



## PRE-LAUNCH OF THE WORLD REHABILITATION ALLIANCE

13 September 2022

14:00-15:00 CET

### CONCEPT NOTE

#### Background

Globally, an estimated 2.4 billion people live with a health condition that could benefit from rehabilitation. Despite this, the need for rehabilitation continues to go unmet in many countries. In some low- and middle-income countries, more than 50% of people who require rehabilitation do not access the services they need.

Health systems globally need to be strengthened to provide rehabilitation services so that existing rehabilitation needs are met, and future needs are anticipated by a responsive health system. However, despite the need for rehabilitation being high, the demand for rehabilitation remains low. Advocacy is a key strategy to catalyse health system strengthening efforts, through raising awareness about rehabilitation amongst decision-makers, increasing the demand for rehabilitation, and in turn generating action at all levels of the health system.

The World Rehabilitation Alliance (WRA) was launched in May 2022 with objectives to conduct evidence-based advocacy activities that increase the awareness and demand for rehabilitation, networking and knowledge-sharing, and for creating a shared understanding and narrative around rehabilitation.

The WRA is a WHO global network of stakeholders whose mission is to support the implementation of the Rehabilitation 2030 Initiative through advocacy activities. Its focus will be promoting rehabilitation as an essential health service that is integral to Universal Health Coverage and to the realization of Sustainable Development Goal 3: *Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages*. The advocacy activities of the WRA will be implemented through different workstreams, each focussing on a different theme or topic. The workstreams and their corresponding workplans will be defined through a collaborative process that involves input from the WRA Steering Committee, members and WHO Secretariat as well as the members of the Workstreams.

In preparation for the commencement of advocacy activities of the WRA, WHO will be hosting a pre-launch event with the following objectives:

**Objectives**

1. Introduce the WRA, highlighting its necessity and benefits.
2. Announce the WRA Steering Committee members.
3. Introduce the 5 WRA workstreams.

**Participants**

The Pre-Launch of the WRA will bring together representatives from Member States and State Bodies, intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations (such as professional, condition-specific and development organizations), the private sector including international business associations, philanthropic foundations, and academic institutions.

**Date**

13 September 2022, 14:00-15:00 CET

**Venue**

Online

**Language**

The event will be conducted in English. Closed captioning will be available.