

The  
G20 Research Group  
at Trinity College at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy  
in the University of Toronto  
presents the

## 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance Report

8 July 2017 to 30 October 2018

Prepared by  
Sophie Barnett, Hélène Emorine and the G20 Research Group, Toronto,  
and Irina Popova, Andrey Shelepov, Andrei Sakharov and Alexander Ignatov and the Center for  
International Institutions Research  
of the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration, Moscow

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[www.g20.utoronto.ca](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca)  
[g20@utoronto.ca](mailto:g20@utoronto.ca)

“The University of Toronto ... produced a detailed analysis to the extent of which each G20 country has met its commitments since the last summit ... I think this is important; we come to these summits, we make these commitments, we say we are going to do these things and it is important that there is an organisation that checks up on who has done what.”

— *David Cameron, Prime Minister, United Kingdom, at the 2012 Los Cabos Summit*

[munkschool.utoronto.ca](http://munkschool.utoronto.ca)



**At Trinity College**  
1 Devonshire Place  
Toronto, ON  
Canada M5S 3K7  
T: 416.946.8900 F: 416.946.8915

**At the Observatory**  
315 Bloor Street West  
Toronto, ON  
Canada M5S 0A7  
T: 416.946.8929 F: 416.946.8877

**At the Canadiana Gallery**  
14 Queen's Park Crescent West  
Toronto, ON  
Canada M5S 3K9  
T: 416.978.5120 F: 416.978.5079

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## Contents

Preface.....	3
G20 Research Group Research Team .....	4
G20 Research Group Lead Analysts.....	4
G20 Research Group Analysts.....	4
CIIR G20 Research Team .....	5
CIIR Analysts.....	5
Introduction and Summary.....	6
Methodology and Scoring System .....	6
Commitment Breakdown.....	6
Selection of Commitments .....	7
Final Compliance Scores.....	7
Final Compliance by Member.....	7
Final Compliance by Commitment .....	7
Table 1: 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Commitments Selected for Compliance Monitoring .....	8
Table 2: 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance Scores — All.....	10
Table 3: 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance Scores — G20 Research Group.....	11
Table 4: 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance Scores — CIIR.....	12
Table 5: 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance by Member — All.....	13
Table 6: 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance by Member — G20 Research Group.....	14
Table 7: 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance by Member — CIIR.....	14
Table 8: 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance by Commitment — All.....	14
Table 9: 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance by Commitment — G20 Research Group.....	15
Table 10: 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit Final Compliance by Commitment — CIIR.....	15
Table 11: G20 Compliance by Member, 2008–2016.....	16
Conclusions .....	17
Future Research and Reports .....	17
Considerations and Limitations .....	17
Appendix: General Considerations .....	18
 PART ONE: G20 RESEARCH GROUP ASSESSMENTS .....	 19
1. Climate Change: Energy and Energy Efficiency.....	19
2. Corruption: Resilience.....	72
3. Digitalization: Digital Economy .....	144
4. Gender: Access to Labour Markets .....	221
5. Health: Health System Strengthening.....	275
6. Macroeconomics: Inclusive Business Ecosystems .....	363
7. Migration .....	411
8. Sustainable Development Goals: Alignment.....	493
9. Tax: Fair and Modern System.....	589
10. Trade: Trade and Investment Frameworks .....	627
 PART TWO: CIIR ASSESSMENTS .....	 697
11. International Taxation: Base Erosion and Profit Shifting.....	697
12. Financial Regulation: Basel III.....	730
13. Development: Digital and Financial Literacy.....	750
14. Climate Change: Climate Resilience.....	775
15. Environment: Waste Reduction .....	801
16. Food and Agriculture: Information and Communications Technologies .....	823
17. Energy: Sustainable Energy.....	849

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## 5. Health: Health System Strengthening

“We strive for cooperative action to strengthen health systems worldwide, including through developing the health workforce.”

*G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Shaping an Interconnected World*

### Assessment

Country	Lack of Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa			+1
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score	+0.95		

### Background

At the 2017 Hamburg Summit, the G20 committed to strengthening global health systems and the health workforce.<sup>1994</sup> The G20 has previously made global health commitments: over the past decade these have been mostly limited to commitments to funding efforts to eradicate the Ebola virus disease,<sup>1995</sup> and to combatting antimicrobial resistance.<sup>1996</sup> While strengthening health systems was addressed in the G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the 2016

<sup>1994</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Summit (Hamburg) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 30 October 2017.

[https://www.g20.org/Content/EN/\\_Anlagen/G20/G20-leaders-declaration.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=11](https://www.g20.org/Content/EN/_Anlagen/G20/G20-leaders-declaration.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=11).

<sup>1995</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communiqué, G20 Summit (Brisbane) 21 November 2014. Access Date: 31 October 2017.

[https://www.g20.org/Content/DE/\\_Anlagen/G7\\_G20/2014-g20-abschlusserklaerung-eng.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=1](https://www.g20.org/Content/DE/_Anlagen/G7_G20/2014-g20-abschlusserklaerung-eng.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=1).

<sup>1996</sup> G20 Leaders’ Communiqué, G20 Summit (Brisbane) 21 November 2014. Access Date: 31 October 2017.

[https://www.g20.org/Content/DE/\\_Anlagen/G7\\_G20/2014-g20-abschlusserklaerung-eng.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=1](https://www.g20.org/Content/DE/_Anlagen/G7_G20/2014-g20-abschlusserklaerung-eng.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=1). See also G20 Leaders’ Communiqué, G20 Summit (Hangzhou) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 31 October 2017. [https://www.g20.org/Content/DE/\\_Anlagen/G7\\_G20/2016-09-04-g20-kommunique-en.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=1](https://www.g20.org/Content/DE/_Anlagen/G7_G20/2016-09-04-g20-kommunique-en.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=1).

