



**REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA**

**ORIGINAL: ENGLISH**

Seventy-first session

Virtual session, 24–26 August 2021

Provisional agenda item 3

**PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED PROGRAMME OF WORK**

**DAY 1: Tuesday, 24 August 2021 (Time: GMT+1)**

**Opening of the meeting**

09:00–10:00	<b>Agenda item 1</b>	Opening of the meeting
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Word of welcome by Professor (Mr) Mijiyawa Moustafa, Minister of Health and Public Hygiene and Universal Access to Health Care of Togo</i></li> <li>• <i>Statement by Professor Benjamin Hounkpatin, Minister of Health of Benin, and Acting Chairperson of the Seventieth session of the Regional Committee</i></li> <li>• <i>Statement by H.E. Mrs Amira Elfadil, African Union Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development</i></li> <li>• <i>Statement by Dr Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa</i></li> <li>• <i>Statement by Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO</i></li> <li>• <i>Official opening of the Seventy-first session of the Regional Committee by the Guest of Honour</i></li> </ul>
	<b>Agenda item 2</b>	Election of Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteurs
	<b>Agenda item 3</b>	Adoption of the provisional agenda and provisional programme of work

**Recommendations from the Programme Subcommittee**

10:00–10:30	<b>Agenda item 5</b>	Statement by the Chairperson of the Programme Subcommittee
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Chairperson of the PSC will present the recommendations from their virtual meeting held on 14–15 June 2021. The PSC reviewed nine documents on public health matters of regional concern.</i></li> <li>• <i>The Regional Committee will be invited to consider the proposals for the designation of Member States to serve on committees that require representation from the African Region, in line with the recommendations of the PSC.</i></li> <li>• <i>Furthermore, the Regional Committee will be requested to approve the procedure for the accreditation of regional non-State actors not in official relations with WHO to participate in the Regional Committee meetings.</i></li> </ul>	
10:30–12:00	<b>Agenda item 6</b>	The work of WHO in the African Region: report by the Regional Director
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Regional Director (RD) will provide an update to the Committee on WHO's ongoing work in the African Region, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and the actions taken to save lives, promote health and serve the vulnerable.</i></li> <li>• <i>The floor will be open for comments, following the RD's presentation.</i></li> </ul>	

**12:00–13:00 Break**

**Pillar 4: More effective and efficient WHO providing better support to countries**

13:00–14:00	<b>Agenda item 8</b>	Sixth progress report on the implementation of the Transformation Agenda of the WHO Secretariat in the African Region
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Regional Committee is invited to consider the sixth progress report on the Transformation Agenda (July 2020–June 2021), which presents the progress made in driving transformation forward across the six broad workstreams of the second phase of the Agenda. The Regional Committee is invited to note the report and endorse the proposed next steps.</i></li> </ul>	

***Special event on the COVID-19 response in the WHO African Region***

14:00–17:00	<p>The <b><i>special event on the COVID-19 response</i></b> will focus on the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic response across the Region and include a status report on the COVID-19 vaccine rollout and uptake.</p> <p><i>The Regional committee is invited to hear updates on ongoing activities for the COVID-19 pandemic response and vaccine rollout in the Region. Following introductory presentations and a panel session, there will be a moderated discussion period where ministers and delegates will be invited to exchange ideas on approaches to tackling the pandemic and post-COVID-19 recovery plans.</i></p>
-------------	--

