



UHC2030 STEERING COMMITTEE
11th Session – 17-18 October 2022
World Health Summit, Berlin

DRAFT NOTE FOR THE RECORD

For Information **For Review & Advice** **For Approval**

UHC2030 Steering Committee (virtual) – 10th session 8 and 10 March 2022, 1300-1600 CET

Summary

Meeting objective: To agree UHC2030’s aspiration and actions to get UHC progress back on track in 2022-2023, specifically:

- Our strategic goal and priorities for 2022 and 2023
- Our vision and roadmap for the 2023 UN High-level meeting on UHC
- Our contributions to key opportunities/moments, outcomes and actions for 2022 (i.e. global political and financing and regional- and country-level decision making) on the road to 2023.

Conclusions: UHC2030 Steering Committee agreed on both:

- **UHC2030’s strategic goal and priorities for 2022-2023**, i.e. how UHC2030’s membership will contribute to renewing UHC progress through contributions to health systems actions, securing UHC priorities in global and regional political and financing processes, and promoting health systems and UHC priorities in countries
- ii) a **Roadmap for “now to UN HLM 2023”**, including level of ambition, how we define and campaign around updated UHC “key asks”, and how we mobilise UHC2030 constituencies and audiences.

Welcome & opening remarks

Decision:

- SC approved Note for Record of September 2021 meeting plus Agenda for this meeting.

Justin Koonin, UHC2030 Co-Chair, introduced the meeting:

- The COVID-19 crisis reinforces the importance of UHC, linked to ensuring access to COVID-19 vaccines and other tools plus equitable access to all health services and emergency preparedness.
- UHC2030 has unique value to elevate voices and action on health systems for UHC and health security goals. It is well-positioned, with established messages, track record of mobilizing constituencies, and agreed role for the 2023 UN High Level Meeting on UHC.
- Since the last SC meeting UHC2030 continues to show leadership through Co-Chairs’ and political advisors’ statements, convening the new [Coalition of Partnerships for UHC and Global Health](#), sharing policy guidance and learning on health systems and UHC in the COVID-19 context and mobilizing diverse stakeholders including from civil society and the private sector.
- Progress towards UHC is off track. The COVID-19 struck, the world was far short of reaching the Sustainable Goal (SDG) 3.8 targets and the on-going health crisis has worsened this. The UHC2030 State of UHC commitment review shows that despite an increasing number of commitments, governments are not acting on their promises and gaps persist between policy, implementation and results. Now we face another global threat to multilateralism due to the current crisis in Ukraine.

- Throughout 2021, UHC2030 has demonstrated its value in terms of mobilizing political commitment, demanding and tracking accountability, and promoting collective action for health systems. In 2022-2023 we need to renew our collective energy across UHC2030 membership – building on the health systems “push” we launched in 2021 and linking to preparations for the 2023 High-level meeting on UHC.

María Fernanda, UHC2030 Advisory Panel, shared her views on how UHC2030 can help to influence meaningful UN HLM outcomes:

- Providing evidence on progress and clear asks around specific milestones and actions, focusing on the implementation of the 2019 Political Declaration and stepping up investment in resilient and equitable health systems.
- Providing this inclusive, multistakeholder dialogue platform and creating safe spaces for participation and dialogue with civil society and all stakeholders to ensure that people’s voices are heard.

Zsuzsanna Jakab, WHO, shared WHO’s reflections on the vision for the 2023 UN high-level meeting on UHC and expectations around UHC2003 role:

- Bring diverse voices and multistakeholder engagement and taking advantage of the opportunity of the UN HLM to revitalize the commitments towards achieving PHC-based UHC and health security and promote stronger collective action.
- UHC2030’s contribution as unique platform that shapes conversations and actions to strengthen health systems for UHC and health security, including meaningful outcomes for the 2023 HLM.
- UHC2030 seeks high returns by leveraging political and financial commitments. This message should resonate with potential donors and continued support the European Commission and the governments of France and Japan is welcome.

