



Permanent Mission of Canada
to the United Nations
Mission permanente du Canada
auprès de l'Organisation des Nations Unies



**PERMANENT MISSION OF DENMARK
TO THE UN IN NEW YORK**
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark



Permanent Mission of
the Republic of Korea
to the United Nations



[CONCEPT NOTE & PROGRAMME]

Virtual High-level Side Event on the margins of the UNGA75 high-level week

“Protraction of the COVID-19 Crisis: Mitigating the Impact and Protecting Future Generations”

Wednesday, 23 September 2020, 9:00-10:30 AM (EST), Webex, UN WebTV & Facebook Livestream

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE

The Co-Chairs of the Group of Friends of Solidarity for Global Health Security, namely Canada, Denmark, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Sierra Leone, and the State of Qatar, will be hosting a high-level side event entitled, “Protraction of the COVID-19 Crisis: Mitigating the Impacts and Protecting Future Generations” on the margins of the high-level week of the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

While countries worldwide are currently experiencing the impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on different trajectories, public health experts agree that the fight against this pandemic will not end soon. As such, it is deeply concerning that the protraction of this crisis will exacerbate impacts on the most vulnerable. The longer this health crisis persists, the greater its impact will be on future generations, especially those in the most disadvantaged or vulnerable situations.

The following questions will guide the discussions at the event:

- What impact will the protraction of the COVID-19 crisis have on future generations?
- How can we collectively mitigate the protraction of this crisis?
- How can new technologies and the private sector contribute to preparations for a second wave of COVID-19 or other infectious diseases?
- What are the needs and aspirations of young people regarding the pandemic?

FORMAT AND STRUCTURE

The event will take place virtually on **Wednesday, 23 September 2020, 09:00-10:30 AM (EST)** through the Webex platform and will also be live-streamed on UN WebTV and Facebook.

Ministers from the Co-Chair countries will open the event with their welcoming remarks, followed by a special video message for the young generation from the international chart-topping K-pop superstars *Bangtan Boys* (BTS) and the Executive Director of UNICEF.

During the substantive session, representatives and experts from various relevant sectors, including a youth delegate, will share their views and insights on this critical topic. A Q&A and open discussion session will then follow for Member States to share their remarks. There will be a pre-established list of speakers (please register through the RSVP link), and the time limit to speak will be **2 minutes**. The event will close with a summary of the discussions provided by the moderator.

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

09:00	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none">Mr. Stewart Simonson, Assistant Director-General of the WHO Office at the UN in New York (Moderator)
09:05	Welcoming Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">H.E. Ms. Kang Kyung-wha, Foreign Minister of the Republic of KoreaH.E. Ms. Karina Gould, Minister of International Development of CanadaH.E. Mr. Magnus Heunicke, Minister of Health and Senior Citizens of DenmarkH.E. Dr. Alpha T. Wurie, Minister of Health and Sanitation of the Republic of Sierra LeoneH.E. Dr. Hanan Mohamed Al Kuwari, Minister of Public Health of the State of Qatar
09:30	Video Message <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Bangtan Boys</i> (BTS) and the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
09:35	Substantive Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ms. Henrietta H. Fore, Executive Director of UNICEFDr. Kamran Khan, Founder and CEO of BlueDot Inc.Ms. Åsa Regnér, Deputy Executive Director of UN WomenMs. Stine Bang Larsen, Youth Delegate of Denmark
10:00	Q&A and Open Discussion
10:20	Wrap Up and Closing <ul style="list-style-type: none">Mr. Stewart Simonson, Assistant Director-General of the WHO Office at the UN in New York (Moderator)

Please RSVP [HERE](#) by Monday, 21 September 2020, COB
Final programme and connection details will be shared prior to the event.