**#WHA72** 

Civil Society Meeting ahead of the 72<sup>nd</sup> World Health Assembly Geneva, WCC Ecumenical Centre, Friday 17 May 2019

WHO, civil society and "non-State actors": How to deal with a difficult relationship



### Welcome!

The workshop will start at 9.00 hrs Coffee available at cafeteria - be back on time!





## Welcome

- Meeting organized by the Geneva Global Health Hub (G2H2) and the G2H2 working group "WHO and global health governance and financing"
- § Global Health Governance as core of G2H2
- Thanks to WCC for hosting the workshop
- S Closed civil society workshop
  - sharing, debating, strategizing "among ourselves"
  - participants: civil society only, no "guests"
  - confidentiality: no topical tweeting, no quotes without consent
  - follow up as outlined in final session and/or by the working group



# Two interrelated topics two interrelated tracks

"We are civil society (aren't we?)"

Defining and defending the space and voice of civil society at the WHO and in global policy processes



"Of partnership(s), non-State actors, multistakeholderism"

Watching and commenting on partnership and multistakeholder paradigm and "non-state actors" policy/strategies at the WHO



## Programme, structure of the conversation

### Morning: Introductions, assessments, debate

- Civil society: definitions, realities, challenges
- Non-state actors, partnership paradigm, multistakeholderism

### Afternoon: Two working groups, four concrete cases

- Inputs: What's the story? What's the problem?
- Democratic brainstorming and strategizing: Civil society analysis, positions, strategies, proposals, demands?

### Final plenary: Sharing, integrating, perspectives

- What will I do? What will we do? WHA and beyond
- What could/can/will we do together?
- What role for the G2H2 working group?



## Programme details

- see handout
- Speakers and moderators will be introduced
- For immediate concerns or questions: get in touch with Mareike and Thomas, in the breaks

First day of the civil society meetings ahead of the 72<sup>nd</sup> World Health Assembly



### FRIDAY, 17 MAY 2019 IN GENEVA AT THE ECUMENICAL CENTRE (WCC BUILDING) WHO, civil society and "non-State actors" How to deal with a difficult relationship

This full-day civil society workshop builds on a session on WHO governance at the civil society meeting in January and will focus on some particular WHO governance processes/issues:

- Reform of WHO Governing Bodies and perspectives of a further shrinking space for civil society
- Interaction of the new WHO leadership with various "civil society" teams and in various WHO engagement with non-State actors, FENSA evaluation
- Strategies of the new WHO leadership for engaging with non-State actors ("partners") including philanthropic foundations and the private sector based on / beyond FENSA

The workshop is organized by the G2H2 working group on WHO and global health governance and financing. It shall allow deepening the analysis (what's the problem) and moving towards strategizing and cooperating (what needs to be done, what we can do together). The workshop is closed, for civil society organizations only (G2H2 members or by invitation). PROGRAMME

	8.30-9.00	Co.
	09.00	COFFEE AND NETWORKING
	FIRST PLENARY	WELCOME
		"WE ARE CIVIL SOCIETY (AREN'T WE?)"
	9.15-10.30	Towards a war (AREN'T WE?)"
		and role(s)
		Towards a working definition of civil society and its position  "Civil society" is a diffusion.
		Understand is a difficult and constitution
		become and debate. In the field concept that we
		"Civil society" is a difficult and contested concept that we need to better understand - and debate. In the field of global health policy, "civil society" has for more democratic global health", an instrument for inclusion and exclusion lobbyists ("we represent civil society organizations"), a marketing level gives a voice of the society organizations", a marketing level gives a voice of the society organizations.
	1	("these actinocratic global health")
		lobbyicte (" proper civil society and instrument for inclusion of Geneva
		gives a voice to represent civil society") a marketing laboration
		manipulation and voiceless"), an instance projection ("civil social
	10.20	gives a voice to the voiceless"), a romantic projection ("civil society manipulation and co-option ("we have consulted civil society"), and much
	10.30-11.00	BREAK CONSUITED CIVIL SOCIETY"), and much
	SECOND PLENARY	"On-
	11.00.10.00	"OF PARTNERSHIP(s), NON-STATE ACTORS AND MULTISTAKEHOLDERISM"  Towards a shared assessment of what in
	1 1	Towards a shared assessment ACTORS AND MULTISTAKEHOLDERISM"
		Towards a shared assessment of what is wrong with the partnership within the multistakeholderism, and how to counter it, how can we strengthen our voice  15 years ago, WHO Issued to the strength of the stre
		within the multistakeholderies, how can we strengther
	[ :	within the multistakeholderism, and how above this?
L		15 years ago, WHO launched a "civil society initiative", and there is a subther multilateral and "engagement with the subther multilateral and there is a subther multilateral and the subther multilateral and subther multil
	C	ther multilateral and engagement with a with a multilative", and there is a multilateral and there is a multilateral and the multilater