Hangzhou Summit, the 2017 Hamburg Summit marks the first time the G20 has committed to health systems and health workforce strengthening in a leaders' declaration.<sup>1997</sup>

Under Germany's G20 Presidency, health has risen in prominence on the summit agenda. For the first time ever, the G20 Health Ministers met in Berlin on 19-20 May 2017 to discuss "global health crisis management," "health systems strengthening," and "antimicrobial resistance."<sup>1998</sup> In their discussion of "health systems strengthening," the ministers expressed their anticipation of the 70th World Health Assembly (WHA)'s adoption of Working for Health: A Five-Year Action Plan for Health Employment and Inclusive Economic Growth (2017-2021),<sup>1999</sup> the joint publication by WHO, the International Labour Organization and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on improving the health workforce.<sup>2000</sup> Commissioned in 2016 by the UN Secretary General at the request of the General Assembly, "Working for Health" was indeed adopted by the WHA on 29 May 2017.<sup>2001</sup> The subsequent Leaders' Declaration released at the 2017 Hamburg Summit publicly reaffirmed the G20's commitments to the development of health systems and the health workforce, under the Summit's pillar of "Building Resilience."<sup>2002</sup>

The G20's focus on improving health systems and the health workforce reflects its continued commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, also known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a resolution adopted unanimously by the UN General Assembly on 25 September 2015.<sup>2003</sup> At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, the G20 publicly "committed to further aligning its work with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," and announced improving health systems as part of its efforts to fulfil SDGs 1, 3 and 5.<sup>2004</sup> SDG 1 is to "end poverty in all its forms everywhere;" SDG 3 is to "ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;" and SDG 5 is to "achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls."<sup>2005</sup> The Leaders' Declaration, as well as the Hamburg Update: Taking Forward the G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for

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<sup>1997</sup> G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20 Summit (Hangzhou) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 31 October 2017. [https://www.g20.org/Content/DE/\\_Anlagen/G7\\_G20/2016-09-08-g20-agenda-action-plan.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=1](https://www.g20.org/Content/DE/_Anlagen/G7_G20/2016-09-08-g20-agenda-action-plan.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=1).

<sup>1998</sup> Berlin Declaration of the G20 Health Ministers, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 20 May 2017. Access Date: 30 October 2017. [https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/fileadmin/Dateien/3\\_Downloads/G/G20-Gesundheitsministertreffen/G20\\_Health\\_Ministers\\_Declaration\\_engl.pdf](https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/fileadmin/Dateien/3_Downloads/G/G20-Gesundheitsministertreffen/G20_Health_Ministers_Declaration_engl.pdf).

<sup>1999</sup> Berlin Declaration of the G20 Health Ministers, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 20 May 2017. Access Date: 30 October 2017. [https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/fileadmin/Dateien/3\\_Downloads/G/G20-Gesundheitsministertreffen/G20\\_Health\\_Ministers\\_Declaration\\_engl.pdf](https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/fileadmin/Dateien/3_Downloads/G/G20-Gesundheitsministertreffen/G20_Health_Ministers_Declaration_engl.pdf).

<sup>2000</sup> Human resources for health and implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations' High-Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth, WHO (Geneva) 15 May 2017. Access Date: 31 October 2017. [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/WHA70/A70\\_18-en.pdf](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA70/A70_18-en.pdf).

<sup>2001</sup> Working for Health: Five year action plan for health employment & inclusive economic growth adopted at the 70th World Health Assembly, WHO (Geneva) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 31 October 2017. [http://www.who.int/hrh/news/2017/working4health\\_fiveyearactionplan/en/](http://www.who.int/hrh/news/2017/working4health_fiveyearactionplan/en/).

<sup>2002</sup> G20 Leaders' Declaration, G20 Summit (Hamburg) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 30 October 2017. [https://www.g20.org/Content/EN/\\_Anlagen/G20/G20-leaders-declaration.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=11](https://www.g20.org/Content/EN/_Anlagen/G20/G20-leaders-declaration.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=11).

<sup>2003</sup> Historic New Sustainable Development Agenda Unanimously Adopted by 193 UN Members, United Nations (New York) 27 September 2015. Access Date: 31 October 2017. <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2015/09/historic-new-sustainable-development-agenda-unanimously-adopted-by-193-un-members/>.

<sup>2004</sup> G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20 Summit (Hangzhou) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 31 October 2017. [https://www.g20.org/Content/DE/\\_Anlagen/G7\\_G20/2016-09-08-g20-agenda-action-plan.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=1](https://www.g20.org/Content/DE/_Anlagen/G7_G20/2016-09-08-g20-agenda-action-plan.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=1).

<sup>2005</sup> Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Sustainable Development UN (New York) 25 September 2015. Access Date: 31 October 2017. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>.

Sustainable Development, both reiterate the G20's commitment to fulfilling these goals and view of strengthening health systems as a key strategy to accomplishing this.<sup>2006</sup>

SDG 3.8, achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC), is particularly pertinent to the G20's commitment to fulfilling the SDGs, as it acts as a strategic objective for strengthening health systems.<sup>2007</sup> The "Health Ministers' Declaration" acknowledges a paper by WHO and the World Bank, "Healthy systems for universal health coverage — a joint vision for healthy lives," as the "reference framework" for health systems strengthening (HSS).<sup>2008</sup> The paper was published for the International Health Partnership for Universal Health Coverage (UHC2030) and outlines the strategies for HSS through five performance dimensions: equity, quality, responsiveness, efficiency and resilience; and through three action areas: service delivery, health financing and governance.<sup>2009</sup> While the G20 is not an official partner of UHC2030,<sup>2010</sup> the G20 has recognized this paper as a worthy guideline for G20 members' HSS policies.

