

Ref.: C.L.19.2026

The Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) presents his compliments to Member States and Associate Members and has the honour to inform them that the sixth edition in the series *Walk the Talk: The Health for All Challenge*, will be held on Sunday, 17 May 2026 in the morning, prior to the opening of the Seventy-ninth World Health Assembly (18–23 May 2026). The Walk the Talk will commence officially at 08:00 (CEST) in Place des Nations, with opening speeches at 09:00 (CEST), followed by family photo, start of walk to WHO, return to Place des Nations, with event scheduled to end by 11:00 (CEST).

The Director-General conveys his gratitude to Member States and Associate Members for the support provided to the 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023 and 2024 events, each of which attracted thousands of participants. The participation of delegations and the general public demonstrated the need for a whole-of-society approach to the promotion of healthy lifestyles and partnership for health.

Building on these successes, the Organization is staging the event in partnership with the City, Canton of Geneva, and the Swiss Confederation, and would welcome Member States' participation and collaboration.

This year's event will provide a platform to promote WHO's work in the space of sport and health and the Organization's engagement with youth to advance our common mission of Health for All.

To support Member States' participation in the Walk the Talk event in Geneva, each delegation will be provided with t-shirts for use at the event and promotional posters to consider placing at Geneva-based Permanent Missions. Further information, including on how to register online, can be found [here](#).

For any additional information and/or clarification about the event, an email can be sent to Mr Paul Garwood, Unit Head, Positioning and Leadership Communications (garwoodp@who.int).

The Director-General of the World Health Organization avails himself of this opportunity to renew to Member States and Associate Members the assurance of his highest consideration.

GENEVA, 7 May 2026