



EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT  
AND HEALTH PROCESS



# Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health

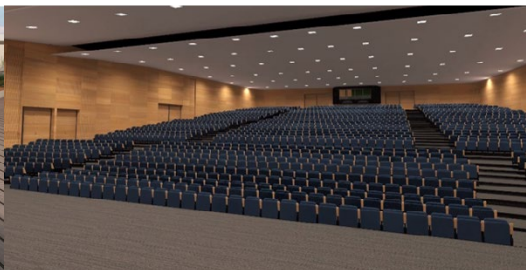
5–7 July 2023, Budapest, Hungary

Accelerating action for healthier people,  
a thriving planet, a sustainable future

## Provisional programme

Conference venue ([Hungexpo](#))

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## Provisional programme

4 July 2023

### Tuesday, 4 July 2023

*Arrival in Budapest and hotel transfer from the airport*

08:00–17:00	Registration at hotels
09:00–17:00	<b>Youth pre-event:</b> Empowering Youth Voices for a Sustainable Future (Maple room, MagNet House)
15:00–18:30	<b>Special Session of the European Environment and Health Task Force</b> (Marble Hall, Ministry of Interior)
15:45–18:00	<b>Technical site visits/excursions</b>

5 July 2023

### Wednesday, 5 July 2023

#### Setting the scene

08:00–09:00	Transfers to Conference venue
07:30–17:00	Registration
09:00	Opening of exhibitions
09:00–10:15	<p><b>Parallel sessions – slot A</b></p> <p>A1. Regions for Health: accelerating action for health on climate change champions  A2. Poisons centres: playing a key role in chemical surveillance  A3. Building research capacities for chemical risk assessment in Europe  A4. Providing access to knowledge on environment, climate and health: EEA in support of policy-making with and for Europeans  A5. Contaminated sites and waste, research, environmental justice and health equity: priorities and perspectives for sustainability</p>
10:30–11:45	<p><b>Parallel sessions – slot B</b></p> <p>B1. Grandurbia against the heat: an interactive simulation exercise on heatwaves  B2. From assessment to action: realizing the human rights to water and sanitation through the Protocol on Water and Health (English/Russian)  B3. Celebrating youth milestones and actions in environment and health: young people paving the way for the EHP success  B4. Integrating the environment into One Health  B5. Healthy cities: addressing the triple crisis through urban planning</p>
12:00–13:15	<p><b>Parallel sessions – slot C</b></p> <p>C1. Building a roadmap to zero-emission health systems  C2. Leveraging THE PEP Partnerships to accelerate the transition to healthy, sustainable and climate neutral mobility in the pan-European region (English/Russian)  C3. Enabling health professionals and health policy-makers to become sustainability champions  C4. Translating evidence into policy and climate action for health and the environment  C5. A new perspective in public health monitoring: wastewater surveillance</p>
13:00–14:00	<i>Welcome lunch</i>



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5 July 2023

13:00–13:45	Press conference
14:00–15:30	<b>Opening session</b>  <i>Introductory video</i> Welcome to Conference participants and to the President of Hungary by <b>Hans Henri P. Kluge</b> , WHO Regional Director for Europe Opening welcome remarks by <b>Katalin Novák</b> , HE President of Hungary  <i>Cultural performance by Ági Szalóki</i>  <b>Welcome speeches</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus</b>, WHO Director-General</li><li>• <b>Sándor Pintér</b>, Minister of Interior, Hungary</li><li>• <b>Csaba Lantos</b>, Minister of Energy, Hungary</li><li>• <b>Csaba Kőrösi</b>, President of the United Nations General Assembly</li><li>• <b>Brigit Staatsen</b>, Chair of the European Environment and Health Task Force (EHTF), National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), Kingdom of the Netherlands</li><li>• <b>Dmitry Mariyasin</b>, Deputy Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)</li><li>• <b>Arnold Kreilhuber</b>, Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Europe</li></ul> <b>Keynote speaker</b> <b>Hans Henri P. Kluge</b> , WHO Regional Director for Europe
15:30–15:40	<b>Youth dialogue</b>
15:40–15:50	<b>From Ostrava to Budapest: “passing the baton”</b> facilitated by <b>Hans Henri P. Kluge</b> , WHO Regional Director for Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Václav Pláteník</b>, Deputy Minister of Health, Czechia</li><li>• <b>Péter Takács</b>, State Secretary for Health, Hungary</li></ul>
15:50–16:00	<b>Adoption of the agenda</b> <b>Brigit Staatsen</b> , Chair of the EHTF, RIVM, Kingdom of the Netherlands  <i>Healthy break</i>
16:00–16:30	Coffee break



