



**REGIONAL CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP IN
PREPARATION OF THE WHO GLOBAL ORAL HEALTH
MEETING**

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Date: 16-17 October 2024

Time: 10.30-13.-00 CET

Format: Online event (Zoom)

3 September 2024

Original: English

Scope and purpose

BACKGROUND

The World Health Organization (WHO) will convene the first WHO Global Oral Health Meeting to accelerate progress towards universal health coverage (UHC) for oral health by 2030. The 3,5-day meeting will be hosted by the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand from Tuesday, 26 to Friday, 29 November 2024, in Bangkok, Thailand.

The overall goal of the WHO Global oral health meeting is to reaffirm political commitment by Member States based on the [Resolution on Oral Health in 2021 \(WHA 74.5\)](#) and to accelerate and scale up national efforts to prevent and control NCDs with a focus on oral diseases to achieve UHC for all by 2030. Furthermore, the WHO Global Oral Health Meeting contributes to the preparatory process leading to the [4th UN High-level Meeting on noncommunicable diseases \(4th UNHLM on NCDs\)](#) in 2025.

The WHO Global Oral Health Meeting will be a three-day technical meeting to discuss the [Global oral health action Plan 2023-2030 \(GOHAP\)](#) and to develop national oral health roadmaps. Participants will include representatives from WHO, Member State delegates comprised of a nominated national oral health lead and a national UHC lead from the ministry of health, and invited experts. The technical part of the meeting will be followed by a half-day high-level segment inviting health ministers and senior leaders from non-State actors. A number of side events will take place in the margins of the meeting.

Furthermore, recognising the pivotal moment of the global oral health agenda, WHO will facilitate a pledge initiative to secure financial support and renewed political commitments on oral health from governments and other partners to accelerate the implementation of the GOHAP. The commitments made in the pledge for oral health initiative will extend beyond the WHO Global Oral Health Meeting and will form the foundation of a Global Coalition for Oral Health.

During the technical part of the WHO Global Oral Health Meeting, the participants will discuss the six strategic objectives, 100 actions, 11 global targets, and monitoring framework of the GOHAP. The agenda includes a plenary session in the morning, followed by afternoon breakout sessions organised by WHO regions to develop national oral health roadmaps. To ensure engagement and in-depth discussion during the WHO Global Oral Health Meeting, each delegation is expected to conduct a rapid assessment of the national health situation focusing on noncommunicable diseases, including oral health, and universal health coverage. This preparatory work will be carried out using with a template provided in advance by WHO.

PURPOSE

To organize a regional consultative workshop in preparation of the WHO Global Oral Health Meeting to enhance and foster productive discussions on national oral health roadmaps.

MEETING OBJECTIVES

1. Recap of the WHO oral health policy series and the 4th UNHLM on NCDs.
2. Present the objectives, outcomes, format and programme of the WHO Global Oral Health Meeting including roles and responsibilities of the ministries of health delegations.
3. Discuss the WHO template for conducting rapid national health situation assessments prior to the WHO Global Oral Health Meeting.
4. Provide an update on the pledge strategy, ensuring alignment with the scope and ambition of the implementation of the GOHAP.

PARTICIPANTS

National oral health lead and the national UHC lead from Ministries of Health who will participate to the WHO Global Oral Health Meeting.

FOLLOW-UP

Each country is expected to submit the completed national health situational assessment to the oral health focal point at the Regional Office. This submission will inform the discussion and its structure of the regional workshop during the Global oral health meeting. Please send the document by 30 October 2024 to Dr Elena Tsoy tsoyie@who.int and Alex Monich monicha@who.int