



**World Health  
Organization**

# 4<sup>th</sup> WHO Forum on Alcohol, Drugs and Addictive Behaviours

Taking stock of the past and looking into the future: focusing on tasks,  
challenges and opportunities ahead

## Provisional programme of work

**Location: WHO Headquarters, Avenue Appia 20, Geneva, Switzerland**

Time	Tuesday, 27 June 2023	Venue
8:30-9:00	Registration and collection of meeting badges/WHO grounds pass	WHO reception
<b>High-level segment</b>		
9:00-9:45	<b>Welcome and opening remarks from the WHO Secretariat</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Opening address (video message) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Welcoming address from the WHO Secretariat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jérôme Salomon, Assistant Director-General, Universal Health Coverage/Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases (UCN)</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Interventions from special guests of the Forum</li> </ul>	Z3
9:45-11:00	<b>Public health dimensions of alcohol, drug use and addictive behaviours: taking stock of the past and looking into the future</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Presentation from the WHO Secretariat</li> <li>➤ Interventions from representatives of Member States</li> <li>➤ Interventions from representatives of UN entities and intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and professional associations</li> </ul>	Z3
11:00-11:30	Coffee/tea break	
11:00-13:00	<b>Public health dimensions of alcohol, drug use and addictive behaviours: taking stock of the past and looking into the future (continued)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Interventions from intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations and professional associations</li> </ul>	Z3
13:00-14:00	Lunch break	
14:00-15:30	<b>Policy frameworks and action plans to address the public health dimensions of alcohol, drugs and addictive behaviours</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Global alcohol action plan 2022-2030 and SAFER Initiative</li> <li>➤ International commitments to address the world drug problem</li> <li>➤ International efforts to reduce harm due to addictive behaviours</li> </ul>	Z3
15:30-16:00	Coffee/tea break	
16:00-17:30	<b>Cross-border and digital marketing of alcoholic beverages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Alcohol marketing practices: a global overview</li> <li>➤ Experiences from countries</li> <li>➤ Reflections from Civil Society</li> <li>➤ Cross-border marketing report from WHO</li> <li>➤ Digital marketing of alcohol in Europe</li> <li>➤ Restricting digital marketing across risk factors: existing approaches and policy options</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Z3
16:00-17:30	<b>Prevention and management of opioid overdose and opioid use disorders</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Addressing drug overdose challenges by drug demand reduction efforts</li> <li>➤ WHO/UNODC Stop Overdose Safely initiative: lessons learned and plans ahead</li> </ul>	Z1

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The impact of the WHO/UNODC S-O-S training package on opioid overdose response knowledge and attitudes</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	
16:00-17:30	<b>Health consequences of addictive behaviours</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Health consequences of gambling and gambling disorder: (preliminary) results of a systematic review</li> <li>➤ Gaming impacts on health and WHO-led activities to address them</li> <li>➤ Gambling and suicidality</li> <li>➤ “Gambling Addiction - I was at the very edge. What zero limits means to me now”</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Z2
18:00-19:30	<b>Networking reception</b>	WHO Main Cafeteria

Time	Wednesday, 28 June 2023	Venue
9:00-10:30	<b>Plenary session 1. Substance use and development: progress towards the achievement of SDG health target 3.5 on strengthening prevention and treatment of substance abuse</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Alcohol consumption and alcohol-attributable disease burden: are we on track for achieving global targets?</li> <li>➤ Addressing prevention of drug use and treatment of drug use disorders through interagency collaboration</li> <li>➤ Treatment coverage and service capacity for substance use disorders</li> <li>➤ Substance use and development: looking into the future</li> <li>➤ Q&amp;A</li> </ul>	Z3
10:30-11:00	Coffee/tea break	
11:00-13:00	<b>Impact of alcohol use on population health: at the intersection of science and policy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Alcohol use and cardiovascular diseases</li> <li>➤ Alcohol use and cancers: an update</li> <li>➤ Implications of alcohol-cancer relationships for communication on alcohol and health</li> <li>➤ Understanding alcohol's harm to others: leveraging policy to reduce interpersonal violence and harm</li> <li>➤ Panel discussion: Controversies around harms and benefits of alcohol use</li> </ul>	Z3
11:00-13:00	<b>Health and social effects of non-medical cannabis use</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Overview of short- and long-term health consequences of non-medical cannabis use</li> <li>➤ Health and social consequences of cannabis use following regulatory changes</li> <li>➤ Cannabis and other drug use in countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Room V
11:00-13:00	<b>Public health dimensions of online and cross-border marketing of gambling and (video)gaming</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Expansion of online gambling and its public health implications</li> <li>➤ Online gaming and its public health implications</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Room U1

