

FRIDAY 18 MAY 2018 IN GENEVA

40 Years of Alma-Ata: Translating “Health for All” into the Present and Future. A Civil Society Workshop

The Alma-Ata Declaration of 1978 emerged as a major milestone in the field of global public health. Referring to the social, political and structural determinants of health, emphasizing the importance of accountability to the people, and proposing comprehensive Primary Health Care (PHC) as key to the attainment of the goal of Health for All, the Declaration still reads as a visionary and revolutionary text.

2018 is the year of commemorating and celebrating 40 years of the Alma-Ata declaration. The official “AA40” celebration will take place on 25-26 October 2018 in Kazakhstan in a “Second International Conference on Primary Health Care”. On 13-14 February, a “WHO global workshop on PHC to prepare for the jubilee conference in Almaty and for a high-level meeting on UHC in 2019” took place at the WHO headquarters. Since then, the WHO Secretariat also invited selected actors to join an “International Advisory Group on PHC for UHC for the 40th Anniversary of the Alma Ata Declaration”.

The G2H2 “Task Group 40 Years of Alma-Ata” was set up in summer 2017 in view of exploring options for a civil society led event in Geneva in 2018 to commemorate the jubilee of the Alma-Ata Declaration. The task group also submitted to the WHO Secretariat a concept for an official WHA side event on “40 Years of Alma-Ata: Translating ‘Health for All’ into the Future”.

OBJECTIVES

- **Provide a space for political analysis, reflection and mobilization:** We will critically revisit the Alma-Ata Declaration and the core principles expressed in it (in particular: addressing determinants of health; global solidarity for health equity; accountability to the people and communities, access to comprehensive health care services for all through a system structured around the principles of Comprehensive Primary Health Care) for its potential to be used as inspiration and guidance in our quest for Health for All.
- **Prepare/provide civil society input to a broader conversation:** Referring to a similar process ahead of the Alma-Ata conference in 1978 when NGOs submitted a position paper on PHC to WHO and UNICEF and to the current drafting process for a “renewed vision on PHC”, we will prepare and discuss a meeting statement on “Translating ‘Health for All’ into the Present and Future”.



WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

8:30-9.00	COFFEE AND NETWORKING
PUBLIC SESSIONS	PLENARY: REFERENCES AND STARTING POINTS
9.00-12.00 with short coffee break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and introduction 10 Minutes • Reading of the Alma-Ata Declaration 10 Minutes • What the Alma-Ata Declaration and related processes meant for my engagement for Health for All 30 Minutes: Testimonials by two senior PHC/global health activists • Translating “Health for all” into the present and future 20 Minutes: Two young health activists compare the 40 year old Alma-Ata Declaration with their 2018 realities: Inspirations and irritations 30 Minutes: Further testimonials, statements, dialogue in the plenary • Documentary “A Dream of Health” (Jill Turner, 1988) 60 Minutes including introduction: This movie on health promotion and PHC is a tribute to the former WHO DG Mahler. Shown at the World Health Assembly in 1988 to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the Alma-Ata Declaration, the movie is still an inspiration.
12.00-13.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translating “Health for All” into the present and future Introductions to the afternoon parallel sessions
13.00-14.00	LUNCH BREAK
PARALLEL SESSIONS	TRANSLATING “HEALTH FOR ALL” INTO THE PRESENT AND FUTURE
14.00-16.00	<p>These sessions provide spaces for joint reflection and brainstorming, learning and sharing on key elements of the Alma-Ata declaration that remain highly relevant for our work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Health Care compared with Universal Health Coverage Universality and people-centeredness of health policies and systems (introduction and facilitation: People’s Health Movement) • Communities: From objects to full participation and ownership including a particular focus on the role of community health worker and family physicians (introduction and facilitation: Amref Health Africa) • Cooperation and solidarity beyond charity: Health and social justice as a human right and a global public obligation (introduction and facilitation : Public Services International and medico international) • Beyond the health sector: Addressing root causes and determinants of health inequity (introduction and facilitation: World Council of Churches) <p>The groups will also discuss the respective sections of the meeting statement.</p>
16.00-16.30	COFFEE BREAK
PLENARY SESSIONS	TRANSLATING GLOBAL VISIONS INTO SOCIETAL CHANGE
16.30-17.30	Finalization of the meeting statement, based on a draft provided by the G2H2 Task Group “40 Years of Alma-Ata” and discussed in the parallel sessions
17.30-18.30	Workshop conclusions and way forward
18.30	CLOSURE

FORMAT

- **Full day civil society workshop**
- **Participants:** G2H2 members and other civil society representatives (registration required)
- **Overall approach:** We want to provide an open and democratic space for joint reflection and brainstorming, learning and sharing among civil society activists engaged in global health (in a broad, interdisciplinary sense), counting on all participants as experts and committed to engage.
- **Enquiries:** Thomas Schwarz, +41 79 645 01 37, info@g2h2.org

CIVIL SOCIETY MEETINGS 18-19 MAY 2019

The civil society meetings ahead of the 71st World Health Assembly, in May 2018, build on a long history of civil society engagement in global health governance and policy. The meetings organized by the Geneva Global Health Hub aim at contributing to joint reflection and strategizing undertaken by civil society institutions considering themselves as “acting in the public interest”.

- **Online programme and updates:** www.g2h2.org/posts/event/may2018/
A final programme will be sent to registered participants ahead of the meetings.
- **Sessions on Saturday 19 May:**
 - Key Items on the Agenda of the World Health Assembly
 - Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR): Are We Off Track?
 - G2H2 Annual General Meeting
- **Registration for all sessions is requested** (deadline: Monday, 14 May 2018): [REGISTER HERE](#)
A list of registered participants can be ordered at the [G2H2 Secretariat](#).

The [Geneva Global Health Hub](#) (G2H2) set up in 2016 intends to contribute to longer-term strategic thinking and coherent and sustained action by civil society entities involved in global health advocacy. G2H2 will have its second Annual General Meeting on Saturday morning, 19 May.

VENUE

- The civil society meetings are kindly hosted by the [World Council of Churches](#) at the Ecumenical Centre, Route de Ferney 150, Grand-Saconnex, Geneva.
- How to get there: From the Cornavin railway station, take bus No. 5 (direction Airport) or bus No. 28 (direction Vernier). From the Airport, take bus No. 5 (direction Thônex). Leave the bus at Crêts de Morillon (stop on demand). The entrance is at Route des Morillons 1.

ORGANIZERS

The workshop “40 Years of Alma-Ata: Translating ‘Health for All’ into the Present and Future” is organized by the **G2H2 Task Group “40 Years of Alma-Ata”**, with representatives of Brot für die Welt, Difäm, medico international, Medicus Mundi International Network, People’s Health Movement, World Council of Churches and World Federation for Mental Health and supported by the G2H2 Secretariat.

GENEVA GLOBAL HEALTH HUB G2H2

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*“We build a strong civil society space in Geneva
for more democratic global health governance.”*