

Ref.: C.L.42.2024

The World Health Organization (WHO) presents its compliments to Member States and has the honour to inform them that WHO is organizing the third World Local Production Forum (WLPF) that will be hosted by the United Arab Emirates in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates, from 7 to 9 April 2025.

This global event aims to cultivate partnerships and collective efforts to enhance timely and equitable access to health products (pharmaceuticals, vaccines, diagnostics, etc.) and safeguard global health security through sustainable local production and technology transfer. The WLPF serves as a pivotal platform that brings together Member States and the global community from multiple sectors to shape strategies, galvanize collective action, and foster global coordination and partnerships in local production and technology transfer.

This Forum will build on the work of the second WLPF to sustain national, regional, and global efforts in strengthening local production and technology transfer. It will highlight emerging trends and challenges that will impact on timely and equitable access to quality-assured health products, both in emergency and non-emergency situations. The overarching theme of the third WLPF is “Advancing Local Production for Health Equity, Sustainable Development, and Strengthening Global Health Security”.

This third WLPF is expected to convene over 1200 participants worldwide, including ministers and senior-level government officials of Member States, UN agency representatives, industry associations, academia, civil societies, and other stakeholders. Member States are invited to nominate up to two senior-level representatives and decision-makers to participate in person. Nominees should possess a strong background in, or related to, local production, such as policy-making, regulation, administration, financing, or production/procurement of health products and technologies as applicable to their country context. Member States are invited to communicate the name, business title and email address of the nominated representatives by 30 November 2024 by email to localproduction@who.int with the credential letter of nomination attached. Upon receipt of the nominations, a link will be sent to the nominees for them to register online. All nominated representatives are required to register their attendance to secure their seats in Forum.

If Member States wish to nominate more than two representatives, the WLPF Secretariat will make every effort to accept the extra representatives on a first come first serve basis considering seat availability.

The WLPF Secretariat aims to promote the involvement of eligible countries classified as Least Developed Countries (LDC) by the United Nations (<https://unctad.org/topic/least-developed-countries/list>) by offering a round-trip ticket in economy class and accommodation.

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Due to limited funds, the WLPF Secretariat will only cover travel and accommodation expenses for a maximum of two nominated representatives from each LDC. Additional participant(s) from LDCs, participants from non-LDC Member States, and other forum attendees will be responsible for their own travel and accommodation costs.

In accordance with resolution WHA49.9 (1996), and to support the aim of achievement of SDG 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls), the Director-General invites Member States to consider that gender balance be applied to their delegations.

The Code of Conduct to prevent harassment, including sexual harassment at WHO events is available at the following link: [Code of Conduct to prevent harassment, including sexual harassment, at WHO events](#).

Any queries can be addressed to the WLPF Secretariat, Dr Jicui Dong, Unit Head of the Local Production and Assistance Unit at dongj@who.int with a copy to localproduction@who.int.

The World Health Organization takes this opportunity to renew to Member States the assurance of its highest consideration.

GENEVA, 4 October 2024