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Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health: Accelerating action for clean air, clean energy access and climate change mitigation 25–27 March 2025 Cartagena, Colombia

The World Health Organization (WHO) presents its compliments to Member States and has the honour to invite them to the *Second Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health: Accelerating action for clean air, clean energy access and climate change mitigation.* ¹ co-organized with the Government of Colombia. The Conference will be held at the Centro de Convenciones Cartagena de Indias in Cartagena, Colombia, from 25 to 27 March 2025, with pre- and post-conference events on 24 and 28 March 2025.

The Conference aims to convene participants from all over the world including Heads of State, Ministers, mayors and other local and national senior government officials, as well as United Nations agency representatives, members of civil society organizations, philanthropic foundations, technical experts and other stakeholders.

The first day of the Conference will present evidence of progress made since the World Health Assembly resolution WHA68.8 (https://iris.who.int/handle/10665/253237) in 2015. This will be followed by presentations on the health impacts of air pollution on specific diseases and vulnerable groups, as well as the interlinkages with climate change. The second day will focus on translating the health evidence into concrete solutions and actions at multilateral, national and subnational levels. The third day will be a high-level action day, where representatives from Member States and other stakeholders will discuss and announce concrete, measurable actions to improve air quality and protect human health. The preliminary agenda, background information and documents are available at the Conference website.

Member States are requested to nominate up to two ministerial representatives to attend the Conference. Considering the theme of the Conference, it would be appreciated to have a nominee from the health sector. Participation from other relevant ministries such as environment, energy, transport, foreign affairs and finance is also welcomed.

Member States' nominees are invited to register not later than 31 December 2024, via the registration platform.

¹ The First Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health took place in 2018, further details available here: https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2018/10/30/default-calendar/air-pollution-conference.

The Conference Organizing Committee would like to encourage the participation of Member States classified as least developed countries (LDC) by the United Nations (https://unctad.org/topic/least-developed-countries/list) by providing a return ticket in economy class and per diem to one representative of such countries. Those eligible should indicate their request for support at the time of their registration on the registration platform.

Additional information will be made available on the conference website along with the conference brochure, provisional agenda with confirmed speakers, science and policy briefs, logistical arrangements and the Conference mobile application in due course. The Conference website can be found at https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2025/03/25/default-calendar/second-global-conference-on-air-pollution-and-health. The working language of the Conference is English.

For any inquiries, the Conference Organizing Committee can be reached at aphconference@who.int.

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: <u>Code of Conduct to prevent harassment, including sexual harassment, at WHO events</u>.

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

GENEVA, 5 November 2024