Time	Wednesday, 28 June 2023 (continued)	Venue
13:00-14:00	Lunch break	
14:00-15:30	<b>Plenary session 2. Commercial determinants of substance use and addictive behaviours and implications for public health policies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ WHO programme on the economic and commercial determinants of health</li> <li>➤ The alcohol industry as a commercial determinant of health: implications of roles and responsibilities as defined in the Global alcohol action plan 2022-2030</li> </ul>	Z3

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Commercial determinants of gambling harms</li> <li>➤ Q&amp;A</li> </ul>	
15:30-16:00	Coffee/tea break	
16:00-17:30	<b>Ways to increase coverage and strengthen implementation of effective policies to reduce alcohol-related harm</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ways to increase coverage and strengthen implementation of effective policies to reduce alcohol-related harm: results of evidence review</li> <li>➤ Panel discussion</li> </ul>	Z3
16:00-17:30	<b>Health and social burden due to drug use: current estimates, challenges and the future</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ World Drug Report 2023: key findings and conclusions</li> <li>➤ Disease burden associated with injection drug use</li> <li>➤ WHO estimates of drug-attributable disease burden</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Room V
16:00-17:30	<b>Monitoring and surveillance of addictive behaviours, related harm and policy responses in populations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Global review of gambling legislation</li> <li>➤ What is monitored and what needs to be monitored</li> <li>➤ Monitoring addictive behaviours and policy responses in the WHO global survey on progress with attainment of SDG health target 3.5</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Room U1
Time	Thursday, 29 June 2023	Venue
9:00-10:30	<b>Plenary session 3. Research and practice in the provision of treatment for disorders due to substance use or addictive behaviours</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Research on treatment development and implementation for substance use disorders</li> <li>➤ Recent developments in management of substance use disorders in China</li> <li>➤ Policy and practice challenges in addressing gaming disorder in Indonesia</li> <li>➤ Q&amp;A</li> </ul>	Z3
10:30-11:00	Coffee/tea break	
11:00-12:30	<b>Alcohol use and alcohol use disorders: identification, diagnosis, brief interventions and treatment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Treatment Coverage for Men with Alcohol Use Disorders in Three Regions in South Africa: Findings from Household Survey</li> <li>➤ The Outcome Reporting in Alcohol Brief Intervention Trials (ORBITAL) core outcome set: Global consensus on key outcomes in efficacy and effectiveness trials of alcohol brief interventions</li> <li>➤ Diagnosis of disorders due to alcohol use in ICD-11</li> <li>➤ Organization of treatment and care for alcohol use disorders in low-and middle-income countries: case of Zimbabwe</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Z3
11:00-12:30	<b>Public health policies regulating cannabis and cannabis-based products</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence recommendations on international regulations for cannabis and cannabis-based products</li> <li>➤ Expanding and improving public health regulations of cannabis: a cross-national approach</li> <li>➤ Essential strategies and interventions to prevent cannabis-related harm in regulations of cannabis-based products</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Room V
11:00-12:30	<b>Identification, diagnosis and management of disorders due to addictive behaviours</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Diagnostic guidance and instruments for ICD-11 gaming disorder</li> <li>➤ Loss of control: a key diagnostic feature of gaming disorder</li> <li>➤ Making Change: a Canadian population perspective on treatment-seeking and self-directed change in addictive behaviours</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Room U1

