

SPECS

2030

Launch of the WHO SPECS 2030 initiative and inaugural meeting of the Global SPECS Network

World Health Organization headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland
14–15 May 2023

Meeting handbook

Contents

Important instructions for participants	3
Meeting objectives.....	5
Provisional agenda	5
Provisional list of participants	8
Guide to WHO and Geneva	12
Useful information	15
WHO contacts.....	18

Important instructions for participants

Venue

The meeting will be held at the headquarters of the World Health Organization, located in Avenue Appia 20, Geneva.

Arrival at WHO entrance

You can collect your badge at the WHO Reception (close to main entrance). **Your valid passport and proof of COVID-19 vaccination** are needed to collect your badge at the security desk.¹

Please make sure that you have registered on the WHO Indico platform for the meeting at [INDICO event page Launch of the WHO SPECS 2030](#), as this is mandatory for issue of the badge. When the registration is approved in Indico, you will receive a notification. Please also **show that notification** at the security desk.

Please leave sufficient time to collect your badge before the meeting start time as there is often a queue.

Meeting room

The meeting will be held in the WHO main (B building, auditorium Z1/2).

Directions to meeting room:

- Once you have collected your badge at the reception, turn left towards the entry gates. Scan your badge to enter. There will be signage directing you to the room.
- You can take the stairs on the left or the elevator besides the stairs to go down to the cafeteria level.
- Stairs: Once you go down the first flight of stairs, turn right and go towards the second staircase leading to the cafeteria.
- Elevator: choose floor B1. Once you exit, turn right and then right again and walk towards the cafeteria.
- Auditorium Z1/2 is located on the far side of the cafeteria.

Language

The meeting will be conducted in English.

¹ If you cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons, request a medical report or medical certificate from your doctor or specialist explaining the reason for this vaccine contraindication and send SHW this report/certificate via Covid19-shw-hotline@who.int.

Meeting etiquette

- **The meeting will start at 09:00 CEST. Please make sure you are in your seat by then.**
- Once you arrive at the auditorium, please search for the seat with your name plate.
- During the meeting, if you wish to take the floor, kindly indicate this by standing your name plate vertically.
- Kindly make sure that you are present throughout the meeting and respect the time slots as indicated in the agenda and during the meeting.
- We request you to **NOT bring any gifts or souvenirs for WHO staff**, as WHO rules do not permit acceptance of these.
- Please let us know, in advance, if you do not wish to have your photographs taken or shared on WHO webpage.

Photography

Please note that a professional photographer will take photos during the meeting. These photos could be used on the WHO webpage and social media. If you do not wish to be included in the photos, please notify us.

WIFI

If you bring your laptop, free wireless network connection is available in the building. The username is: **#WHOWIFI**. There is no password.

Refreshments

Refreshments will be available during the morning and afternoon coffee breaks.

Participants are welcome to purchase lunch, at their own expense, at the WHO cafeteria, coffee shop and nearby restaurants. Please note that at WHO, only credit cards such as American Express, Diners Club, Mastercard, and Visa are accepted.

A reception will be held on the first day, 14 May, at the WHO cafeteria from 17:00.

Sexual harassment policy

WHO has a zero-tolerance policy against sexual harassment.

Please refer to the link for more information: <https://www.who.int/initiatives/preventing-and-responding-to-sexual-exploitation-abuse-and-harassment>.

Meeting objectives

The meeting objectives are:

1. To formally launch the WHO SPECS 2030 initiative and welcome the inaugural members of the Global SPECS Network.
2. To inform participants on WHO's progress with the SPECS 2030 Initiative, including an introduction to new technical resources to support implementation of the initiative.
3. To present, and receive feedback, on the draft workplans of the Global SPECS Network workstreams.
4. To discuss opportunities and prioritize next steps for a) the Global SPECS Network members, and b) Secretariat.

