

“Access to novel, effective, high-cost medicines” and the Oslo Medicines Initiative (OMI) Ministerial Lunch

Monday September 12, 2022 | 13:15 – 14:45 IDT | King Solomon C

The pharmaceutical market is changing. Today we are seeing an increasing number of highly-effective novel therapies for rare diseases and other relatively low-volume patient groups coming to market. However, many of these novel therapies come with a high price-tag, proving too expensive for national governments to provide them to all who would benefit. What can be done? How can we balance industrial, health care, and public health interests while ensuring increased access for patients? Bringing the key stakeholders together to consider these questions and to identify potentially sustainable is vital.

‘win-wins’ has been the role of the Oslo Medicines Initiative (OMI). The WHO Regional Office for Europe is looking to build on the OMI work to establish a joint stakeholder platform to work on these potential ‘win-wins’; this is the aim of the WHO Europe statement on which the Regional Director is looking for a mandate to take forward.

Scope: Mark the end of the OMI and seek agreement on the way forward around a WHO Europe ‘statement’

- 1) **Provide a final report on the OMI process** and a policy brief on improving access to novel, effective, high-cost medicines in the Region.
- 2) **Seek Member State mandate** to continue the work and agree a statement outlining concrete outcomes and suggestions for next steps.

Objectives:

- Report back on the work undertaken during the two years of the OMI.
- Discuss with member states and stakeholders, in concrete terms given the statement (final report and policy brief), their interest in working together on key issues to promote access through a joint stakeholder platform based on the OMI principles of solidarity, transparency and sustainability.

Programme

This Ministerial Lunch is organized by: WHO Regional Office for Europe and the Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services and the Norwegian Medicines Agency

Moderators of the session: *Bjorn-Inge Larsen, Special Representative for International Health, Ministry of Health and Care Services; and Natasha Azzopardi Muscat, Director of Country Health Policies and Systems, WHO Regional Office for Europe*

13:15 Lunch will be served

13:15-13:17

Introduction and Welcome

Dr Bjørn-Inge Larsen, Special Representative for International Health, Ministry of Health and Care Services and Dr Natasha Azzopardi Muscat, Director of Country Health Policies and Systems, WHO Regional Office for Europe

13:17-13:20	Opening Remarks by Regional Director of WHO Europe <i>Dr Hans Kluge, Regional Director, WHO Regional Office Europe</i>
13:21-13:24	Opening Remarks by Minister of Health and Care Services, Norway <i>Ms Ingvild Kjerkol, Minister of Health and Care Services, Norway</i>
13:25-13:29	Reporting on the Oslo Medicines Initiative <i>Dr Natasha Azzopardi Muscat, Director of Country Health Policies and Systems, WHO Regional Office for Europe</i>
13:30-13:47	OMI Steering Committee and stakeholder perspectives <i>Ms Sandra Gallina, Director General for Health and Food Safety, European Commission</i> <i>Mr Mark Pearson, Deputy Director for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development</i> <i>Ms Nathalie Moll, Director General, European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations</i> <i>Mr Yann Le Cam, Chief Executive Officer, EURORDIS (Rare diseases Europe)</i>
13:48-14:41	Interventions (Discussion of the WHO Europe Statement) <i>Mr Jakub Dvořáček, Deputy Minister of Health, Czechia</i> <i>Mr Stefan Oelrich, President, Pharmaceuticals, (and Member of the Board of Management of Bayer AG)</i> <i>Interventions from the floor</i>
14:41-14:45	Closing and Indication of Next Steps <i>Dr Hans Kluge, Regional Director, WHO Regional Office Europe</i>

Practical information

Languages

The parallel session will be in English with simultaneous translation provided into French, German and Russian

Interaction with participants

Closed Ministerial Session

Documentation

[Oslo Medicines Initiative: Technical Reports](#)