17:00 **End of the day's session**

**DAY 2: Wednesday, 25 August 2021**

**Pillar 4: More effective and efficient WHO providing better support to countries (contd)**

09:00–10:15	<b>Agenda item 9</b>	WHO Programme budget 2022–2023 • Sustainable financing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>In line with the decision by the World Health Assembly, the Committee will consider an update on the Programme budget.</i></li> <li>• <i>The Regional Committee will also be requested to provide guidance on the financing of the Organization, based on the five questions proposed by the sustainable financing working group to the Member States of the Regional Committee, for their consideration.</i></li> </ul>	
10:15–11:30	<b>Agenda item 14</b>	Framework for implementing the Global strategy on digital health in the WHO African Region
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The framework outlines guiding principles, including action points to ensure effective implementation among Member States. The Regional Committee is invited to review and adopt the Framework to guide implementation of the Global strategy on digital health in African countries</i></li> </ul>	
11:30–12:45	<b>Agenda item 17</b>	Framework for strengthening the use of evidence, information and research for policy-making in the African Region
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Regional Committee is invited to review and adopt the Framework, which provides a guide for strengthening the use of evidence, information and research for health policy-making in the WHO African Region.</i></li> </ul>	

**12:45–13:45 Break**

**Pillar 1: One billion more people benefitting from universal health coverage**

	<b>Agenda item 10</b>	Framework for an integrated multisectoral response to TB, HIV, STIs and hepatitis in the WHO African Region
13:45–15:00		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Regional Committee is invited to review and adopt the framework, which proposes the prioritization of integrated interventions, using primary health care and evidence- and rights-based interventions and actions, through a life-cycle approach, to respond to TB, HIV, STIs and hepatitis in the WHO African Region.</i></li> </ul>

**Special event on polio**

15:00–17:00	<p>The <b>Special event on polio</b> will focus on outbreak response and polio transition</p> <p><i>The Regional Committee is invited to hear updates on ongoing activities for cVDPV2 outbreak response and polio transition activities. Following brief presentations, there will be a moderated discussion period where ministers and delegates will be invited to share commitments to support polio priorities in the Region during the coming year.</i></p>
-------------	---

17:00 **End of the day's session****DAY 3: Thursday, 26 August 2021****Pillar 1: One billion more people benefitting from universal health coverage (contd)**

	<b>Agenda item 11</b>	Framework for the implementation of the Immunization Agenda 2030 in the WHO African Region
09:00–10:15		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Regional Committee is invited to review and adopt the Framework, which prioritizes core system-level strategic actions to meet the target of leaving no one behind and ensuring universal access to immunization.</i></li> </ul>
	<b>Agenda item 13</b>	Framework for the implementation of the Global strategy to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer as a public health problem in the WHO African Region
10:15–11:30		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Regional Committee is invited to review and adopt the Regional Framework, which has been developed to facilitate the implementation of the Global strategy to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer by Member States of the African Region.</i></li> </ul>
	<b>Agenda item 15</b>	Framework for improving access to assistive technology in the WHO African Region
11:30–12:45		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Regional Committee is invited to review and adopt the Regional Framework, which provides Member States with effective policy actions to increase availability and affordability of assistive technology according to their specific needs and contexts.</i></li> </ul>

12:45–13:45 **Break**

**Pillar 2: One billion more people better protected from health emergencies**

13:45–15:00	<b>Agenda item 12</b>	Framework for the implementation of the Global strategy to defeat meningitis by 2030 in the WHO African Region
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Regional Committee is invited to review and adopt the Regional Framework, which was developed to serve as a guide to Member States on the implementation of the Global strategy in the African Region.</i></li> </ul>	

**Pillar 3: One billion more people enjoying better health and well-being**

15:00–16:00	<b>Agenda item 16</b>	Framework for implementing the priority actions of the global plan of action of the Decade of Healthy Ageing 2021–2030 in the African Region
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Regional Committee is invited to review and adopt the Framework for implementing the priority actions of the Decade of Healthy Ageing in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the African Region, which has been developed to provide guidance to Member States on developing policies and building collaborative and multisectoral partnerships to combat ageism and promote age-friendly environments.</i></li> </ul>	

**Pillar 4: More effective and efficient WHO providing better support to countries (contd)**

16:00–16:30	<b>Agenda item 19</b>	Draft provisional agenda, place and dates of the Seventy-second session of the Regional Committee
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Regional Committee is invited to consider and adopt the Provisional agenda, place and dates for RC72</i></li> </ul>	
16:30–17:00	<b>Agenda item 21</b>	Closure of the Seventy-first session of the Regional Committee.