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| UHC_Logo_IHP_rgb_Colour | **UHC2030 Steering Committee**  **9th Session – 14 & 15 September 2021**  **Videoconference (Zoom)** |

**UHC2030 Steering Committee**

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**Videoconference (Zoom)**

**Background Paper**

Opportunities to promote health systems messages and actions

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

This paper proposes entry points and influencing opportunities for UHC2030 members to promote sustained action on health systems. It is based on external advisory inputs commissioned by the Core Team and complements the draft UHC2030 paper on actions for resilient and equitable health systems towards UHC and health security goals [UHC2030/SC9/2021/05. Rev1].

**For Steering Committee discussion: Entry points to promote action on health systems**

1. UHC2030 members should **agree a shared narrative on the importance of equitable and resilient health systems (as proposed in the attached paper), and use this consistently** – and where possible collectively – in communication, advocacy, funding, and programming decisions over the next six months and beyond.

2. **An inclusive, clear campaign for the run-up to the 2023 UHC HLM** will provide opportunities for SC members and UHC2030 constituencies to be visible and represented at highest leadership levels.

3. **UHC2030 constituencies and SC members should explore and commit to specific actions they can take in support of strengthening health systems** – e.g. based on the 12 proposed actions in the paper.

4. As well as the 2023 HLM, **the 2022 and 2023 G7 and G20 Presidencies provide opportunities for UHC2030 members (including CSEM), with the UHC Political Advisory Panel, to mobilize high level political leadership** and continue to drive global, regional, and national action on health systems strengthening for UHC.

5. **UHC2030 members should collaborate and call on countries, donors, and funding institutions (including ACT-A health systems connector’s leads and SDG3 Global Action Plan partners) to promote flexible funding, aligned to national/regional priorities** – a coherent systems approach that supports long-term capacity building.

6. **UHC2030 members should identify, prepare for and participate actively in key upcoming meetings and events on UHC and health security**, listed in Tables 1 and 2 below, to influence policy and programming for health systems and promote resilience, equity, integration, and fair health investment.

To take forward these recommendations, suggested actions are listed below for:

1. the next 6 months (including a focus on UHC Day, 12 December), and
2. between now and the follow-up UN High-Level Meeting on UHC in September 2023.

Tables 1 and 2 show key moments/opportunities in the next 6 months and in the run-up to the 2023 HLM.

### 1. Recommendations for UHC2030 members: the next 6 months

UHC2030 faces the challenge of promoting a focus on strengthening health systems (‘the means’) and UHC goals (‘the ends’) in a very crowded landscape – both in policy and budget terms – that is dominated by COVID-19 and pandemic preparedness.

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 and upcoming COVID-19 and replenishment/budget arguments. To gain traction, partners need to come together behind a clear strategic narrative on how COVID-19, action on health systems, and 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 strong, fair health systems in all countries.

**1.1 Actions for UHC2030 Steering Committee members to consider:**

* Alongside the existing UHC political advisory group, broaden UHC champions, ensuring representation from all constituencies (government, multilateral, CSO, private sector, philanthropic foundation), and using in particular the voice of co-hosts highest-level leadership (WHO Director General, World Bank President, OECD Secretary General);
* Request all members to provide their leadership’s testimonials/statements focusing on health systems and UHC to be used ahead of and around UHC Day in December 2021.

**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 highest level leadership of all constituents and SC 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).

**1.2.ii Regional level:**

* Develop mechanisms that support the country membership to take forward recommendations from UHC and health systems meetings to promote the health systems vision. The CSEM and UHC2030 membership with regional presence like UNICEF, World Bank, and WHO may provide or disseminate guidance, technical support, capacity development and tools to facilitate country membership action.

**1.2.iii Country level:**

* Champion health systems and UHC in all fora (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;
* 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 (GHIs), advancing the HSS agenda for UHC and health security;
* Advocate for and support accountability frameworks and mechanisms to ensure efficient use of health systems investments.

