55th CPD Virtual Side Event

Sponsor: Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC)

26 April 2022, 13.15 to 14.30 EDT (New York Time)

Global Science & Technology Cooperation – Our Initiatives

<u>Concept Note</u>

Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC) has a unique role to play in strengthening the health and educational systems, in rich and poor countries alike. Technology and innovation in learning are creating exciting new opportunities to accelerate progress towards health-for-all in every country. In 21st century, information and communication technologies have become key enablers in every facet of human activity. We are in the midst of a digital proliferation around the globe which is allowing us to be more connected and with greater access to data than ever before. As a result, mobile health – the use of mobile and wireless communication and devices for providing healthcare services or achieving health outcomes – is at a significant tipping point.

Imagine students in developing and developed countries simultaneously reviewing the same medical education and learning from each other. That is e-learning at its best in an Internet Classroom, and with this goal Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC) and the Department of Public information of the United Nations (UN) had launched http://www.WomensHealthSection.com on 24 October 2002. All over the world we all provide care to a multicultural society. By interacting with different cultures, we will be able to understand different customs, cultures and faiths, and learn to respect – THE DIVERSITY.

The objective of this Side Event is to share the experiences of various technological solutions in improving the accessibility of health services and education, as well as to learn from the experts how to best apply technology in the learning process. It is the poor and marginalized in our society and in our world, that have the most to gain from advances in healthcare, e-Health and online education; sadly – at this point, they are often the groups, who benefit the least.

Government commitment is necessary – long-term government commitment based on a strategic plan is a pre-requisite for the successful implementation, of Internet Classrooms in Health and Education, in every country – rich and poor alike. This commitment may be in the form of:

1. A long-term plan that is binding on all parties at all times;
2. Sustainable finance;
3. Support for pilot projects/programs and their conversion to regular programs as soon as they prove successful;
4. Involvement of health authorities at national, state and district levels.

5. **UN Document E/CN.9/2021/NGO/16** – Written Statement of WHEC published by 54th Commission on Population and Development (CPD). **Strengthening global partnership (SDG 17) through food security and public health**
   Available @
   http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/documents/E_CN9_2021_ngo_16_E.pdf

WHEC's strategy on e-Health and e-Government focuses on strengthening health and education system in countries; fostering public-private partnerships in information and communication technologies, research, and development for health and education. With special attention to health and status of women, maternal mortality and morbidity, projects like **LINK** (Learning, Innovating, Networking for Knowledge) encourage national health and educational systems to contribute continued education at primary referral level, to improve maternal and child health and contraception counseling and availability to prevent teen pregnancies.

WHEC has been a member of PMNCH (Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, Child Health), WHO, Geneva (Switzerland) since 2011 and WHO and the WHO Academy participated in our side event at CSocD (Commission for Social Development) in 2021. We aim to reach millions of people worldwide, offering high-tech learning environments, providing learning opportunities for leaders, educators, researchers, health workers, and the broader public, and will deliver high quality, multilingual learning, both online and in-person, alongside a cutting-edge simulation center for health emergencies.

WHEC also has support of UNDESA DISD and UNESCO (Education Sector, Section of Health and Education, Division for Peace and Sustainability) for its initiatives to advance Sustainable Development Goals 3, 4, 5, and achieve 2030 United Nations Agenda.

WHEC supports capacity building for e-Health and e-Governments applications worldwide and look forward to development and the use of norms and standards. Proceeding in this way, strengthening capacity, preserving cultural integrity and increasing the access to such technologies, for those who need it most, must remain the goal.

The challenges and opportunities are here.

Join the efforts!