

UHC Movement Political Advisory Panel

Terms of Reference

Purpose:

- The UHC Movement Political Advisory Panel (The Political Panel) provides guidance to the UHC2030 Steering Committee to strengthen political support for universal health coverage (UHC);
- The Political Panel also conveys UHC2030's consolidated message to high-level political leaders for ensuring their commitment translates into action in countries.

Role and responsibilities:

- Advise on opportunities that UHC2030 may use to further leverage political processes to sustain high-level momentum on UHC and ensure follow-up on the UHC political declaration, which was adopted in the UN High-level meeting in 2019;
- Reach out to specific processes with a view of influencing the agenda and mobilise political and financial support;
- No legal status or binding obligations – advisory role to the UHC2030 Steering Committee.

Ways of working:

- Convene in person once per year on the margin of the high-level political or economic fora and engage in quarterly teleconferences as needed;
- Work in a way to ensure full transparency of the group, with open and regular communication with the UHC2030 Steering Committee;
- Light-touch secretariat support and coordination to be provided by UHC2030 Secretariat.

Appointment process:

- UHC2030 Secretariat to nominate UHC2030 Political Advisors for the UHC Movement Political Advisory Panel (The Political Advisors) base on guidance from co-chairs;
- UHC2030 Steering Committee to approve nomination of the political advisors;
- Level expected would be current or former head of agency/minister (across government) and on the basis of personal capacity to connect with and leverage relevant political processes and institutions (e.g. UN, G20 + G7, EU, AU, ASEAN+3, APEC, MERCOSUR, political players such as MPs and local authority leaders).

Secretariat:

- UHC2030 serves as the secretariat of the political panel;
- UHC2030 does not provide personal assistance to the individual political advisors.

Terms:

- Each political advisor will serve a one-year term to be eligible for re-appointment for maximum two additional terms;
- Up-to seven political advisors will serve for the political panel in the same term;
- The Political Advisor is a function without remuneration apart from travel and accommodation costs associated with relevant UHC2030 co-hosting events or UN official meetings on behalf of UHC2030 if necessary.

Annex 1. List of the political advisors in 2020 (alphabetical order)

- Mr. Elhadj As Sy, Chair of the Board, Kofi Annan Foundation (Former Secretary-General, IFRC / Former Director of Partnerships and Resource Development, UNICEF)
- Ms. Emilia Saiz, Secretary General of the United Cities and Local Governments
- Ms. Gabriela Cuevas Barron, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union / Congresswoman of Mexico
- Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland, Board Members of The Elders (Former Prime Minister, Norway)
- Prof. Keizo Takemi, Member of the House of Councillors, Japan / WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Universal Health Coverage (Former Vice Minister of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan)
- Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President of the 73rd Session of the UN General Assembly (Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ecuador)
- Dr. Vytenis Povilas Andriukaitis (Former European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety / Former Minister of Health, Lithuania)

Annex 2. Political advisory panel in the governance structure of UHC2030

UHC2030 partners are organized into 5 constituencies, whose members endorsed UHC2030 Global Compact. All UHC2030 constituencies are represented on the Steering Committee, which serves as the leadership and decision-making body for the partnership.

The Steering Committee is led by two co-chairs. UHC2030 brings together under a common platform related initiatives working on health systems. The Steering Committee also creates time-bound Working Groups or Task Teams when strategic or operational tasks require specific attention across constituencies.

The political panel is a high-level group of appointed the political advisors who advocate for and mobilize wider political commitment to UHC Political Declaration. The political panel will be led by a lead political advisor with technical support of co-chairs and core team. The political panel will provide guidance to the UHC2030 Steering Committee though co-chairs. Individual political advisor has a right to attend the Steering Committee as an observer.

Individual political advisor is expected to convey consolidated message on behalf of UHC2030 prepared by the secretariat in line with decision of the Steering Committee.

