## **WELCOME MESSAGE 2023**

WORLD HEALTH SUMMIT PRESIDENTS





## WELCOME TO THE WORLD HEALTH SUMMIT 2023

2023 is really a "A Defining Year For Global Health Action" according to the motto of this year's World Health Summit! Coming out of the COVID pandemic, we face a world, which is somewhat tired of health crises and wants to look into other areas of life. Furthermore, very serious developments, like the brutal attack on Ukraine require attention up to the highest level of international politics. At the same time, natural disasters like the earthquake in Morocco and floods in Pakistan or Libya, and other climate change impacts confront global health systems.

We cannot turn our eyes away from the challenges we face in striving for better health everywhere on the world and in reacting to the increasing health threats due the climate crises and our impact on living conditions for humans, animals and plants.

These challenges can only be addressed by stepping up our multi-national and multi-stakeholder cooperation. The celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday of the World Health Organization this year, and the 15<sup>th</sup> year of the World Health Summit in 2023 are not so much a look back to their achievements in the past, but an opportunity to start a new era of strengthening multi-national efforts for universal health coverage and health for all.

2023 is the year of many high-level events of major relevance for global health and its future directions taking place. At the opening ceremony of the World Health Summit, in many focused events and during the outlook session on the last day of the WHS 2023, ministers and high-level speakers from academia, the private sector, and civil society will assess the actual status of programs and present their visions to strengthening global health. A focus will be on the outcomes of international key meetings and initiatives – for example the WHO World Health Assembly, G7, G20 and BRICS meetings, several high-level meetings at the United Nations General Assembly, critical regional events, and important summits on financing. The central question 'how to advance health equity' will guide us throughout the program.

At the World Health Summit, speakers and participants from countries all over the world, from all sectors of society, and all relevant actors in the health domain will have an opportunity to liaise, discuss, debate and join ideas and initiatives for a healthier future.

We hope that you will find the World Health Summit 2023 fruitful and we will do everything to ensure that you will also find it joyful!

Yours truly,

Axel Radlach Pries

World Health Summit President Adnan A. Hyder
International President
2023