Feng Zhao, World Bank, shared perspectives on the current context:

- Even before the pandemic, the Global Monitoring Report painted a challenging picture regarding financial hardship and catastrophic out-of-pocket spending for health services. This has been exacerbated by COVID-19 and now by the Ukraine crisis.
- Although much of the financing is now focused on the pandemic response, UHC and health systems strengthening remain key priorities. Out of a World Bank’s 30 billion portfolios, 1/3 are allotted to the pandemic, and 2/3 support health sector reform, primary health care, health financing reform, etc.

Francesca Colombo, OECD, shared thoughts on priorities in going ahead:

- taking into consideration how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected those who were already left behind and deepened inequalities, and highlighting how equity and resilience are inter-linked;
- creating stronger populations through health prevention and promotion;
- improving health workforce capacities and improving primary health care;
- having strong and sustainable national budgeting practices that will support health systems strengthening.

Session 1 – UN High Level Meeting in 2023: a chance not to be missed to get UHC back on track

Objectives:

- Review ways to make the HLM 2023 and its potential outcome document a meaningful political tool to bring progress towards UHC back on track on the road towards 2030
- Identify possible contributions of UHC2030 members/constituencies to the preparatory process of the next HLM in 2023

Outcomes:

- Call for ambitious outcomes and UHC2030 contributions to bring a strong common voice and use opportunities in 2022
- Need to revitalize momentum for UHC, investment in health systems (incl capacity + collective action), equity (those further left behind) and accountability (using/strengthening existing country processes)

Next steps:

- Secretariat to refine the preparation timeline, incl. options for multistakeholder dialogue by end 2022
- Secretariat to step up strategic communication and help have a stronger voice around key moments

Discussion points

- There is a need to galvanize political commitment and action from governments and the international community. We should take advantage of the momentum created by the COVID-19 crisis to emphasize the need to ensure health for all, and especially for the most vulnerable. This requires investment in resilient and equitable health systems. For truly equitable systems, we must develop plans to reach the diverse vulnerable populations based on their specific needs.
- The HLM should be the opportunity to hold us collectively to account for our progress since 2019. We must prioritize getting back on track and regaining momentum. This entails focusing on inclusion and participation of affected communities and populations, especially those that have been left out of UHC progress due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- We're seeing the promise of innovative solutions. The private sector can contribute to this. To truly drive implementation, we should look at implementation-focused partnerships between private, public, civil and social sectors.
- In terms of key outcomes, any declaration, commitment or recommendation should aim for improved accountability for UHC. This includes quality monitoring, with a strong focus on equity. And we must look at equity not only in terms of access to health services but also in terms of financial inclusion and financial solutions that drive health systems agendas at the country level.
- For CSEM, the key outcomes for the HLM are:
 - Equity: the most vulnerable continue to face the most barriers to health care
 - Investment: the pandemic has made it clear that governments must recommit to invest more in strong health systems
 - Accountability: we must establish mechanisms, track progress and hold governments accountable

- We need an ambitious political declaration, and the process should be linked with other processes, particularly on emergency preparedness (e.g. INB on pandemic treaty, new health and preparedness review).
- We should aim for an action-oriented Political Declaration. The message should be sharp, clear, prioritized and paired with a clear action plan. Some questions to ask ourselves: What are the key points? Priorities? Financing? Country capacities?
- UHC2030's work on health systems strengthening is essential. We need to build consensus on what this means and to distinguish between health systems support and health systems strengthening.
- UHC2030 should consider how best to mobilise multi-stakeholder engagement starting this year. We also need more multisectoral action to get UHC progress back on track.
- UHC2030 is instrumental in communicating coherent decisions towards the 2023 HLM and ensuring coherent voices from different constituencies to position UHC as a priority. This requires a strong strategic communication strategy to build momentum.
- Civil society should be mobilized and consulted in the development of the key asks. It should be supported to influence key discussions at all levels in the lead-up to the HLM
- We should build synergies across key moments and leverage complementary forums, like Japan's G7 presidency in 2023, and emerging themes such as climate change.
- We are at an essential moment in time to support countries' bold leadership in recovering equitably and fostering more resilient health systems. We should support efforts to stimulate a coherent and strong voice on this in 2022, and not wait until we have the Key Asks in March 2023.
- We should work to stimulate greater understanding and ambition among Member States for the HLM, as we did in the lead up to the 2019 HLM, in active partnership with UHC2030 and the Group of Friends. We can build on the UN system's global action framework and make sure that country teams are aware of the 2023 milestone and have more direct engagement.
- The Global Fund replenishment is a strategic opportunity for UHC2030 to emphasize UHC and health systems strengthening.

