Dr Bente Mikkelsen

Director of the Division of Noncommunicable Diseases and Promoting Health through the Life-course at the Regional Office for Europe of the WHO

Dr Mikkelsen was formerly Head of Secretariat for the Global Coordination Mechanism on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (WHO GCM/NCD) at WHO headquarters (Geneva, Switzerland) from its inception in 2014, as well as Chief Executive Officer of the Southern and Eastern Norway Regional Health Authority (70 000 employees, US$ 8 billion budget).

Dr Mikkelsen is trained as a gynaecologist and obstetrician and holds a master’s degree in health administration and management from the University of Oslo.

Her current focus is on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through the reduction of premature deaths from noncommunicable diseases and promoting health through the life-course in the context of the WHO General Programme of Work and Health 2020, working across sectors with multiple stakeholders, within and beyond the health sector, using innovation, implementation research, health literacy and new technologies.