

**70th session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean,
9–12 October 2023
Cairo, Egypt**

**EMRO/RC70/DJ/1
9 October 2023**

Registration	All participants are kindly requested to register for the 70th session of the Regional Committee through the secure online registration service at: Seventieth session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean (9–12 October 2023) no later than 15 August 2023. It is recommended to use the latest version of Google Chrome to access the registration page. The WHO Secretariat will confirm your registration via email. Registration is a prerequisite for attending the sessions in person.
Documents	Official documentation of the session is available in Arabic, English and French on the Regional Committee website . Participants are kindly requested to consult the documents online.
Internet access	This year, the meeting will be conducted in person only. Wireless internet access is available in all meeting areas. The network name is RC70.
Support	You will find here useful contact information for IT and administrative support for the Regional Committee.
Statements	Written statements of no more than 600 words may be submitted for posting on the WHO regional website under the related agenda item. Written statements should be sent in advance of the opening of the 70th session of the Regional Committee. They may be submitted in lieu of a live intervention or to complement a live intervention from a Member State. Please send written statements for posting to the WHO website to emrgogovbod@who.int , indicating the name of the country delegation/entity in the subject line of the email.
WHO publications	A selection of recent WHO publications are available on the Regional Committee website .
Security	Please ensure that your RC70 ID badge is displayed at all times while inside the premises.
Interventions	To help in drafting the report of this session of the Regional Committee, delegations may provide the text of remarks on paper to a member of the WHO Secretariat or by email to emrgorcrep@who.int .
Membership and attendance	The Regional Committee consists of one representative from each country or territory of WHO's Eastern Mediterranean Region. Member State delegates and advisers and representatives of other entities invited under Rule 2 of the Regional Committee's Rules and Procedures, who are unable to attend in person, will be able to follow the sessions and deliberations through webcast.
Languages	The working languages of the Regional Committee are Arabic, English and French. Statements and other interventions made in any of these languages will be interpreted simultaneously into the other two languages. Delegates will be able to follow in the chosen language by selecting their preferred language. The meeting will also be webcast in the three languages.

Programme of work

Monday, 9 October 2023

Agenda item	Regular session of RC70
	Walk the talk – including event on youth
	Opening remarks and ground rules setting
Session 1	Pre-Regional Committee technical meeting
	Minimizing morbidity and mortality due to trauma in humanitarian settings
Session 2	Pre-Regional Committee technical meeting
	Designing and implementing primary health care-oriented models of care in the Eastern Mediterranean Region: what do we know so far?
	Pre-Regional Committee technical meeting
Session 3	Developing and implementing national plans for the development and implementation of clinical practice and public health guidelines.
	Pre-Regional Committee technical meeting
Session 4	The increasing threat of vector-borne diseases: the need for an integrated approach
Session 5	Panel discussion
	The Regional Health Alliance: accelerating Joint UN Implementation of the health-related Sustainable Development Goals to support Member States of the Eastern Mediterranean Region
	Panellists:
	Mr Abdulhakim Elwaer, Assistant Director- General and Regional Representative for the Near East and North Africa, FAO
	Mr Othman Belbeisi, Regional Director for Middle East and North Africa, IOM
	Mr Sami Dimassi, Regional Director and Representative, Regional Office for West Asia, UNEP
	Ms Adele Khodr, Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa, UNICEF
	Ms Corinne Fleischer, Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa, WFP
	Dr Michele Gragnolati, Practice Manager, Health, Nutrition and Population (HNP), Middle East and North Africa, World Bank,
	Dr Ahmed Al-Mandhari, Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean, WHO
Session 6	Opening Ceremony
	Recital from the Holy Quran
	Address by the Chair of the 69th session of the Regional Committee
	Address by Dr Ahmed Al-Mandhari, WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean (followed by a video)
	Address by Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General
	High-level segment:
	Ms Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group
	Dr Moustafa ElFiky, Egyptian journalist and political thinker
	Dr Omnia El Omrani COP27 President's Youth Envoy
	Awards
	Group Photo

Tuesday, 10 October 2023

Agenda item Regular sessions of RC70

Session 1

1(a) Election of Officers

- Chair
- 2 Vice-Chairs

1(b) Adoption of the provisional agenda and provisional daily timetable [EM/RC70/1-Rev.3](#)

Decision on Establishment of the Drafting Committee

Session 2

Final report on implementing Vision 2023 and progress reports

2(a–o)

2(a) Final report to Member States on progress, achievements, and challenges in implementing Vision 2023, progress reports [EM/RC70/2](#)

2(b) Poliomyelitis eradication and polio transition [EM/RC70/INF DOC 1](#)

2(c) Regional approach to implementing the Thirteenth General Programme of Work, 2019–2025 [EM/RC70/INF DOC 2](#)

2(d) Scaling up mental health care: a framework for action [EM/RC70/INF DOC 3](#)

2(e) The implementation of the regional tobacco control strategy [EM/RC70/INF DOC 4-Rev.1](#)

2(f) Implementing of the regional framework on ending preventable newborn, child and adolescent deaths and improving health and development [EM/RC70/INF DOC 5-Rev.1](#)

