

## THE FIRST FAO/WHO/AU INTERNATIONAL FOOD SAFETY CONFERENCE ADDIS ABABA, 12-13 FEBRUARY 2019

### **Svetlana Akselrod**

Assistant Director-General for Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health, WHO



Svetlana Akselrod, from the Russian Federation, is WHO's Assistant Director-General for Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health. She brings more than 15 years of experience in public health coordination and global health diplomacy.

Prior to this role, Svetlana Akselrod was Coordinator at the WHO European Office for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases, where she oversaw WHO's regional work to prevent and control noncommunicable diseases in eastern Europe and central Asian countries. In addition, she served as Deputy Director of the Department of International Cooperation and Public Affairs within the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation between 2012 and 2016. In this capacity, she coordinated the government of the Russian Federation's global health engagement in key forums including the G8, G20 and BRICS summits, and the development of health programmes including those focused on noncommunicable in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and Northern European countries.

Svetlana Akselrod has served on several global health committees and advisory groups both as a chair and member. In addition, she has represented the Government of the Russian Federation on the WHO Executive Board and for the World Health Assembly. She is trained as a paediatrician and holds a doctorate degree in public health as well as a diploma in International Law.