held throughout the week:

- Health equity profiles
- Future-of-health museum
- Models of climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable health-care facilities
- Strengthening health emergency response capacities in the Western Pacific Region

- Reaching the unreached: Map explorer in the Western Pacific Region
- Dangers of new and emerging tobacco and nicotine products.

Other ways to engage before, during and after the meeting

A communications pack is being developed by the Secretariat for use by Member States and partners attending the Regional Committee session. The pack will include key messages, audiovisual assets and links to relevant resources to support delegates' social media engagement around the main topics that will be discussed during the meeting. Please check the website www.who.int/westernpacific/about/governance/regional-committee/session-75 for more information in the weeks to come.

Participants will also be able to further engage through the WHO Events app, which is available for download from the AppStore (Apple) or PlayStore (Android). Search for “WHO Events” and install the free app. To access the event, open the WHO Events app on your device and click the download icon for the “75th Session of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific”.

Partners' briefing

An online briefing session for all invited partners will be held prior to the Regional Committee. The briefing will provide an overview of the Regional Committee and technical agenda items being discussed during the week. The date and connection details for the meeting and access to relevant documents will be shared in due course.

NSA accreditation for endorsement at RCM75

According to the provisions outlined in paragraph 57 of [the Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors \(FENSA\)](#), regional committees may decide on a procedure granting accreditation to their meetings to international, regional and national NSAs not in official relations with WHO as long as the procedure is managed in accordance with FENSA.

In addition, Rule 2 of [the Rules of Procedure](#) of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, as amended during the seventy-fourth session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific from 16 to 20 October 2023, states that “Other international, regional and national nongovernmental organizations, international business associations and philanthropic foundations not in official relations with the Organization but accredited to participate in meetings of the Committee in accordance with paragraph 57 of the Framework of Engagement may also participate without vote in the deliberations of the Regional Committee, as provided for in the Framework of Engagement.”

Under decision [WPR/RC74\(1\)](#) on governance reform, the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific, during its seventy-fourth session, further decided that “pending the adoption by the Regional Committee of an accreditation procedure in accordance with paragraph 57 of the WHO Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors, only international, regional and national non-State actors not in official relations with WHO that have already been invited to Regional

Committee sessions, may continue to be invited to future sessions of the Regional Committee pursuant to Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure, as amended”.

To further strengthen its engagement and build on its successful collaboration with NSAs, the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific proposes establishing a procedure for granting accreditation to regional NSAs not in official relations with WHO, for the consideration of the seventy-fifth session of the Regional Committee for the Western Pacific in October 2024. Aligning with the official relations mechanism at the global level, nongovernmental organizations, international business associations and philanthropic foundations shall be able to apply for accreditation.

The final draft of the procedure will be available on the WHO website and further information on this item will be shared during the Partners’ briefing.

WHO contacts

The External Relations and Partnerships team serves as the focal point for IGOs, NSAs and other invited partners during the Regional Committee session. For enquiries, an email can be sent to WPRpartnerships@who.int.

Queries and technical issues related to the online registration can be sent to wprorc@who.int.