

# **Preliminary 2020 G20 Extraordinary Virtual Summit Interim Compliance Report**

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**Feedback, as always, is welcome and is kept anonymous.**

Unlike the regular annual compliance reports produced by the G20 Research Group and RANEPA, this report has not been sent to stakeholders for review prior to publication. Scores can be recalibrated if new material becomes available that meets the requirements set by the methodology used for monitoring compliance.

**This is therefore a preliminary report  
and we encourage readers to send comments to**

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## 2. Health: System Strengthening

“We commit to strengthen national, regional, and global capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks by substantially increasing our epidemic preparedness spending”

*Extraordinary G20 Leaders’ Summit: Statement on COVID-19*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina		0	
Australia			+1
Brazil		0	
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India		0	
Indonesia		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico	-1		
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.55 (78%)	

### Background

In 2014, the Ebola outbreak denoted a moment where the G20 became extremely significant as a forum of global health governance, as the G20 stepped in to support the work of international organizations to stop the outbreak and deal with the crisis.<sup>218</sup> At the 2014 Brisbane Summit, the “G20 Leaders’ Brisbane Statement on Ebola” was published, where the G20 recognized the “serious humanitarian, social and economic impacts” and “committed to do what is necessary to ... extinguish the outbreak and address its medium-term economic and humanitarian costs.”<sup>219</sup> They approved a joint statement on the Ebola threat and pledged to “do what is necessary to ensure the international effort can extinguish the outbreak” and urged the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to “continue their strong support for the affected countries.” The G20 pledged to fully implement the World Health Organization’s (WHO) International Health Regulations (IHR) addressing “longer-term systemic issues and gaps in capability, preparedness and response capacity that expose the global economy to the impacts of infectious disease.”

<sup>218</sup> G20 Global Health Governance, 2008-2018, Daniela Vana, G20 Research Group, 7 October 2019. Access Date: 7 April 2020. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/biblio/Vana-G20-health-governance.html>.

<sup>219</sup> G20 Leaders’ Brisbane Statement on Ebola (15 November 2014). Access Date: 2 April 2020. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1115-ebola.html>.

Under Germany's G20 presidency in 2017, G20 health ministers met for the first time. They acknowledged the role of the IHR and agreed to act "accordingly with our obligations under the IHR and support the leadership and coordination of WHO in the event of health crises of international concern."<sup>220</sup> G20 members agreed to "strengthen the national and, where applicable, regional monitoring and surveillance of both antimicrobial resistance and the consumption of antibiotics" within their own jurisdictions.<sup>221</sup> At the Hamburg Summit the G20 discussed antimicrobial resistance (AMR), acknowledged its "growing threat to public health and economic growth," and pledged to "strengthen public awareness, infection prevention and control and improve the understanding of the issue of antimicrobials in the environment."<sup>222</sup>

In 2018 at the Buenos Aires Summit the G20 leaders once again acknowledged "the need for further multi-sectoral action to reduce the spread of AMR" and extended the health-related agenda of the G20 by pledging to "tackle malnutrition, with a special focus on childhood overweight and obesity, through national, community-based and collaborative multi-stakeholder approaches."<sup>223</sup> In addition, the G20 leaders draw attention to provision of "better health care" and agreed to "improve [health care] quality and affordability to move towards Universal Health Coverage."<sup>224</sup>

In 2019 at the Osaka Summit, G20 leaders reaffirmed the need for stronger health systems providing cost-effective and evidence-based intervention to achieve better access to health care and to improve its quality and affordability to move towards universal health coverage (UHC), in line with their national contexts and priorities.<sup>225</sup> They also promised to continue to strengthen core capacities required by IHR for preventing, detecting and responding to public health emergencies, recognized the WHO's critical role, and committed to ending HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.<sup>226</sup>

On 26 March 2020 the G20 leaders met for a virtual summit by videoconference and published a statement outlining a collective response including WHO funding and upcoming meetings of their health and finance ministers.<sup>227</sup> A meeting of health ministers followed on 19 April 2020, highlighting actions currently being taken by members and looking forward to pressing needs in pandemic response.<sup>228</sup> Leaders also committed to strengthen national, regional, and global capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks by substantially increasing our epidemic preparedness spending.

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<sup>220</sup> Berlin Declaration of the G20 Health Ministers. G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2017. Access date: 11 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/170520-health-en.html>

<sup>221</sup> Berlin Declaration of the G20 Health Ministers. G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2017. Access date: 11 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/170520-health-en.html>

<sup>222</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration Hamburg, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 11 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>223</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration Buenos Aires, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>224</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration Buenos Aires, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 11 December 2018. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>225</sup> G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 4 April 2020. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>226</sup> G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 10 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>227</sup> G20 Leaders' Summit – Statement on COVID-19: 26 March 2020, Government of the United Kingdom (London) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2020/2020-g20-statement-0326.html>

<sup>228</sup> WHO Director-General: G20 Health Ministers virtual meeting Saudi Arabia, 19 April 2020, Relief Web (New York) 19 April 2020. Date Accessed: 26 April 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/who-director-general-g20-health-ministers-virtual-meeting-saudi-arabia-19-april-2020>

## Commitment Features

G20 leaders committed to strengthen national, regional, and global capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks by substantially increasing epidemic preparedness spending.

### Concepts

“Epidemic preparedness:” The WHO defines pandemic preparedness as “having national response plans, resources, and the capacity to support operations in the event of a pandemic.”<sup>229</sup> Pandemic preparedness includes programs that aim specifically at preventing issues that arise from pandemics such as a shortage of personal protective equipment, hospital capacity, and vaccine testing. The IHRs, an agreement across 195 countries that includes rules related to identifying and sharing critical information about epidemics, defines steps that its member countries should take to be prepared for global health events.