2(g) Implementing the framework for action for the hospital sector in the Eastern Mediterranean [EM/RC70/INF DOC 6](#)

2(h) The implementation the framework for improving national institutional capacity for evidence-informed policy-making for health in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, 2020–2024 [EM/RC70/INF DOC 7](#)

2(i) Accelerating regional implementation of the Political Declaration of the Third High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases, 2018 [EM/RC70/INF DOC 8-Rev.1](#)

2(j) Regional framework for action to strengthen the public health response to substance use [EM/RC70/INF DOC 9-Rev.1](#)

2(k) The implementation of the framework for strengthening health laboratory services, 2016–2023 [EM/RC70/INF DOC 10](#)

2(l) Health issues facing populations affected by disasters and emergencies, including the International Health regulations (2005) [EM/RC70/INF DOC 11](#)

2(m) Implementing the regional strategy for integrated disease surveillance: overcoming data fragmentation in the Eastern Mediterranean Region [EM/RC70/INF DOC 12-Rev.1](#)

2(n) Building resilient communities for better health and well-being in the Eastern Mediterranean Region-implementation of the roadmap [EM/RC70/INF DOC 13](#)

2(o) Addressing diabetes as a public health challenge in the Eastern Mediterranean Region [EM/RC70/INF DOC 14](#)

Session 3

Special updates: [EM/RC70/INF DOC 11](#)

2(l) Emergencies in the Eastern Mediterranean Region including update from the following:

Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB)

Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005)

Session 4	Special updates:	
6	Polio eradication in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, including the seventh meeting report of the Regional Subcommittee for Polio Eradication and Outbreaks	EM/RC70/17-Rev.1
Session 5	Private meeting (only members of the Committee):	
8	Nomination of the Regional Director	EM/RC70/WP.1

Wednesday, 11 October 2023

Agenda item Regular sessions of RC70

Session 1		
5	Reports of the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth meetings of the Programme Subcommittee of the Regional Committee	EM/RC70/15 EM/RC70/16
7	Amended and restated terms of reference of the Programme Subcommittee of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean Region	EM/RC70/13
12	Place and date of future sessions of the Regional Committee	EM/RC70/INF DOC 18
4(d)	Membership of WHO bodies and committees	EM/RC70/9
Session 2	Technical paper	
3(a)	Addressing noncommunicable diseases in emergencies: a regional framework for action	EM/RC70/3-Rev.1
Session 3	Technical paper	
3(b)	Strengthening public health readiness for mass gatherings in the Eastern Mediterranean Region	EM/RC70/4-Rev.1
Session 4	Panel discussion	
	Youth and well-being in the Eastern Mediterranean Region: a better future for all	
	Panellists:	
	H.E. Dr Ali Haji Adan, Minister of Health and Human Services, Somalia	
	H.E. Kamal Daqish, Minister of Youth and Sports, Tunisia	
	Dr Faris Elfarsi, Omani Youth Council, Oman	
	Dr Arwa Hany, Liaison Officer to WHO and former Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean, International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA)	
Session 5	Technical paper	
3(c)	Health workforce in the Eastern Mediterranean Region: from COVID-19 lessons to action	EM/RC70/5
Session 6	Technical paper	
3(d)	Climate change, health and environment: a regional framework for action, 2023–2029	EM/RC70/6
Session 7	Side event– Closed meeting	
	The effect of sanctions on health and health systems	
Session 8	Meeting of the Drafting Committee	7th floor meeting room
Session 9	Closed meeting:	3rd floor meeting room
9(a)	Foundation for the State of Kuwait Prize for the Control of Cancer, Cardiovascular Diseases and Diabetes in the Eastern Mediterranean Region	EM/RC70/INF DOC 15

Thursday, 12 October 2023

Agenda item	Regular sessions of RC70	
Session 1	World Health Assembly and Executive Board follow-up – governance matters	
4(c)	Review of the draft provisional agenda of the 154th session of the WHO Executive Board	EM/RC70/8-Annex 1
11	Review of the status of resolutions adopted by the Regional Committee during the period 2000–2017, and recommendations for sunseting and reporting requirements	EM/RC70/14-Rev.2
4(e)	Update on implementation of the WHO Transformation Agenda in the Eastern Mediterranean Region	EM/RC70/10
Session 2	Coordination of work of the World Health Assembly, Executive Board and the Regional Committees	
4(b)	Resolutions and decisions of regional interest adopted by the Seventy–sixth World Health Assembly and the Executive Board at its 152nd and 153rd sessions:	EM/RC70/8-Rev.1
Session 3	World Health Assembly and Executive Board – Programme and budget matters	
4(f)	Fourteenth General Programme of Work, 2025–2028	EM/RC70/11
4(a)	Proposed approach for a full plan for the WHO investment round Statement from the Eastern Mediterranean Region Staff Association (EMRSA) Statement from the Eastern Mediterranean Region former and retired staff (EMR/RFS)	EM/RC70/7
Session 4	Nominations:	
10	Nomination of a Member State to the Policy and Coordination Committee of the Special Programme of research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction	EM/RC70/INF DOC 17
Session 5	Adoption of the report, resolutions and decisions	
Session 6	Closing session	