While the G20's commitment to strengthening global health systems and the health workforce is reflective of its larger commitment to the SDGs, it is also a significant strategy for strengthening socio-economic stability.<sup>2011</sup> The commitment to health is thus demonstrative of how the G20's goals of financial and economic cooperation have extended to have wide-reaching societal impacts.<sup>2012</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

The G20 commitment is to "strive for cooperative action to strengthen health systems worldwide, including through developing the health workforce." There are three components to this commitment: cooperative action, strengthening global health systems, and developing the health workforce. Each component must be fulfilled in order to achieve full compliance.

### **Part One: Cooperative Action**

The first component, "cooperative action," signifies that members must demonstrate their participation in cooperative initiatives either with other states, or with international organizations such as WHO or the OECD. Not only must initiatives be cooperative, they must also be actions. The three action areas outlined by "Healthy systems for universal health coverage" (service delivery, health financing, and governance) are valuable starting points for assessing whether or not an

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<sup>2006</sup> Hamburg Update: Taking Forward the G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20 Information Centre (Hamburg) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 30 October 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-g20-hamburg-update.html>.

<sup>2007</sup> Berlin Declaration of the G20 Health Ministers, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 20 May 2017. Access Date: 30 October 2017. [https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/fileadmin/Dateien/3\\_Downloads/G/G20-Gesundheitsministertreffen/G20\\_Health\\_Ministers\\_Declaration\\_engl.pdf](https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/fileadmin/Dateien/3_Downloads/G/G20-Gesundheitsministertreffen/G20_Health_Ministers_Declaration_engl.pdf).

<sup>2008</sup> Berlin Declaration of the G20 Health Ministers, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 20 May 2017. Access Date: 30 October 2017. [https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/fileadmin/Dateien/3\\_Downloads/G/G20-Gesundheitsministertreffen/G20\\_Health\\_Ministers\\_Declaration\\_engl.pdf](https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/fileadmin/Dateien/3_Downloads/G/G20-Gesundheitsministertreffen/G20_Health_Ministers_Declaration_engl.pdf).

<sup>2009</sup> Healthy systems for universal health coverage — a joint vision for healthy lives, UHC2030 (Geneva) 2017. Access Date: 30 October 2017. [https://www.uhc2030.org/fileadmin/uploads/uhc2030/Documents/About\\_UHC2030/mgt\\_arrangemts\\_\\_\\_docs/UHC2030\\_Official\\_documents/UHC2030\\_vision\\_paper\\_WEB2.pdf](https://www.uhc2030.org/fileadmin/uploads/uhc2030/Documents/About_UHC2030/mgt_arrangemts___docs/UHC2030_Official_documents/UHC2030_vision_paper_WEB2.pdf).

<sup>2010</sup> UHC2030 Partners, UHC2030 (Geneva). Access Date: 31 October 2017. <https://www.uhc2030.org/about-us/uhc2030-partners/>.

<sup>2011</sup> G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20 Summit (Hangzhou) 8 September 2016. Access Date: 31 October 2017. [https://www.g20.org/Content/DE/\\_Anlagen/G7\\_G20/2016-09-08-g20-agenda-action-plan.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=1](https://www.g20.org/Content/DE/_Anlagen/G7_G20/2016-09-08-g20-agenda-action-plan.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=1).

<sup>2012</sup> The History of the G20 Summit, G20 Summit. Access Date: 31 October 2017. [https://www.g20.org/Webs/G20/EN/G20/History/history\\_node.html](https://www.g20.org/Webs/G20/EN/G20/History/history_node.html).

initiative may be deemed an action. For example, joint declarations unaccompanied by specific policy initiatives thus do not apply to compliance. An example of a suitable cooperative action would be an increase in official development assistance for health by a member done in conjunction with WHO.

## Part Two: Strengthening Health Systems Worldwide

The second component, “strengthen health systems world-wide,” uses WHO’s definition of a health system, i.e., the activities, people, institutions and resources whose goals are to maintain and improve health, and combat ill health under the umbrella of policy.<sup>2013</sup> WHO outlines “a robust financing mechanism; a well-trained and adequately paid workforce; reliable information on which to base decisions and policies; well maintained facilities and logistics to deliver quality medicines and technologies”<sup>2014</sup> as essential to all strong health systems. Members’ health policies that count towards compliance must thus specifically target health systems. Examples of applicable policies include cooperating to increase the distribution of health services in rural areas, supporting the development of health science research capabilities, or assisting in implementing vital statistics systems, among many others. As this component also includes the caveat “worldwide,” initiatives that are purely domestic in nature will not count towards compliance. However, domestic initiatives may count for compliance if they are conducted under the purview of “cooperative action,” wherein a domestic policy is implemented in conjunction with another state or international organization.

## Part Three: Developing the Health Workforce

The final component for assessing compliance is the focus on “developing the health workforce.” A “health workforce” is composed of individuals responsible for all human aspects of a health system. Members must demonstrate initiatives that specifically develop human aspects through methods such as those recommended by the “Five-Year Action Plan for Health Employment and Inclusive Economic Growth.” Examples include improving education of health professionals or increasing health career opportunities for disadvantaged members of society, such as women and youth.

To achieve full compliance, G20 members must take action according to all three components of this commitment. If only two or one are achieved, members will receive a score of partial compliance. A score of no compliance will be accorded only with no demonstrable compliance with any of the three aforementioned factors by a member.

## Scoring Guidelines

-1	G20 member does not partake in cooperative policy actions AND does not strengthen worldwide health systems AND does not develop the health workforce.
0	G20 member partakes in cooperative policy actions AND strengthens worldwide health systems BUT does not develop the health workforce OR does not partake in cooperative policy actions BUT strengthens worldwide health systems AND develops the health workforce OR partakes in cooperative policy actions AND develops the health workforce BUT does not strengthen worldwide health systems OR complies with only one of the three requirements
+1	G20 member partakes in cooperative policy actions AND strengthens worldwide health systems AND develops the health workforce

*Compliance Director: Riam Kim-McLeod  
Lead Analyst: Meagan Byrd*

<sup>2013</sup> Health Systems Strengthening Glossary, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 30 October 2017.  
[http://www.who.int/healthsystems/hss\\_glossary/en/index5.html](http://www.who.int/healthsystems/hss_glossary/en/index5.html).

