



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
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REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE
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ЕВРОПЕЙСКОЕ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЕ БЮРО

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Date: 30 September 2026

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,

Nomination of national focal points for Women's Health

I have the pleasure to inform you that the WHO Regional Office for Europe is strengthening its engagement with Member States to advance work on **women's health, including sexual and reproductive health** as foreseen under the Second European Programme of Work (EPW2). This work aims to support sustained collaboration with countries across a range of current and emerging priorities affecting the health and well-being of women throughout the life course. We are grateful to the Kingdom of The Netherlands for supporting this area of work through a Junior Professional Officer.

In this context, I would be grateful for your collaboration in **nominating a national focal person** who would serve as the primary national contact for engagement with the WHO Regional Office for Europe for **women's health including sexual and reproductive health as well as the special initiative on violence against women and girls**.

The nominated focal person would be invited to:

- Participate in consultations, workshops and other activities
- Provide and, where appropriate, coordinate relevant national perspectives and technical inputs;
- Facilitate coordination with relevant national programmes, experts and stakeholders, as appropriate; and
- Support follow-up and continued exchange of information between the Ministry of Health and the WHO Regional Office for Europe.

Furthermore, I would like to bring to your attention the opportunity to participate in a strategic foresight consultative process on **the future of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) being led by our colleagues in the Human Reproductive Programme at HQ**. This will explore emerging trends, drivers of change, challenges and opportunities that may influence women's health and SRHR. For this particular event, to broaden the range of perspectives included in the foresight process, WHO is applying a **"+1" participation approach** with Member States being invited to consider nominating **one additional participant who can bring a complementary perspective to the discussion**. The "+1" participant does not need to be from the Ministry of Health. Relevant perspectives may include, for

example, **climate, education, health systems, health financing and insurance, technology, demography, urban planning, youth engagement, social policy**, or other areas that may shape the future of women's health and SRHR. The "+1" participant would contribute specifically to the foresight consultation process and **would not constitute an additional formal national focal point**.

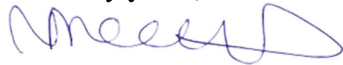
Two foresight workshops will be organized, one on Thursday 5 November at 12:00 CET (English only) and a second on Friday 6 November at 12:00 CET (English and Russian). Should you be interested in participating in the SRHR foresight workshop, kindly indicate your preferred date and the details of your participants when submitting your response. Further information on the foresight process, including consultation arrangements, objectives and relevant background materials, will be shared directly with the nominated focal point and +1 participant.

You are therefore kindly requested to submit the nomination of the national focal point including the **name, title, institution and email address** and to direct any related queries to **Maria Kartika**, Junior Professional Officer for Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal and Newborn Health at maria.kartika@who.int.

We would highly appreciate receiving your response by **22 October 2026**.

I would like to thank you for your continued collaboration with WHO and look forward to your country's engagement in this important area of work.

Sincerely yours,



Dr Natasha Azzopardi Muscat
Director, Division of Health System
WHO Regional Office for Europe

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, Head of Office, WHO Country Office, Estonia, Paldiski Road 81, 10617 Tallinn, Estonia