Political Advisory Panel (Lead Advisor) High-level Advocacy – advice to Steering Committee and convey UHC2030 message to political leaders	Steering Committee (Co-Chairs) Strategic Leadership/Decision Making
Secretariat (Executive Director and Global Director) Organized by 2 hosting agencies (WHO and World Bank Group)	Partner Constituencies Organized into 5 constituencies (Countries; International organisations: incl. UN, Global Health Initiatives and other International Organizations; Philanthropic Foundations; Civil Society; and Private Sector)
Core Team (Joint Leads) Virtual team led by Joint Leads (WHO and World Bank Group) to provide partner coordination and support	Working Groups / Task Teams (Task Lead) Strategic / Operational support
	Related initiatives Coordination and information sharing

Annex 3. Key Milestones and *Relevant Global Political Events* in 2020

- **Introduction and Working Arrangement**: First Group Call, 24 March
- *Virtual World Health Assembly, 20 – 21 May (Remote)*
- **Final TOR and Emerging Political Agenda**: Second Group Call, 3 June
- *G7 Summit, 10-12 June (Remote)*
- **Final TOR Approval**: UHC2030 Steering Committee, 29 June (Remote)
- **Video**: Record video interviews with/video messages from Political Advisors
- **Formal Announcement**: HLPF 2020 Side Event, 13 or 14 July (Remote), including launching of the Independent Accountability Panel Report 2020 (UHC) and the State of UHC Commitment Online Survey
- *HLPF High-level Segment, 14-16 July (Remote)*
- **Third Group Call, September (TBC)**
- *UNGA High-level Week, 22-30 September, New York, USA*
- *Alternative World Health Assembly, October, Geneva, Switzerland (TBC)*
- *G20 Summit, 21-22 November, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia*
- **Fourth Group Call, November (TBC)**
- *International UHC Day, 12 December, including launching of the State of UHC Commitment*

Annex 4. Summary of Political Advice from the Panel (1st and 2nd quarter of 2020)

First Group Call, 24 March 2020

We need to promote UHC Commitments further, even in the COVID-19 pandemic.

UHC2030 should issue a political statement on UHC in the context of COVID-19 pandemic, reframing our argument that UHC Commitments are so important for political leaders now as UHC and Health Emergency are two sides of the same coin.

Follow Up Actions:

- Co-chairs issued a political statement on [Faced by the COVID-19 crisis, it is crucial that world leaders remember their universal health coverage commitments](#) (26 March 2020)
- Core Team (UHC2030 Secretariat) issued a discussion paper on [Living with COVID-19: Time to get our act together on health emergencies and UHC](#) (29 May 2020)

Second Group Call, 3 June 2020

We need to promote the new UHC approach in a broader context. The panel supports the discussion paper in situating UHC in a broader context of the COVID-19 pandemic, tying it with the social determinants of health, public health, and the various consequences of the pandemic.

We need to stabilize and streamline the global governance structure for UHC. An efficient multilateral framework for international collaboration is something that UHC2030 could support and accelerate. Such a new global governance structure should be an efficient driving force for the next stage of UHC achievement.

We need to support translating the global political will to the national/local planning.

UHC2030 should connect the global with national and local levels, and have better dialogue with local governments, and the political advisory panel would facilitate this link. Technical guidance from UHC2030 could be a good push for linking global governance with the people.

We need to use existing regional networks and promote better inter-regional collaboration. Better collaboration between regions is needed. UHC2030 should think about how we can disseminate our calls through these existing structures (e.g. EU, AU, ASEAN, Euro-Asian Customs Unions).

We need to bring our multi-sectoral collaboration efforts to the country level. The UHC2030 approach at the global level (WHO, working with World Bank for this partnership) needs to be brought to the country level. UHC2030 should work on multi-sectoral collaboration between the health and finance sectors at the country level.

We need to disseminate our messages through political channels proactively. The panel could support UHC2030's advocacy efforts to disseminate the discussion paper broadly and include elements of it in other political documents, including sharing with your own constituencies and beyond, such as in international processes.

Proposed Follow Up Actions:

- Co-chairs to bring political advice and potential actions to the discussion of the Steering Committee for their consideration of our concrete actions (29 June 2020)
- Co-chairs/Political Advisors to issue a joint letter to all Presidents of Parliaments on prioritizing investment in strong and resilient health systems for UHC and greater preparedness and reminding the commitments made in the UHC Political Declaration. (mid-/end-June 2020 before the next budget proposal comes to their Houses)
- UHC2030 partners to organize two HLPF2020 virtual side events (1. Health Systems for UHC and Health Emergency, 2. Health and Social-Political Accountability) and arrange a few speaking slots for Political Advisors on behalf of UHC2030 (early-/mid-July 2020)
- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) to organize an interactive virtual session on UHC to offer an interaction opportunity between UHC2030 partners (especially UHC experts) and Mayors and local and regional leaders regarding policy guidance, science and front-line service and local response (early-/mid-July 2020)
- Core Team (UHC2030 Secretariat) to play a coordination role of the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) Health Systems Connector and encourage partners to use UHC2030 platform for broader stakeholder engagements (ongoing)