

THE GLOBAL CLIMATE & HEALTH ALLIANCE

Media Release

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All sessions open to media - no accreditation required

2020 must focus on health action, 'right to health' enshrined in Paris Deal

Global health community gathers in Madrid to feed into COP25 negotiations

Madrid, 4 December 2019 - The [Global Climate and Health Alliance](#) (GCHA) and the World Health Organization (WHO) will convene a one-day [Global Climate and Health Summit](#) on 7 December to help generate global action protecting health from a changing global climate and feed into COP25 negotiations (1). GCHA, a coalition of health and development organisations from around the world, calls for health to form an integral component of the work carried out during COP25 in Madrid, Spain (2).

Jeni Miller, Executive Director of the Global Climate and Health Alliance said: *"If this year COP focuses on climate action, 2020 must be the year of health action. The Paris agreement enshrined the 'right to health' as a core principle guiding action on climate change, for the first time formalizing health as a focus in the UNFCCC processes. The coming months are critical in our collective global response to climate change, the implications for human health are immense."*

Though the challenge is great, policy responses to climate change present an unprecedented opportunity for public health, such as by reducing air pollution which is responsible for 7 million premature deaths annually. While impacts of climate change are increasingly felt worldwide as we have seen in the course of 2019, the movement of health professionals and health organizations addressing climate change around the world is growing.

Speakers at the one-day [Global Climate and Health Summit](#) include **Maria Neira**, Director of the Public Health, Environment and Social Determinants of Health Department of the World Health Organisation; **María Luisa Carcedo**, Minister of Health, Spain; **Michelle Bachelet**, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; **Jeni Miller**, Executive Director, Global Climate and Health Alliance. [Full programme](#). ---end---

For information:

1. **Global Climate and Health Summit at COP25**, from 0900-1730CET on Saturday December 7th 2019 - Complutense University of Madrid (UCM), [Facultad de Medicina](#), Plaza Ramón y Cajal, s/n, [Auditorium "Ramón y Cajal"](#), 2nd floor.
2. [GCHA demands to COP25 and media briefing](#)