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June 2019

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WHO CC UTS Regional Update

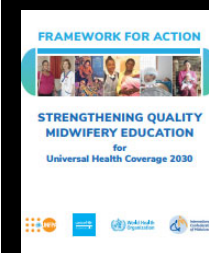
Dear Colleagues,

We have had a very busy first half of the year at the WHO Collaborating Centre UTS (WHOC CUTS). In May the World Health Organization (WHO) held its 72nd World Health Assembly (WHA72) in Geneva. The WHOC CUTS Director and colleagues from the Pacific attended along with representatives from over 190 member states the first ever resolution to confirm that 2020 will be the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife passed. Most recently the WHOC CUTS was honoured to host a visit to the Centre and faculty of Health by the Regional Director for the WHO Western Pacific Region (WPRO) on 18th June, with UTS staff and colleagues in attendance.

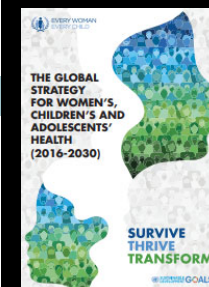
Members of the WHO CC UTS have also been busy attending regional meetings including the Directors of Clinical Services (DCS) and Pacific Heads of Health meetings, and with senior health leaders from the 14 Pacific Island countries through the South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers' Alliance (SPCNMOA) to review pressing issues and contribute toward decisions that impact regional health policy whilst continuing our ongoing work developing a new Bachelor of Nursing Curriculum in Vanuatu and documenting the vital roles of nurses and midwives in our region.

This update links to relevant publications and documents of the WHOC, please also visit [our website](#) for current information. You can also reach us at whocc@uts.edu.au. For information on the South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers' Alliance (SPCNMOA) [click here](#).

Official Documents:



Framework for Action: Strengthening Quality Midwifery Education for Universal Health Coverage 2030



The global strategy for women's, children's and adolescents' health (2016-2030)



Global strategic directions for strengthening nursing and midwifery 2016-2020

WHO Regional Director for Western Pacific visits WHO CC UTS

WHOC CUTS was honoured to receive Dr Takeshi Kasai, the WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific on the 18th of June. Dr Kasai visited the WHO Collaborating Centre at UTS and toured the university facilities and Faculty of Health. Academic and professional staff shared their knowledge and welcomed him to the University and Faculty. Dr Kasai toured the Palliative, Aged and Chronic Care Research Centre, the clinical simulation lab for nursing and midwifery and the Australian Centre for Complementary and integrative Medicine and Public and Population Health Research.



After the tour he was received at WHOC CUTS with a short reception held in his honour and attended by various UTS and Faculty of Health staff. We were excited to also be able to include remote colleagues from the Pacific through an online teleconference. They were able to share in the speeches and contribute to the discussions.

For more information [click here](#) and [here](#).

72nd World Health Assembly

72ND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY GENEVA

WHA72 was held in Geneva from the 20th to 28th of May this year. With a full work agenda, discussions were held at side events on key public health issues and the recognition of several health leaders was highlighted. In his opening speech, the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus highlighted the main achievements of WHO's Programme of Work this past year. To read Dr Tedros' full speech [click here](#).

EXAMINING THE NEW GLOBAL ACTION PLAN FOR HEALTHY LIVES AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL

The global Action Plan for Healthy Lives and Well-being for All is coordinated by WHO and includes eleven international health and development agencies. It seeks new ways for the countries to work together to accelerate progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The final plan will be delivered in September 2019 at the United Nations General Assembly in New York. Primary health care is one of the cross-cutting areas included in the plan, with the potential to substantially increase the pace of progress toward countries achieving universal health coverage and other health-related targets.

To read more about the Action Plan [click here](#).

THE CHALLENGE OF COMMUNICATING EFFECTIVELY ON NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Non-communicable diseases or NCDs such as cardiovascular and respiratory disease, cancer and diabetes are the primary cause of death in the world. Alongside WHA72, Non government Organisation (NGO) journalists and communicators discussed how the public health community can address the problems involved in talking about a group of chronic conditions that cause seven out of every ten deaths in the world.