“Epidemic preparedness spending:” According to the approach used by World Bank Group for the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board in close collaboration with the WHO and the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board Secretariat, there are six broad areas with constitute epidemic preparedness spending:

- mobilizing domestic resources to build IHR core capacities for preparedness
- mobilizing development assistance to build IHR core capacities for preparedness; incentivizing countries to prioritize allocations of funds for preparedness
- leveraging the insurance model, existing loans and grants, and new funding for response and early recovery
- mobilizing funding for research and development for new products and to strengthen clinical research capacities
- sustainable financing to strengthen the WHO’s capacity for health emergency preparedness and response.<sup>230</sup>

Public health response requires national emergency frameworks and systems that include risk-based emergency preparedness plans, robust emergency management structures, including emergency operation centres, a trained workforce and mobilization of resources during an emergency, are critical for timely response. In cases where international assistance is required, supportive national systems and legislation.<sup>231</sup>

### General Interpretive Guidelines

G20 leaders’ commitment to ‘strengthen national, regional, and global capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks by substantially increasing epidemic preparedness spending’ implies taking actions to raise financing of various aspects of epidemic preparedness described in the concept definition both at national and international levels. Thus, this commitment has two parts: national actions and measures aimed at international cooperation.

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<sup>229</sup> Strengthening health security by implementing the International Health Regulations (2005), World Health Organization (Geneva). Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.who.int/ihr/preparedness/en/>

<sup>230</sup> Pandemic Preparedness Financing Status Update, World Health Organization (Geneva) September 2019. Access date: 25 May 2020. [https://apps.who.int/gpmb/assets/thematic\\_papers/tr-4.pdf](https://apps.who.int/gpmb/assets/thematic_papers/tr-4.pdf)

<sup>231</sup> Action plan to improve public health preparedness and response in the WHO European Region 2018–2023, WHO (Copenhagen) 2019. Access date: 8 April 2020. [http://www.euro.who.int/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0009/393705/Action-Plan\\_EN\\_WHO\\_web\\_2.pdf](http://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/393705/Action-Plan_EN_WHO_web_2.pdf)

*Measures to improve epidemic preparedness on national level*

At the national level, G20 members can mobilize funding for research and development for new products and to strengthen clinical research capacities, allocate additional funds for preparedness, develop a standardized approach and methodology for tracking expenditures for preparedness, including for research and development and other actions contributing to the development of epidemic preparedness on their territory. Also, developing countries can apply and receive financial assistance and loans from other states or international institutions.

*Measures to improve epidemic preparedness on international level*

International cooperation includes regional and global level initiatives aimed at allocating financing for epidemic preparedness. G20 members can make contributions to different global and regional funds, provide targeted health-related development assistance, strengthen the capacity of the World Health Organization, integrate preparedness into the economic and policy assessment tools of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and other development banks, and of bilateral aid agencies.

To fully comply with the commitment on epidemic preparedness G20 member must take actions on both national and international level. For partial compliance, one of the aspects should be covered.

Actions must have been taken between 27 March 2020 and 26 May 2020 to be counted for compliance.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G20 member has failed to take action on national or international level.
0	The G20 member has fully complied with ONLY one aspect of the commitment.
+1	The G20 member has fully complied with BOTH aspects of the commitment.

*Centre for International Institutions Research*

**Argentina: 0**

Argentina partially complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 10 March 2020, the national government created a special fund of ARS 1.7 billion to strengthen response to COVID-19. Authorities from the national health portfolio made the announcement after a meeting with President Alberto Fernández and the Minister of Health, Ginés González García.<sup>232</sup> Because this took place before the G20 Extrarodinary Summit it does not count for compliance.

On 21 April 2020, national government approved the Model Loan Agreement to be signed with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) for USD 35 million, destined to finance the Emergency Project for the Prevention and Management of Coronavirus Disease, a through decree 387/2020 published in the Official Gazette. It was specified that the objective of the plan is to strengthen the efforts of preparation and response against the coronavirus pandemic, and the preparation of the national public health systems in Argentina. The project foresees the execution of two parts, one of emergency response efforts, which in turn is divided into detection,

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<sup>232</sup> Gobierno nacional creó fondo especial de 1.700 millones de pesos para fortalecer respuesta ante el COVID-19, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 10 March 2020. Access date: 20 May 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/gobierno-nacional-creo-fondo-especial-de-1700-millones-de-pesos-para-fortalecer-respuesta>

confirmation, registration and reporting of cases and follow-up of contacts; and the second, to strengthen the health system and implement, monitor, and evaluate the program.<sup>233</sup>

Argentina strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and loan from IBRD. However, no actions on strengthening international or regional capacities were registered yet. Thus, Argentina receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

**Australia: +1**

Australia fully complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 11 March 2020, the Australian government unveiled its COVID-19 National Health Plan worth AUD 2.4 billion. The plan provided for support across multiple areas, such as primary care, aged care, hospitals, research and the national medical stockpile. One of the highlights of the plan is the development of telemedicine capacity of the Australian healthcare system. It allocated AUD 100 million for a new Medicare service for people in home isolation or quarantine. AUD 500 million for states and territories to fight COVID-19 outbreak and AUD 30 million was allocated from the Medical Research Future Fund for vaccine, anti-viral and respiratory medicine research.<sup>234</sup> Because this took place before the Extraordinary Virtual Summit it does not count for compliance.

On 14 April 2020, Minister of Health Greg Hunt announced a AUD3 million research grant to Australian Partnership for Pandemic Preparedness for Infectious Diseases. These funds will support frontline health workers with training and information which will support the treatment of patients with COVID-19. The Medical Research Future Fund will receive AUD 1 million to help transform the treatment and management of patients with severe COVID-19.<sup>235</sup>

On 21 April 2020, Australia's High Commissioner to Mauritius Jenny Dee announced with the Mauritian Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development Renganaden Padayachy a contribution of MUR5 million by the Australian government to the Mauritian government's COVID-19 Solidarity Fund to support efforts to protect vulnerable communities.<sup>236</sup>

By 20 May 2020, according to World Health Organization's list of contributors for COVID-19 appeal, Australia had allocated USD 1,677,086 and pledged to make further contribution.<sup>237</sup>

Australia strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and contributed to the strengthening of international and regional capacities.

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<sup>233</sup> La Argentina recibirá US\$ 35 millones del BIRF para la lucha contra el coronavirus, Telam (Buenos Aires) 21 April 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://www.telam.com.ar/notas/202004/454215-birf-coronavirus-banco-internacional-de-reconstruccion-y-fomento.html>

<sup>234</sup> \$2.4 Billion Health Plan To Fight Covid-19, Australian Government (Canberra) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 14 May 2020. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/24-billion-health-plan-fight-covid-19>.