### 2. Recommendations for UHC2030 members: Now to September 2023

**2.1 Actions for UHC2030 Steering Committee to consider:**

* 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. 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 fora to pursue 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.

**2.2 Actions for Steering Committee to consider promoting with UHC2030 members**

**2.2.i Global level**

* Proactively engage the 2022 and 2023 G7 and G20 Presidencies (Indonesia, India and Germany, 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.

**2.2.ii Regional level**

* Promote greater engagement with relevant regional structures (WHO, political regional groupings like AU, EU) through their different forums, including parliamentary forums.

**2.2.iii Country level**

* Promote a harmonized voice among constituencies on health systems funding and support. The availability of common positions on key issues on HSS for UHC and health security, through the Secretariat to the country members, would be instrumental to facilitating a common voice.

### Table 1: Timeline, Key events next 6 months

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| **Timing** | **Event/Process** | **Desirable HSS and UHC Outcomes** | **Key UHC2030 stakeholders involved** | **Primary levels of engagement** |
| Ongoing | **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) | Global/HIC |
| Ongoing - 2022 | **CEPI Replenishment[[1]](#footnote-1)** | Increased funding for innovations against epidemic/pandemic infectious diseases, recognition of strong health systems for surveillance and response | No UHC2030 SC multilateral members among founders, but several donors (Replenishment host: UK) | Global/HIC |
| Ongoing – Dec 2021 | **22nd IDA Replenishment[[2]](#footnote-2)** | Increased capital and funds for health systems (as integral part of Human Capital) | World Bank, all donors | Global |
| Ongoing - end 2021 | **2nd Global Financing Facility (GFF) Replenishment[[3]](#footnote-3)** | Increased funding for MNCAH-N services and country-led integration into health systems | GFF, World Bank, several donors (host TBC) | Global/HIC |
| September 2021 | **UNGA high-level side event** | Kick-off of our collaboration with key stakeholders of 2023 UHC HLM | Group of Friends of UHC, all UHC2030 members | Global |
| September – November 2021 | **WHO Regional Committees** | Update on regional progress and action for UHC and health security | WHO, countries | Regional, country |
| October 2021 | **UNAIDS PCB extra session[[4]](#footnote-4)** | Policy discussion on strong, fair health systems | UNAIDS, World Bank, WHO, donors | Global |
| October 2021 | **World Bank Annual Meetings, GFF Investors Group meeting (tbc)** | Increased policy focus and country access to funding for UHC and health security | World Bank, GFF, all donors, all countries | Global, country |
| October 2021 | **G20 Health Ministers Meeting** | Greater global commitment to financing UHC and health security; adoption of HLIP report recommendations to focus also on HSS for UHC | WHO, World Bank, several donors/countries (host: Italy) | Global, G20 donors/countries |
| 9-10 November 2021 | **Global Fund board meeting[[5]](#footnote-5)** | Broadening discussion on GF role as ACT-A HSC co-lead to broader HSS role | Global Fund, World Bank, WHO, donors, countries | Global |
| 10-12 November 2021 | **14th European Public Health Conference 2021: Public health futures in a changing world** | Adoption of lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic and way forward for future epidemics | European Commission, WHO Europe, ECDC, European Observatory, EUPHA, EuroHealthNet, ASPHER, countries in EC | Regional, country |
| November/December 2021 - tbc | **Pandemic Treaty negotiations** | Inclusion of HSS as key means for UHC and health security | WHO, donors, countries | Global, all countries |
| 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 2021 | **World AIDS Day (tbc GF replenishment kick-off)** | Focus on HSS as means to end epidemics | Global Fund, donors, tbc countries, WHO | Global, (regional, specific national?) |
| 7-8 December 2021 | **Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit** | Link made to UHC, role of service integration | Japan (host), WHO, World Bank, donors, countries,CSOs | Global, countries |
| 7-10 December 2021 | **UNAIDS 49th PCB[[6]](#footnote-6)** | As above | UNAIDS, WHO, World Bank, donors | Global |
| 12 December 2021 | **UHC Day** | Advocacy for fairer investment for equity in health coverage | UHC2030, CSEM | Global, regional, all countries |
| 2022 | **G7 Presidency transition** | Inclusion of HSS for UHC as a stand-alone item, not just under COVID-19 response | Germany, donors, WHO, World Bank | G7 members, global |
| 2022 | **G20 Presidency transition** | Focus on HSS for UHC in health and financing tracks | Indonesia, donors, countries, WHO, World Bank | G20 members, global |
| 2022 | **7th Global Fund Replenishment[[7]](#footnote-7)** | Increased funding for AIDS, Tuberculosis, malaria, and health systems strengthening for UHC and health security | Global Fund, several donors (host TBC) | Global, HIC |
| January 2022 | **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 2022 | **WHO Executive Board, new biennium budget (2022-2023) discussions begin** | Recommendations for WHO functions including for UHC and health security | WHO, donors, countries | Global, regional, all countries |
| February 2022 | **Munich Security Conference[[8]](#footnote-8) (host: Germany as G7 President)** | Inclusion of HSS as means for GHS | Donors, select countries, World Bank | Global |

