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Collaboration between France and WHO to realize vision of WHO Academy

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Signed a Declaration of Intent to establish the WHO Academy that will revolutionize lifelong learning in health

Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic and Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General recently met at WHO Headquarters in Geneva.

They signed a Declaration of Intent to establish the WHO Academy that will revolutionize lifelong learning in health. The Academy aims to reach millions of people with innovative learning via a state-of-the-art digital learning experience platform at a campus in Lyon and embedded in the six WHO regions. The WHO Academy Lyon hub will feature high-tech learning environments, a world-class health emergencies simulation centre and collaboration spaces for learning co-design, research and innovation.

The Academy will bring together adult learning science, behavioural science and cutting-edge learning technologies such as artificial intelligence and virtual reality with WHO's norms, standards and evidence to deliver high-impact accredited and tailored multilingual learning to meet diverse needs.

The Academy will be open to a wide range of multisectoral stakeholders that can influence health, including leaders, educators, researchers, health workers, WHO staff and the broader public. It will be run as an internal WHO Division, and the Organization will ensure strong coordination and collaboration with all WHO Member States, thereby optimizing the learning assistance provided to all. The Academy will also harness the strength of the WHO's partnerships, experts, collaborating centres and networks.

The overall goal is to support the learning and development needs of WHO staff and stakeholders to progress towards WHO's "triple billion" goal: ensuring that by 2023, an additional 1 billion people benefit from universal health coverage; 1 billion more are afforded better protection in health emergencies, and 1 billion more enjoy improved health and wellbeing.