### 9.15-10.30 hrs, first plenary

## "We are civil society (aren't we?)"

- Individually and in small groups
   Warm-up
- Input by Andreas Wulf, medico international:
   "Civil society" from the inception of its concept until struggles of today
- Plenary discussion
   "We are civil society (aren't we?)"
- Conclusions
   Towards a working definition of civil society
   and its position and role(s) in global health governance

Mareike Haase, Bread for the World: Moderator Soosmita Sinha, Health Law Institute: Outlook to the afternoon breakout session

## 9.15-10.30 hrs, first plenary Warm-up

- Read the four quotes defining or framing "civil society"
- Rate them \*\*\*\* to \* according to your agreement with the definition
- Try to attribute them to one of the sources listed at the bottom
- Think about how YOU would define civil society, how you see yourself as part of civil society (as individual or institution)
- Talk with your neighbour(s)

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Ganava Enumaninal Control Endau 17 Morid Health Assembly WHO, civil society and "non-State actors" How to deal with a difficult relationship

- Warm-up: We are civil society (aren't we?) 1. "Our definition of civil society is broad and covers non-governme organisations, activists, civil society coalitions and networks, protest and society movements, voluntary bodies, campaigning organisations, charities, fair based groups, trade unions and philanthropic foundations.2
- 2. "One of the key challenges we confronted was the heterogeneity of CSOs, and the fact that civil society represents a wide range of organizations, voices, and circumstances. As such, it was important to purposefully recognize that diversity. That meant taking a nuanced view of what we mean by 'civil society' by systematically identifying civil society sub-groups, understanding their relative strengths, and developing ways of working together that allow us to realize our joint potential."
- 3. "Descriptions of civil society as a 'sphere separate from both the state and market' (as the WHO defines civil society), indicating the non-State and nonprofit characteristics, or occupying a space between the public and the private, are at best misleading. In the complex contemporary global architecture, traditional boundaries between what constitutes 'public' and what is 'private' are being eroded. The dichotomy is blurred in particular by the contemporary growth of private foundations registered by corporations (corporate-owned
- 4. "Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), labour leaders, faith based organizations, religious leaders and other civil society representatives play a critical and diverse set of roles in societal development. In the last two decades these roles have shifted as the external environment for civil society has changed. Recently, a renewed focus on the essential contribution of civil society to a resilient global system alongside government and business has Sources: Please attribute

- WHO-Civil Society Task Team report, November 2018 Civicus website
- Klaus Schwabe, Preface to: The Future Role of Civil Society, WEF 2013 A "new business model" for NGOs? In: Global Health Watch 4

9.15-10.30 hrs, first plenary

Andreas Wulf, medico international Civil Society from the inception of its concept until struggles of today







## 11.00-12.30 hrs Of partnership(s), non-State actors, and multistakeholderism"

- Input by Karolin Seitz, Global Policy Forum:
   How the multistakeholder and partnership paradigm is currently implemented and how it has distorted civil society advocacy for WHO governance
- Comment by Ana Maria Suarez Franco, FIAN international
   Comment: Can we learn from other institutions? The case of CFS/ FAO
- Debate
   Towards a shared assessment of what is wrong with the multistakeholder paradigm and how to counter it how can we strengthen our voice within the multistakeholderism and how above this?

Remco van de Pas, MMI: Moderator

Karolin Seitz, GPF: Outlook afternoon breakout session/ working group





### What next

### Afternoon: Two working groups, four concrete cases

- Inputs: What's the story? What's the problem?
- Democratic brainstorming and strategizing: Civil society analysis, positions, strategies, proposals, demands?

### Leading questions for both working groups

- Is there a shared assessment of the cases presented and discussed?
   (What's the story? What's the problem?)
- Are there agreed civil society positions, proposals, and demands?
- What could/can/will we do together?
- Is there a common ground for a civil society statement on this topic?
- What action is needed at the World Health Assembly?
- Who will continue to work on the issue?



Working group 1
Same room (rearranged)

Defining and defending the space and voice of civil society at the WHO and in global policy processes

### **Inputs**

Thomas Schwarz, MMI

### **Moderation**

Soosmita Sinha, HLI

Rapporteur, final plenary Manoj Kurian, WCC Working group 2

Room Lac 200, second floor

Watching and commenting on partnership and multistakeholder paradigm and "non-state actors" policy and strategies at the WHO

### **Inputs**

Remco van de Pas, MMI KM Gopakumar, Third World Network

### **Moderation**

Karolin Seitz, GPF

Rapporteur, final plenary

Maik Duennbier, IOGT





16.30-17.30 hrs: Final plenary

# From analysis and debate to strategies, positions and proposals

## Reporting back from the two working groups sharing and, if possible, integrating outcomes

- Shared assessments?
- Agreed positions, proposals, demands?
- What will I do? What will we do? WHA and beyond
- What could/can/will we do together?
- What role for the G2H2 working group?

Panelists: Manoj Kurian and Maik Duennbier, working group rapporteurs

Moderator: Auriane Guilbaud, Université Paris 8

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17.30-18.00 hrs

### Closure