NCDs are the plague of our time," said Dr. Carissa Etienne, Director of PAHO. "We must keep the messages simple and effective, and invest more in communication," she said, adding that "if we want to successfully reverse the catastrophe that NCDs are causing, we need a massive social movement, nothing less.

To read more on NCD's [click here](#)

CONCLUDING STATEMENTS

The 72nd annual WHA drew to a close on the 28th May in Geneva.Over the past 9 days, Member States adopted a new global strategy on health, environment and climate change and committed to invest in safe water, sanitation and hygiene services in health facilities. Patient safety was recognized as a global health priority and the 11th Edition of the International Classification of Diseases was adopted.

"I cannot emphasise strongly enough what a decisive moment for public health the High-Level Meeting could be. A strong declaration, with strong political support, could transform the lives of billions of people, in realizing what we have always advocated for – health for all," said the Director-General, Dr Tedros at the [closing speech](#) for the WHA 72.

Walk the Talk

WHO staff joined with partners and the public from Geneva and around the world to stage the second edition of the "Walk the Talk: The Health for All Challenge" event on Sunday 19 May 2019 in Geneva. Building on the success of the [inaugural event held in 2018](#), more than 5000 people took part in the event.



To read more about Walk the Talk [click here](#)

International Year of the Nurse and Midwife

The International Council of Nurses (ICN) announced at the 72nd WHA that 2020 will be the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife. For the first time in history, the nations around the world will unite in celebration of the benefits that nursing and midwifery bring to the health of the global population. "Without nurses and midwives, we will not achieve the Sustainable Development Goals or universal health coverage". Dr. Tedros said.

ICN President Annette Kennedy stated that the designation of 2020 was especially welcome as it coincides with the 200th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, one of the founders of modern nursing. From this, Nursing Now! has launched the Nightingale Challenge 2020, calling all employers of nurses globally to provide leadership and development training for 20 young nurses and midwives next year.



The 73rd WHA will see the launch of the WHO State of the World's Nursing Report that is being developed in close collaboration with the ICN and Nursing Now! Campaign. This report will describe how the nursing workforce help deliver UHC and the SDGs, along with recommended areas for policy development for the next three to five years. It will also provide a technical description of the nursing workforce in Member States to inform national policy dialogue on strengthening nursing and accelerating progress across the SDGs.

To read more about the ICN meeting [click here](#), and to read more the WHO State of the World's Nursing Report please refer to the side publications.

ICN and ICM Key Agendas

Building on networks and connections made in 2018, during the WHA 2019, the WHOCUTS was represented at side meetings and collaborative discussions. These were important events, with the purpose of advocating for the nursing and midwifery profession on a global scale. Some of the important agenda items for the 72nd WHA in 2019 that ICN and International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) put resolutions forward were:



[The State of the World's Nursing Report](#)



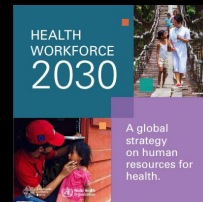
[WHO Report on Surveillance of Antibiotic Consumption](#)



[Global Network of WHO Collaborating Centres December Links Magazine](#)



[WHO Universal Health Coverage: Moving Towards Better Health](#)



[WHO Health Workforce 2030 - HRH Strategy](#)

11.4 Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

11.5 Universal health coverage: Primary health care towards universal health coverage

11.8 Follow-up to the high-level meetings of the United Nations General Assembly on health-related issues: Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

12.2 Member state mechanisms on substandard and falsified medical products

12.3 Human resources for health – WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel: third round of national reporting

12.4 Promoting the health of refugees and migrants

12.6 Patient safety: Global action on patient safety

12.8 Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016-2030)

19.0 Other matters referred to the Health Assembly by the Executive Board – 2020 International Year of Nursing and Midwifery



For more information on the Key Agendas [click here](#)

ICN WHA Network Lunch

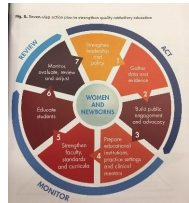
This annual event was especially energetic and enthusiastic with representatives from all the key stakeholder groups and WHO nursing staff. ICN, ICM, STTI, Nursing Now! and WHO Chief Nurse Elizabeth Iro welcomed and congratulated all the nursing representatives at this year's WHA. Again there were many senior nursing and midwifery representatives from the Pacific Region. Howard Catton ICN CEO, thanked Adjunct Professor Debra Thoms Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer (CNMO) Australia for her outstanding leadership on WHO Executive Board.



