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### **Participation in the Global Digital Health Certification Network (GDHCN)**

The Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) presents his compliments to Member States and Associate Members and has the honour to invite them to join the Global Digital Health Certification Network (GDHCN). The GDHCN is a building block of digital public health infrastructure designed to strengthen pandemic preparedness and to deliver better health for all by supporting bilateral verification of the provenance of digital health documents while preserving the privacy of individuals.

The GDHCN has been established in line with the Global strategy on digital health 2020–2025 and WHA resolutions,<sup>1</sup> as an enabling mechanism for the appropriate use of digital health tools to achieve global, regional, and national health goals through an open, interoperable, and standards-compliant digital infrastructure. GDHCN does not enable WHO to have access to any individual's health information as the GDHCN does not process any personal data concerning individuals.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, one of the key tools used by many Member States in reopening economies was the use of verifiable digital COVID-19 test and vaccine certificates. Building upon the guidance published by WHO as well as the experience of regional networks for COVID-19 Certificates, WHO launched the GDHCN in June 2023 for use with verifiable Digital COVID-19 Certificates.

Member States are invited to participate in the GDHCN by identifying a nominated public health authority who has the mandate to decide on behalf of the Member State and Associate Members, whether to participate in the GDHCN by 31 October 2023; and formally submit a letter of application. Further information on the application process can be obtained by contacting the GDHCN Secretariat at [tng-secretariat@who.int](mailto:tng-secretariat@who.int) or through the GDHCN website under Resources:

<https://www.who.int/initiatives/global-digital-health-certification-network>.

The Director-General of the World Health Organization takes this opportunity to renew to Member States and Associate Members the assurance of his highest consideration.

GENEVA, 27 September 2023

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<sup>1</sup> Relevant WHA resolutions include Seventy-third World Health Assembly Decision WHA73(28) (2020), Seventy-first World Health Assembly Resolution WHA71.7 (2018), Sixty-sixth World Health Assembly Resolution WHA66.24 (2013), and Fifty-eighth World Health Assembly Resolution WHA58.28 (2005).