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5 July 2023

16:30–18:00

### Session 1

#### Tackling the “triple environmental crisis” to protect health and building forward from the COVID-19 pandemic

Halfway towards implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the session will set the main framework for the Conference. It will highlight the latest developments and new scenarios for environment and health policies in the WHO European Region in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. It will focus in particular on options, opportunities and experiences in addressing the health impacts of the triple environmental crisis caused by climate change, environmental pollution and biodiversity loss.

*Introductory video*

#### Chair

**Judit Bidló**, Deputy State Secretary for Professional Healthcare Management, Ministry of Interior, Hungary

#### Keynote speaker

**Harry Rutter**, Professor of Global Public Health, University of Bath, United Kingdom

#### Moderator

**Nino Berdzuli**, Director, Division of Country Health Programmes, WHO Regional Office for Europe

#### Panelists

- **Péter Takács**, State Secretary for Health, Ministry of Interior, Hungary
- **Pierre Delsaux**, Director-General, Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (DG HERA), European Commission
- **Tamar Gabunia**, First Deputy Minister of Health, Georgia
- **María Neira**, Director, Environment, Climate Change and Health, WHO
- **Silvia Calzón**, Secretary of State for Health, Spain
- **Majlinda Bregu**, Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council

Video statement from **Oliver Várhelyi**, Commissioner, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), European Commission

Video statement from **Leonore Gewessler**, Minister for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, Austria

Statements from the floor

*Healthy break*

18:00–20:00

Transfers from Conference venue to hotels and to reception venue

20:00

*Evening reception hosted by Hungary (Várkert Bazár)*





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# Seventh Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health

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## Provisional programme

Thursday, 6 July 2023

### Taking action to address the health impact of the triple crisis

08:00–09:00 Transfers to Conference venue

08:00–17:00 Registration

09:00–10:30

#### Session 2

##### Addressing the health effects of environmental pollution

This session will focus on actions to address multiple health risks associated with pollution of the air, water and soil, and exposure to hazardous chemicals and noise, recognizing that environmental pollution can affect people's health throughout the life course, impair children's development, contribute to the burden of noncommunicable and communicable diseases, and affect mental health. Policy-makers and experts will discuss policies and interventions to effectively tackle these challenges, bringing different perspectives on developing the evidence, translating it into policy and action, and involving civil society. The session will provide an opportunity to present good practices, to demonstrate intersectoral cooperation and experiences at different levels of governance, and to express commitments for follow-up actions, such as launching partnerships or strengthening health considerations in relevant policy frameworks.

*Introductory video*

#### Chair

**Tamás Pándics**, Head of Department, National Public Health Centre, Budapest

#### Keynote speaker

**Paolo Vineis**, Chair of Environmental Epidemiology, Imperial College London, United Kingdom

#### Moderator

**Raquel Duarte-Davidson**, co-Chair of the EHTF, UK Health Security Agency, United Kingdom

#### Panelists

- **Nino Tandilashvili**, First Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Georgia
- **Thomas Waite**, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health and Social Care for England, United Kingdom
- **Cecília Müller**, Chief Medical Officer, National Public Health Center, Hungary
- **Dragoslav Ščekić**, Minister of Health, Montenegro
- **Anita Breyer**, President, Fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management
- **Joachim d'Eugenio**, Policy Advisor, Directorate-General for Environment, European Commission
- **Frank Louwen**, President-elect, European Board & College of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- **Genon Jensen**, Executive Director, Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL)

Statements from the floor

*Healthy break*

10:30–11:00

Coffee break



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UNECE



UN  
environment  
programme

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## Provisional programme

11:00–12:30

### Session 3

#### Protecting health through nature and biodiversity

The critical links between nature, ecosystems and human health and well-being are the focus of this session, which draws on evidence from various fields, including health, and natural and social sciences. The session will highlight how nature degradation and biodiversity loss can threaten human health, which can relate to psychological, social and biophysical processes, but also how nature and biodiversity provide us with the basic conditions to promote human health and protect it. The session will discuss the positive relationship of humans with nature in protecting and promoting health and well-being, and the health threats associated with human interaction with nature – while highlighting the implementation of approaches such as One Health and nature-based solutions. It will provide a broad, global context for action on linking biodiversity and human health, particularly in the WHO European Region, and will explore forthcoming commitments, initiatives and implementation mechanisms, including the One Health approach. Experts and panellists who play crucial roles in national and international policy-making will have an opportunity to share their views, highlight key initiatives and best practices and announce their commitment to supporting follow-up actions.