<sup>2014</sup> Health Systems, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 30 October 2017.  
[http://www.who.int/topics/health\\_systems/en/](http://www.who.int/topics/health_systems/en/).

## **Argentina: +1**

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 23 August 2017, the Ministry of Health met with representatives from ten countries, and from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to commit to strategies to reduce obesity and to minimize obesogenic environments.<sup>2015</sup> The commitments included expanded regulation of packaged foods and limiting sodium and trans fat content in foods.<sup>2016</sup>

On 8 September 2017, Minister of Health Jorge Lemus and Jassen Latin America South Laboratory General Manager Roy Benchimol agreed to joint actions aimed at strengthening national health outcomes through improving prevention and treatment of diseases, improving training of health professionals, disseminating information of public health policy, and expediting response time for clinical trial authorization.<sup>2017</sup> Furthermore, the Ministry agreed to an investment of ARS78 million in clinical pharmacology studies from 2017 to 2020, which will in turn create an estimated 3,000 jobs for laboratory personnel, including statisticians, principal investigators, and laboratory assistants.<sup>2018</sup>

On 20 October 2017, Minister Lemus, President Mauricio Macri, and Uruguayan President Tabaré Vázquez met at the World Health Organization (WHO) conference on Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs).<sup>2019</sup> They established the multilateral goal of reducing NCD mortality in Uruguay by the year 2030 through epidemiological surveillance, health delivery improvements, physical activity and nutrition education promotion, and regulation of tobacco and alcohol.<sup>2020</sup>

On 9 November 2017, Minister Lemus, Minister of Finance Luis Caputo, and Italian Management Unit Development Fund of Deposits and Loans Head Stefano Gatti held a meeting to sign a loan in the amount of EUR42 million to Argentina from Italy.<sup>2021</sup> It is to be used for the acquisition of medical equipment and training of health professionals in the implementation of the Program of

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<sup>2015</sup> Argentina Presentó en Chile la Estrategia de Regulación de Entornos Obesogénicos, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 23 August 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-presento-en-chile-la-estrategia-de-regulacion-de-entornos-obesogenicos>.

<sup>2016</sup> Argentina Presentó en Chile la Estrategia de Regulación de Entornos Obesogénicos, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 23 August 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-presento-en-chile-la-estrategia-de-regulacion-de-entornos-obesogenicos>.

<sup>2017</sup> Ministerio de Salud y Farmacéutica Janssen Firmaron un Acuerdo Marco de Cooperación, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 8 September 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ministerio-de-salud-y-farmaceutica-janssen-firmaron-un-acuerdo-marco-de-cooperacion>.

<sup>2018</sup> Ministerio de Salud y Farmacéutica Janssen Firmaron un Acuerdo Marco de Cooperación, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 8 September 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ministerio-de-salud-y-farmaceutica-janssen-firmaron-un-acuerdo-marco-de-cooperacion>.

<sup>2019</sup> Lemus Disertó en la Conferencia Mundial sobre Enfermedades No Transmisibles en Uruguay, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 20 October 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/lemus-diserto-en-la-conferencia-mundial-sobre-enfermedades-no-transmisibles-en-uruguay>.

<sup>2020</sup> Lemus Disertó en la Conferencia Mundial sobre Enfermedades No Transmisibles en Uruguay, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 20 October 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/lemus-diserto-en-la-conferencia-mundial-sobre-enfermedades-no-transmisibles-en-uruguay>.

<sup>2021</sup> Argentina Firmó con Italia Financiamiento para Fortalecer Prestaciones de Salud, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 9 November 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-firmo-con-italia-financiamiento-para-fortalecer-prestaciones-de-salud>.

Support for the Public Sector Phase II.<sup>2022</sup> Argentina is also to receive aid from PAHO to help train their professionals.<sup>2023</sup>

On 15 November 2017, the Third Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean on HIV/AIDS took place in Haiti with representatives from Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.<sup>2024</sup> The forum reaffirmed the goals of HIV/AIDS impact reduction by the year 2020 and established strategies for sustainability in responses to HIV/AIDS, to be implemented by the year 2030.<sup>2025</sup>

On 21 November 2017, the Ministry of Health announced participation in the first WHO ministerial Conference on Ending Tuberculosis in the Sustainable Development Era: A Multisectoral Response in Moscow.<sup>2026</sup> At the conference, Minister Lemus arranged with WHO General Director Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus a 2018 conference about municipal health systems.<sup>2027</sup> Additionally, the Ministry announced the final review of the Protocol of Intentions on Matters of Health between Argentina and Italy with Minister of Health of Emilia Romagna Sergio Venturi.<sup>2028</sup>

On 4 December 2017, Minister of Health Adolfo Rubinstein and Salteño Governor Manuel Urtubey, as well as municipal health ministers from Salta, Buenos Aires, Santiago del Estero, Jujuy, and Misiones, signed an agreement to use funds from the Support Program for the Public Sector, Phase II, which granted Argentina a loan from the Italian government for the purposes of health system improvement, to purchase and implement new medical equipment in clinics in the aforementioned

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<sup>2022</sup> Argentina Firmó con Italia Financiamiento para Fortalecer Prestaciones de Salud, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 9 November 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-firmo-con-italia-financiamiento-para-fortalecer-prestaciones-de-salud>.

<sup>2023</sup> Argentina Firmó con Italia Financiamiento para Fortalecer Prestaciones de Salud, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 9 November 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-firmo-con-italia-financiamiento-para-fortalecer-prestaciones-de-salud>.

