

The Danish candidacy for the WHO Executive Board 2021-2024

As the United Nations' specialized agency for health, the World Health Organization (WHO) provides global leadership on health issues, including pandemics. The WHO is responsible for setting evidence based global technical norms, standards and policy options, and monitors global health trends and assists Member States.

Key priorities

Denmark intends to advance on a broad range of health and governance issues with the aim of improving health and well-being for all and ensuring a fit-for-purpose WHO. Our key priorities are:

Lessons learned from COVID-19

- Denmark strongly recognizes the need to learn from the COVID-19 crisis, including by ensuring an independent evaluation and clear multilateral responses through a strengthened WHO

Governance and the global goods

- Denmark will continue to push for a rights-based approach to WHO's work
- The normative role of WHO is the core of its mandate and Denmark will work to make this a continuous priority across the organisation
- Denmark will continue to support the process of ensuring good governance, sound financial management and an efficient, effective and accountable WHO

Technical priorities

- Denmark prioritizes the implementation of the 13th General Programme of Work (GPW13) and achieving its triple billion goals. Denmark will support this work with a focus on:
 - achieving universal health coverage
 - reducing health inequalities
 - strengthening public health
 - ensuring resilient and universal health systems
- WHO is a vital leading partner in the global response to health emergencies. Denmark will work to support timely and focused preparedness and response, including full implementation of the IHR
- Denmark remains fully committed to the fight against antimicrobial resistance and strongly supports the One Health approach. Denmark supports the WHO as a key partner in the global response

Key SDGs for the Danish priorities



Danish involvement in governance structure

- Denmark participates actively in the annual meetings of the World Health Assembly and the WHO Regional Committee for Europe
- Denmark has been a member of the Standing Committee of the Regional Committee (SCRC) since 2017 and is currently serving as Chair of the SCRC
- Denmark is proud to host the WHO Regional Office for Europe
- Denmark last served on the Executive Board from 2006-2009

The Danish candidate; Dr Søren Brostrøm

Dr Brostrøm was appointed Director General of the Danish Health Authority in 2015. He represents Denmark in WHO and other international forums and chairs the 27th Standing Committee of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe.

Dr Brostrøm has extensive clinical and academic experience and has served in numerous positions in national and international scientific societies. He completed a MPA from Copenhagen Business School in 2011.

Dr Brostrøm joined the Danish Health Authority in 2011 as Head of Hospital Services & Emergency Management, with broad responsibilities for the national planning of specialized hospital services, emergency services and preparedness, communicable diseases, immunization and screening programmes, as well as national action plans on cancer, cardiovascular diseases and mental health.

Before joining the Danish Health Authority, Dr Brostrøm worked as a Senior Consultant Urogynaecologist at the University Hospital of Copenhagen and as Associate Professor at the University of Copenhagen.

Dr Søren Brostrøm holds a MD degree from the University of Copenhagen, where he also obtained a PhD degree in neurophysiology in 2003. He specialized in gynaecology and obstetrics, with a subspecialisation in urogynaecology.