<sup>235</sup> Australia Mobilizes Government Funding to Accelerate COVID-19 Research Initiatives & Light at the End of the Tunnel, TrialSite News 14 April 2020. Access date: 23 July 2020. <https://www.trialsitenews.com/australia-mobiles-government-funding-to-accelerate-covid-19-research-initiatives-light-at-the-end-of-the-tunnel/>

<sup>236</sup> Australia contributes MUR5 million to Mauritius Government's COVID-19 Solidarity Fund, Australian High Commission Mauritius 21 April 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://mauritius.highcommission.gov.au/plut/AustGovContributionCOVID-19SolidarityFund.html>

<sup>237</sup> Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) donors & partners: WHO says thank you!, WHO (Geneva) 20 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/donors-and-partners/funding>

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

**Brazil: 0**

Brazil partially complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 11 May 2020, the Ministry of Health released BRL 11 billion in actions against the coronavirus. Direct transfers of resources for structuring health services are included, in addition to the purchase of personal protective equipment used by health professionals, diagnostic tests, medications, respirators, hiring health professionals and enabling intensive care units to treat patients with the disease. In addition to the resources devoted exclusively to fighting the coronavirus, since January, the Ministry of Health sent BRL 32.9 billion in resources for public health actions and services. This amount is used by state and municipal health departments to fund services and purchase basic supplies for the operation of health posts and hospitals, for example.<sup>238</sup>

Brazil strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending. However, no actions on strengthening international or regional capacities were registered yet. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

**Canada: +1**

Canada fully complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 5 April 2020, the Government of Canada announced that CAD 159.5 million in funding will be allocated to support global efforts to address the COVID-19 outbreak. The funding is being distributed as follows.

- CAD 84.5 million to international partners to support humanitarian appeals: World Health Organization, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, World Food Programme, UNICEF, International Organization for Migration, United Nations Population, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian, Food and Agriculture Organization.
- CAD 40 million to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations for COVID-19 vaccine development.
- CAD 30 million to address country-specific requests for assistance: a number of countries have made specific financial and in-kind requests to Canada for assistance to respond to COVID-19. This funding will be set aside to respond to these countries' specific needs and support their national priorities. Tailored solutions and responses will be designed in partnership and solidarity with each requesting country.
- CAD 5 million to global health security capacity building. This will reinforce and amplify global health-security capacity building initiatives implemented through Global Affairs Canada's Weapons

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<sup>238</sup> Ministério da Saúde desembolsa R\$ 11 bilhões contra COVID-19, Ministry of Health of Brazil (Brasilia) 11 May 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://www.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/46864-ministerio-da-saude-desembolsa-r-11-bilhoes-contra-covid-19>

Threat Reduction Program and meaningfully support countries and regions in the fight against COVID-19.<sup>239</sup>

On 23 April 2020, the Government of Canada released its Research Response to COVID-19. As a part of CAD 1 billion support to the fight against the coronavirus outbreak, CAD 275 million were directed to the support of academia and industry partners to advance innovative research and large-scale projects to respond to COVID-19 and ensure domestic supply of potential vaccines and treatments. The plan also provides for engaging with private sector to build-up research capacity in response to COVID-19. CAD 100 million are to be directed towards improving public health services, including enhanced surveillance and scaled-up testing.<sup>240</sup>

By 20 May 2020, according to World Health Organization's list of contributors for COVID-19 appeal, Canada had allocated USD 12,889,063.<sup>241</sup>

Canada strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and contributed to the strengthening of international and regional capacities. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

### **China: +1**

China fully complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 8 March 2020, the Government of China announced its intention to donate USD 20 million to the World Health Organization (WHO) to help reduce the spread and impact of the coronavirus.<sup>242</sup> However, because this was announced before the Extraordinary Virtual Summit it does not count for compliance.

On 3 April 2020, China announced RMB 320 million (USD45 million) in special funds for 68 scientific research projects fighting the novel coronavirus to date. To achieve breakthroughs in the shortest time, the Ministry of Science and Technology organized multiple research teams to push forward projects concurrently.<sup>243</sup>

On 14 April 2020, the leaders of China, Korea, Japan and members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) signed a joint declaration on common fight against the COVID-19 outbreak. The leaders pledged to strengthen the early warning system in the region for pandemics and other epidemic diseases as well as transparent and timely share of information and best practices; enhance regional and national capacities to prepare for and respond to pandemics; consider setting

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<sup>239</sup> Backgrounder - Canada provides funding to address COVID-19 pandemic, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 April 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2020/04/backgrounder---canada-provides-funding-to-address-covid-19-pandemic.html>

<sup>240</sup> Government of Canada's research response to COVID-19, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 23 April 2020. Access Date: 14 May 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/covid-19-government-canada-research-response.html>.

<sup>241</sup> Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) donors & partners: WHO says thank you!, WHO (Geneva) 20 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/donors-and-partners/funding>

<sup>242</sup> China to donate 20 mln USD supporting WHO's global fight against coronavirus, National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China 08 March 2020 (Beijing). Access date: 23 March 2020. [http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2020-03/08/c\\_77481.htm](http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2020-03/08/c_77481.htm)

<sup>243</sup> China allocates millions in COVID-19 research funding, China Daily (Beijing) 3 April 2020. Access date: 23 July 2020. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202004/03/WS5e86fe33a3101282172844df.html>

up a regional reserve of essential supplies to enable rapid response to emergency needs; support the ASEAN-led initiatives aimed at capacity building to prevent, detect and respond to public health treaties; strengthen scientific cooperation in epidemiological research; encourage multilateral cooperation in the development of human resources and capacity for the public health sector; ensure adequate financing to contain the pandemic and protect the peoples of the ASEAN and Plus Three countries; maintain the national markets open for trade and investment to ensure food security and strengthening the resiliency and sustainability of regional supply chains; implement appropriate and necessary measures to boost market confidence to improve stability and resilience of the regional economy; etc.<sup>244</sup>

On 23 April 2020, China announced an additional USD 30 billion of the WHO to help strengthen developing countries' health systems.<sup>245</sup>

On 4 May 2020, the head of the Chinese mission to the European Union Zhang Ming said China will take an active part in the COVID-19 ACT Accelerator program launched by the WHO and other parties, and step up research cooperation with Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, GAVI the Vaccine Alliance and other international agencies in terms of pharmaceuticals, vaccine and testing, with a view to jointly building ironclad defense against the virus.<sup>246</sup>

Overall, the Chinese government set up a special fund on COVID-19 cooperation worth RMB 2 billion (USD 283 million) and has provided much-needed supplies to over 150 countries and international organizations.<sup>247</sup>

By 20 May 2020, according to WHO's list of contributors for COVID-19 appeal, China had allocated USD 50,100,000.<sup>248</sup>

China strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and contributed to the strengthening of international and regional capacities. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 25 March 2020, the Ministry of Solidarity and Health set up an accelerated procedure for evaluating research projects. A jury comprising representatives of the scientific committee of the REACTing consortium urgently examined 27 projects related to COVID-19. The jury identified 11 projects as priorities to be implemented now. These projects cover a large part of the continuum of

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<sup>244</sup> Joint Statement of the Special ASEAN Plus Three Summit on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 16 April 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020.

