



UHC2030 STEERING COMMITTEE

11th Session – 17 and 18 October 2022

World Health Summit, Berlin

Session 3 - Engaging and coordinating with the PPR HLM and other processes in 2023

Updated political advocacy roadmap for action on
health systems for UHC and health security

For Information For Review & Advice For Approval

Overview

Making progress towards achieving universal health coverage (UHC) has never been more urgent. In response to important lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, it has become clear that strengthening health systems, with a focus on primary health care (PHC), provides the foundations for both UHC and health security. The UN high-level meeting on UHC in 2023 (UN HLM) and its potential outcome document provides a potentially meaningful political tool to bring progress towards UHC back on track on the road towards 2030.

The UHC2030 Steering Committee identified the following key outcomes for the next UN HLM:

- Countries motivated to step up investment in resilient and equitable health systems and specific policy actions for UHC, through a primary health care approach;
- “Renewed action on SDG 3”: Political declaration reinforces clear and measurable UHC commitments, with specific milestones/actions to accelerate equitable progress by 2030;
- “Inclusive accountability”: Member states report progress towards 2019 UHC commitments in consultation with diverse country stakeholders of UHC2030; and
- “A path to 2030”: Comprehensive review of global health commitments linked strategically with SDG accountability processes.
- In tandem with the pandemic treaty negotiations, [and other on-going PPR discussions] countries commit to core minimum health systems capacities as the basis for UHC and health security.

However, UHC2030 faces the challenge of promoting a focus on strengthening health systems (‘the means’) and UHC goals (‘the ends’) in a very crowded landscape. This challenge is further exacerbated by the increasing focus in global health on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (PPPR) as a consequence of the on-going COVID-19 crisis, with the risk of vertical approaches to PPR. The UNGA also recently agreed to organise another UN HLM on PPR in September 2023, which provides opportunities for mutually reinforcing processes. While there are no details at this stage about the modalities for this event, it will be important to ensure that the two UN HLMS speak to each other. For this, UHC2030 will connect with stakeholders who are likely to be involved in the preparation process and invite them to join this session.

The “exam question” for UHC2030’s membership is how to make the case for strengthening health systems as the most efficient and equitable way to achieve the UHC and health security goals in ongoing COVID-19 and PPR discussions. To gain traction, partners need to come together behind a clear strategic narrative on how action on health systems, UHC and health security goals are all intertwined – and how an efficient, effective and equitable COVID-19 response and future pandemic preparedness can only take place through resilient and equitable health systems in all countries grounded in a primary health care approach.

This document proposes to review the proposed approach for UHC2030 members to promote sustained action on health systems. To do so, it includes entry points and influencing opportunities which could contribute to secure meaningful outcomes at the UN HLM on UHC. It builds on [UHC2030 paper](#) *Action on health systems, for UHC and health security* and the [Background Paper](#) – Opportunities to promote health systems messages and actions which was prepared for the SC meeting on 14 and 15 September 2021.

Objectives of the session

- To identify entry points for UHC2030 to ensure the best articulation between the UHC HLM and PPR HLM, including mutually reinforcing preparation and outcomes
- To identify opportunities to leverage important moments on the road to 2023 (e.g., UHC Day, G7/G20, INB on pandemic treaty, WHA, IMF/World Bank Spring meeting and OECD ministerial meetings and other relevant political processes)

Questions for consideration

- How do we ensure consistency and mutually reinforcing processes in the preparation process for various UN high-level meetings in 2023, in particular those on UHC and PPR? What are the entry points to ensure cross-fertilization across these two processes and to mobilise political support for meaningful UN HLM outcomes?
- What are the strategic opportunities to promote the links between UHC and PPR and further push investments in equitable and resilient health systems with PHC as a foundation to deliver on both UHC and health security goals?
- What are the political advocacy priorities and roles on the road to the UN HLM in September 2023 for the UHC2030 Steering Committee, its constituencies, and other partners?

Background information

In September 2021, the UHC2030 agreed a shared narrative on the importance of equitable and resilient health systems. The resulting paper [Action on health systems, for UHC and health security](#) provided a basis to guide political advocacy and coordination across UHC2030 constituencies. It also included a list of possible actions which can serve to inspire the respective contributions of different constituencies and other stakeholder groups (for an update of progress, please see the progress implementation overview, Annex 2 of the document Updated Workplan and budget 2023, [UHC2030/SC11/2022/03.Rev1]).

