WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE

WELTGESUNDHEITSORGANISATION **REGIONALBÜRO FÜR EUROPA**



ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'EUROPE

ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ ЕВРОПЕЙСКОЕ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЕ БЮРО

European Regional Consultation on the WHO Global Strategy on the Economics of Health for All. Concept Note

During the Seventy-Seventh World Health Assembly, Member States unanimously adopted the 2024 WHO Resolution on the Economics of Health for All (EHfA) (A77/A/CONF./2), which was sponsored by more than 20% of WHO European Member States. The resolution urges WHO "to support and strengthen the capacity of national health authorities … to better engage and negotiate with finance and other sectors, towards an economics of health for all in national policies" enhancing well-being and health equity outcomes for current and future generations.

Further, in the WHO European region "enabling value-based economies for health for all" is recognized as a 'foundational action' in the proposed second WHO European Programme of Work (EPW2) with the aim of supporting countries to shape and advance a stronger, more systematic alignment of health, economic and fiscal policies and decisions that leverage improved health, well-being and equity, across sectors and borders, through scaling up and implementing well-being economy approaches.

The potential of well-being economy approaches to reorientate public policies, shape business priorities, and harness spending and investments decisions for prevention, improving health and reducing inequalities, whilst delivering positive social, economic, and environmental outcomes, is recognized in the outcome statement of the WHO European Regional High-level Forum on Health in the Well-being Economy (2023). This has been piloted through the start-up work of the WHO European Well-being Economy Initiative.

The European Regional Consultation on the WHO Global Strategy on the Economics of Health for All (GSEHfA) builds upon the above commitments and work in the European Region and aims to engage Member States, partners and academic institutions, to inform the priorities of the strategy and to identify the needs of Member States for effective implementation.

Objectives of the consultation:

- 1. Share the foundational principles and objectives of the GSEHfA, including its vision, guiding principles, and strategic directions;
- 2. Present the annotated outline of the GSEHfA and solicit technical inputs and feedback from Member States on its content and structure;

- 3. Collect suggestions, comments, and questions from Member States to finalize the draft strategy before formal consultations with external experts and Member States.
- 4. Orient economic systems and processes towards HfA to substantially improve the health and well-being of all, now and in the future, by addressing the structural determinants of health and health equity, as defined by their populations.
- 5. Empower countries to make informed choices around action and investment, balancing prosperity and HfA through innovative frameworks, analyses and tools, evidence and technical advice.
- 6. Coordinate global, regional and domestic health and economic actors behind the common mission of designing economies that promote the health and well-being for all.

Expected Outcomes:

At the end of the consultation, the following results are expected:

- 1. Refined Global Strategy: Incorporation of regional inputs to enhance the relevance and effectiveness of the GSEHfA for the European Region. The strategy will include the distinctive opportunities and challenges of the European context.
- 2. Stakeholder Engagement: Strengthened collaboration and engagement among regional stakeholders in the implementation of the GSEHfA. This will cultivate a sense of ownership and dedication to the strategy's objectives.
- 3. Actionable Recommendations: Clear and actionable recommendations to guide the finalization of the strategy. This roadmap will facilitate the implementation of the strategy and its objectives.