

**Elizabeth Iro** is the World Health Organization Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) who commenced in this role since January 2018. She is based in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Bio (brief)**

Mrs Iro is from the Cook Islands, prior to taking up her role in WHO she served as her country's Secretary of Health since 2012- 2017. In this role, she has implemented legislative reforms to strengthen the country's health system and developed the National Health Strategic plans (2012-2016, 2017-2021) and a National Health Road Map 2017-2036, among other National policy and strategic documents. She was the first nurse/midwife and woman to be appointed in this role in the Cook Islands.

Mrs Iro was trained in New Zealand as a nurse and a midwife and holds a MHSc in Nursing and a MBA. She held various nursing roles such as Chief Nursing Officer (2011-2012), Registrar of the Nursing Council (2000-2007) as well as the President of the Cook Islands Nurses Association (2002-2010).