<sup>2024</sup> Argentina Está al Frente del Grupo que Reúne a las Autoridades de VIH-sida en América Latina y el Caribe, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 15 July 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-esta-al-frente-del-grupo-que-reune-las-autoridades-de-vih-sida-en-america-latina>.

<sup>2025</sup> Argentina Está al Frente del Grupo que Reúne a las Autoridades de VIH-sida en América Latina y el Caribe, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 15 July 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-esta-al-frente-del-grupo-que-reune-las-autoridades-de-vih-sida-en-america-latina>.

<sup>2026</sup> Se Realizó en Moscú la Primera Conferencia Ministerial Mundial, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 21 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-realizo-en-moscu-la-primera-conferencia-ministerial-mundial>.

<sup>2027</sup> Se Realizó en Moscú la Primera Conferencia Ministerial Mundial, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 21 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-realizo-en-moscu-la-primera-conferencia-ministerial-mundial>.

<sup>2028</sup> Se Realizó en Moscú la Primera Conferencia Ministerial Mundial, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 21 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-realizo-en-moscu-la-primera-conferencia-ministerial-mundial>.



cities.<sup>2029</sup> The funds will also be used to train more healthcare personnel and thereby expand the health workforce.<sup>2030</sup>

On 7 December 2017, the XLI Meeting of Ministers of Health with the Southern Common Market (Mercosur) took place between Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay as full members, as well as Bolivia, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, and Suriname as associate nations.<sup>2031</sup> Minister Rubinstein committed to promotion of equitable care, prevention of noncommunicable, chronic diseases, such as diabetes, and expansion of health coverage, working towards Minister Rubinstein's goal of universal health coverage.<sup>2032</sup> He intends to do this through expanding public-sector health spending in health and reorganizing the financial system for health to integrate more health services.<sup>2033</sup>

On 22 May 2018, the World Bank approved a loan for USD 300 million for the Ministry of Health's project "Proyecto de Apoyo a una Cobertura Universal Efectiva de Salud en Argentina" [Project of Support towards Effective Universal Health Coverage in Argentina], which Minister of Health Adolfo Rubinstein says will allow health coverage for an additional 15 million people through the public health system.<sup>2034</sup> In addition, the national government committed to contributing an additional USD350 million for the same project.<sup>2035</sup> Specifically, Minister Rubinstein intends to use the funds to expand coverage of health services to the population of adults under 65 without current health coverage and to increase collaboration and coordination between provincial governments and the national government, thus increasing efficiency of the health system.<sup>2036</sup>

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<sup>2029</sup> Cinco Provincias Serán Beneficiadas con Equipamiento Médico y Capacitación de Recursos Humanos, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 4 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/cinco-provincias-seran-beneficiadas-con-equipamiento-medico-y-capacitacion-de-recursos>.

<sup>2030</sup> Cinco Provincias Serán Beneficiadas con Equipamiento Médico y Capacitación de Recursos Humanos, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 4 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/cinco-provincias-seran-beneficiadas-con-equipamiento-medico-y-capacitacion-de-recursos>.

<sup>2031</sup> Rubinstein Presentó los Lineamientos Estratégicos de su Gestión ante Ministros de Salud del Mercosur, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-presento-los-lineamientos-estrategicos-de-su-gestion-ante-ministros-de-salud-del>.

<sup>2032</sup> Rubinstein Presentó los Lineamientos Estratégicos de su Gestión ante Ministros de Salud del Mercosur, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-presento-los-lineamientos-estrategicos-de-su-gestion-ante-ministros-de-salud-del>.

<sup>2033</sup> Rubinstein Presentó los Lineamientos Estratégicos de su Gestión ante Ministros de Salud del Mercosur, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-presento-los-lineamientos-estrategicos-de-su-gestion-ante-ministros-de-salud-del>.

<sup>2034</sup> Rubinstein Celebró Aprobación del Crédito del Banco Mundial para Fortalecer la Cobertura Universal de Salud, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 22 May 2018. Access Date: 25 May 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-celebro-aprobacion-de-credito-del-banco-mundial-para-fortalecer-la-cobertura>.

<sup>2035</sup> Rubinstein Celebró Aprobación del Crédito del Banco Mundial para Fortalecer la Cobertura Universal de Salud, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 22 May 2018. Access Date: 25 May 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-celebro-aprobacion-de-credito-del-banco-mundial-para-fortalecer-la-cobertura>.

<sup>2036</sup> Rubinstein Celebró Aprobación del Crédito del Banco Mundial para Fortalecer la Cobertura Universal de Salud, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 22 May 2018. Access Date: 25 May 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-celebro-aprobacion-de-credito-del-banco-mundial-para-fortalecer-la-cobertura>.

On 15 June 2018, the Argentina signed a declaration ratifying the elimination of illegal trade in tobacco products.<sup>2037</sup> The protocol of action was developed under the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, and was also signed by Brazil, Uruguay, Chile and Paraguay. The document signed by Argentina and its neighbours plans to enforce the licensing of participants of the supply chain and the maintenance of records and regulation of sales on the internet.<sup>2038</sup>

On 6 July 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship agreed to work through the Cascos Blancos [White Helmets] to provide medical aid to Venezuelans living on the Venezuela-Colombia border, especially neonatal, postnatal and maternal health care to pregnant women, new mothers, and infants.<sup>2039</sup> This was the second stage of a collaborative program between Venezuela and Argentina in which Argentina offers primary health care through medical professionals, technicians and supplies to Venezuelan citizens leaving the country through Colombia.