Session 2 – UHC2030 governance and working arrangements

Objectives: review mandate and composition of UHC Movement Political Advisory Panel and collaboration with parliamentarians

Outcomes:

- Agree with revised TORs for political panel (increase in number) + TORs for collaboration with parliamentarian networks

Next steps:

- Constituencies to help UHC2030 access key processes and Secretariat to help with messaging
- Secretariat to share “plan” for political panel engagement in/support to HLM preparation
- Secretariat to prepare policy and implementation plan on accessibility (with CSEM)

Discussion points

- UHC cannot be achieved without political commitment. Noting the need to better leverage the Political Advisory Panel for greater political reach in the lead up to the 2023 HLM, it would be useful to keep the ToR general and share a more detailed plan with the Steering Committee.
- Parliamentarians are key for national implementations processes and we should increase engagement. It's useful to work with parliamentarian committees on health.
- CSEM recommendations to address the needs of people with disabilities in our own processes in our meetings, documents, and activities more broadly. Secretariat is tasked to work with the CSEM an implementation plan In line with UN accessibility and inclusion standards.

Session 3 – Making a difference in 2022 on the road to 2023**3.1 UHC2030 strategic priorities for 2022-2023 and how UHC2030 delivers these priorities**

Objective: identify specific ways to secure UHC outcomes and step-up action for resilient and equitable health systems in key global-, regional- and country-level opportunities/moments.

Outcomes:

- Influencing agenda in 2022: important for UHC2030 leadership to reach out to relevant political processes and constituencies to help sustain strong country momentum for preparation (incl. civil society mobilisation/engagement), focus on Global Fund replenishment and leverage UHC Day campaigns 2022 and relevant networks (e.g. parliamentarians, local governments, UN agencies).

Next steps:

- Each constituency to help UHC2030 (co-chairs + Secretariat) to engage with relevant processes (e.g. G7/G20, AU/EU, pandemic treaty negotiations, WHO regional committees, UN country-teams, etc.)
- Secretariat: More regular and systematic follow-up communications with constituencies + pro-active dissemination of relevant products + facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue towards 2023 UN HLM
- Secretariat: prepare evaluation process of UHC2030 to inform contribution to post 2023

Discussion points**What actions will your constituency take to influence outcomes of key processes in 2022, making the case for resilient and equitable health systems?**

- CSEM will engage in the G20 and G7 working with other civil society networks through Civil 7 and Civil 20 to push for the prioritization of UHC in the agenda, emphasizing multistakeholder dialogue and global solidarity. Youth 7 and Youth 20 and Women 7 and Women 20 are also crucial to elevate the voices of the people in the global south and people left behind in emerging countries. It will continue to promote health systems messaging in global conversations around pandemic preparedness and response. The Global Fund Replenishment is another unique opportunity to engage decision-makers on

the need for increased investment in health systems to deliver UHC and ensure no one is left behind.

- The high-income country constituency is using UHC2030 messaging on health systems strengthening, to influence international discussions on the pandemic treaty. It is focusing on the G7 and G20, which are taking an increasing role in health. It will also promote the UHC2030 health systems strengthening paper with networks and upcoming events. In view of Japan's G7 presidency in 2023, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will closely coordinate with Germany for this year's G7 and with Indonesia and India to promote UHC and health systems strengthening in G20 in 2023 and 2023.
- Regarding the pandemic treaty negotiation, Japan is serving as Vice President at the Bureau and does recognize the relevance of UHC. As a member state it will also try to highlight UHC in collaboration with other like-minded partners.
- For the UN constituency, there are three milestones we should tap into this year: Building Back Better from COVID-19, the upcoming International Migration Review forum, and the proposed negotiations for a possible new global accord for pandemic response. We should think about how UHC2030 can bring a unified voice at these events. We can build on the UN system's global action framework and make sure that country teams are aware of the 2023 milestone and have more direct engagement.