[http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2020-04/16/c\\_79237.htm](http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2020-04/16/c_79237.htm)

<sup>245</sup> China to donate additional \$30 million to WHO for COVID-19, Reuters 23 April 2020. Access Date: 26 August 2020.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-china-who/china-to-donate-additional-30-million-to-who-for-covid-19-idUSB9N2BR01A>

<sup>246</sup> China to expand COVID-19 cooperation special fund, says envoy at global pledging event, Xinhua (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-05/05/c\\_139030683.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-05/05/c_139030683.htm)

<sup>247</sup> China to expand COVID-19 cooperation special fund, says envoy at global pledging event, Xinhua (Brussels) 4 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-05/05/c\\_139030683.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-05/05/c_139030683.htm)

<sup>248</sup> Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) donors & partners: WHO says thank you!, WHO (Geneva) 20 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/donors-and-partners/funding>

health research, from diagnosis to treatment through the psychological impact of the epidemic and concern both patients and caregivers.<sup>249</sup> Because this was announced before the Extraordinary Virtual Summit, it does not count toward compliance.

On 9 April, the French Development Agency successfully issued a EUR1.5 billion bond on the markets, which will help finance the “COVID-19 – Health in Common” Initiative and other programs. This French initiative is designed as a complement to the action taken by multilateral institutions, in close collaboration with European Union stakeholders.<sup>250</sup>

On 4 May 2020, the European Union and its partners hosted an international pledging conference with the aim to raise EUR 7.5 billion in initial funding to kick-start the global cooperation. The fundraiser was hosted by the European Commission and co-chaired by several countries including Germany, Norway, France, Britain, Italy, Japan and Saudi Arabia, which currently holds the G20 chair. French President Emmanuel Macron pledged EUR 500 million.<sup>251</sup>

By 20 May 2020, according to World Health Organization’s list of contributors for COVID-19 appeal, France had allocated USD 1,098,901 and pledged to make further contribution.<sup>252</sup>

France strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and contributed to the strengthening of international and regional capacities. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany fully complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 25 March 2020, the Bundestag adopted the COVID-19 Hospital Relief Act. It comprises a number of measures to guarantee the funding of hospitals and ensure their liquidity and contains provisions for out-patient care. Doctors working in practices can expect to receive compensatory payments if they suffer loss of earnings as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. It also amends the Federal Training Promotion Act to ensure that young people who are still in training, and who make a valuable contribution to easing the strain on the health system, do not suffer any disadvantages relating to their loans for trainees.<sup>253</sup> Because this was announced before the Extraordinary Virtual Summit, it does not count toward compliance.

On 4 May 2020, German Chancellor Angela Merkel pledged EUR 525 million for the Global Response Initiative to fight COVID-19. Another EUR 1.3 billion from Germany will go to global

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<sup>249</sup> Ministère des Solidarités et de la Santé – Financement en urgence de 11 projets de recherche appliquée en santé pour près de 9 millions d’euros, Ministry of Solidarity and Health of France (Paris) 25 March 2020. Access date: 20 May 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/ministere-des-solidarites-et-de-la-sante-financement-en-urgence-de-11-projets>

<sup>250</sup> France Launches, via AFD, The “Covid-19 – Health in Common” Initiative to Support African Countries (9 April 2020), AFD (Paris) 9 April 2020. Access date: 23 July 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2020/article/france-launches-via-afd-the-covid-19-health-in-common-initiative-to-support>

<sup>251</sup> World leaders pledge €7.4 billion for European Commission’s coronavirus vaccine fundraising conference, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 4 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/world-leaders-pledge-74-billion-for-european-commissions-coronavirus-vaccine-fundraising-conference/a-53322501>

<sup>252</sup> Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) donors & partners: WHO says thank you!, WHO (Geneva) 20 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/donors-and-partners/funding>

<sup>253</sup> Hospitals and medical practices to be strengthened, German Federal Government 25 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/themen/coronavirus/covid19-krankenhaus-gesetz-1735060>.

health projects, in particular to support GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, and to improve health systems in many countries of the Global South.<sup>254</sup>

On 11 May 2020, German government agreed a funding program of three-quarters of a billion euros on the development and distribution of a coronavirus vaccine. Researchers hope large-scale trials will help speed up the process. A primary goal of the new funding program is to allow clinical trials to work with a larger number of participants from the start.<sup>255</sup>

By 20 May 2020, according to World Health Organization's list of contributors for COVID-19 appeal, Germany had allocated USD 30,833,732 and pledged to make further contribution.<sup>256</sup>

Germany strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and contributed to the strengthening of international and regional capacities. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

### **India: 0**

India partially complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 2 April 2020, the World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved a fast-track USD 1 billion India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project to help India prevent, detect, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and strengthen its public health preparedness. This is the largest ever health sector support from the Bank to India. This new support will cover all states and Union Territories across India and address the needs of infected people, at-risk populations, medical and emergency personnel and service providers, medical and testing facilities, and national and animal health agencies.<sup>257</sup>

On 7 May 2020, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank approved the India: COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project worth USD 500 million was approved by. The objective of the project is to prevent, detect and respond to the threat posed by COVID-19 and to strengthen national health systems for preparedness in India.<sup>258</sup>

India strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and financing from World Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. However, no actions on strengthening international or regional capacities were registered yet. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

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<sup>254</sup> Billions pledged for the fight against the coronavirus, German Federal Government 4 May 2020. Access Date: 15 May 2020. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/geberkonferenz-covid-19-1750332>.

<sup>255</sup> Germany to spend €750 million on coronavirus vaccine, Deutsche Welle (Berlin) 11 May 2020. Access date: 23 July 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-to-spend-750-million-on-coronavirus-vaccine/a-53396167>

<sup>256</sup> Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) donors & partners: WHO says thank you!, WHO (Geneva) 20 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/donors-and-partners/funding>

<sup>257</sup> World Bank Fast-Tracks \$1 Billion COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Support for India, World Bank (Washington) 2 April 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2020/04/02/world-bank-fast-tracks-1-billion-covid-19-support-for-india>

<sup>258</sup> India: COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (Beijing) 7 May 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://www.aiib.org/en/projects/details/2020/approved/India-COVID-19-Emergency-Response-and-Health-Systems-Preparedness-Project.html>

**Indonesia: 0**

Indonesia partially complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 31 March 2020, it was announced that the government will allocate IDR 75 trillion for healthcare spending, IDR 110 trillion for social protection.<sup>259</sup>

On 9 April 2020, it was announced that the U.S. Government, through the United States Agency for International Development, will provide USD 2.3 million in emergency assistance to Indonesia as part of the United States' global effort to combat the spread of the COVID-19. This emergency assistance will support ongoing efforts of the Ministry of Health, the Presidential Staff Office and Indonesia's National Disaster Management Authority.<sup>260</sup>

On 8 May 2020, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) announced it will allocate a total of USD 1 billion in loans to help Indonesia in its COVID-19 response, according to the bank vice president. The first disbursement of the loan will amount to USD 250 million, as part of the cofinancing program with the World Bank and Islamic Development Bank to provide a total of USD 750 million in loans.<sup>261</sup>

Indonesia strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through assistance from the United States and a loan from the AIIB. However, no actions on strengthening international or regional capacities were registered yet. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

**Italy: +1**

Italy fully complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 17 March 2020, the Italian government issued a new law on increasing national healthcare service capacities to contain the spread of COVID-19. The measures included financial stimuli for overtime medical workers worth EUR 250 million, measures to strengthen surveillance worth EUR 5 million in 2020.<sup>262</sup> Because this was announced before the Extraordinary Virtual Summit, it does not count toward compliance.

On 4 May 2020, the European Union and its partners hosted an international pledging conference with the aim to raise EUR 7.5 billion in initial funding to kick-start the global cooperation. The fundraiser was hosted by the European Commission and co-chaired by several countries including

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<sup>259</sup> Indonesia announces Rp 405 trillion COVID-19 budget, anticipates 5% deficit in historic move, Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 31 March 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2020/03/31/indonesia-announces-rp-405-trillion-covid-19-budget-anticipates-5-deficit-in-historic-move.html>

<sup>260</sup> U.S. Support for Indonesia's Response to COVID-19, US Embassy and Consulates in Indonesia (Jakarta) 9 April 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://id.usembassy.gov/u-s-support-for-indonesias-response-to-covid-19/>

<sup>261</sup> AIIB to provide \$1b loan for Indonesia COVID-19 response, Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 8 May 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2020/05/08/aiib-to-provide-1b-loan-for-indonesia-covid-19-response.html>

<sup>262</sup> Misure di potenziamento del Servizio sanitario nazionale, Gazzetta Ufficiale Della Repubblica Italiana (Rome) 17 March 2020. Access Date: 15 May 2020. [http://www.governo.it/sites/new.governo.it/files/documenti/documenti/Notizie-allegati/covid-19/decreto\\_20200317.pdf](http://www.governo.it/sites/new.governo.it/files/documenti/documenti/Notizie-allegati/covid-19/decreto_20200317.pdf).

Germany, Norway, France, Britain, Italy, Japan and Saudi Arabia, which currently holds the G20 chair. Italy said it would donate more than EUR 100 million.<sup>263</sup>

By 20 May 2020, according to World Health Organization's list of contributors for COVID-19 appeal, Italy had allocated USD 454,545 and pledged to make further contribution.<sup>264</sup>

Italy strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and contributed to the strengthening of international and regional capacities. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 29 February 2020, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced an emergency package of measures of JPY 270 billion (USD 2.5 billion), with an emphasis on health measures.<sup>265</sup> Because this was announced before the Extraordinary Virtual Summit, it does not count toward compliance.

On 9 April 2020, the Government of Japan contributed USD 6 million in support of the International Organization for Migration's COVID-19 response. The donation will be used to provide emergency assistance to the Islamic Republic of Iran and surrounding developing countries to prevent the further spread of the novel coronavirus.<sup>266</sup>

On 14 April 2020, the leaders of China, Korea, Japan and members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) signed a joint declaration on common fight against the COVID-19 outbreak. The leaders pledged to strengthen the early warning system in the region for pandemics and other epidemic diseases as well as transparent and timely share of information and best practices; enhance regional and national capacities to prepare for and respond to pandemics; consider setting up a regional reserve of essential supplies to enable rapid response to emergency needs; support the ASEAN-led initiatives aimed at capacity building to prevent, detect and respond to public health treaties; strengthen scientific cooperation in epidemiological research; encourage multilateral cooperation in the development of human resources and capacity for the public health sector; ensure adequate financing to contain the pandemic and protect the peoples of the ASEAN and Plus Three countries; maintain the national markets open for trade and investment to ensure food security and strengthening the resiliency and sustainability of regional supply chains; implement appropriate and

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<sup>263</sup> World leaders pledge €7.4 billion for European Commission's coronavirus vaccine fundraising conference, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 4 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/world-leaders-pledge-74-billion-for-european-commissions-coronavirus-vaccine-fundraising-conference/a-53322501>

<sup>264</sup> Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) donors & partners: WHO says thank you!, WHO (Geneva) 20 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/donors-and-partners/funding>

<sup>265</sup> Japan: Government and institution measures in response to COVID-19, KPMG (Washington) 20 May 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://home.kpmg/xx/en/home/insights/2020/04/japan-government-and-institution-measures-in-response-to-covid.html>

<sup>266</sup> Japan Contributes USD Six Million to Support IOM COVID-19 Response Across Asia, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) 9 April 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://www.iom.int/news/japan-contributes-usd-six-million-support-iom-covid-19-response-across-asia>

necessary measures to boost market confidence to improve stability and resilience of the regional economy; etc.<sup>267</sup>

On 17 April 2020, Japan expressed its intention to become the founding donor of the new Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Multi-Donor Fund, which is now open for contributions from all donor countries. The World Bank and Japan are encouraging other donor countries to make contributions to this fund to help low income countries with the greatest needs prepare for and respond to major disease outbreaks.<sup>268</sup>

By 20 May 2020, according to World Health Organization's list of contributors for COVID-19 appeal, Japan had allocated USD 47,500,000.<sup>269</sup>

Japan strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and contributed to the strengthening of international and regional capacities. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

### **Korea: +1**

Korea fully complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 2 April 2020, the Korean government announced that it would donate KRW 215.1 billion (approximately USD 174.1 million) in forthcoming years to support domestic research on vaccines against infectious diseases.<sup>270</sup>

On 13 April 2020, Korea announced it would double its financial support for Egypt in combating the COVID-19 pandemic Korea will allocate USD 200,000 in emergency assistance to support Egypt's fight against the coronavirus.<sup>271</sup>

On 13 April 2020, the Korean government announced its intention to launch a taskforce to support the development of coronavirus vaccines and treatments. The taskforce is planned to comprise a group of top-level officials from health, science, finance, trade and startup ministries with participation of designated civilian experts.<sup>272</sup>

On 14 April 2020, the leaders of China, Korea, Japan and members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) signed a joint declaration on common fight against the COVID-19

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<sup>267</sup> Joint Statement of the Special ASEAN Plus Three Summit on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 16 April 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. [http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2020-04/16/c\\_79237.htm](http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2020-04/16/c_79237.htm)

<sup>268</sup> World Bank Group to Launch New Multi-donor Trust Fund to Help Countries Prepare for Disease Outbreaks, World Bank (Washington) 17 April 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/statement/2020/04/15/world-bank-group-to-launch-new-multi-donor-trust-fund-to-help-countries-prepare-for-disease-outbreaks>

<sup>269</sup> Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) donors & partners: WHO says thank you!, WHO (Geneva) 20 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/donors-and-partners/funding>

<sup>270</sup> Korea to spend ₩215.1 billion on vaccine research, Korea Biomedical Review 03 April 2020. Access date: 27 May 2020. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=7907>

<sup>271</sup> South Korea doubles support for Egypt's Covid-19 fight: Ambassador, Daily News Egypt (Cairo) 13 April 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://www.dailynewssegypt.com/2020/04/13/south-korea-doubles-support-for-egypts-covid-19-fight-ambassador>

<sup>272</sup> S. Korea to Launch COVID-19 Vaccine Development Task Force, KBS World Radio 13 April 2020. Access date: 27 May 2020. [http://world.kbs.co.kr/service/news\\_view.htm?lang=e&Seq\\_Code=152710](http://world.kbs.co.kr/service/news_view.htm?lang=e&Seq_Code=152710)

outbreak. The leaders pledged to strengthen the early warning system in the region for pandemics and other epidemic diseases as well as transparent and timely share of information and best practices; enhance regional and national capacities to prepare for and respond to pandemics; consider setting up a regional reserve of essential supplies to enable rapid response to emergency needs; support the ASEAN-led initiatives aimed at capacity building to prevent, detect and respond to public health treaties; strengthen scientific cooperation in epidemiological research; encourage multilateral cooperation in the development of human resources and capacity for the public health sector; ensure adequate financing to contain the pandemic and protect the peoples of the ASEAN and Plus Three countries; maintain the national markets open for trade and investment to ensure food security and strengthening the resiliency and sustainability of regional supply chains; and implement appropriate and necessary measures to boost market confidence to improve stability and resilience of the regional economy.<sup>273</sup>

By 20 May 2020, according to World Health Organization's list of contributors for COVID-19 appeal, Korea had allocated USD 3,300,000.<sup>274</sup>

Korea strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and contributed to the strengthening of international and regional capacities. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

#### **Mexico: -1**

Mexico did not comply with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 4 May 2020, Foreign Secretary Marcelo Ebrard attended the Coronavirus Global Response Summit on behalf of the Mexican government. The summit was organized by the United Nations, the European Union, the European Council and the World Health Organization. The Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of the Foreign Ministry, Martha Delgado, announced that Mexico was joining the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) in order to participate in the development, production and distribution of a COVID-19 vaccination. By signing the commitment to the global coronavirus response and joining CEPI, Mexico reaffirms its firm commitment to multilateral actions for resolving the most urgent global challenges.<sup>275</sup>

Although Mexico joined the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, no concrete actions were registered yet (contribution or other form). Also, no domestic actions aimed at strengthening epidemic preparedness were registered yet. Thus, it receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

#### **Russia: 0**

Russia partially complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

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<sup>273</sup> Joint Statement of the Special ASEAN Plus Three Summit on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 16 April 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. [http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2020-04/16/c\\_79237.htm](http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2020-04/16/c_79237.htm)

<sup>274</sup> Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) donors & partners: WHO says thank you!, WHO (Geneva) 20 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/donors-and-partners/funding>

<sup>275</sup> Mexico Attends the Coronavirus Global Response Summit, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 4 May 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/sre/prensa/mexico-attends-the-coronavirus-global-response-summit?idiom=en>

On 3 April 2020, decree published by the government stated that Russia will allocate up to USD 1 million to the World Health Organization (WHO) to combat the coronavirus pandemic in 2020. This donation is one-time and voluntary.<sup>276</sup>

On 15 April 2020, President Vladimir Putin instructed the government to simplify the procedure and reduce the time for preclinical and clinical trials and state registration of immunobiological drugs for the prevention of communicable diseases (including vaccines for the prevention of COVID-2019), as well as to introduce the possibility of conducting clinical studies in parallel with preclinical research.<sup>277</sup>

Russia strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks. However, no actions on strengthening international or regional capacities were registered yet as the contribution to WHO was not yet received. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

### **Saudi Arabia: +1**

Saudi Arabia fully complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 1 April 2020, it was announced that major energy companies supported Health Endowment Fund with over SAR 500 million. The fund, which was established by the Council of Ministers' decision no. 353 in 1440H, has a legal personality. Its key objective is to encourage the community contribution to supporting the government's health development efforts.<sup>278</sup>

On 14 April 2020, Saudi Arabia's top health officials have announced that the country's top research institutions would receive extra governmental funding to facilitate the development of COVID-19 vaccine. The medical experts will study and run tests on the nature of the virus and put forward proposals for original projects offering solutions to the challenges faced by Saudi Arabia and the world in tackling the COVID-19 outbreak.<sup>279</sup>

On 16 April 2020, Saudi Arabia said it would allocate USD 150 million to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness and Innovation, USD 150 million to the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations, and USD 200 million to other health organizations and program.<sup>280</sup>

By 20 May 2020, according to World Health Organization's list of contributors for COVID-19 appeal, Saudi Arabia had allocated USD 10,000,000 and pledged to make further contribution.<sup>281</sup>

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<sup>276</sup> Order of the Government of the Russian Federation of 03.04.2020 No. 863-r, Official Legal Information Internet Portal of Russian Federation (Moscow) 3 April 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <http://publication.pravo.gov.ru/Document/View/0001202004060017>

<sup>277</sup> List of instructions on countering the spread of new coronavirus infection (COVID-2019) in the regions of the Russian Federation, President of Russia 15 April 2020. Access Date: 15 May 2020. <http://kremlin.ru/acts/assignments/orders/63206>.

<sup>278</sup> Major Energy Companies Support Health Endowment Fund with over SAR 500 Million, Ministry of Health of Saudi Arabia (Riyadh) 1 April 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2020-04-01-004.aspx>

<sup>279</sup> Top Saudi research team gets government funding to help find COVID-19 vaccine, Arab News 14 April 2020. Access date: 27 May 2020. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1658901/saudi-arabia>

<sup>280</sup> G20 chair Saudi Arabia pledges \$500 million to combat coronavirus: statement, Reuters (Dubai) 16 April 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-g20/g20-chair-saudi-arabia-pledges-500-million-to-combat-coronavirus-statement-idUSKBN21Y35F>

Saudi Arabia strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and contributed to the strengthening of international capacities. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa partially complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 12 May 2020, the Government of South Africa announced the allocation of extra SAR 5 billion (approximately USD 288 million) funding to support the local municipalities in fight against the spread of COVID-19. This support is assisting municipalities to provide additional access to basic services for vulnerable communities during the lockdown and to sanitize public transport facilities as the economy undergoes a phased reopening.<sup>282</sup>

South Africa strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending. However, no actions on strengthening international or regional capacities were registered yet. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **Turkey: 0**

Turkey partially complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 24 April 2020, the World Bank approved a USD 100 million loan to Turkey for an Emergency COVID-19 Health Operation to support the actions Turkey is taking to respond to the health impact of COVID-19 pandemic. The project is part of the World Bank's USD 14 billion global Fast Track Facility announced on 2 April 2020. The funding will strengthen Turkey's capacity to avert the potentially high health and human cost of the COVID-19 pandemic by reinforcing mitigation and disease management.<sup>283</sup>

Turkey strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through the loan from World Bank. However, no actions on strengthening international or regional capacities were registered yet. Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom fully complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

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<sup>281</sup> Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) donors & partners: WHO says thank you!, WHO (Geneva) 20 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/donors-and-partners/funding>

<sup>282</sup> Clarity on financial support of R5 billion in support to municipalities for COVID-19 response, National Treasury of South Africa (Pretoria) 12 May 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. [http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm\\_media/press/2020/20200512%20Media%20statement%20-%20Covid-19%20support%20for%20municipalities.pdf](http://www.treasury.gov.za/comm_media/press/2020/20200512%20Media%20statement%20-%20Covid-19%20support%20for%20municipalities.pdf)

<sup>283</sup> World Bank Support will Help Turkey's Health System Better Respond to COVID-19 Pandemic, World Bank (Washington) 24 April 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2020/04/24/world-bank-support-will-help-turkeys-health-system-better-respond-to-covid-19-pandemic>

On 23 March 2020, the UK government and the UK's Chief Scientific Adviser backed the UK's leading clinicians and scientists to map how COVID-19 spreads and behaves by using whole genome sequencing. Through a GBP 20 million investment, the consortium will look for breakthroughs that help the UK respond to this and future pandemics.<sup>284</sup>

On 23 March 2020, Public Health England informed on continuation of the Field Epidemiology Training Programme (FETP). This two-year program is aimed at medical, nursing, scientific, or veterinary staff who are, or whose future career may be, in a post involving field investigation and epidemiology and who want to enhance their specialist skills. The program provides training and experience to develop the competencies agreed for field epidemiologists in the European Union.<sup>285</sup>

On 26 March 2020, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced a contribution to the key international fund to find a coronavirus vaccine. The UK, along with many other countries, is channelling funding to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) which is supporting the development of vaccines that will be available throughout the world. The UK committed GBP 250 million to CEPI to date.<sup>286</sup>

Because the above actions were announced before the Extraordinary Virtual Summit, they not count toward compliance.

On 13 April 2020, the Treasury announced that the National Health System would receive GBP6.6 billion from the coronavirus emergency fund. The funding would be used to free up hospital beds, buy new ventilators, diagnostic tests and protective equipment for NHS staff, enable home delivery of medicines and support medical and nursing students and retired doctors and nurses to join the front line.<sup>287</sup>

On 4 May 2020, the European Union and its partners hosted an international pledging conference with the aim to raise EUR 7.5 billion in initial funding to kick-start the global cooperation. The fundraiser was hosted by the European Commission and co-chaired by several countries including Germany, Norway, France, Britain, Italy, Japan and Saudi Arabia, which currently holds the G20 chair. The United Kingdom pledged EUR 441.5 million.<sup>288</sup>

By 20 May 2020, according to World Health Organization's list of contributors for COVID-19 appeal, the UK had allocated USD 104,064,647.<sup>289</sup>

The United Kingdom strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and contributed to the strengthening of international and regional capacities. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

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<sup>284</sup> UK launches whole genome sequence alliance to map spread of coronavirus, UK Government 23 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-launches-whole-genome-sequence-alliance-to-map-spread-of-coronavirus>.

<sup>285</sup> Field Epidemiology Training Programme (FETP), UK Government 23 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/field-epidemiology-training-programme-fetp#history>.