On 10 July 2018, 70 nurses and health workers from Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Brazil were trained in Buenos Aires using a curriculum developed by PAHO and Gran Chaco Suramericano region health officials in vaccination procedures, including preparation before going into the field, application techniques, and waste procedures.<sup>2040</sup> The training workshop was conducted as a step towards the initiative “Hacia la Salud Universal en el Gran Chaco Suramericano” [Towards Universal Health in the Gran Chaco Suramericano], which seeks to reduce inequities in health care, specifically in terms of maternal, neonatal, and infant morbidity and mortality.<sup>2041</sup>

On 7 August 2018, Argentina attended the first meeting of the Advisory Group for the Preparation of the PAHO Strategic Plan for 2020-2025 in Panama City.<sup>2042</sup> Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, the Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Canada, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States, and Venezuela gathered and drafted the Strategic Plan, which will be used

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<sup>2037</sup> Brazil signs declaration to eliminate illicit trade in tobacco, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 22 September 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/43591-brasil-assina-declaracao-para-eliminar-comercio-ilicito-de-tabaco>.

<sup>2038</sup> Brazil signs declaration to eliminate illicit trade in tobacco, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 22 September 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/43591-brasil-assina-declaracao-para-eliminar-comercio-ilicito-de-tabaco>.

<sup>2039</sup> Salud Brinda Apoyo Técnico e Insumos para la Atención de Venezolanos en la Frontera con Colombia, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 6 July 2018. Access Date: 11 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-brinda-apoyo-tecnico-e-insumos-para-la-atencion-de-venezolanos-en-la-frontera-con>.

<sup>2040</sup> Unos 70 Trabajadores de la Salud del Chaco Salteño Entrenados en Vacunación, Panamerican Health Organization (Buenos Aires) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018. [https://www.paho.org/arg/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=10241:unos-70-trabajadores-de-la-salud-del-chaco-salteno-entrenados-en-vacunacion&Itemid=285](https://www.paho.org/arg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=10241:unos-70-trabajadores-de-la-salud-del-chaco-salteno-entrenados-en-vacunacion&Itemid=285).

<sup>2041</sup> Unos 70 Trabajadores de la Salud del Chaco Salteño Entrenados en Vacunación, Panamerican Health Organization (Buenos Aires) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018. [https://www.paho.org/arg/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=10241:unos-70-trabajadores-de-la-salud-del-chaco-salteno-entrenados-en-vacunacion&Itemid=285](https://www.paho.org/arg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=10241:unos-70-trabajadores-de-la-salud-del-chaco-salteno-entrenados-en-vacunacion&Itemid=285).

<sup>2042</sup> Argentina Participó en Reunión para la Elaboración del Plan Estratégico 2020-2025 de la OPS, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 August 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-en-reunion-para-la-elaboracion-del-plan-estrategico-2020-2025-de-la-ops>.

as the primary instrument to meet the Health Agenda for the Americas 2030, and thereby, the UN Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>2043</sup>

On 21 and 22 August 2018, the IX Binational Ministerial Meeting and VII Binational Meeting of Shared Border Superintendents and Governors - Chile and Argentina took place, resulting in a bilateral agreement signed by Argentine Minister of Health Adolfo Rubinstein and Chilean Minister of Health Emilio Santelices.<sup>2044</sup> Both countries agreed to increase collaboration between the National Administration of Medicine, Food and Medical Technology and the Institute of Public Health and thereby further standardize medicine, food, and medical technology regulations across the two countries.<sup>2045</sup> Furthermore, the countries endeavor to improve primary health care by conducting training exercises for emergencies by implementing the Simplified Procedure for Coordinating Primary Medical Assistance in Urgent Cases and Emergencies.<sup>2046</sup>

Argentina has successfully strengthened its own health system, as well as those of other countries, through cooperative action. It has expanded and trained the health workforce of others as well as of themselves. Argentina has worked with numerous countries from three continents to improve their own and other health systems, led health conferences to bring attention to global health issues, trained civilians to be health workers, and created networks to expand access to health care.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Jacob Newfeld*

#### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to pursue cooperative action to strengthen health systems worldwide, including through developing the health workforce.

On 17 September 2017, Australia announced AUD15 million to provide “essential health services for displaced people in Bangladesh” who have been affected by the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar.<sup>2047</sup>

On 8 October 2017—immediately prior to hosting the 68<sup>th</sup> meeting of the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Committee for the Western Pacific (RCM68) on 9-13 October 2017—Australia announced the launch of the Indo-Pacific Health Security Initiative.<sup>2048</sup> This initiative will disperse AUD300 million over five years (2017-2022) to fund research on infectious

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<sup>2043</sup> Argentina Participó en Reunión para la Elaboración del Plan Estratégico 2020-2025 de la OPS, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 August 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-en-reunion-para-la-elaboracion-del-plan-estrategico-2020-2025-de-la-ops>.

<sup>2044</sup> Argentina y Chile Firmaron Acuerdo de Cooperación en Temas de Salud, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 22 August 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-chile-firmaron-acuerdo-de-cooperacion-en-temas-de-salud>.

<sup>2045</sup> Argentina y Chile Firmaron Acuerdo de Cooperación en Temas de Salud, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 22 August 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-chile-firmaron-acuerdo-de-cooperacion-en-temas-de-salud>.

<sup>2046</sup> Argentina y Chile Firmaron Acuerdo de Cooperación en Temas de Salud, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 22 August 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-chile-firmaron-acuerdo-de-cooperacion-en-temas-de-salud>.