*Introductory video*

*Video message from Jane Goodall, United Nations Messenger of Peace*

#### Chair

**Levente Körösi**, Head of the Biodiversity and Gene Conservation Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary

#### Moderator

**Arnold Kreilhuber**, Director, UNEP Europe

#### Part I: Challenges and policy approaches

##### Keynote speaker

**Benjamin Roche**, French National Research Institute for Development (IRD), France

##### Panelists

- **Zakia Khattabi**, Federal Minister of Climate, Environment, Sustainable Development and Green Deal, Belgium
- **Steffi Lemke**, Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection, Germany
- **Kubat Kaseiinov**, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision, Kyrgyzstan
- **Jihyun Lee**, Director, Science, Society and Sustainable Futures Division, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
- **Andrzej Ryś**, Principal Scientific Advisor, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), European Commission

#### Part II: Nature-related governance, data, science and innovation

##### Keynote speaker

**Stefano Ferretti**, Directorate of Earth Observation Programmes, European Space Agency (ESA)

##### Panelists

- **Agnès Firmin-Le Bodo**, Deputy Minister for Territorial Organization and the Health Professions, attached to the Minister for Health and Prevention, France
- **Moshe Bar Siman Tov**, Director-General, Ministry of Health, Israel
- **Signe Ratso**, Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD), European Commission
- **Stewart Maginnis**, Deputy Director-General, Programme, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Statements from the floor

*Healthy break*

6 July 2023



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6 July 2023

12:30–14:30	Lunch break
12:45–14:15	Ministerial lunch (by invitation) (Topic: Climate action for health: here and now)
13:00–14:15	<b>Parallel sessions – slot D</b> D1. The benefits of cycling for a healthy living environment and how to encourage cycling in various settings (English/Russian) D2. Addressing inequalities in environment and health (English/Russian) D3. Nature-based solutions to tackle the triple crisis and prevent and reverse the worst impacts on human health, well-being and our environment D4. Digital tools, data and research in action for health risk reduction and better air quality management D5. The contribution of pan-European research collaboration to evidence-based zero pollution and health policy
14:30–16:00	<b>Session 4</b> <b>Elevating health in climate change</b> The session will take stock of the latest developments in understanding the impact of climate change on health in the WHO European Region and will provide an opportunity to discuss the challenges ahead, but also, and most importantly, the opportunities for mitigation measures that manifest themselves as health co-benefits. The session will articulate the need for the health sector to “walk the talk” by assuming a strong leadership role in addressing the climate change–health nexus and recognizing its own role as a significant source of emissions. The session will highlight the benefits of striving for a sustainable and low-carbon service economy, while making investments that increase the sector’s climate-resilience and adaptive capacity, including by coordinating the development and implementation of national health adaptation plans and heat-health action plans.  <i>Introductory video</i>  <b>Chair</b> <b>Raquel Duarte-Davidson</b> , co-Chair of the EHTF, UK Health Security Agency, United Kingdom  <b>Moderator</b> <b>María Neira</b> , Director, Environment, Climate Change and Health, WHO  <b>Introduction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Sophie Gepp</b>, German Alliance on Climate Change and Health (KLUG), Germany</li><li>• <b>Enzo Lattuca</b>, Mayor of Cesena, Italy</li><li>• <b>İsmail Dok</b>, Medlife Medical Center Bodrum, Türkiye</li><li>• <b>Andy Haines</b>, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), United Kingdom</li></ul> <b>Panelists</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ernst Kuipers</b>, Minister of Health, Welfare and Sport, Kingdom of the Netherlands</li><li>• <b>Hildegarde Naughton</b>, Minister of State, Ireland</li><li>• <b>Nick Watts</b>, Chief Sustainability Officer, National Health Service, United Kingdom</li><li>• <b>Atageldi Germanov</b>, Minister of Health and Medical Industry, Turkmenistan</li><li>• <b>Zorica Krsmanović</b>, State Secretary, Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism, Montenegro</li><li>• <b>Kurt Vandenbergh</b>, Director-General, Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA), European Commission</li></ul> Video statement from <b>Johannes Rauch</b> , Federal Minister of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection, Austria  Statements from the floor  <i>Healthy break</i>



