

Dear Dr. Hans Henri P. Kluge,

I have noted that your name has been mentioned in connection with a possible candidacy for the position of Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO). If you decide to run, I would like to strongly encourage you to include in your platform an international initiative, under the auspices of WHO, aimed at finding cures within the field of neuroscience.

Although the term “cure” was formally incorporated into policy document **A75/10 Add.4** in 2022, I have not observed that this has been followed up with decisive action on the part of WHO.

Ideally, if you would have the opportunity to establish a dedicated committee on cures in neuroscience, similar to the WHO Pan-European Commission on Health and Climate that you established, which is chaired by Katrín Jakobsdóttir. In my view, it would also be highly beneficial if Katrín could assume the chairmanship of such a committee once her work on the climate project is concluded.

I would like to suggest that the role of a committee on neuroscience could include, among other things:

1. Assessing how best to gather and integrate the foundational scientific knowledge that already exists internationally in the field of neuroscience.
2. Analyzing scientific knowledge through systematic data integration and the use of artificial intelligence, with the aim of identifying critical connections within large datasets that could form the basis for more effective treatments and potentially cures for disorders of the central nervous system.
3. Advocating for the opening of currently closed neuroscience databases, so that all available scientific knowledge can be utilized in the interest of progress.

In addition, I believe it is essential that the **A75/10 Add.4** initiative be given a dedicated spokesperson with extensive political experience. His or her role would be to raise awareness of WHO’s decade-long initiative in support of neuroscience across traditional media and social media, at international meetings and conferences, and wherever opportunities arise.

Such a spokesperson would also need to encourage governments and financial institutions to strengthen support for basic research and translational medicine.

The field of neuroscience is in great need of strong leadership, and in my opinion, WHO should fulfill that role. The field faces enormous challenges and requires urgent and coordinated action from the international community.

Dr. Kluge,

I sincerely hope that you will see it within your capacity to use your influence in this direction.

With best regards and wishes for success in your forthcoming endeavors,

Auður Guðjónsdóttir
Registered Nurse, O.R.

Chair, ISCI

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