<sup>2047</sup> Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. [https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb\\_mr\\_170919.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170919.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>2048</sup> Indo-Pacific Health Security Initiative, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. [https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb\\_mr\\_171008.aspx](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171008.aspx).

diseases (AUD16 million), develop new pharmaceutical products (AUD75 million), and strengthen health systems in developing countries of the Western Pacific region,<sup>2049</sup> including Cambodia and Papua New Guinea.<sup>2050</sup> The initiative also includes a new Health Security Corps, which will coordinate the placement of Australian health professionals across the Western Pacific region, enabling them to share their expert knowledge with local health workforces.<sup>2051</sup> The initiative's AUD300 million budget will also include AUD20 million over four years to the World Health Organization's Health Emergencies Program.<sup>2052</sup>

On 9 October 2017 at RCM68, Australia signed its first Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) with the WHO, between Health Minister Greg Hunt and WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific Dr. Shin Young-soo.<sup>2053</sup> The CCS identifies “four strategic priorities as a focus for the partnership over the coming five years: 1) health security; 2) people-centred health systems for universal health coverage (UHC); 3) regulatory strengthening; and 4) working together to support to WHO in its efforts to achieve organizational excellence.”<sup>2054</sup>

On 23 October 2017, Minister for Foreign Affairs Julie Bishop announced a further AUD10 million to support people affected by the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar and Bangladesh.<sup>2055</sup> The funding will support the World Food Program, Save The Children, Oxfam, Care, the Australia Red Cross, and UN High Commission for Refugees; these organizations will focus on providing medical care for those injured by the violence and in providing maternal health services to the displaced persons, 70 per cent of whom are young children and pregnant or breastfeeding women.<sup>2056</sup>

On 14 November 2017, the Department of Foreign Affairs published an “impact story” about eye-care NGO Sight For All, which is operating in Myanmar and which has been supported by the Australia NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).<sup>2057</sup> Australia has provided regular foreign aid funding through the ANCP, which is estimated to provide AUD129.3 million in 2017-18<sup>2058</sup> to various

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<sup>2049</sup> Indo-Pacific Health Security Initiative, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. [https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb\\_mr\\_171008.aspx](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171008.aspx).

<sup>2050</sup> Health Security in the 2017 Foreign Policy White Paper, Indo-Pacific Centre for Health Security, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, November 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <http://indopacifichealthsecurity.dfat.gov.au/Pages/News/News/White-Paper.aspx>.

<sup>2051</sup> New initiatives put regional health security at the forefront of Australian aid priorities, Devex, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <https://www.devex.com/news/new-initiatives-put-regional-health-security-at-the-forefront-of-australian-aid-priorities-91224>.

<sup>2052</sup> Indo-Pacific Health Security Initiative, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. [https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb\\_mr\\_171008.aspx](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171008.aspx).

<sup>2053</sup> New Country Cooperation Strategy signed will leverage Aust's experience and expertise to solve regional health problems, Twitter, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <https://twitter.com/healthgovau/status/917274502752378880>.

<sup>2054</sup> Australia-WHO Country Cooperation Strategy 2018-2022, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <http://iris.wpro.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665.1/13681/WPRO-2017-DPM-028-eng.pdf>.

<sup>2055</sup> Rohingya Crisis: Australia Commits Further \$10M In Humanitarian Aid, Huffington Post Australia, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. [http://www.huffingtonpost.com.au/2017/10/23/rohingya-crisis-australia-commits-further-10m-in-humanitarian-aid\\_a\\_23252087/](http://www.huffingtonpost.com.au/2017/10/23/rohingya-crisis-australia-commits-further-10m-in-humanitarian-aid_a_23252087/).

<sup>2056</sup> Further humanitarian assistance to Bangladesh and Myanmar, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. [https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb\\_mr\\_171023.aspx](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171023.aspx).

<sup>2057</sup> Strengthening eye health care in Myanmar, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, November 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/strengthening-eye-health-care-in-myanmar.aspx>.

<sup>2058</sup> Australian NGO Cooperation Program, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, November 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/Pages/australian-ngo-cooperation-program.aspx>.

initiatives—including supporting other eye-health projects that have provided training for biomedical technicians in Kiribati<sup>2059</sup> and Pakistan.<sup>2060</sup>

On 15 December 2017, Minister Bishop announced AUD600,000 in humanitarian support for communities affected by volcanic activity in Bali, Indonesia.<sup>2061</sup> This humanitarian support will help meet the needs of 17,000 displaced persons, providing sanitation services and medical care.<sup>2062</sup>

On 21 December 2017, Minister Bishop announced the deployment of a team of medical experts to Bangladesh to assess the conditions in a disease outbreak following the Rohingya crisis.<sup>2063</sup> The Australian Medical Assistance Team (AUSMAT) will be funded from Australia's existing AUD30 million commitment to help people affected by the Rohingya crisis.<sup>2064</sup> Australian medical professionals will work with WHO partners to contain the disease outbreak.<sup>2065</sup>

On 19-20 February 2018, Australia hosted the inaugural Global Digital Health Partnership (GDHP) summit.<sup>2066</sup> The summit included “senior digital health officials from Austria, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Italy, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Sweden, the United States, the United Kingdom, and the WHO.”<sup>2067</sup> According to Australia's Digital Health Agency, the GDHP “is an opportunity for deep, transformational engagement by governments, digital health agencies, and the WHO so they can learn, share policy and other

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<sup>2059</sup> Supporting a restorative eye clinic in Kiribati, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/supporting-restorative-eye-clinic-kiribati.aspx>.

<sup>2060</sup> Improving access to primary eye health services in Pakistan, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/improving-access-primary-eye-health-services-pakistan.aspx>.

<sup>2061</sup> Humanitarian assistance to Indonesia, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

[https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb\\_mr\\_171215a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171215a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>2062</sup> Humanitarian assistance to Indonesia, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

[https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb\\_mr\\_171215a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171215a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>2063</sup> Australian medical team to assess disease outbreak in Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

[https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb\\_mr\\_171221.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171221.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>2064</sup> Australian medical team to assess disease outbreak in Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

[https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb\\_mr\\_171221.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171221.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>2065</sup> Australian medical team to assess disease outbreak in Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

[https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb\\_mr\\_171221.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171221.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>2066</sup> Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

<sup>2067</sup> Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

evidence that supports them to deliver better digital health services.”<sup>2068</sup> Australia will host the GDHP secretariat for the next year.<sup>2069</sup>

On 15 March 2018, the Department of Foreign Affairs published an “impact story” about NGO Act for Peace, which is providing healthcare to over 60,000 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees in India and which has been regularly supported with ANCP grants of up to AUD1.9million.<sup>2070</sup>

