



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ
WELTGESUNDHEITSORGANISATION
ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'EUROPE
REGIONALBÜRO FÜR EUROPA
ЕВРОПЕЙСКОЕ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЕ БЮРО

Date: 15 June 2018

**CIRCULAR LETTER TO MEMBER STATES¹
IN THE WHO EUROPEAN REGION**

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Our reference:	RC68	Your reference:
Notre référence:	invitation	Votre référence:
Unser Zeichen:		Ihr Zeichen:
См. наш номер:		На Ваш номер:

Dear Sir or Madam,

**68th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe
Rome, Italy, 17–20 September 2018**

I have the honour to convene the 68th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe (RC68), in accordance with Rule 4 of the Regional Committee's Rules of Procedure.

The meeting will be held in Rome, Italy, on 17–20 September 2018 at the Auditorium della Tecnica conference centre. The session will open at 09:00 on Monday, 17 September, and close in the evening on Thursday, 20 September. On-site registration will be open on Sunday, 16 September, and will continue on Monday, 17 September, from 07:30. For further details about RC68, please refer to the guide for participants.

With regard to the provisional agenda of RC68, which will be posted on the website of the WHO Regional Office for Europe (<http://www.euro.who.int>), I would particularly like to draw your attention to the following technical items:

- The European health report 2018;
- Implementation of the roadmap to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Health 2020, the European policy framework for health and well-being, and review of the joint monitoring framework;
- Advancing public health in the WHO European Region for sustainable development;
- Can people afford to pay for health care? New evidence on financial protection in Europe;
- Action plan to improve public health preparedness and response in the WHO European Region;

¹ And regional economic integration organizations.

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- Strategy on the health and well-being of men in the WHO European Region;
 - Implementation of the Regional Framework for Surveillance and Control of Invasive Mosquito Vectors and Re-emerging Vector-borne Diseases 2014–2020: lessons learned and the way forward;
 - Vaccine-preventable diseases and immunization: realizing the full potential of the European Vaccine Action Plan;
 - Countries at the centre: the strategic role of country offices in the WHO European Region;
 - Impact of WHO reform on the work of the WHO European Region;
 - Accreditation of regional non-State actors to the WHO Regional Committee for Europe;
 - Report on WHO high-level meetings:
 - Health Systems Respond to NCDs: Experience in the European Region (Sitges, Spain, 16–18 April 2018);
 - Health Systems for Prosperity and Solidarity: Leaving No One Behind (Tallinn, Estonia, 13–14 June 2018).

In addition to the agenda items mentioned above, 15 progress reports will provide updates on the implementation of a number of resolutions approved by the Regional Committee at previous sessions. As is customary, ministerial lunches and technical briefings will offer additional opportunities to discuss technical items.

When composing your national delegation, please consider including your WHO national counterpart.

Under the agenda item on elections and nominations, in accordance with Rules 14.2.2 and 14.3 of the Rules of Procedure, the Regional Committee will be called on to nominate two members of the Executive Board, four members of the Standing Committee of the Regional Committee, six members of the Regional Evaluation Group, and one member of the Joint Coordinating Board of the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases. Document EUR/RC68/7 contains the curricula vitae and, where appropriate, the letters of intent of the candidates who have been put forward for membership of those WHO bodies and committees.

With regard to draft resolutions, under Rules 22 bis, 22 ter and 22 quarter of the Rules of Procedure, delegations are encouraged to submit any amendments or proposals prior to the session, if possible, or at least 24 hours before the draft resolution is taken up for discussion by the Regional Committee, in order to allow the Secretariat to translate them into the official languages and to distribute them for consideration among all other delegations.

Working documents in all official languages will be posted on the Regional Office website (<http://www.euro.who.int/en/about-us/governance/regional-committee-for-europe>) six weeks prior to the session. Advance copies of some documents may be available earlier.

Online registration will close on Monday, 10 September 2018. With respect to other administrative matters and practical details, including hotel booking, please see the enclosed information note and the guide for participants, which will be posted on the Regional Office website in the near future. Please remember that a signed original of Member State credentials using the enclosed credentials form must be delivered to the Secretariat before the start of the session.

I look forward to welcoming you and your delegation to RC68 in Rome, Italy.

Yours very truly,



Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab
Regional Director

Encls:
Credentials form
Information note