In emergency situations, like the COVID-19 pandemic, primary health care plays a substantial role in prevention, preparedness, response and recovery, and in ensuring the continued access to essential health services. It also has a role to play in strengthening equity and engaging communities as partners.

This event will support the vital role of primary health care in managing the pandemic and will strive to transfer existing knowledge and experience to other countries, governments, and relevant stakeholders.

Programme

[12:00 – 12:40] Part 1
High-level plenary

Moderators
Alexey Tsoy, Minister of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan
Zsuzsanna Jakab, Deputy-Director General, WHO

Speakers
Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, WHO (keynote speaker)
Henrietta Fore, Executive Director, UNICEF (keynote speaker)
Muhammad Pate, Global Director, Health, Nutrition and Population, World Bank (keynote speaker)
Francesca Colombo, Head, Health Division, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (keynote speaker)
Hans Kluge, Regional Director, WHO European Region (keynote speaker)
Suraya Dalil, Director, WHO Special Programme on Primary Health Care (PHC Opportunities and Stakeholder Support)

Ministerial Panel: The role of primary health care in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic

Moderator
Afshan Khan, Regional Director, UNICEF Europe and Central Asia

Panelists
Daniel Salas Peraza, Minister of Health, Costa Rica
Nguyen Thanh Long, Minister of Health, Viet Nam (TBC)
Janez Poklukar, Minister of Health, Slovenia
Mohammad Assai, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Islamic Republic of Iran

Discussant
Carissa Etienne, Regional Director, WHO Regional Office for the Americas

Vaccination and primary health care: Working together for COVAX and zero-dose agendas

Moderator
Aboubacar Kampo, Director, Health Programmes, UNICEF

Panelists
Kate O’Brien, Director, WHO Department of Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals
Seth Berkley, CEO, Vaccine Alliance (GAVI)
Nagwa Nashat Hegazy, Director of the Medical Education and Human Resources Development Center in the Faculty of Medicine, Menoufia University (Family Doctor – WONCA)
Kwaku Agyemang-Manu, Minister of Health, Ghana
Jane Ruth Aceng Ocero, Minister of Health, Uganda (TBC)

Discussant
Feng Zhao, World Bank

[13:56 - 14:00] Closing

Moderators
Alexey Tsoy, Minister of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan
Zsuzsanna Jakab, Deputy-Director General, WHO