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16:00–16:30	Coffee break
16:30–17:00	<p><b>Launch of the EHP Partnerships</b></p> <p><b>Moderators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Francesca Racioppi</b>, Head of Office, WHO European Centre for Environment and Health</li> <li>• <b>Nino Berdzuli</b>, Director, Division of Country Health Programmes, WHO Regional Office for Europe</li> </ul> <p>Launch of the EHP Partnership on Human Biomonitoring in the WHO European Region (Georgia, Germany)            Launch of the EHP Partnership for Health Sector Climate Action (Ireland)            Launch of the extended THE PEP/EHP Partnership on Healthy Active Mobility (Austria, France, Netherlands (Kingdom of the))            Launch of the EHP Partnership on Youth (Slovenia)</p>
17:00–18:00	<p><b>Adoption of the Budapest Declaration on Environment and Health</b></p> <p><b>Chair</b>  <b>Brigit Staatsen</b>, Chair of the EHTF, RIVM, Kingdom of the Netherlands</p> <p><b>Speakers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Péter Takács</b>, State Secretary for Health, Ministry of Interior, Hungary</li> <li>• <b>Anikó Raisz</b>, State Secretary for Environment and Circular Economy, Ministry of Energy, Hungary</li> <li>• <b>Marco Keiner</b>, Director of Environment Division, UNECE</li> <li>• <b>Arnold Kreilhuber</b>, Director, UNEP Europe</li> <li>• <b>Hans Henri P. Kluge</b>, WHO Regional Director for Europe</li> </ul> <p><b>Presentation of the youth statement</b>  <b>António Marques Pinto</b>, European Environment and Health Youth Coalition (EEHYC)</p> <p><b>Presentation of Healthy Cities Network/Regions for Health Network statement</b>  <b>Miriam Weber</b>, Healthy Cities Network and <b>Ana Maria Carriazo</b>, Regions for Health Network</p> <p>Supportive statements from the floor</p> <p><b>Adoption of the Budapest Declaration</b></p> <p><i>Family photograph for all participants</i></p>
18:00–20:00	Transfers from Conference venue to hotels and to reception venue
20:00	<i>Evening reception hosted by the WHO Regional Director for Europe (Museum of Fine Arts)</i>





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### Friday, 7 July 2023 Enabling implementation

08:00–09:00 Transfers to Conference venue

08:00–12:00 Registration

09:00–10:30

#### **Session 5** **Promoting healthy and resilient settings**

This session aims to explore how sustainable, healthy and resilient environments can be established in local and institutional settings. Contributions will especially indicate how national and subnational policies and actions can support settings. Good practices to promote health at subnational level will be presented and discussed, including urban design that supports adequate environments, healthy lifestyles, low emissions, solutions to climate change adaptation and mitigation, active and safe transport and mobility, and the affordable and equitable provision of clean and sustainable basic services in institutional settings.

#### **Chair**

**Brigit Staatsen**, Chair of the EHTF, RIVM, Kingdom of the Netherlands

#### **Keynote speaker**

**Graham Alabaster**, Chief of Geneva Office, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

#### **Moderator**

**Katja Čič**, International Youth Health Organization (YHO)

#### **Panelists**

- **Erion Veliaj**, Mayor of Tirana, Albania
- **Chen Arieli**, Deputy Mayor of Tel Aviv, Israel
- **Vesna Turkulov**, State Secretary for Health, Ministry of Health, Republic of Serbia
- **Jorge del Diego Salas**, Director General, Public Health and Pharmaceutical Management, Regional Government of Andalusia, Spain
- **Lucy Saunders**, Director, Healthy Streets Ltd, United Kingdom
- **Anna Páldy**, Senior Expert, National Public Health Center, Hungary

Statements from the floor

*Healthy break*

10:30–11:00

*Coffee break*



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11:00–12:30

### Session 6

#### Strengthening governance, knowledge and competencies for health and environment

The session will reflect on the need for a fundamental shift in environment and health policies towards a more holistic cross-sectoral approach. This means breaking down traditional barriers and silos between the two sectors and implementing institutional reforms and mechanisms that enable governments to address complex, interrelated issues related to the environment, climate, nature and health. The session will focus on enabling factors such as developing or expanding professional capacities, introducing new professional profiles in education programmes, advancing research and innovation, and fostering new leadership within the institutions responsible for health.