Left: WHO Chief Nurse Elizabeth Iro Right: ICN CEO Howard Catton and Adj. Prof Debra Thoms, CNMO Australia.

WHO Taskforce on Nursing and Midwifery

WHO Chief Nurse Elizabeth Iro hosted a Taskforce Network Meeting at WHO with senior nursing and midwifery representatives. Ms Elizabeth Iro discussed the Taskforce that will provide an interdisciplinary platform to strengthen, mainstream and make visible the contributions of WHO nurses and midwives at WHO headquarters, regional and country offices. Discussions also confirmed ways countries could achieve the Strengthening Quality Midwifery Education for UHC 2030 Framework For Action.



Nurses meet in Nadi, Fiji to discuss Nursing Specialisation April 2019

Senior health leaders from 14 Pacific Island countries and territories, along with regional and international health professionals, met in Fiji recently for the 9th Directors of Clinical Services (DCS) Meeting. This meeting preceded the Pacific Heads of Health (PHoH) with the South Pacific Community (SPC) and WHO supported by from the Governments of Australia and New Zealand and World Bank. The meetings provide a forum to review issues and contribute towards decisions that impact regional health policy.

Pacific Nursing and Midwifery Leaders in attendance from SPCNMOA and American Pacific Nursing Leaders Council (APNLC), requested the following recommendations at the DCS meeting:



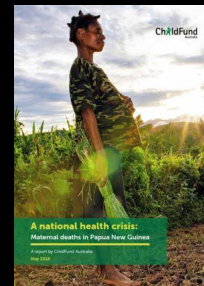
- All countries that offer nursing programs must work towards a bachelor level as a minimum requirement for nurses whilst continuing the support of curriculum and resource upgrade.
• Programs are to be developed in alignment with country service needs and ensure strategies are in place to build the appropriate skilled educators.
• A review of Pacific Nurse Practitioner or relevant programs is carried out to improve consistency and move towards Masters Level.
• Continued support to the SPCNMOA/APNLC in their work to develop regional standards for nursing practice, to ensure workforce flexibility and regional reciprocity.



A Healthier Humanity



International Platform on Health Worker Mobility: Evidence, Solutions and Instruments



A national health crisis: Maternal deaths in Papua New Guinea



COP24 Special Report: health and climate change

- Support of specialist practice programs for nursing in Fiji and another regional site.

These recommendations tie in with the WHO CC UTS ongoing work with the Vanuatu College of Nursing Education (VCNE) to develop a Bachelor of Nursing (Conversion) and Bachelor of Nursing curriculum in Vanuatu.

For more information on Nurse meeting in Nadi [click here](#)

WHO calls for more investment for Primary Health Care

In April 2019, the new WHO Regional Director for Western Pacific spoke of the important role that primary health care plays in addressing and reducing health challenges currently experienced. Many vulnerable groups and regions have the inability to access essential services due to financial hardship (1 in 5 families spend 10% of their income on healthcare), distance, stigma and low health literacy. Therefore, by investing in these services to allow access for vulnerable groups, services will be more equitable and improve health. "No one should have to decide between their mother's medicine and their child's education," said Dr Takeshi Kasai, WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific. "Health is a human right."

Nearly half the cost of health care is paid out of pocket by patients in middle-income countries compared to high-income countries which are predominantly funded by public money. "Cost-effective services provided at the local level are key to controlling health spending," Dr. Kasai said. "Those basic services – such as vaccinations, screenings and routine visits – often prevent pricey hospital visits or diseases that can lead to years of costly care or premature death." Committing health spending to primary health care not only saves money, it also helps countries to develop. "Healthier people miss work less and contribute more to national prosperity. They are also able to improve prospects for their families," said Dr Kasai. Therefore on World Health Day 2019, WHO has called leaders to invest in primary health care as the smartest first step towards universal health coverage, also known as "health for all".