### Table 2: Key events run-up to UHC HLM 2023

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Timing** | **Event/Process** | **Priority 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) | Global/HIC |
| Ongoing - 2022 | **CEPI Replenishment** | Increased funding for innovations against epidemic/pandemic infectious diseases, recognition of strong health systems for surveillance and response | No UHC2030 SC multilateral members among founders, but several donors (Replenishment host: UK) | Global/HIC |
| 2022 | **7th Global Fund Replenishment** | Improved financing for AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and HSS | Global Fund, several donors (host TBC) | Global, HIC |
| August/September 2022 | **WHO Regional Committees** | Update on regional progress and action for UHC and health security | WHO, countries | Regional, country |
| September 2022 | **UNGA** | Shift from HSS as a means against COVID-19 to HSS for GHS & UHC; re-engaging highest-level leadership of SC members on UHC | All UHC2030 members, CSEM | Global, regional, country |
| October 2022 | **World Bank Annual Meetings** | Focus on financing for HSS for UHC | World Bank, donors, countries | Global |
| October 2022 | **World Health Summit (Berlin, during Germany G7 Presidency)** | Increasing G7 commitments to HSS for UHC | World Bank, WHO, donors, select CSEM | Global, regional |
| 12 December 2022 | **UHC Day** | Increased advocacy for equity and fair health investment for UHC | All UHC2030 members, CSEM | Global, regional, country |
| January 2023 | **Transition G7 Presidency to Japan, G20 to India** | Increased political focus on UHC; Retaining HSS and financing on G20 agenda | World Bank, WHO, select donors and countries | Global, donor, country |
| January 2023 | **WEF** | Private sector HSS commitments | World Bank, WHO, donors | Global, donor |
| January 2023 | **WHO Executive Board meetings** | HSS for UHC as policy agenda, briefing ahead of UHC HLM | WHO, all countries | Global, country |
| 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 daft 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 |
| September 2023 | **UNGA and UHC HLM** | Broad, inclusive campaign, with highest-level leadership testimonials and engagement; concrete commitments around Action Table | All UHC2030 members, CSEM, all countries | Global |

1. CEPI (2021), Investment Case, <https://endpandemics.cepi.net> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. World Bank Group (2021), IDA Replenishment, <https://ida.worldbank.org/replenishments/ida20-replenishment> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Global Financing Facility (2021), Reclaim the Gains, Replenishment, [www.globalfinancingfacility.org](http://www.globalfinancingfacility.org) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. UNAIDS, PCB October 2021, <https://www.unaids.org/en/whoweare/pcb/6-october-2021-session> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Global Fund (2021), Board meetings, <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/board/meetings/> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. UNAIDS (2021), 49th PCB, <https://www.unaids.org/en/whoweare/pcb/49> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Global Fund (2021), Replenishment, <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/replenishment> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Munich Security Conference (2021), <https://securityconference.org/en/> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)