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# WHO Global Action Plan on Climate Change and Health

Member State Briefing

11 July 2024

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# Background

The climate crisis is a health crisis.

Current trends suggest that the 1.5°C limit – as set in the Paris Agreement - may be exceeded as early as in the 2030s.

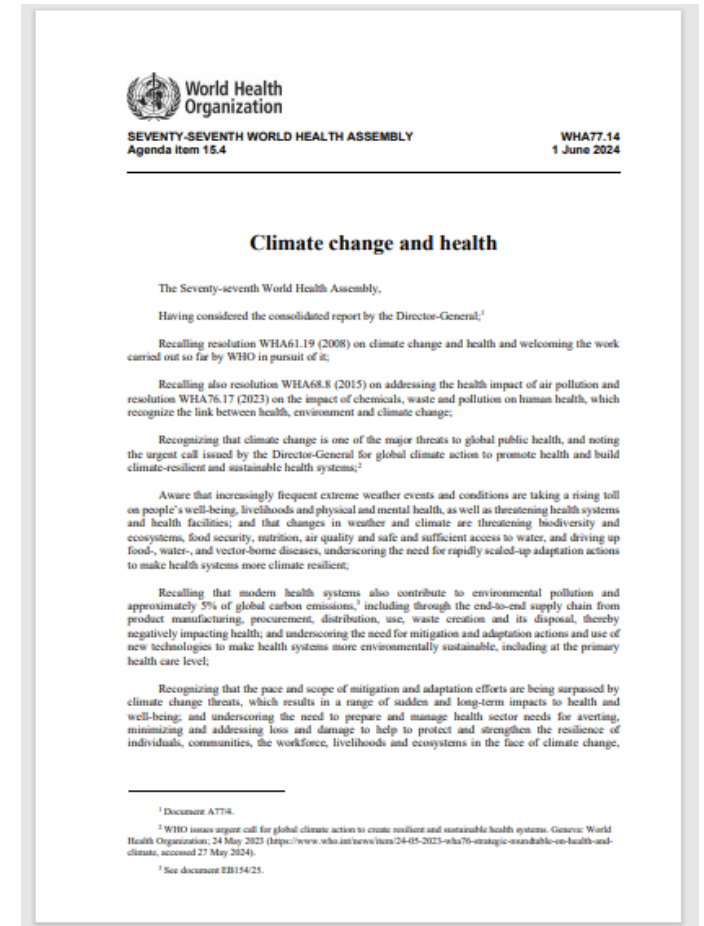
The 77th World Health Assembly, held in May 2024, adopted the [WHA77.14 Resolution](#) on Climate Change and Health, calling Member States to scale up their response to climate change.

The Resolution calls for the development of a “global WHO plan of action on climate change and health”.

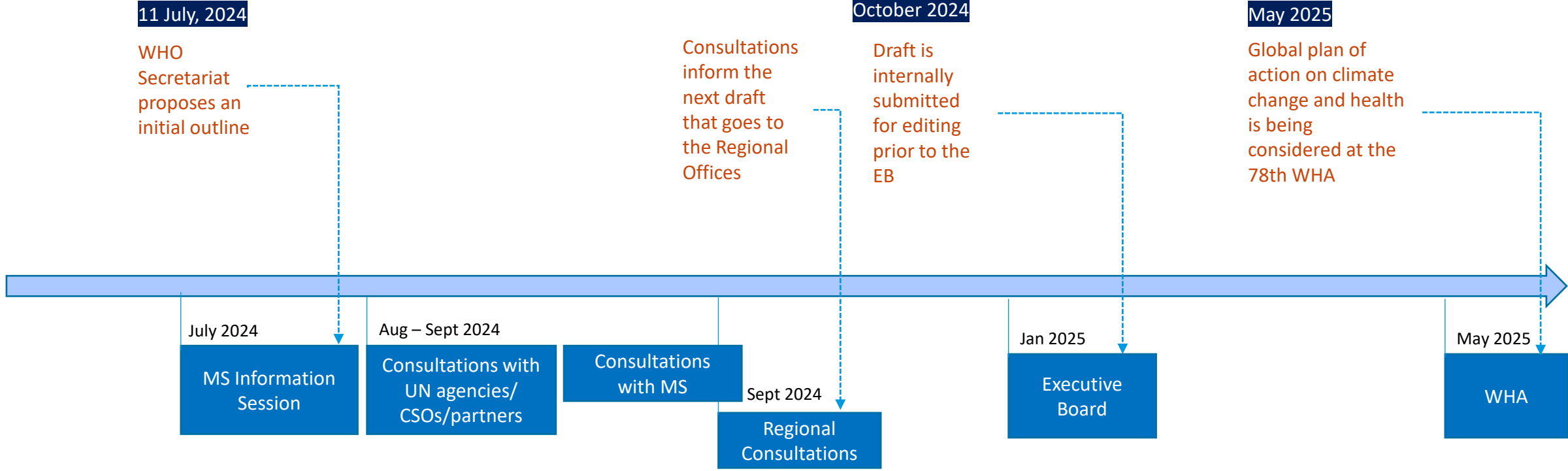
# Considerations for the Global Plan of Action