#### Chair

**Tamás Pándics**, Head of Department, National Public Health Centre, Budapest

#### Keynote speaker

**Karin Pittel**, Director of the ifo Center for Energy, Climate, and Resources, Munich, German Advisory Council on Global Change (WBGU), Germany

#### Moderator

**Brigit Staatsen**, Chair of the EHTF, RIVM, Kingdom of the Netherlands

#### Panelists

- **Dirk Ramaekers**, President of the Executive Committee of the Federal Public Service of Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment, Belgium
- **Robert Barouki**, co-leader of the Health and Environment Research Agenda (HERA) project; Unit Director of the National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM) Unit T3S – Environmental Toxicity, Therapeutic Targets, Cellular Signalling and Biomarkers, Université Paris Cité, France
- **Sumina Azam**, National Director of Policy and International Health, Public Health Wales, United Kingdom
- **Sébastien Denys**, Chair of the International Association of National Public Health Institutions (IANPHI) Committee on Climate Change and Public Health, and Director, Environmental and Occupational Health Department, Santé Publique, France
- **Daniel Dirul**, Regional Director for Europe, International Federation of Medical Student Associations (IFMSA) Denmark – Youth representative
- **Silvio Brusafferro**, President of National Institute for Health (ISS), and **Luca Lucentini**, Director of the National Center for Water Safety, ISS, Italy
- **Maral Taulesovna Rakhimzhanova**, Deputy Chairman of the Sanitary and Epidemiological Control Committee of the Ministry of Health, Kazakhstan

*Healthy break*

7 July 2023



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12:30–13:30

### Session 7

#### Acting in partnership

The session will focus on enhancing collaboration and partnership among stakeholders, including governmental authorities, United Nations agencies, civil society and academia. Stakeholders will bring their knowledge, strength, expertise and resources to address complex challenges and implement the commitments made in this Conference. The session aims to inspire common actions and identify synergies for cooperation to achieve common goals, by sharing successful partnership models, best practices and knowledge.

#### Chair

**Raquel Duarte-Davidson**, co-Chair of the EHTF, UK Health Security Agency, United Kingdom

#### Moderator

**Marco Keiner**, Director of Environment Division, UNECE

#### Panelists

- **Márta Vargha**, Chair of the Protocol on Water and Health, Hungary
- **Robert Thaler**, member of the Bureau, Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP), Austria
- **Wondwosen Asnake Kibret**, Policy and Partnerships Coordinator, UNEP
- **Miriam Weber**, Senior Policy Advisor, Healthy Cities Network, Utrecht, Kingdom of the Netherlands
- **Martin Adams**, Head of Programme, European Environment Agency (EEA)
- **Katalin Tarr**, Policy Officer, Clean Air Action Group Hungary, Ecoforum
- **António Marques Pinto**, International Representative of the EEHYC, and **Francesca Zanni**, President, European Network of Medical Residents in Public Health (EuroNet MRPH)

13:30–14:00

#### Closing session

- **Péter Takács**, State Secretary for Health, Ministry of Interior, Hungary
- **Anikó Raisz**, State Secretary for Environment and Circular Economy, Ministry of Energy, Hungary
- **Brigit Staatsen**, Chair of the EHTF, RIVM, Kingdom of the Netherlands
- **Marco Keiner**, Director of Environment Division, UNECE
- **Arnold Kreilhuber**, Director, UNEP Europe
- **Hans Henri P. Kluge**, WHO Regional Director for Europe

*Closing video*

14:00–15:00

*Farewell lunch*

15:45–18:00

Technical site visits/excursions

15:00–19:00

Transfers from Conference venue to hotels and airport

7 July 2023