For more information [click here](#)

WHO Partners Forum

The inaugural two-day WHO Partners Forum opened on 9th April in Stockholm and was co-hosted with the Government of Sweden. The meeting resulted in a shared understanding of how to strengthen partnerships and improve effective financing of WHO, with an emphasis on predictability and flexibility. Global leaders in a multitude of health fields, partnerships and non-State actors, came together to launch a new era of collaboration and innovation around WHO's resource needs. Under the Organization's Thirteenth General Programme of Work (GPW13), WHO needs US\$14.1 billion between now and 2023. At the heart of the GPW13 are the "triple billion" goals of ensuring that by 2023, 1 billion more people are benefitting from universal health coverage, 1 billion more people are better protected from health emergencies, and 1 billion more people are enjoying better health and well-being. "WHO is committed to leaving no one behind as we strive for the highest attainable standard of health," said Dr Tedros, WHO Director-General.

The two-day forum's objectives were to:

- "Encourage support from individual partners to assist the Organization in a longer-term collaborative endeavour to address both the quality and quantity of resources required to implement GPW13 and, in so doing, to lead implementation of health-related SDG targets
- Explore opportunities for strengthening partnerships and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of WHO financing, with an emphasis on predictability and flexibility, through innovations and lessons learned from both WHO and partner experience
- Demonstrate WHO's role, measurable impact and 'value for money' across GPW13's 3 strategic priorities".

To read more about the WHO Partners Forum [click here](#)

WHO seeks to Strengthen Partnerships for "Triple Billions" Targets

Discussions at the forum also called upon member states and partners to increase flexible funding to enable WHO to be more agile in budgeting across the organisation, when implementing its five-year plan towards achieving its "triple billion" targets."

WHO's investment case for the GPW13 estimates that its "projected income against the US\$ 14.1 billion is US\$ 4 billion, which includes income from annual dues and long-term pledges," meaning that WHO has a projected funding gap of US\$ 10.1 billion over the next 5 years. Raising the full US\$ 14.1 billion "will help to save up to 30 million lives, add up to 100 million years of healthy living to the world's population and add up to 4 per cent of economic growth in low and middle-income countries by 2023," according to the investment case." "In addition to the US\$ 14.1 billion needed to ensure successful implementation of GPW13, appropriate levels of flexible, aligned and predictable funding will be critical," the forum event page noted. Dr Tedros called for quality, un-earmarked funds "you don't have big scaled change if you have small projects everywhere," he said.

To read more information [click here](#)

Major UN Effort to Achieve Universal Health Coverage Taking Shape

United Nations members and stakeholders are mobilising to bring about universal health coverage

(UHC) across the world with all eyes on the UN High Level Meeting (UNHLM) on Universal Health Coverage planned for 23 September 2019. An informal meeting of representatives from countries and leading international health organizations at UN headquarters in New York in April provided an update on progress and highlighted emerging priorities for the planned High Level Meeting. This UN HLM in September will be the last chance before 2023, the mid-point of the SDGs, to mobilise the highest political support to package the entire health agenda under the umbrella of UHC, and sustain health investments in a harmonised manner. To do this, it is critical to identify how the political declaration on UHC can add value to these efforts and set milestones towards achieving UHC by 2030.

Key Asks

Six Key Asks were presented (below). A series of representatives of other agencies were asked to comment on the Key Asks, including from the World Bank, UN Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF, UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UNAIDS, and GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance.

1. Ensure political leadership beyond health – commit to achieve UHC for all
2. Leave no one behind – equity in access to quality health services with financial protection as health is a fundamental right to all
3. Regulate and legislate – create strong regulatory legal environments to respond to individual's needs and ensure their rights are met
4. Uphold quality of care – build quality health care systems that individuals and communities trust with PHC as the backbone of UHC
5. Invest more, invest better – sustain public funding and harmonise health investments as current funds are insufficient to meet UHC by 2030
6. Move together - Establish multi-stakeholder mechanisms for engaging the whole of society for a healthier world engaged by all countries

For more information on the UN HLM and Key Asks [click here](#)

Upcoming Events

International Council of Nurses (ICN) Congress 2019

27th June to 1st July, 2019, Singapore
Beyond Healthcare to Health [Learn more](#)

