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High-level Meeting to Defeat Meningitis
Friday, 26 April 2024, Institut Pasteur, Paris, France

The World Health Organization (WHO) presents its compliments to Member States and has the honour to invite them to the first WHO **High-level Meeting to Defeat Meningitis**, that will be hosted by the Government of France on Friday, 26 April 2024 from 10:00 to 17:00 (CEST) at the Institut Pasteur, Paris, France.

This meeting, in the lead up to the Olympic and Paralympic Games where a number of athletes who have been affected by meningitis will be competing, provides a unique opportunity for a global call for action in response to this deadly and debilitating disease which can cause death within 24 hours, affects people of all ages in all countries, and has serious economic and social consequences. It aims to advance care and support for those affected by meningitis and to accelerate the roll-out of exciting new vaccines to prevent it.

In 2020, the world committed to end the intense suffering of this disease with a historic resolution by the World Health Assembly ([WHA73/9](#)), and the launch of the [Defeating meningitis by 2030 global road map](#) in 2021. This high-level meeting will boost awareness and communicate commitments towards this goal, from Member States, donors, partners and the private sector. The programme and further information will be available here: [The first High-level meeting to defeat meningitis – Institut Pasteur Paris, France \(who.int\)](#). The working language of the meeting will be English with the scientific conference and announcement of commitments live streamed with interpretation.

Member States are invited to send the name(s) and email(s) of their nominated participants, and address requests for additional information, to Dr Marie-Pierre Preziosi (preziosi@who.int) by 8 April 2024. To facilitate the participation of Member States classified as Least Developed Countries (LDCs) by the United Nations (<https://unctad.org/topic/least-developed-countries/list>), WHO will cover the cost of a return ticket in economy to one representative per LDC. Those eligible should indicate their request for support at the time of their registration.

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

GENEVA, 13 March 2024