Provisional agenda

14 May 2024, 09:00–19:30 CEST

Time	Topic	Speaker
09:00	Welcome, opening remarks and video message from the WHO Director-General	Bruce Aylward, Assistant Director-General, Universal Health Coverage, Life Course, WHO
09:10	Lived experiences session	Moderator: Bruce Aylward, Assistant Director-General, Universal Health Coverage, Life Course, WHO
09:45	Background and meeting objectives	Alarcos Cieza Unit Head Department of Noncommunicable Diseases, Rehabilitation and Disability, WHO Stuart Keel Technical Officer, Department of Noncommunicable Diseases, Rehabilitation and Disability, WHO
10:15	Break for morning tea	

10:45	Moderated panel discussion with country representatives	Nor Fariza Ngah Deputy Director General of Health (Research & Technical Support), Ministry of Health Malaysia Micheal Gichangi (<i>to be confirmed</i>) Head of Ophthalmic Services Unit, Ministry of Health Kenya Warapat Wongsawad National Eye Care Service Plan Development Committee, Ministry of Public Health Thailand
11:40	The WHO SPECS 2030 initiative: an overview	Stuart Keel Technical Officer, Department of Noncommunicable Diseases, Rehabilitation and Disability, WHO
12:00	Q&A	
12:20	Group photo	
12:30	Break for lunch	
13:45	United Nations agencies: introductions and opportunities	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), International Labour Organization (ILO), ATscale Global Partnership, Universal Postal Union (UPU)
14:15	Ceremony for inaugural Global SPECS Network members	
15:30	Break for afternoon tea	
16:00	How WHO works and how is it funded?	Imre Hollo Director Strategic Planning
16:15	Opportunities for the SPECS 2030 Initiative in the WHO regions	WHO regional office representatives Moderator: Imre Hollo Director Strategic Planning
16:45	Do's and don'ts for Global SPECS Network member organizations	Issa T. Matta Senior Legal Officer
17:00	Q&A	
17:30–19:30	Reception	

15 May 2024, 09:00–17:30, CEST

Time	Topic	Speaker
09:00	Summary of day I	Alarcos Cieza Unit Head Department of Noncommunicable Diseases, Rehabilitation and Disability, WHO
09:15	Overview of WHO normative work	Vision and Eye Care Programme WHO
10:00	WHO SPECS 2030 communications overview	Hayatee Hasan Communications Officer, Health Information and Advocacy, WHO Kimberly Middleton Communications Manager, Sightsavers
10:10	Q&A	
10:30	Break for morning tea	
11:00	Overview of the Global SPECS Network	Mitasha Yu Consultant, Department of Noncommunicable Diseases, Rehabilitation and Disability, WHO
11:10	A focus on advocacy	Brandon Ah Tong and Jessica Thompson Global SPECS Network Foundation Committee
11:20	Presentations on the three Global SPECS Network workplans	Global SPECS Network Secretariat
12:00	Break for lunch	
13:15	Working groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Workstream 1: Awareness and demand generation ▪ Workstream 2: Workforce ▪ Workstream 3: Service delivery integration and product supply chain 	
15:30	Break for afternoon tea	
16:00	Group feedback: Global SPECS Network workplans	
17:00	Next steps	Alarcos Cieza Unit Head Department of Noncommunicable Diseases, Rehabilitation and Disability, WHO
17:15	Closing remarks	Jérôme Solomon Assistant Director-General, Universal Health Coverage/Communicable and Noncommunicable Diseases

Provisional list of participants

Member States

Brunei Darussalam	Nur Hidayatul Fitri Pengiran DP Haji Othman <i>(to be confirmed)</i> Medical Officer, Hospital Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha, Ministry of Health
Brunei Darussalam	Josephine Poh <i>(to be confirmed)</i> Optometrist, Hospital Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha, Ministry of Health
Kenya	Michael Gichangi <i>(to be confirmed)</i> Head of the Ophthalmic Services Unit at the Directorate of Health Care Services, Ministry of Health
Malaysia	Nor Fariza Ngah Deputy Director General of Health (Research and Technical Support), Ministry of Health
Thailand	Warapat Wongsawad, National Eye Care Service Plan Development Committee, Ministry of Public Health
United States of America	<i>(to be confirmed)</i> United States Agency for International Development

United Nations and related organizations

Susan Alexander Universal Postal Union	Satish Mishra ATscale (UNOPS)
Barbara Goedde ATscale (UNOPS)	Francisco Santos-O'Connor International Labour Organization
James Hale Universal Postal Union	Joaquim Nunes Pintado International Labour Organization
Anil Kashyap ATscale (UNOPS)	Dennis C. Søndergård United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

Other participants

Martin Aufmuth
EinDollarBrille (One Dollar Glasses)

Ella Gudwin
VisionSpring

Shawn Baker
Helen Keller International

Neeru Gupta
International Council of Ophthalmology

Andrew Bastawrous
Peek Vision

Xiaotong Han
Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center

Sandra Block
World Council of Optometry

Anurag Hans (*to be confirmed*)
OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation

Antje Christ
EinDollarBrille (One Dollar Glasses)

Xiangui He
Shanghai Eye Disease Prevention and
Treatment Center

Megan Collins
Wilmer Eye Institute - Dana Center

Peter Holland
International Agency for the Prevention of
Blindness

Andrew Cooper
The Vision Catalyst Fund

Lauren Jesudason
Seva Foundation

Vinod Daniel
India Vision Institute

Imran Khan
Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind -
Sightsavers

Amanda Davis
The Fred Hollows Foundation

Rohit Khanna
L V Prasad Eye Institute

Reade Fahs
20/20 Quest

Joyce Koech
Christian Blind Mission (CBM)

João Furtado
Consultant, Pan American Health
Organization

Fiona Lawless
Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind -
Sightsavers

Jacqueline Grove
20/20 Quest

Ruiyang Li
Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center

Lingyi Liang
Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center

Sriram Ravilla
Aurolab

Haotian Lin
Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center

Thulasiraj Ravilla
Aravind Eye Care System

Mark Lorey
Restoring Vision

Serge Resnikoff
Organisation pour la Prévention de la Cécité

Doris Macharia
Orbis International

James Riggs
Vision Action

Selina Madeleine
Brien Holden Vision Institute Foundation

Khalid Saifullah
Brien Holden Vision Institute Foundation

Kimberley Middleton
Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind -
Sightsavers

Héctor Santiago
VOSH/international

Kate Moynihan
Seva Foundation

Frederic Seghers
Clinton Health Access Initiative

Pelin Munis
Restoring Vision

Liz Smith
EYElliance

Kovin Naidoo (*to be confirmed*)
OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation

Anna Tan
Singapore National Eye Centre

Céline Noguès
Organisation pour la Prévention de la Cécité

Jessica Thompson
International Agency for the Prevention of
Blindness

Ramachandran Parthasarathy
Aurolab

Brandon Ah Tong
The Fred Hollows Foundation

Babar Qureshi
Christian Blind Mission (CBM)

Geoffrey Wabulembo
Light for the World

Tuwani Rasengane
World Council of Optometry and University
of the Free State

Fang (Danny) Wang
Delos Foundation International

Helen Yan
Delos Foundation International

Sumrana Yasmin
Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind -
Sightsavers

Aminah Yoba
Restoring Vision

Sangchul Yoon
Yonsei Institute for Global Health

World Health Organization regional representatives

Enrique Rolando Domingo
WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific

Yuka Makino
WHO Regional Office for Africa

Ariane Laplante-Lévesque
WHO Regional Office for Europe

Tashi Tobgay
WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia

World Health Organization Secretariat

Raymond Bruce J. Aylward
Assistant Director-General, Universal Health
Coverage Life Course

Silvio Paolo Mariotti
Medical Officer, Department of
Noncommunicable Diseases, Rehabilitation
and Disability

Vera Carneiro
Consultant, Department of
Noncommunicable Diseases, Rehabilitation
and Disability

Issa T. Matta
Senior Legal Officer

Alarcos Cieza
Unit head, Department of Noncommunicable
Diseases, Rehabilitation and Disability

Andreas Mueller
Technical Adviser, Department of
Noncommunicable Diseases, Rehabilitation
and Disability

Rosa Haghshenas
Consultant, Department of
Noncommunicable Diseases, Rehabilitation
and Disability

Gerard Schmets
Deputy Director, Special Programme on
Primary Health Care

Hayatee Hasan
Communications Officer, Health Information
and Advocacy

Kylie Shae
Team Lead, Access to Assistive Technology

Imre Hollo
Director of Strategic Planning

Emma Tebbutt
Technical Officer, Access to Assistive
Technology

Stuart Keel
Technical Officer, Department of
Noncommunicable Diseases, Rehabilitation
and Disability

Mitasha Yu
Consultant, Department of
Noncommunicable Diseases, Rehabilitation
and Disability

Guide to WHO and Geneva

Travelling between the airport and Geneva city centre

Geneva city centre is very close to the Geneva airport. It is easily reachable by train or by bus using the united network of public transport, **Unireso**. Only one single ticket is required to travel by train, tram, or bus in Geneva.

