



WORLD
HEALTH
SUMMIT

OCTOBER 13–15, 2024
BERLIN, GERMANY
& DIGITAL

EMBARGOED until Monday, October 14, 2024, 7:15 PM CEST

World Health Summit 2024: One billion US Dollars for WHO

Germany, the EU, numerous European countries, non-profit organizations and companies are pledging for global health

Berlin, October 14, 2024

At the largest donor event to date for the WHO Investment Round on Monday evening at the World Health Summit, pledges totalling 700 million US Dollars were made. This is in addition to 300 million US Dollars from the European Union, as well as the African Union, which had already been pledged in advance, bringing the total pledged amount to 1 billion US Dollars.

The pledging event “All for Health, Health for All: Signature Event for the WHO Investment Round” as part of the WHS 2024 in Berlin was attended by high-level speakers such as Federal Chancellor Olaf Scholz, the Chair of the Gates Foundation, Bill Gates, and Director-General of the WHO, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. The event was opened by the three health ministers of the co-hosts Germany, France and Norway. Also present were the Prime Minister of Montenegro, government representatives from Greece, the Netherlands and Finland, as well as CEOs from non-profit organizations and the private sector. Among others, President of the EU Commission, Ursula von der Leyen and the Prime Ministers of Norway and Estonia took part via video.

A full list of the evening's speakers can be found [here](#).

The WHO Investment Round is intended to help WHO fulfill its “Health for All” mandate. With the funds raised through this new financing instrument, WHO aims to prevent 40 million avoidable deaths caused by diseases over the next four years.

In his speech, Federal Chancellor Olaf Scholz emphasized the importance of WHO: “The WHO’s work benefits us all. What it needs for this work is sustainable financing that gives it the certainty to plan ahead and the flexibility to react.”

Bill Gates underlined the importance of financing global health in order to achieve a healthier future for all: “Global challenges require global solutions.” Resources must be pooled, and cross-sector and cross-national expertise brought together. The Gates Foundation has supported global health institutions from the very beginning. Gates continued: “I think this is the best money I've ever spent. And I believe that the citizens of all donor countries should feel the same way.”

The CEO of the Wellcome Trust, a charitable foundation focused on health research, John-Arne Røttingen, emphasized the importance of strong multilateral agencies for cooperation between countries: “Now more than ever, the challenges any country faces are shared, often not only with neighbors but across regions or around the world.”

“The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated that when health is at risk, everything is at risk,” said Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. “Investments in WHO are therefore



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investments not only in protecting and promoting health, but also in more equitable, more stable and more secure societies and economies."

The President of the World Health Summit, Axel R. Pries stressed that the event would send a powerful signal of trust in multilateral cooperation: "WHO is the most important global health institution for all of us – it requires stable and adequate financing. The World Health Summit is proud to contribute by staging the WHO Investment Round."

At the World Health Summit 2024 under the motto "Building Trust for a Healthier World" over 3,500 participants and speakers from science, business, politics, civil society and international organizations from all over the world are on-site. On the third and final day, tomorrow, Tuesday, October 15, the focus will be on topics such as Mpox, and health in the context of climate change. [More Information](#)

Please also note the following event:

4:00 PM: Global Health 2050: The Lancet Commission on Investing in Health 3.0.

Infos: www.conference.worldhealthsummit.org/Program/Session/WHS2024/KEY-04

The main program of the World Health Summit 2024 is open to the press.

The program is freely available live online at www.worldhealthsummit.org. The recordings of the sessions will then be available at www.youtube.com/worldhealthsummit. Video and audio material can be used upon request. Source: World Health Summit

Press Kit:

www.worldhealthsummit.org/media/presskit.html

The World Health Summit is the international platform for global health. It brings together stakeholders from politics, science, the private sector, and civil society from around the world to set the agenda for a healthier future and well-being for all. The World Health Summit strengthens exchange, stimulates innovative solutions to health challenges, fosters global health as a key political issue, and promotes the global health debate in the spirit of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The World Health Summit as a conference and strategic forum takes place every year in October in Berlin.

World Health Summit 2024

October 13–15

JW Marriott Hotel Berlin

Stauffenbergstraße 26, 10785 Berlin

www.worldhealthsummit.org



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