







# MAGI Round Table at the World Health Organization (WHO) during the World Health Assembly (WHA)

# Role of biotechnologies in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Health Promotion

World Health Organization Headquarters
Round Table Room L010
20 Avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva
Tuesday, May 23, 2023
14:00-15:30

Side Event during
76th World Health Assembly
#WHA76

In collaboration with Alliance for Health Promotion (A4HP) and International Pharmaceutical Students Federation (IPSF)

# Role of biotechnologies in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Health Promotion

## **CONCEPT, INTRODUCTION AND AIMS**

In 2015, the United Nations adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with the aim of achieving them by 2030. These goals relate to themes such as sustainability, pollution, health, climate change, and the promotion of physical and mental health and well-being. However, with only 7 years until the deadline, there are still many gaps to be filled in order to achieve these goals.

Biotechnology could play an important role in achieving these goals, especially in the diagnosis and therapy of genetic and rare diseases, as well as in the development of sustainable technologies. The MAGI Group, a member of the Alliance for Health Promotion (A4HP), is an association committed to research and diagnosis of genetic and rare diseases, as well as research on natural molecules in the nutritional context and prevention of multifactorial diseases. Furthermore, MAGI, in the context of personalized nutrition, develops genomic, metabolomic, and microbiomic tests.

MAGI has organized a round table at the WHO headquarters, which will take place on May 23, 2023, as a parallel session of the 76th World Health Assembly (WHA), to discuss the role of biotechnology in supporting the process of achieving some of these important SDGs, particularly No. 2 Zero Hunger, No. 3 Good Health and Well-being, No. 4 Quality Education, and No. 6 Clean Water and Sanitation. Among the participants will be representatives from the European Biotechnology Thematic Network Association (EBTNA) and other university professors with extensive experience in the field of biotechnology.

This initiative is supported by EBTNA, A4HP, the International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation (IPSF), and Life University in Marietta, Georgia, USA. MAGI, together with all these partners, is working towards achieving these SDGs, and therefore MAGI's participation is crucial for integrating programming together with the other partners, including the network of University Professors.

#### **OPENING**

- Dr. Ludovico Seppilli, Moderator
- Dr. Gabriella Sozanski Founding Board member, and WHO Focal Point, Alliance for Health Promotion (A4HP),
   Geneva
- Prof. Hussein Elsangak, Life University, USA, Vice-President of the A4HP "Philosophy of life"
- Ms. Audrey Wong, International Pharmaceutical Students Federation (IPSF) Public Health Chairperson "The Youth Perspectives on Biotechnologies' Role in Achieving the SDG N°4"

#### **GREETINGS**

- Dr. Francesco Branca, WHO Director of the Department of Nutrition and Food Safety
- Dr. Faten Benabdelaziz, Head of Well-being Unit, WHO Department for Health Promotion

# Introductory Presentations to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2015 – 2030

- Prof. Robert S Marks, Department of Biotechnology Engineering, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva 84105, Israel.
  - "A career in One Health sustainability: how biotechnology contributes to the world's pressing needs"
- Prof. Liborio Stuppia, Center for Advanced Studies and Technology (CAST), 'G. d'Annunzio' University of Chieti-Pescara, 66100 Chieti, Italy.
  - "Genes and Diet in the Prevention of Chronic Diseases in Future Generations"



### Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - N° 2 Zero Hunger

- Dr. Matteo Bertelli, MD, PhD, President of MAGISNAT, Atlanta Tech Park, 107 Technology Parkway, Suite 801, Peachtree Corners, GA 30092.
  - "Important role of Mediterranean diet polyphenols in preventing Non-Communicable Diseases"
- Prof. Munis Dundar, President of European Biotechnology Thematic Network Association Society (EBTNA).
   "Biotechnological uses in protective health services worldwide"
- Prof. Tommaso Beccari, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Perugia, Perugia, Italy.
   "Eating Disorders affecting younger generations"

### Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - N° 3 Good Health and Well-being

- Prof. Sandro Michelini, Vascular Diagnostics and Rehabilitation Service, Marino Hospital, ASL Roma 6, Marino, Italy.
  - "Genetic and epigenetic causal factors in lipedema"
- Prof. Antonio Amoroso, Department of Medical Sciences, University of Turin, 10126, Turin, Italy.
   "Genomic approaches for the diagnosis and prevention of genetic diseases"

## Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - N°6 Clean Water and Sanitation

Dr. Carlo Zuccato, AERSAFE Researcher, Piazza della Manifattura, 1, 38068 Rovereto (Trento), Italy
 "The importance of air purification in epidemics prevention"

# **Closing Session**

Prof Jean-Pierre Girard, Membre associé, Institut Santé et société, Université du Québec à Montréal

#### Lunch

All Round Table guests are invited to the lunch which will be held at WHO from 12:30 to 13:30

Participation in the Round Table is by invitation only



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Notes

