

# WHO's Organizational Approaches and Policies for Multi-sectoral Engagement



World Health  
Organization



## Enhancing multisectoral engagement based on the Framework of engagement with non-State actors FENSA

Dr Gaudenz Silberschmidt, November 15, 2018

# Who is WHO?



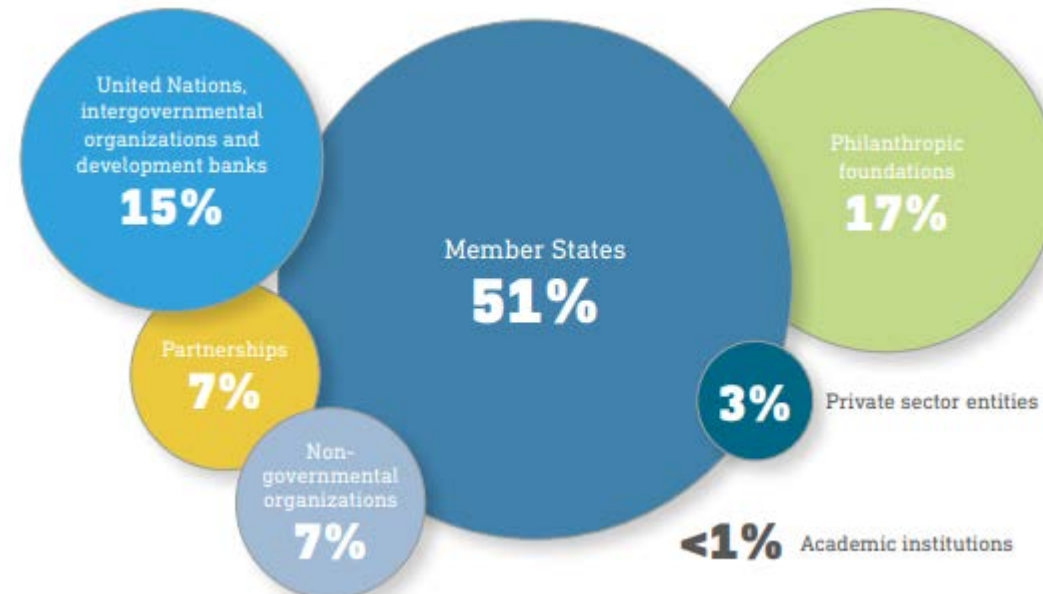
- Intergovernmental organization of 194 Member States
- Based on a visionary constitution from 1946
- World Health Assembly, Executive Board, Secretariat: Director General Dr Tedros, HQ Geneva, 6 regional offices, 151 country offices, 7500 staff
- Normative, technical support and operative (especially emergency response)
- Annual budget USD 2.5 billion (DC budget for health: 3.7 billion; CDC budget: 11.1 billion)

# Partnerships and non-State actors engagement

- WHO engaging heavily with non-State actors since its creation
- Joint programs (tropical disease research TDR, UNAIDS, Global Polio Eradication Initiative, etc.)
- Incubator of partnerships (GFATM, GAVI, RBM, StopTB, etc.)
- Hosted partnerships  
(UNITAID (innovative financing for innovation), PMNCH (>700 non-State actors), etc.)
- Member of >100 partnerships and collaborative arrangements
- > 700 WHO Collaboration Centres
- 214 non-State actors in official relations
- Thousands of individual engagements

# Examples

- In 2017 >1.5 billion tablets (19000 tons) of essential medicines donated by 11 pharmaceutical companies through WHO to control, eliminate and eradicate neglected tropical diseases
- Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP) Framework
- Meningitis Vaccine Project (WHO & PATH, funded by BMGF, produced by Serum Institute of India)
- WHO Revenue of voluntary contributions by source 2016-2017



# WHO's engagement with non-State actors

- WHO interacts with Governments, Intergovernmental organizations, partnerships, non-State actors and individuals
- Engagement with non-State actors is key to WHO's work and has been challenging throughout WHO's history
- Framework of Engagement with non-State actors (FENSA) adopted by WHA 69.10 in 2016 (after 200 hours of intergovernmental negotiations)
  - Moving from stronger engagement OR better protection from undue influence to stronger engagement AND better protection
  - Provides overarching framework and four specific policies for each group of non-State actors (NGO's, private sector entities, philanthropic foundations and academic institutions)
  - Enhanced transparency through Register of non-State actors

## Benefits

## and

## Challenges

- Approved by consensus
  - Member States approved engagement policy recognizing the need to balance stronger engagement and better protection from undue influence.
  - Strengthens policy clarity and process for accountability and transparency
  - FENSA does not define level of risk-appetite
  - Has facilitated other WHO negotiations were the reference to FENSA allowed to move forward
- Controversies amongst Member States remain
  - Detailed provisions in FENSA as defined by Member States
  - Danger of focusing on rules without encouraging more engagement can further reinforce risk averse tendencies in WHO
  - Will be complemented by a strategic approach to strengthen partnership
  - Easy scapegoat for inherent challenges of conflict of interest management of normative agency



## Way forward

### **Focus of General Programme of Work 13 (2019-2023):**

- Achieving impact for people at country level
- Measure impact
- Stepping up leadership
- Transform approach to resource mobilization and partnership
- Focusing global public goods on impact

### **Dr Tedros is committed to significantly strengthen engagement and partnership with non-State actors:**

- Work with digital and other industries (Fitness App and beyond)
- Dialogue with CEOs
- CSO Task Team

**WHO can only accomplish the ambitious goals of GPW 13**



**with partners from all sectors including civil society and the private sector.**

## **Our goals**

- Promote health
- Keep the world safe
- Serve the vulnerable