The Resolution foresees that the Plan of Action on Climate Change and Health is:

- Results-based, needs-oriented and capabilities-driven
- Within existing resources, as feasible
- Coherent with the text of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement
- Firmly integrating climate across the technical work of the WHO at all three levels of the Organization
- Emphasizing the need for cross-sectoral cooperation, as appropriate



# Proposed consultative process



# Structure (Illustrative)

## STRATEGIC AREA I

### Objective 1

Proposed actions for Member States

1. ...
2. ...

Proposed actions for WHO Secretariat

1. ...
2. ...

Proposed actions for stakeholders / partners:

1. ...
2. ...

### Objective 2

Proposed actions for Member States

1. ...
2. ...

Proposed actions for WHO Secretariat

1. ...
2. ...

Proposed actions for stakeholders / partners:

1. ...
2. ...

## STRATEGIC AREA II

### Objective 1

Proposed actions for MS, WHO, Stakeholders

### Objective 2

Proposed actions for MS, WHO, Stakeholders, etc.

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# Proposed strategic areas



Leadership & Coordination



Country-level action &  
Capacity building



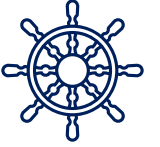
Partnerships & Advocacy



Evidence & Monitoring

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# Leadership and Coordination



Overarching goal:

**- Health prioritized in national and international climate policy**

Exemplar actions/objectives:

- Fostering integrated and coherent actions on climate change and health at national and global levels;
- Promoting the inclusion of health and health co-benefits in the national and global climate agenda;
- Leading by example, incl. by establishing a WHO Roadmap to Net Zero by 2030.

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# Country-level action and capacity building



Overarching goals:

- **Increased action on climate change adaptation & mitigation that maximizes health benefits;**
- **Establishing health systems that are climate resilient, low-carbon and environmentally sustainable.**

Exemplar actions/objectives:

- Implementing interventions for health systems to respond to and prepare for a rapidly changing climate, including via the WHO-led Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health (ATACH);
- Increasing the access to climate finance for health;
- Integration of health in national climate plans and strategies, including the health components of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), healthy Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Long-term Low-Emissions Development Strategies (LT-LEDS);
- Develop climate-informed public health programmes which protect populations from climate-sensitive health risks;
- Capacity-building of health professionals and providing training to health professionals on the interlinkages between climate change and health.



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# Partnerships and Advocacy



Overarching goal:

- **Health community empowered, informed and effectively engaged to support climate action.**

Exemplar actions/objectives:

- Raising awareness on climate risks to health through effective communications;
- Promoting representation of health actors in climate national and global fora;
- Strengthening collaborations and emphasizing the interlinkages between health and other sectors and the need for cross-sectoral cooperation.

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# Evidence and Monitoring



Overarching goal:

**- Robust, relevant evidence base available and connected directly to policy, implementation, and monitoring.**

Exemplar actions/objectives:

- Strengthening the knowledge and evidence base through conducting research and collecting evidence on the interconnections between climate change, climate action and health;
- Monitoring progress towards national and global targets;
- Shaping the global research agenda.

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# Example

Global target: **Establishing health systems that are climate resilient, low-carbon and environmentally sustainable.**

Objective: Lower-carbon health systems and societies are contributing to health and wellbeing.

Proposed actions for Member States:

- Promotion of a comprehensive approach to minimize carbon emissions from health systems, while also reinforcing UHC and health resilience to climate risks;
- Addressing the triple planetary crisis, including climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss;
- Provision of climate resilient diets (healthy and sustainable) in health facilities.

Proposed actions for WHO Secretariat:

- Development of norms, standards, policy guidance and builds capacity in countries to reduce carbon emissions from the health sector, and engage other sectors (such as food, transport, energy) impacting health to reduce their emissions;
- Technical, capacity building and implementation support for MS to implement WHO's Operational Framework for Building Climate Resilient and Low Carbon Environmentally Sustainable Health Systems.

Proposed actions for stakeholders:

- Implementation support and access to finance to provide renewable energy, WASH, waste management and climate resilience in healthcare facilities in LMICs.

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# Coordination, monitoring and evaluation

Internally across three levels of WHO - through a dedicated Climate Change and Health Steering Group (CCHSG), meet on a quarterly basis

On a global level, WHO Director-General will call for regular meeting of the heads of the leading international health agencies

## **Reporting on global progress**

In line with Resolution WHA77.14 - to the World Health Assembly in 2025, 2027 and 2029.

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# Discussion