What are the relevant entry points for influencing regional and political processes?

- The CSEM is pushing for actions on health systems through regional workshops.
- International organizations have a big role to play in the G7 and G20. We need to ensure that proposals and commitments made in those forums are well-aligned with country needs and priorities.
- We need to ask multilateral funds such as the Global Fund and ACT-A for greater investment in UHC. We should also push to ensure that UHC and health systems strengthening are taken into account in the new pandemic treaty.
- A question to consider would be how the leadership of the UHC2030 partnership and the Steering Committee are planning to engage with regional political groups. Could there be dedicated meetings in the lead-up to 2023 to garner their support and their own advocacy networks at country level? UHC2030 itself may not have representation in these groups could reach out to some of these mechanisms through its constituencies.
- We should increase coordination and exchange between bilateral players on the issue of health systems strengthening. We should work towards stronger coordination and collaboration with other networks. Early consultation ahead of the HLM would help.
- We should focus on human resources, gender equality and domestic public financing of health systems and UHC.
- The replenishment of the Global Fund and other global health institutions will probably test how donor countries invest in certain funds and across global health institutions. We should focus on synergies and collaboration, and on reducing the amount of silos to ensure efficient use of resources.
- It's important to have all international agencies re-emphasize the importance of UHC in recovering from COVID-19. In the leadup to the HLM, it would help for UHC2030 to

provide common messaging on UHC for coherent and consistent engagement in different political forums.

- UHC Day 2022 could be used to mobilise attention for the HLM.

Opportunities at the country level:

- CSEM will continue to support the joint learning agenda on budget advocacy and accountability through collaboration with the Global Fund, GFF and GAVI. It is also leveraging country consultations on the State of UHC commitment and regional workshops on the health for all advocacy to engage civil society on the need to invest in health systems.
- UN agencies are keen to support civil society consultations and to help collect ideas from communities on what could be re-emphasized or brought into the new set of asks. It's important to ensure their voices are heard and improve UHC accountability.
- We should also prioritise UHC Day messaging with regional and country-level partners.
- UHC2030 needs to be able to make a strong case to get UHC to the level of presidents.
- We should build coalitions and coordinate action with other networks. We can also mobilize diplomatic networks to reach national authorities and increase civil society and community voices in discussions regarding health systems strengthening.
- We can also focus on national reviews and the UN system development cooperation frameworks, as well as multi-partner trust funds, to make sure that health, and more specifically the commitment to UHC in terms of access and equitable financing, is included.
- UHC2030 could consider sending a letter to the UN country teams noting what the expectations are from the 2023 HLM and encouraging the support of the UN system at the country level, since they're often at the front line of engagement with the national governments.
- We need countries and other stakeholders to submit good practices between now and the multistakeholder consultations in 2023 to build larger momentum at the country level.
- We need to increase parliamentary engagement on the road to the HLM and beyond. Parliamentarians have an important role to play, including for domestic advocacy. They can get organized themselves, but we need to bring this information to them.
- We should draw more attention to how health systems have been disrupted by the pandemic and start a discussion about the criteria for and definitions of health systems strengthening. For example, it would be helpful to have guidelines from UHC2030 on how we can do a health systems strengthening project with beneficiary countries.

3.1 UHC2030 workplan and budget, including current funding situation

Objective: agree proposed workplan and budget and how constituencies can help to mobilise resources

Outcomes

- Agreement on strategic priority and goals for 2022-23, workplan and budget
- Specific contributions from constituencies identified + support to mobilise necessary funding for 2023

Next steps

- Secretariat to prepare evaluation process of UHC2030 to inform contribution to post 2023

Discussion points

- The high-income country constituency supports the call to raise and sustain funding for UHC2030 for next year, especially ahead of the UN HLM.
- Collaboration with other relevant processes such as ACT-A, the UHC Partnership and the Special PHC programme needs explicit reference in the workplan.
- It would be useful to open a discussion about an evaluation process and how to assess impact as a basis to provide recommendations for post 2023.

Other business

Next Steering Committee meeting: Secretariat to consider an in-person meeting in September



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10th Session – 8 & 10 March 2022
Videoconference (Zoom)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS