

4 May 2016

Dear IHP+ Signatories,

Following our letter of 29 March, attached, we are pleased to inform you that the IHP+ Steering Committee at its meeting on 8 April expressed strong support for expanding the scope of the IHP+. It was agreed at the meeting that the inclusion of universal health coverage (UHC) in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) presents an opportunity to promote a comprehensive and coherent approach to health, beyond the treatment of specific diseases, to focus on how the health system delivers integrated, people-centred health services.

The UHC focus, the meeting concluded, aligns with the universal nature of SDGs which have goals and targets that have relevance across all countries regardless of their level of economic development. Indeed, as initiatives of the governments of Germany and Japan have recognized in the “Healthy systems, healthy lives” and the “UHC in the new development era”, respectively, accelerated progress towards UHC inclusive of health security depends on robust and resilient health systems. Participants also reiterated the continued importance of IHP+ principles to achieve more effective health systems strengthening (HSS), particularly in countries receiving outside assistance, and the current IHP+ activities would form an important part of the revised partnership.

A revamped IHP+ or UHC 2030 (new name to be determined) will therefore aim at achieving the following objectives:

- Provide a platform to coordinate HSS, including linkages and synergies with related technical networks and partnerships;
- Contribute to consolidate political momentum around a shared global vision of HSS for UHC and advocate for sufficient, appropriate and well-coordinated resource allocation to HSS;
- Facilitate accountability for progress towards UHC and SDG3; and
- Promote coordination in countries receiving external assistance through adherence to IHP+ principles and behaviours.

You can find the Steering Committee Note for the Record as well as meeting presentations and a draft concept note for the proposed UHC 2030 at:

www.internationalhealthpartnership.net/en/news-videos/article/ihp-steering-committee-meeting-334168/

We would appreciate your concurrence with the Steering Committee’s recommendation to broaden the scope of IHP+ by **19 May 2016** to provide support to further develop the scope and functions of the new partnership. If we do not hear from you by 19 May 2016, we will consider that you agree with the proposed approach.

On the basis of your reiterated support, the IHP+ Steering Committee will decide on the details of this revised partnership in terms of its name, composition of its Steering Committee and other key governance issues. The updated concept note that provides more information on the functions of the new partnership will be submitted by the Core Team to the Steering Committee in its next meeting to be held on 21 June 2016. Following the IHP+ Steering Committee in June 2016, a set of next steps in the development and implementation of the revamped IHP+ will be communicated with IHP+ signatories.

We look forward to your continued active support moving forward on this exciting agenda. The IHP+ Core Team is ready to answer any questions you may have.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurance of our highest consideration.



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