



Global compact for progress towards universal health coverage

This global compact reflects our firm support for the aims of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and is consistent with the ambition and commitment of other inter-governmental agreements, as well as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, which aims to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity.

We reaffirm that the SDGs set a broad and ambitious agenda for a safer, fairer and healthier world by 2030. To ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, we must achieve universal health coverage (UHC) by working together effectively to strengthen health systems and improve health outcomes in all countries. Progressive pathways towards universality that endeavour to first reach the most vulnerable and marginalised population groups are key to ensure no one is left behind.

UHC, whereby all people and communities have access to needed quality health services without risk of financial hardship, cuts across the health targets and contributes to promoting health security and equity. Countries that progress towards UHC will make progress towards the other health-related targets across different sectors, and towards all the SDGs. Good health allows children to learn and adults to earn, helps people escape from poverty, addresses social and gender inequities and provides the basis for well-being, social cohesion, health security and long-term economic development.

We, the signatories to the International Health Partnership for UHC 2030 (UHC2030), commit to work together with renewed urgency to accelerate progress towards UHC, as articulated in target 3.8 in the SDGs. This will involve building and expanding equitable, resilient and sustainable health systems, funded primarily by public finance, and based on primary health care, that deliver integrated, comprehensive people-centred and quality health services for all, while taking necessary measures to protect households from financial hazards due to health expenditures. Such efforts should be led by national governments, in support of national health policies and plans, building on and strengthening existing sector-wide processes to avoid fragmentation.

Progressive realisation of the right to health through UHC is primarily a national responsibility, assisted through regional and global solidarity, exchange and international cooperation. It can be best achieved through reforms that first prioritise meeting the needs of disadvantaged people. As countries make efforts to improve domestic resource mobilisation, international development cooperation - including international finance, south-south and triangular cooperation - remains complementary and important in many countries. We reiterate our commitment to the principles and behaviours of effective development cooperation, maximizing its contribution to equitable, resilient and sustainable health systems for progress towards UHC.

We will also support closer alignment between health security and health systems strengthening. We call for the adoption of a 'one health' and inter-sectoral approach to emergency preparedness and response as part of health systems strengthening, and for national strategies, plans and service delivery models that reflect relevant international principles and commitments, in particular the International Health Regulations.

In our efforts to strengthen health systems and achieve UHC, we collectively subscribe to the following key principles to guide our action:

- Leaving no one behind: a commitment to equity, non-discrimination and a rights-based approach
- Transparency and accountability for results
- Evidence-based national health strategies and leadership, with government stewardship to ensure availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality of service delivery
- Making health systems everybody's business – with engagement of citizens, communities, civil society and private sector
- International cooperation based on mutual learning across countries regardless of development status and progress in achieving and sustaining UHC, and development effectiveness principles.

The approach includes strengthening policy dialogue between the government health sector authorities and all relevant stakeholders, to ensure coordination and alignment of health system strengthening efforts at global, regional and country levels and appropriate linkages with other sectors. Shared aspirations should be reflected in the arrangements in place in countries for policy dialogue and coordination. Essential to this approach are fostering political will, nationally and globally, through policy dialogue and advocacy to promote sufficient, sustainable and equitable investment in health systems for UHC; and facilitating monitoring and accountability for equitable progress towards UHC so that no one is left behind. Such monitoring and accountability depend critically on the engagement of beneficiaries, particularly representatives of those communities for whom UHC will be of most benefit, and on mechanisms that promote people's voices and community empowerment.

We acknowledge that building a movement to accelerate equitable and sustainable progress towards UHC requires multi-stakeholder collaboration, led by national governments, with partners including, but not limited to, parliamentarians, civil society organisations, academia, media, the private sector and development partners. As part of this movement, we invite and encourage all promoting UHC to join UHC2030 as an indication of our collective commitment to UHC, equitable, resilient and sustainable health systems, and effective development cooperation.

The World Health Organization and the World Bank will provide secretariat support to UHC2030 and facilitate coordination under the umbrella of UHC2030 at global, regional and country levels, working with other signatories, as appropriate.