12:30-14:00	Lunch break	
14:00-15:30	<b>Plenary session 4. Comorbidities: implications for public health and health service responses</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Addressing comorbidities in developing and delivering a new drug strategy: from harm to hope</li> <li>➤ Gaming disorder and comorbid neurodevelopmental disorders</li> <li>➤ Evidence on psychiatric and somatic comorbidity in people with substance use disorders based on national health registers</li> <li>➤ Addressing comorbidities in the ICD-11</li> <li>➤ Q&amp;A</li> </ul>	Z3
15:30-16:00	Coffee/tea break	
16:00-17:30	<b>Monitoring progress with achievement of global targets on reducing the harmful use of alcohol</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Latest estimates of alcohol per capita consumption and news from the Global Information System on Alcohol and Health (GISAH)</li> <li>➤ Global trends in alcohol policy development based on WHO data</li> <li>➤ Challenges in estimation of alcohol per capita consumption and potential solutions</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Z3
16:00-17:30	<b>Pharmacotherapy of drug use disorders: process and outcome evaluation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Evaluation of treatment for substance use disorders</li> <li>➤ Process and outcome evaluation of treatment of opioid dependence with long-acting buprenorphine formulations</li> <li>➤ Process and outcome evaluation in pharmacological trials</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Room V
16:00-17:30	<b>Public health policies regulating addictive behaviours</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Regulatory measures for preventing harms due to gambling</li> <li>➤ Regulatory measure for preventing harms from gaming</li> <li>➤ Challenges in implementation of regulatory measures</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Room U1
<b>Time</b>	<b>Friday, 30 June 2023</b>	<b>Venue</b>
<b>Special initiatives and meetings of interest groups (lunch break 13:00-14:00)</b>		
9:00-15:30	<b>Alcohol: SAFER Initiative on alcohol and its implementation at country level (see Annex 1)</b>	Z3
9:00-11:00	<b>Digital transformation in prevention and treatment of disorders due to substance use and addictive behaviours</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Computer-based interventions for mental health conditions</li> <li>➤ Computer-based interventions for substance use and addictive behaviours</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Room D23016 (Building D/UNAIDS/)
9:00-11:00	<b>Extended-release formulations in treatment of opioid dependence: focus on treatment protocols</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Protocols of initiation of treatment with long-acting buprenorphine</li> <li>➤ Experiences of delivering treatment with extended-release formulations</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Room U1
11:00-11:30	Coffee/tea break	
11:30-15:30	<b>Health workforce development (substance use and addictive behaviours)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ongoing workforce development projects in WHO</li> <li>➤ Ongoing workforce development projects for substance use and addictive behaviours in partner organizations</li> <li>➤ Review of competencies for health professionals in addiction medicine</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Room U1

11:30-15:30	<b>Diagnostic instruments for disorders due to addictive behaviours</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Current stage of the work on diagnostic instrument for gaming disorder</li> <li>➤ Further work on diagnostic and screening instruments</li> <li>➤ Discussion</li> </ul>	Room D23016 (Building D/UNAIDS/)
15:30-16:00	Coffee/tea break	
16:00-16:45	<b>Plenary session 5.</b> Evaluation. Closure of the 4 <sup>th</sup> FADAB	Z3

### SAFER Initiative on alcohol and its implementation at country level

#### Provisional programme of work

Time	Friday, 30 June 2023	Venue
9:00-09:10	<b>Opening of the “SAFER Day”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Welcoming remarks</li></ul>	Z3
09:10-09:45	<b>Introduction to the “SAFER Day”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ The SAFER initiative</li><li>➤ The SAFER technical package: an introduction</li><li>➤ The SAFER technical package: Investing in reducing alcohol harms</li><li>➤ Moderated discussions</li></ul>	
9:30-11:00	<b>Spotlight on countries</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ SAFER in action: In-depth country work<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ SAFER Uganda</li><li>○ SAFER Nepal</li><li>○ Subnational SAFER in Thailand</li></ul></li><li>➤ Moderated discussion</li></ul>	Z3
11:00-11:30	Coffee/tea break	
11:30-13:00	<b>Spotlight on protecting policy processes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ The SAFER technical package: Conflict of interest</li><li>➤ Lessons and challenges from Europe</li><li>➤ Lessons learned from International alcohol control study</li><li>➤ Panel with stakeholders</li><li>➤ Moderated discussions</li></ul>	Z3
13:00-14:00	Lunch break	
14:00-15:20	<b>Spotlight on SAFER regional and global partnerships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ SAFER in action: Inter-country learning for implementing high-impact interventions</li><li>➤ Other global and regional initiatives and entities working with countries<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ RESET</li><li>○ How to strengthen global and regional collaboration to implement high-impact interventions</li></ul></li><li>➤ Moderated discussions</li></ul>	Z3
15:20-15:30	<b>Closure of the “SAFER Day”</b>	Z3