<sup>286</sup> PM announces record funding to find a coronavirus vaccine, British Government (London) 26 March 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-announces-record-funding-to-find-a-coronavirus-vaccine>

<sup>287</sup> NHS to receive £6.6bn covid-19 funding, HSJ 13 April 2020. Access date: 23 July 2020. <https://www.hsj.co.uk/coronavirus/nhs-to-receive-66bn-covid-19-funding/7027395.article>

<sup>288</sup> World leaders pledge €7.4 billion for European Commission's coronavirus vaccine fundraising conference, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 4 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/world-leaders-pledge-74-billion-for-european-commissions-coronavirus-vaccine-fundraising-conference/a-53322501>

<sup>289</sup> Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) donors & partners: WHO says thank you!, WHO (Geneva) 20 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/donors-and-partners/funding>

### **United States: +1**

The United States fully complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

On 18 March 2020, the US government announced the release of USD 62 million from the Emergency Reserve Fund for Contagious Infectious-Disease Outbreaks at the US Agency for International Development (USAID) to address the pandemic of COVID-19. This funding fulfills the pledge of up to USD 100 million for international efforts to combat COVID-19 announced by the Department of State on 7 February 2020.<sup>290</sup> Because this was announced before the Extraordinary Virtual Summit, it does not count toward compliance.

On 27 March 2020, President Donald Trump signed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).<sup>291</sup> On 8 April 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services announced the allocation of USD 1.9 billion in response to COVID-19 outbreak under the CARES Act. The money was allocated to 1,387 health centres across the country. According to the Department of Health and Human Services communication, the funding would support “health centers’ ability to detect, prevent, diagnose, and treat COVID-19” as well as maintain or increase health center capacity and staff.<sup>292</sup>

On 9 April 2020, it was announced that the US government, through USAID, will provide USD 2.3 million in emergency assistance to Indonesia as part of the United States’ global effort to combat the spread of the COVID-19. This emergency assistance will support ongoing efforts of the Ministry of Health, the Presidential Staff Office and Indonesia’s National Disaster Management Authority.<sup>293</sup>

On 18 May 2020, in the letter addressed to the United Nations General Secretary António Guterres, USAID stated that of the USD 650.7 million allocated from supplemental funding to combat the pandemic globally, it has provided USD 45.3 million to UN agencies.<sup>294</sup>

The United States strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and contributed to the strengthening of international capacities. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union fully complied with the commitment to strengthen capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks.

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<sup>290</sup> Statement by Usaid Administrator Mark Green on A Second Funding Tranche of \$62 Million In Assistance to Respond to the Pandemic of COVID-19, USAID (Washington) 18 March 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/mar-18-2020-statement-administrator-green-second-funding-tranche-62>

<sup>291</sup> S.3548 - CARES Act, United States Congress (Washington) 21 March 2020. Access Date: 15 May 2020. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3548/text?q=product+actualización#toc-id3F19D297D8814FCF8D45C70177412DED>.

<sup>292</sup> HHS Awards \$1.3 Billion to Health Centers in Historic U.S. Response to COVID-19, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 15 May 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/08/hhs-awards-billion-to-health-centers-in-historic-covid19-response.html>.

<sup>293</sup> U.S. Support for Indonesia’s Response to COVID-19, US Embassy and Consulates in Indonesia (Jakarta) 9 April 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://id.usembassy.gov/u-s-support-for-indonesias-response-to-covid-19/>

<sup>294</sup> Acting Administrator John Barsa Letter to UN Secretary General Guterres, USAID (Washington) 18 May 2020. Access date: 26 May 2020. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/may-18-2020-acting-administrator-john-barsa-un-secretary-general-antonio-guterres>

On 19 March 2020, the European Commission decided to create a strategic rescEU stockpile of medical equipment such as ventilators and protective masks to help EU countries in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>295</sup> Because this was announced before the Extraordinary Virtual Summit, it does not count toward compliance.

On 27 March 2020, the Commission presented an amendment to 2020 budget, proposing additional funding of EUR 128.6 million (in commitment appropriations) for measures addressing the consequences of the coronavirus crisis. The proposed funding will: reinforce the Union civil protection mechanism (UCPM) and its strand for action inside the EU, to help member states purchase COVID-19 medical equipment through joint procurement, with 90 per cent co-financing from the EU budget. The proposed amount is EUR 80 million in commitments, of which EUR 10 million is redeployed within the existing UCPM/rescEU budget for prevention and preparedness within the Union; provide a further EUR 45 million for the Union civil protection mechanism for action in third countries, to support further requests for repatriations relating to the coronavirus pandemic and be able to respond to other crises that might occur in the course of the year. The proposal reinforces the capacity of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control with EUR 3.6 million, with funds available under the program financing actions for the eradication of animal diseases.<sup>296</sup>

On 8 April 2020, President Ursula von der Leyen presented financial support of more than EUR 15.6 billion for partner countries. Beyond the EU budget contribution, it includes EUR 5.2 billion in loans from the European Investment Bank and a substantial contribution from the European Development Fund. This new element in the EU's global response to the coronavirus pandemic will help partner countries deal with the humanitarian, health, social and economic consequences. Existing funds and program under heading four "Global Europe" will be reoriented to tackle coronavirus. The proposed EU package will cover direct bilateral support to countries, as well as funding to international organizations such as the World Health Organization and other United Nations agencies. Resources will involve budgetary guarantees to mobilize additional private resources.<sup>297</sup>

On 4 May 2020, the European Union and its partners hosted an international pledging conference with the aim to raise EUR 7.5 billion in initial funding to kick-start the global cooperation. The fundraiser was hosted by the European Commission and co-chaired by several countries including Germany, Norway, France, Britain, Italy, Japan and Saudi Arabia, which currently holds the G20 chair. The European Commission opened the event by pledging EUR 1 billion.<sup>298</sup>

The European Union strengthened national capacities to respond to potential infectious disease outbreaks through increased domestic spending and contributed to the strengthening of international and regional capacities. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

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<sup>295</sup> COVID-19: Commission creates first ever rescEU stockpile of medical equipment, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2020. Access date: 18 May 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_20\\_476](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_476)

<sup>296</sup> The EU's 2020 budget: Response to the coronavirus pandemic, European Parliament (Strasbourg) April 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2020/649382/EPRS\\_BRI\(2020\)649382\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2020/649382/EPRS_BRI(2020)649382_EN.pdf)

<sup>297</sup> The EU's 2020 budget: Response to the coronavirus pandemic, European Parliament (Strasbourg) April 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2020/649382/EPRS\\_BRI\(2020\)649382\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2020/649382/EPRS_BRI(2020)649382_EN.pdf)

<sup>298</sup> World leaders pledge €7.4 billion for European Commission's coronavirus vaccine fundraising conference, Deutsche Welle (Bonn) 4 May 2020. Access date: 25 May 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/world-leaders-pledge-74-billion-for-european-commissions-coronavirus-vaccine-fundraising-conference/a-53322501>