

SFH to attend 72nd World Health Assembly in Geneva

The Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, will depart for Amsterdam, the Netherlands, in the early morning on May 17 to meet healthcare professionals and attend the 72nd World Health Assembly (WHA) of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland.

Professor Chan will attend the 72nd WHA on May 20 (Geneva time) as a member of the People's Republic of China delegation. The agenda of this year's assembly will cover a wide range of important public health issues requiring global attention and concerted efforts from all member states. Among others, a number of strategic priority matters to be discussed at the meeting include public health preparedness and response, health and environment and climate change, prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, ending tuberculosis and global shortage of and access to medicines and vaccines.

Professor Chan will also take the opportunity to exchange views on healthcare-related issues with senior health officials of other member states.

Before attending the WHA, Professor Chan will visit the Netherlands on May 17 and 18 to learn more about the latest developments in primary healthcare services.

Professor Chan will visit Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC). LUMC is a modern university medical centre for research, education and patient care. Its research ranges from pure fundamental medical research to applied clinical research, in particular in the field of public health with an impact on society.

She will also visit Buurtzorg Nederland, a healthcare organisation with a nurse-led system that provides community care in the Netherlands.

The Director of Health, Dr Constance Chan, will accompany Professor Chan to attend the WHA in Geneva.

Professor Chan will depart Geneva in the morning on May 22 and arrive back in Hong Kong on May 23. The Under Secretary for Food and Health, Dr Chui Tak-yi, will be the Acting Secretary for Food and Health during her absence.