Global Initiative on AI for Health Meeting
Singapore | 17-19 March 2025

Background

As Artificial Intelligence (AI) has unlocked unprecedented opportunities to improve health globally, three agencies (ITU, WHO and WIPO) launched the Global Initiative on AI for Health (GI-AI4H) to harness the potential of AI-based technologies to transform health.

The Initiative brings together expertise from the UN agencies responsible for telecommunications and technical standards, health, and intellectual property to address key challenges and opportunities regarding the use of AI, in particular the use of AI to promote the realization of all health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Following the inaugural meeting of the GI-AI4H), held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from 30 October to 2 November 2023, as well as the first steering committee meeting in September 2024, the three founding UN agencies of the GI-AI4H agreed to prioritise the creation of working groups, topic groups and facilitation groups to advance the achievement of the joint-strategic goals of the initiative.

The successful operation of the GI-AI4H relies on the joint efforts of working groups, topic groups and facilitation groups chaired by experts in the field. n the initial phase of the GI-AI4H, the creation of interim working and topic groups is a pivotal step. These groups are entrusted with spearheading the early stages of the initiative, setting up the structural and strategic frameworks that could contribute to the joint-strategic goals of the three UN agencies.

This is why this meeting of the GI-AI4H focuses on both creation and realignment: creating new working groups such as the one on intellectual property, and working groups / topic groups with high priority on the global health agenda; re-aligning existing community of practice under the previous ITU/WHO Focus Group on AI for Health (FG-AI4H) into the new governance structure with defined and measurable work plans supported by identified resources for a sustainable and feasible future operation. . Exchange amongst key stakeholders such as the member states, research institutes, and private sector and non-profit organizations is also a part of the programme, so that frontline lessons are shared and documented from the beginning of the journey.

Objectives
- Take stock on the current status of the GI-AI4H;
- Develop a roadmap of collaboration for the next 12-18 months, together with a selection of candidate working groups and topic groups through panels, presentations, and breakout working sessions;
- Encourage cross-disciplinary collaboration and facilitate exchange amongst key stakeholders including member states, research institutes, and private sector and non-profit organizations, and others;
- Determine operational plan for the major events of GI-AI4H in 2025 and 2026

Primary organisers

- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- National University of Singapore
- (Ministry of Health of Singapore - TBC)

Target audience

Members of selected candidate working groups and topic groups, AI regulators, researchers, ethicists and legal experts, policymakers and government representatives, global health experts, academia and research institutions, and specialists from industry.

Expected outcomes

- Creation of the operational structure of the GI-AI4H with at least 2-3 new working groups and topic groups
- Seamless transition of selected and refined previous topic groups from the FG-AI4H under the GI-AI4H

- Clear deliverables and detailed short- and mid-term work plans of the selected GI-AI4H working groups and topic groups
- Identification of additional resources to ensure the sustainable operation of the working groups, topic groups and facilitation groups.
- Critical lessons and experiences shared and documented amongst participants and other key stakeholders, as appropriate. .