



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION  
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ  
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ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE  
BUREAU RÉGIONAL DE L'EUROPE  
REGIONALBÜRO FÜR EUROPA  
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Date: 24 April 2025

Ms Helen Söber  
Adviser  
European Union Affairs and International Co-  
operation Department  
Ministry of Social Affairs  
Suur-Ameerika 1  
10122 Tallinn  
Estonia

Dear Ms Söber,

Special joint session European Respiratory Society and WHO Regional Office for Europe

Launch of the joint WHO and European Respiratory Society regional report

**Chronic Respiratory Diseases in the WHO European Region.  
*Toward Health Equity in 2050: a spotlight on COPD and asthma***

12 June 2025, Dublin, Ireland

The WHO Regional Office for Europe in close collaboration with the European Respiratory Society (ERS) organize a launch event of the jointly developed regional report “Chronic Respiratory Diseases in the WHO European Region. Towards Health Equity in 2050: a spotlight on COPD and asthma” on 12 June 2025 in Dublin, Ireland.

The objectives of the event are to present the key findings of the report and discuss with Member States a way forward at regional and national levels in chronic respiratory diseases (CRD) area. The high-level panel discussion can provide current and potential opportunities to implement stronger national strategies and policies in CRD, advocate for joint CRD actions as part of the wider NCD agenda, discuss current experience in the region and country cases, country needs and required support from the WHO Regional Office for Europe and ERS.

The launch event is a part of a bigger ERS Presidential Summit on Improving Respiratory Health in Europe.

The event will bring together experts in the respiratory health area, health systems strengthening, research and academia across the region, representatives of 53 Member States of the WHO European Region, WHO Regional Office for Europe and ERS experts.

The scope and purpose and provisional agenda for the report launch event, and a concept and provisional programme for the ERS Summit are enclosed. The working language will be English.

The WHO Regional Office for Europe and ERS invite one representative of your country, responsible for noncommunicable diseases, respiratory diseases, or universal health coverage to attend the launch event and the ERS Presidential Summit. Documentation, including administrative information will be sent directly to the nominated representative.

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Should costs be an obstacle to your participation partial reimbursement may be considered and covered by ERS.

Please provide your nominations with the detailed contact information to Dr Elena Tsoy, WHO Technical Officer on NCD Management to [tsoyie@who.int](mailto:tsoyie@who.int), Alethe de Vaultgrenant, ERS Policy and Event Officer to [alethe.devaultgrenant@ersnet.org](mailto:alethe.devaultgrenant@ersnet.org) with copy to Anita Strandsbjerg, [strandsbjerga@who.int](mailto:strandsbjerga@who.int) no later than 15 May 2025.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Gauden Galea,  
Strategic Advisor to the Regional Director  
Special Initiative on NCD and Innovation  
WHO Regional Office for Europe

**Encls:**

1. Scope and purpose of the launch event of the WHO and ERS regional report
2. Provisional agenda of the launch event of the WHO and ERS regional report
3. Provisional concept of the ERS Presidential Summit
4. Provisional programme of the ERS Presidential Summit

**Copy for information to:**

Ms Agne Nettan-Sepp, Head, European Union Affairs and International Co-operation Department, Ministry of Social Affairs, Suur-Ameerika 1, 10129 Tallinn, Estonia

H.E. Ms Riia Salsa-Audiffren, Ambassador Representative of the Republic of Estonia, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Estonia to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, Chemin du Petit-Saconnex 28A, CH-1209 Genève, Switzerland

H.E. Mr Andre Pung, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Republic of Estonia, Frederiksgade 19, 4th floor, 1265 Copenhagen K, Denmark

Ms Kristina Köhler, Liaison Officer, WHO Country Office, Estonia, Paldiski Road 81, 10617 Tallinn, Estonia