You can find the terminal map and more information about public transport and taxis at the airport at: <http://www.gva.ch/en/Desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-60/>

By train: Train is the easiest way to reach Geneva city centre: all trains departing from/going to Genève-Aéroport station stop in the city centre of Geneva at Geneva-Cornavin station (an 8-minute trip between the two stations, every 15 minutes). The airport railway station has direct access to the airport departure/arrival levels.

By bus: The following buses stop at the airport (bus stops are located at the departure level) and travel to Geneva city centre:

- Bus 5 (every 10–15 minutes); get off the bus at Gare Cornavin for the city centre. It takes 20 minutes.
- Bus 10 (every 10 minutes); get off the bus at Gare Cornavin for city centre. It takes 25 minutes.

A standard ticket costs CHF 3.00 (Swiss francs) and is valid for one hour after purchase.

It may be used on multiple modes of transport (bus, tram, train, and boat) within Geneva.

You must buy your ticket before getting onto the transport. Ticket machines are available at all stops and inside some buses. Please select the button for one-hour trip. Alternatively, tickets are also available for purchase on the "SBB mobile" app. There is also the option of purchasing a day pass (*carte journalière*) for CHF 10. This pass is valid from the moment of purchase until 05:00 the following day.

Travelling to/from WHO

The WHO headquarters building is situated at the end of Avenue Appia on the outskirts of Geneva, about 3 kilometres from the centre of town and about 1.5 kilometres from the Palais des Nations (United Nations).

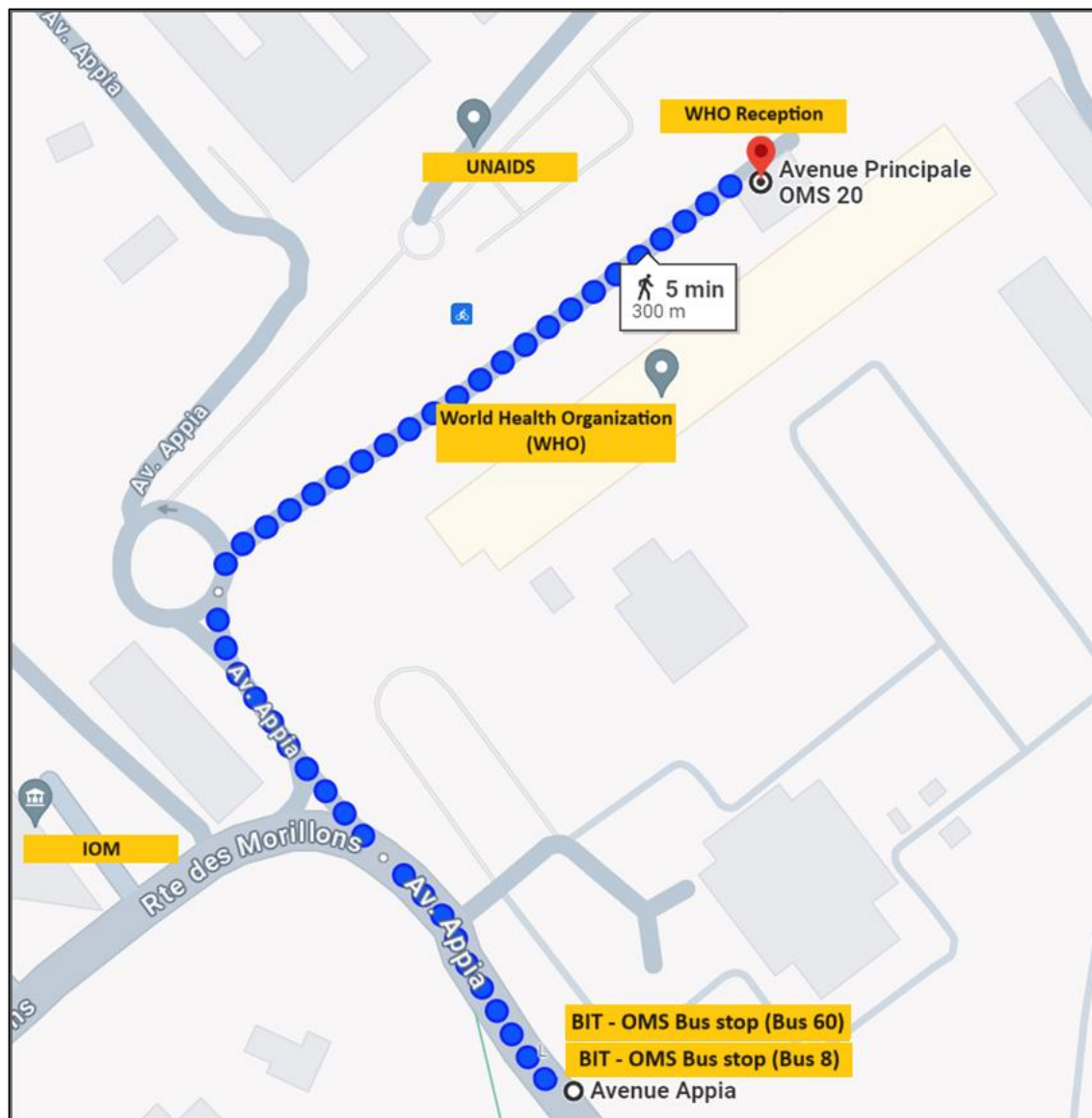
By bus: The bus number 8, direction OMS (OMS means WHO in French), goes to WHO headquarters from the station Cornavin (every 10–15 minutes). This trip takes approximately 13 minutes. WHO is the last stop, so please get off at the bus stop called "OMS". As you step off the bus, you will see WHO buildings. The bus number 60 also stops at WHO (OMS) from Gare Cornavin.

