



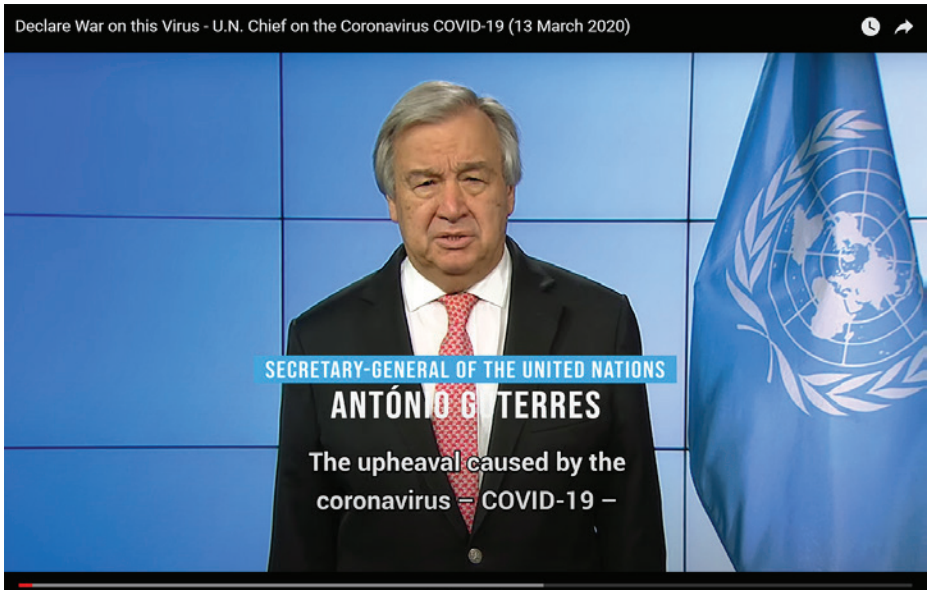
The UN & You

BY TERESA KOTTURAN SCN – MAY 2020

The UN response to the COVID-19 pandemic

In these unprecedented times, we are truly members of a global village... never before in our lifetimes has humanity focused on a single issue, like we do these days. Our times, our concerns and responses will become part of history. How do we want to be remembered? Through direct service and advocacy, we are responding in compassion and solidarity with all who are affected and impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; especially the most vulnerable—our brothers and sisters who risk their lives to provide care and services; the homeless; those in prisons and jails; migrants/refugees/displaced in camps and detention centers; women, men and children experiencing domestic violence; and the trafficked and exploited. This pandemic has exacerbated the existing inequalities, and millions are falling into poverty as the lockdown and social distancing continues to suppress transmission of the coronavirus.

The world is also faced with a lack of global leadership in these troubled and despairing times for the global community, for a coordinated global health response to contain COVID-19 pandemic and to assist all who are at risk in countries without adequate resources. In the words of the UN Secretary-General, “Let us remember that we are only as strong as the weakest health system in our interconnected world.” During the months of March and April, the Secretary-General has called upon world leaders and all stakeholders for a comprehensive global response to tackle the health emergency, address the socio-economic impact on people and a recovery plan. The framework for this recovery can be found in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.



This page and the following page include links to videos from the UN for your information and education.

Declare War on this Virus – UN Chief on the Coronavirus – COVID 19 (March 13, 2020)

“We Must Declare War on this Virus”, UN Secretary-General António Guterres said in his comments on global response to the spread of the COVID-19, calling on governments to cooperate in order to “ensure targeted support for the people and communities most affected by the disease.”

Watch video: <https://youtu.be/ubJaJPRdoMk>

UN Secretary-General Calling for Immediate global Ceasefire (March 23, 2020)

“The fury of the virus illustrates the folly of war. That is why today, I am calling for an immediate global ceasefire in all corners of the world. It is time to put armed conflict on lockdown and focus together on the true fight of our lives.”

Watch video: <https://youtu.be/JH9sZxVlpDo>

Continued next page

Briefing “Global Heroes, Nurses and Midwives on the Frontline of COVID-19” (April 7, 2020)

Watch video:

https://youtu.be/2rZUJWv3_78

UN Secretary-General on Gender based Violence (April 5, 2020)

“I appealed for an end to violence everywhere, now. But violence is not confined to the battlefield. For many women and girls, the threat looms largest where they should be safest. In their own homes. And so, I make a new appeal today for peace at home — and in homes — around the world.”S

Watch video:

<https://youtu.be/SXxnZKom6sg>

UN Secretary-General on Women and COVID 19 – April 9, 2020

“The pandemic is having devastating social and economic consequences for women and girls. Today we are launching a report that shows how COVID-19 could reverse the limited progress that has been made on gender equality and women’s rights... Nearly 60 per cent of women around the world work in the informal economy, earning less, saving less, and at greater risk of falling into poverty. As markets fall and businesses close, millions of women’s jobs have disappeared.

Watch video: https://youtu.be/ZIATLVKZ_ag

UN Chief’s Special Appeal to Religious Leaders (April 11, 2020)

“Today, I want to make a special appeal to religious leaders of all faiths to join forces to work for peace around the world and focus on our common battle to defeat COVID-19. I do so at a special time on the spiritual calendar. For Christians, it is the celebration of Easter. Jews are marking Passover. And soon, Muslims will begin the holy month of Ramadan. I extend my warmest wishes to all those observing these important moments.”

Watch video: <https://youtu.be/9qdyeXpr3W8>

UN Secretary-General on the effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Children (April 16, 2020)

“The poorest and most vulnerable members of society are being hardest hit, both by the pandemic and the response. I am especially concerned about the well-being of the world’s children. Thankfully, children have

Briefing “Global Heroes, Nurses and Midwives on the Frontline of COVID-19” 7 April 2020



Key SoWN Report Findings:

- Nurses make up 59% of health professional workforce
- Nurses are 90 percent female
- We need to educate and/or deploy an additional 5.9 million nurses
- 86 percent reported a regulatory agency
- 71 percent reported national nurse leadership position
- Major data gaps make workforce decisions difficult

so far been largely spared from the most severe symptoms of the disease. But their lives are being totally upended. I appeal to families everywhere, and leaders at all levels: protect our children. Today we are launching a report that highlights the risks they face.”

Watch video: https://youtu.be/3_EA7KMIro0

How is WHO Responding to COVID-19?

Watch video: <https://youtu.be/a7Oe4bOMBws>

World Health Organization Launch Event for Global Collaboration to Accelerate the Development, Production and Equitable Access to New COVID-19 Tools

Watch video: https://youtu.be/jKbcbGYG_rg

The Pandemic is Exposing and Exploiting Inequalities of all kinds, Including Gender Inequality – April 30, 2020

[Read op-ed](#) by António Guterres

**For more information,
visit the United Nations COVID-19
Response web site:**

www.un.org/en/coronavirus