To use this narrative more consistency, each constituency was invited to review some specific actions they can take in support of strengthening health systems. To take forward this push on health systems strengthening for UHC and health security, a list of suggested actions was also proposed as part of the [Background Paper](#) – Opportunities to promote health systems messages and actions and are listed below for reference. Table 1 shows key moments/opportunities in the run-up to the 2023 HLM.

1.1 Actions for UHC2030 Steering Committee members to consider:

- Alongside the existing UHC political advisory group, broaden the mobilisation of UHC champions, ensuring representation from all constituencies (government, multilateral organisations, civil society organisations, private sector, philanthropic foundation), and using in particular the voice of highest-level leadership in the UHC2030 Secretariat (WHO Director General, World Bank President, OECD Secretary General).

- Request all members to provide their leaders with testimonials/statements focusing on health systems and UHC to be used ahead of and around UHC Day in December 2022 and other milestones on the road to 2023.
- Build on existing efforts to gather and report information on community action for UHC and health security to further enrich the State of UHC Commitment review. Country level members could be supported with a community reporting format that could routinely be used to gather and report on community action.
- Building on the CSEM 'UHC Advocacy Toolkit', task the Secretariat and CSEM to develop/commission briefs to enable the UHC2030 membership at country level, including CSOs and the private sector, to better leverage existing national forums to promote UHC2030 vision of UHC and health systems strengthening.
- Provide guidance and priorities on how to promote evidence to support sustained regional- and country-level advocacy for health systems strengthening, and a PHC approach, for UHC and health security goals. This could include developing/commissioning country-targeted advocacy materials based on global evidence – and channeled through the CSEM.

1.2 Actions for Steering Committee to consider promoting with all UHC2030 members

1.2.i Global level:

- Reinsert health systems and UHC language back into global health and political discussions and ensure the highest level of leadership of all constituents and Steering Committee members consistently – and where appropriate collectively – use this language (speeches, press releases, board meetings, reports, social media, etc.; key events and political processes listed in Table 1).
- Proactively engage the 2023 G7 and G20 Presidencies (India and Japan respectively) to ensure health systems and UHC are referenced in the political agenda and health and political communiques, not only in the context of health security and COVID-19. Work closely with UHC Political Advisory Panel globally and CSEM members nationally to support targeted advocacy.

1.2.ii Regional level:

- Develop mechanisms that support UHC2030 country membership to take forward recommendations from UHC and health systems meetings to promote the health systems vision. The CSEM and UHC2030 members with regional presence like WHO, World Bank, and other UN agencies may provide or disseminate guidance, technical support, capacity development and tools to facilitate country membership action.
- Promote greater engagement with relevant regional structures (WHO, political regional groupings like African Union, European Union and other regional political processes) through their different forums, including parliamentary forums.

1.2.iii Country level:

- Champion health systems and UHC in all forums (during board meetings, budget negotiations, when providing testimonials, etc.).

- Incorporate implementation of recommendations from UHC and health systems meetings into their individual action plans.
- Forge one voice to advance the health systems strengthening agenda for UHC and health security.
- Promote a harmonized voice among constituencies on health systems funding and support, through common positions on key issues on health systems strengthening for UHC and health security, with support from the Secretariat.
- Actively engage the regional banks and economic commissions to advocate for increased investments in health systems strengthening.
- Collaborate with Ministries of Health through existing opportunities like annual health sector reviews, development and review of health sector plans, health sector coordination fora, with similar arrangements at lower levels, and participate at all stages of policy and planning for the health sector, including for Global Health Initiatives, advancing the health systems strengthening agenda for UHC and health security.
- Advocate for and support accountability frameworks and mechanisms to ensure efficient use of health systems investments.