Bus schedule can be obtained at <http://www.tpg.ch/>

1. Under “Voyager” on the top bar, click “Horaires par ligne”
2. Click on the square representing bus route 8 or bus route F.

Select where you will be departing from by clicking on the name of the stop.

Getting to the WHO Reception from the bus stop:



Taxis: Most Geneva taxi drivers know the headquarters building as "OMS" (Avenue Appia). Taxis can be called by telephone by dialing the following numbers: (022) 320 20 20, (022) 320 22 02 and (022) 33 141 33. The WHO Reception will also order taxis.

Taxis are readily available at taxi spots:

- Place du lac, 1204 Genève (city centre)
- Geneva Airport (arrivals)
- Gare Cornavin (Geneva's train station).

Uber: Uber services are also available in Geneva on a limited basis.

Transport apps: Information on public transport can be obtained through the following mobile phone apps:

- tpg: The Geneva public transport app (Transports publics genevois) offers information on timetables for all bus and tram stops of Geneva and can be used to plan the route between two addresses. The tpg app offers the most accuracy about transport schedules in the city of Geneva.
- SBB Mobile: SBB offers train services in Switzerland and the app can be used to access train schedules as well as all public transport schedules in Geneva. It also allows purchase of travel tickets directly through the app.

Accessibility of public transport

Bus: Virtually all buses and trams are wheelchair accessible, and older inaccessible vehicles are very rare. Most buses and trams have display screens and announcements of each stop. If the screen is not functioning, you may also ask the bus driver to inform you of your stop. The bus is the best way to travel from the airport to the city centre for wheelchair users, as the train is not accessible without pre-booked assistance. If you do wish to ride the train from the airport to the city centre, you can call the Handicap des Chemins de Fer Fédéraux (SBB) at least one hour before departure: 0800 007 102 (6am to 10pm) or from abroad +41 (0) 51 225 78 44.

Details of accessibility can be found at: <http://www.tpg.ch/en/web/site-international/service-clients/mobilite-reduite>

Accessible taxi services:

- Mobile-Service - Tel: 079 606 27 60, mser@bluewin, wheelchair available
- Aloha Transport - Tel: +41(0)22 321 12 21 www.alohatransport.ch, also groups of wheelchair users. Reservation 24h in advance for private, individual travel and 48h for corporate trips.
- Paramedica - Tel: +41 (0)22 348 53 15
- Transport One - Tel: +41 (0)79 776 26 17
- Transport Handicap - Tel: +41 (0)22 794 52 52, only wheelchair users (Tel: +41 (0)22 794 52 54 for atelier (wheelchair rental)
- Wangler - Transports - Tél : 022.757.39.39 Tél : 022.757.39.39, reduced mobility and wheelchair users

Useful websites for accessibility (Geneva):

- <http://www.geneve.ch/handicap/>
- <https://www.angloinfo.com/how-to/switzerland/geneva/healthcare/people-with-disabilities>

Useful information

Electricity supply: Swiss plug-sockets supply the European standard voltage of 230 V AC – 50 Hz. Plug sockets are shaped as seen in the picture below. Most plugs with two prongs can also be used.



Currency and payment transactions: The currency unit is CHF (Swiss Franc). International credit cards, such as American Express, Diners Club, Mastercard, and Visa, are all widely accepted in Switzerland. Currency exchange offices and ATM machines are available throughout the country.

