

ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONDUCT OF DISCUSSION IN PLENARY MEETINGS

Resolution WHA52.21 on reform of the Health Assembly requested the Director-General to make appropriate arrangements for a shortened plenary meeting and, to this end, encouraged group or regional statements in plenary debate. Delegates are requested to limit to five minutes their individual statements in this debate. Group or regional statements may last up to 10 minutes.

Delegates wishing to have their name placed on the list of speakers for the general discussion should notify the Office of Governing Bodies by email (piazzap@who.int) or fax (+41 22 791 41 73). Copies of statements should be submitted preferably by email (statementsWHA70@who.int) or to the Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of the Assembly (Room A656) by the morning of Monday, 22 May 2017.

Theme of general discussion: "Building Better Systems for Health in the Age of Sustainable Development"

The Goals have been set, the Targets defined, and ways of working debated. There is now wide agreement good health and well-being depend on, and contribute to, social inclusion, shared prosperity, and environmental protection.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a stimulus and an opportunity to build better systems for health and well-being – by strengthening health systems *per se* to achieve universal health coverage, and by recognizing that health is linked to productivity in other systems: agriculture, education, employment, energy, environment, and the economy.

Better systems for health contribute to prevention, promotion, treatment, rehabilitation and palliation. They are founded on fairness (leaving no one behind), driven by investment, run on renewable resources, sustained by science and innovation, and made accountable by measurement.

The Seventieth World Health Assembly will be a forum for showing and sharing the health gains that can be made by following all of these pathways towards sustainable development.

Tips for speakers in a multilingual meeting

Whether you are chairing or participating in a multilingual meeting it is useful to think about how your message gets across through interpretation. The interpreters are there to help the meeting proceed as if everyone was speaking the same language.

- Speak your mother tongue wherever possible
- Speak at a reasonable pace
- Speaking is better than reading
- If you have to "read" your speech, make sure the Secretariat has a copy of your text in advance. It will be treated as confidential
- For guidance, five minutes are roughly equivalent to 550 words
- Quote document references
- State figures and names clearly
- Explain acronyms