Table 1: Timeline with key events from October 2022-September 2023

Timing	Event/Process	Desirable HSS and UHC Outcomes	Key UHC2030 stakeholders involved	Primary levels of engagement
Ongoing – 2023 (tbc)	Fundraising for COVID-19 vaccines/tools for low- and middle-income countries	Improved global access to COVID-19 vaccines/tools, integration into strengthened and fair health systems	All ACT-A members and its COVAX Facility members (led by Gavi) + CSEM	Global/donors
On-going - 2023	Pandemic treaty negotiations	Inclusion of HSS as key means for UHC and health security, with focus on UHC based on PHC as a pre-condition for sustainable PPR	Member states involved in negotiations, CSEM	
October 2022	World Bank Annual Meetings, + FIF ongoing discussions	Increased policy focus and country access to PPR funding for UHC funding Call to bring health systems perspectives in FIF, including through support to civil society engagement	World Bank, donors, all countries, CSEM	Global, country
November-December 2022	Global Fund funding cycle 2023-2025	Broadening discussion on leveraging funding for resilient and sustainable systems for health (RSSH) from 7 th replenishment for UHC and health systems strengthening	Global Fund, World Bank, WHO, donors, countries, CSEM	Global
12 October 2022	UCLG Congress and World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders, Daejeon, Korea	UHC2030 session on the future of healthy cities: Working towards caring systems through universal health coverage – mobilisation of local governments on their contribution to UHC and opportunities to bring their perspectives into the UN HLM preparation	UHC2030, UCLG, local governments	Global, local
November/December 2022 - tbc	Pandemic Treaty negotiations	Inclusion of HSS as key means for UHC and health security in zero draft	WHO, countries, CSEM	Global, all countries
December - tbc	UNITE	Session on UHC and PPR during annual summit	UHC2030, UNITE and other parliamentary networks	Global, country
December - tbc	Foreign Policy in Global Health Resolution	Resolution on emergency preparedness, highlighting HSS as key means for UHC and health security	All UHC2030 members, all countries	Global, country
1 December 2022	World AIDS Day	Focus on HSS as means to end epidemics and ensure sustainability of response	Global Fund, donors, tbc countries, WHO	Global, (regional, specific national?)
12 December 2022	UHC Day	Increased advocacy for equity and fair health investment for UHC	All UHC2030 members, CSEM	Global, regional, country

12-14 December 2022	Effective Development Cooperation Summit, Geneva	A UHC2030 session (tbc) on development effectiveness in the health sector: contribution of development cooperation to a coherent health systems approach that supports long-term capacity building with flexible funding aligned with national priorities	OECD/Development Assistance Committee, UNDP, UHC2030 country membership, civil society	Global
2022	G7 Presidency transition to Japan	Inclusion of HSS for UHC as a stand-alone item, not just under health security and PPR	Japan, G7 members, WHO, World Bank, OECD	G7 members, global
2022	G20 Presidency transition to India	Focus on HSS for UHC in health and financing tracks	India, G20 members WHO, World Bank, OECD	G20 members, global
January 2023	World Economic Forum (WEF)	Focus on private sector and philanthropic roles in HSS for UHC	Most UHC2030 members, private sector constituents, donors	Global, primarily HIC
January 2023	WHO Executive Board meetings	HSS for UHC as policy agenda, briefing ahead of UHC HLM	WHO, all countries	Global, country
17-19 February 2023	Munich Security Conference	Inclusion of HSS as means for GHS	Donors, select countries, World Bank	Global
May 2023	World Health Assembly	UHC HLM briefing and commitment (side-events)	WHO, all countries, CSEM	Global
June 2023	2023 UHC HLM multi-stakeholder hearing	Renewed UHC commitment, inclusion in the zero draft of the political declaration	All UHC2030 members, CSEM	Global
June 2023	G7 Heads of State summit (host: Japan)	UHC commitment moments, inclusion as priority in communique	WHO, World Bank, select donors	Select countries
11-15 March 2023	Inter-Parliament Union (IPU) 146th General Assembly in Bahrain	Focus on the role of MPS in translating commitment into action and lessons learned from implementing the IPU resolution on UHC		
Tbd 2023	IPU's Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations	Contribution to make the case for greater integration of PPPR in UHC.		
September 2023	UNGA and UHC HLM	Broad, inclusive campaign, with highest-level leadership testimonials and engagement; concrete commitments around actions and specific targets/milestones	All UHC2030 members, CSEM, all countries	Global
September 2023	PPR HLM	Political Declaration language consistent with UHC Key Asks	All UHC2030 members, CSEM, all countries	Global
September 2023	TB HLM	Political Declaration language consistent with UHC Key Asks	All UHC2030 members, CSEM, all countries	Global
September 2023	UN SDG summit	HSS, PHC and UHC feature in the outcome document	All UHC2030 members, CSEM, all countries	Global