Time: In May, Switzerland uses CEST (Central European Summer Time). Time indications in the meeting programme will follow CEST.

Weather and clothing: May, in Geneva, is a spring month with daytime maximum temperatures average around 18°C (64°F), whilst at night 7°C (45°F) is normal.

For up-to-date weather forecasts please visit:

<http://worldweather.wmo.int/en/city.html?cityId=193>

Travel arrangements:

Participants should make their own travel arrangements for both outward and return journeys and make their own hotel booking (except in special circumstances, as notified by WHO).

Participants are kindly asked to check whether they require a visa to enter Switzerland and to apply for it in a timely manner. More information can be found on <https://www.swiss-visa.ch/ivis2/#/i210-select-country>.

Other useful information and tourism resources:

- Geneva Tourism & Convention Bureau: <https://www.geneve.com/?rubrique=0000000000&lang=eng&PHPSESSID=701fedb d7b15a6ce98f8cf0bfb17d9dc>
- Geneva International Airport: <http://www.gva.ch/en/Desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-11/>
- My Switzerland: <http://www.myswitzerland.com/en/home.html>
- Ville de Genève Tourisme: <https://www.geneve.ch/en/geneva-tourism>

Possible hotels

(Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of hotels)

5-star hotels

Hotel President Wilson

(By the lakeside)

Quai Wilson 47,

1211 Geneva, Switzerland

Website: <https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/gvalc-hotel-president-wilson-a-luxury-collection-hotel-geneva>

Hotel InterContinental Geneva

(Close to the WHO HQ)

Wheelchair accessible, accessible parking

7-9, Chemin du Petit Saconnex,

1209 Geneva, Switzerland

Website: <https://www.intercontinental.com/geneva>

Fairmont Grand Hotel Geneva

(By the lakeside)

Wheelchair accessible

Quai du Mont-Blanc 19,

1201 Geneva, Switzerland

Website: <https://www.fairmont.com/geneva/>

4-star hotels

Hotel Warwick Geneva

(Near Gare Cornavin)

Rue de Lausanne 14,

1201 Genève

Website: <https://www.warwickhotels.com/warwick-geneva>

Hilton Geneva Hotel & Conference Centre

(Near Geneva Airport)

Wheelchair accessible, accessible parking and elevator

34, Route François Peyrot,

1218 Grand-Saconnex/Geneva

Website: <http://Geneva.hilton.com>

Rotary Hotel Genève

(Near Gare Cornavin)

Rue du Cendrier 18-20,

1201 Genève, Switzerland

Website: <https://all.accor.com/hotel/1322/index.en.shtml>

3-star hotels

B&B Hotel Geneva Airport
(near Geneva Airport)
Wheelchair accessible, accessible parking and elevator
Avenue de l'Etang 73,
1219 Vernier, Switzerland
Website: <https://www.hotel-bb.com/en/hotel/geneva-airport>

Nash Pratik Hotel
(near Geneva Airport)
Wheelchair accessible
Chem. de la Violette 13,
1216 Cointrin, Switzerland
Website: <https://www.nashpratikhotel.com/>

2-star hotels

Ibis Genève Aéroport
(Near Geneva Airport)
Chemin de la Violette 10,
1216 Genève, Switzerland
Website: <https://all.accor.com/hotel/3535/index.en.shtml>

Hotel Central Genève
(Near Gare Cornavin)
Wheelchair accessible, accessible elevator
Rue de la Rôtisserie 2,
1204 Genève, Switzerland
Website: <https://www.hotelcentral.ch/en-gb>

1-star hotels

Ibis Budget Genève Palexpo Aéroport
(Near Geneva Airport)
Wheelchair accessible
Route François-Peyrot 28,
1218 Le Grand-Saconnex, Switzerland
Website: <https://all.accor.com/hotel/A8F3/index.fr.shtml>

Ibis Budget Genève Aéroport
(Near Geneva Airport)
Wheelchair accessible
Avenue Louis-Casaï 26,
1216 Cointrin, Switzerland
Website: <https://all.accor.com/hotel/5653/index.en.shtml>

WHO contacts

Stuart KEEL,
Technical Officer Vision and Eye Care Programme
keels@who.int

Vera Lúcia ALVES CARNEIRO,
Consultant Vision and Eye Care Programme
alvesv@who.int



**World Health
Organization**