

CONCEPT NOTE
**ONLINE LAUNCH EVENT OF THE WESTERN PACIFIC REGIONAL SUMMARY OF
THE WHO GLOBAL ORAL HEALTH STATUS REPORT**
8 June 2023 (Thursday)

1. BACKGROUND

Oral diseases, while largely preventable, pose a significant global health burden and affect people throughout their life course, causing physical symptoms, functional limitations and detrimental impacts on emotional, mental and social well-being.

The World Health Organization (WHO) Western Pacific Region is home to 37 countries and areas with more than one quarter of the world's population. The burden of oral diseases is high in the Region, affecting more than 800 million people (42.1% of the population) in 2019, which highlights the need for action to prevent and control oral diseases.

This regional summary draws on the WHO Global Oral Health Status Report (GOHSR)¹, published in 2022, which provides a comprehensive overview of the global oral disease burden, the global health importance of oral health and the impact of oral diseases over the life course. In alignment with the landmark WHA 74.5 resolution on oral health², the GOHSR serves as a reference for policy-makers and provides orientation for a wide range of stakeholders across different sectors; and guides the advocacy process towards better prioritization of oral health in global, regional, and national contexts. Moreover, the GOHSR provides the first-ever country oral health profiles for all 194 WHO Member States, giving unique insights into key areas and markers of oral health that are relevant for decision-makers.

To ensure the translation and relevance of the report's findings for the WHO Western Pacific Region and its Member States, WHO Collaborating Centre for Translation of Oral Health Science, Niigata University hosts a launch event to release of the WHO regional summaries of the GOHSR for the Western Pacific.

2. RATIONALE

This webinar will provide the opportunity to formally launch the Western Pacific Regional summary of the GOHSR by disseminating and highlighting the key finding of the regional perspective. In line with the expected adoption of the Global Oral Health Action Plan at the World Health Assembly in May 2023³, this webinar will contribute to raising awareness of oral health among key stakeholders and plan the way forward to improve oral health situation in the WHO Western Pacific Region.

3. OBJECTIVES

- Inform stakeholders on current oral health status regionally and public health challenges towards UHC for oral health by 2030
- Disseminate the first-ever oral health country profiles that serve as a baseline for tracking progress toward improving oral health for all
- Promote the key messages of the GOHSR relevant to the region and their wide dissemination

4. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Key stakeholders understood the findings of the regional summary
- Awareness for oral health improved among key stakeholders
- Key stakeholders identified the way to utilize findings of this regional summary to accelerate implementation of the regional and global strategies on oral health

5. DATES, TIME

8 June 2023 (Thursday) 14:00 to 15:30 Japan time

6. PROVISIONAL WEBINAR AGENDA

Moderator: Prof Hiroshi Ogawa (WHO Collaborating Centre for Translation of Oral Health Science, Niigata University)		
Time (Japan time)	Agenda	Facilitator/Speaker
Session 1: Opening		
14:00 to 14:05	Housekeeping and introduction of the Webinar	Niigata University
14:05 to 14:10	Welcome remarks	WHO WPRO
14:10 to 14:15	Statement by Ministers of Health	Australia Malaysia Vanuatu
Session 2: Introduction of the WHO Western Pacific Regional Summary of the Global Oral Health Report		
14:15 to 14:25	Overview of the findings from the Global Oral Health Status Report	WHO Oral Health Programme
14:25 to 14:35	Overview of the findings from the Regional Summary	WHO WPRO
14:30 to 14:40	Q and A	Moderator
Session 3: Panel Discussion on the Perspectives from the Western Pacific Region		
14:40 to 15:10	Panel response to how to utilize findings of this regional summary to implement the global oral health action plan	Mana Seth Cambodia Ministry of Health Ninie Wang Pintree China Leenu Maimanuku Fiji National University
15:10 to 15:25	Q and A	
15:25 to 15:30	Closing remarks	WHO Oral Health Programme Niigata University

7. VENUE

- Zoom

8. LANGUAGES

- English

9. PARTICIPANTS

- Webinar – free to all

¹ WHO (2022). Global oral health status report: towards universal health coverage for oral health by 2030. <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/364538>

² WHO (2021). Resolution WHA74.5, Oral Health https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA74/A74_R5-en.pdf

³ WHO (2023). Draft global oral health action plan (2023–2030). Geneva: World Health Organization; 2023 https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/ncds/mnd/oral-health/eb152-draft-global-oral-healthaction-plan-2023-2030-en.pdf?sfvrsn=2f348123_19&download=true