WHOCC Side Meeting at the International Council of Nurses (ICN) Conference

30th June 2019, Marina Bay Sands, Singapore

28th International Conference on Nursing Care and Nursing Education

8th to 9th July 2019, Osaka, Japan [Learn More](#)

30th International Nursing Research Congress

Sigma Nursing
25th to 29th July, 2019, Calgary, Alberta, Canada [Learn more](#)

The National Nursing Forum

Australian College of Nurses
21st to 23rd August, 2019, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia [Learn more](#)

Global Vaccination Summit

12th September 2019, Brussels, Belgium [Learn More](#)

Australian Nurses and Midwives Conference

12th to 13th September 2019, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia [Learn More](#)

ICM Africa Regional Conference

12th to 14th September, 2019, Windhoek, Namibia [Learn more](#)

UN High-Level Meeting on universal health coverage

23rd September 2019, New York, USA [Learn More](#)

WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific

7th to 11th October, 2019, Manila, Philippines [Learn more](#)

45th International Mental Health Nursing and Conference

8th to 10th October 2019, Sydney, NSW, Australia [Learn More](#)

32nd Triennial Congress

21st to 25th June, 2020, Bali, Indonesia
Midwives of the World: delivering the future [Learn more](#)

Asia Pacific Emergency and Disaster Nursing Network (APEDNN) Annual Conference 2019

12th to 13th November 2019, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong SAR [Learn more](#)

45th Biennial Convention

Sigma Nursing
16th to 20th November, 2019, Washington, DC, USA [Learn more](#)

The Nursing Education Research Conference (NERC) 2020
March 26th to 28th 2020, Washington, DC, USA [Learn More](#)

The 11th Annual CUGH Global Health Conference
18th to 20th April 2020, Washington, DC, USA [Learn More](#)

11th International Council of Nurses' NP/APN Network Conference
30th August to 2nd September 2020, Halifax, Nova Scotia [Learn More](#)

Publications

JOURNAL ARTICLES

WHO Bulletin June issue

- Inclusion of gaming disorder in the ICD-11
 - The antimicrobial resistance challenge
 - Comparing national essential medicines lists
 - Factors associated with declining tuberculosis incidence
 - Universal health coverage policy options
 - Improving outcomes for people with low back pain
 - The private sector role in achieving universal health coverage
 - Measuring inequalities in access to water, sanitation and hygiene services
- For a summary [click here](#) or visit <https://www.who.int/bulletin/en/>

Health effects of dietary risks in 195 countries, 1990–2017: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017
<https://www.thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S0140-6736%2819%2930041-8>

Putting nursing and midwifery at the heart of the Alma-Ata vision
<https://www.thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S0140-6736%2818%2932341-9>

Universal Health in the 21st Century: 40 Years of Alma-Ata: Report of the High-Level Commission
http://iris.paho.org/xmlui/bitstream/handle/123456789/50742/9789275120682_eng.pdf?sequence=16

International Policy Statement for Universal Use of Kangaroo Mother Care for Preterm and Low Birthweight Infants
https://www.icn.ch/sites/default/files/inline-files/PA-KMC-Joint-Statement_final_2017.pdf

2020 – International year of Nursing and Midwifery
http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA72/A72_54-en.pdf

Health benefits far outweigh the costs of meeting climate change goals
<https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/05-12-2018-health-benefits-far-outweigh-the-costs-of-meeting-climate-change-goals>

WHO statement for COP24
<https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/03-12-2018-who-statement-for-cop24>

The Lancet Global Health
May issue
<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/issue/current>

Declaration of Alma-Ata
International Conference on Primary Health Care, Alma-Ata September 1978
To read the Declaration, please [click here](#)

WHO Integrated People-Centred Health Services (IPCHS)
Reforming Health Service Delivery for UHC
http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/255311/WHO-HIS-SDS-2017_9-eng.pdf;jsessionid=C580F5A57F6FADDE45F49DE1FBAAD131?sequence=1

Framework on integrated people-centred health services
WHO Secretariat Report
http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA69/A69_39-en.pdf?ua=1

Universal Health Coverage: Moving Towards Better Health
Action Framework for the Western Pacific Region
http://iris.wpro.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665.1/13371/9789290617563_eng.pdf?ua=1

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