On 28 March 2018, Australia announced that an Australian Medical Assistance Team (AUSMAT) had been dispatched to Papua New Guinea to assist with urgent healthcare capabilities following a 7.5 magnitude earthquake.<sup>2071</sup> The AUSMAT team worked with Papua New Guinean healthcare workers at Mendi Hospital in the Southern Highlands Province to provide emergency medical services.<sup>2072</sup>

On 6 April 2018, the Department of Foreign Affairs announced that the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS), funded through the ANCP, will establish an Anaesthesia Training Centre at the National Referral Hospital in the Solomon Islands.<sup>2073</sup>

On 19 April 2018, Minister Bishop announced AUD75 million over five years to help develop new drugs, diagnostic tools, and vector control technologies to help end TB and malaria in the Indo-Pacific region.<sup>2074</sup>

On 21 May 2018, Minister Bishop announced that Australia would provide AUD1 million to procure 75,000 doses of a vaccine to help fight a recent meningococcal outbreak in Fiji.<sup>2075</sup>

On 30 May 2018, Minister Bishop announced that Australia will provide AUD4 million to the WHO’s Contingency Fund for Emergencies in support of the WHO’s Ebola containment efforts in

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<sup>2068</sup> Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

<sup>2069</sup> Global Digital Health Partnership – 19 & 20 February 2018 Summit Canberra, Australian Communique, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership/Global%20Digital%20Health%20Partnership%20Summit%20Communique%20-%20February%202018%20-%20FINAL.pdf>.

<sup>2070</sup> Improving healthcare for refugees in India, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, March 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. <https://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/improving-healthcare-for-refugees-in-india.aspx>.

<sup>2071</sup> Australian medical staff deploy to Papua New Guinea, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, March 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. [https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb\\_mr\\_180328.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180328.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>2072</sup> Australian medical staff deploy to Papua New Guinea, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, March 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. [https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb\\_mr\\_180328.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180328.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>2073</sup> Supporting anaesthesia in the Solomon Islands, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, April 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. <https://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/supporting-anaesthesia-in-the-solomon-islands.aspxwith/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/preventing-hearing-impairments-in-kiribati.aspx>.

<sup>2074</sup> Working to end Malaria by 2030 and funding for Health Security innovations, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, April 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. [https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb\\_mr\\_180419.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180419.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>2075</sup> Support for Fiji’s meningococcal outbreak, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, May 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. [https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb\\_mr\\_180521.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180521.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).<sup>2076</sup> Additionally, Minister Bishop announced that Australia will provide AUD9.5 million to the Cash Window of the World Bank's Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility.<sup>2077</sup> This money will be drawn from the AUD300 million Indo-Pacific Health Security Initiative funding.<sup>2078</sup>

On 1-5 July 2018, Australia hosted the inaugural meeting of the Malaria World Congress. Minister Bishop announced five research projects under Australia's Stronger Systems for Health Security program, to be funded by the AUD300 million Health Security Initiative for the Indo-Pacific.<sup>2079</sup> Projects included upskilling frontline health workers in Papua New Guinea, improving disease surveillance in Timor-Leste, and strengthening water-borne disease prevention in Fiji.<sup>2080</sup>

On 9 August 2018, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) announced a partnership with Australia to launch the Transformative Agenda for Women, Youth and Adolescents.<sup>2081</sup> Australia will provide AUD30 million from 2018-2022 "to improve access to quality sexual and reproductive health in six priority countries in the Pacific."<sup>2082</sup>

On 5 September 2018, Assistant Minister for International Development and the Pacific Anne Ruston announced that Australia would contribute AUD1.4 million over the next three years to the WHO to support prevention and management of non-communicable diseases (such as diabetes, respiratory, and cardiovascular diseases) in Nauru.<sup>2083</sup>

On 13 September 2018, the Department of Foreign Affairs announced that the RACS, funded through the ANCP, will establish a nurse-led ear clinic at Tungaru Central Hospital in Kiribati.<sup>2084</sup>

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<sup>2076</sup> Australian contribution to fighting Ebola and other infectious disease outbreaks, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, May 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018.

[https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb\\_mr\\_180530.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180530.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>2077</sup> Australian contribution to fighting Ebola and other infectious disease outbreaks, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, May 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018.

[https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb\\_mr\\_180530.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180530.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>2078</sup> Australian contribution to fighting Ebola and other infectious disease outbreaks, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, May 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018.

[https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb\\_mr\\_180530.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180530.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D).

<sup>2079</sup> Australian support for eliminating malaria and health research in the Indo-Pacific, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, July 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018.

[https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb\\_mr\\_180702.aspx](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180702.aspx).

<sup>2080</sup> Australian support for eliminating malaria and health research in the Indo-Pacific, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, July 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018.

[https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb\\_mr\\_180702.aspx](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180702.aspx).

<sup>2081</sup> A new "Transformative Agenda" for women, youth and adolescents in the Pacific, United Nations Population Fund, August 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. <https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/en/news/new-transformative-agenda-women-youth-and-adolescents-pacific>.

<sup>2082</sup> Other regional health initiatives - Transformative Agenda for Women, Youth and Adolescents in the Pacific, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, August 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018.

<https://dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/education-health/health/Pages/regional-health-initiatives.aspx>.

<sup>2083</sup> Australian support for Nauru's development, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, September 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. [https://ministers.dfat.gov.au/ruston/releases/Pages/2018/ar\\_mr\\_180905.aspx](https://ministers.dfat.gov.au/ruston/releases/Pages/2018/ar_mr_180905.aspx).

<sup>2084</sup> Preventing hearing impairments in Kiribati, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, September 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. <https://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/preventing-hearing-impairments-in-kiribati.aspx>.

On 13 September 2018, Minister of Foreign Affairs Marise Payne announced AUD10 million to support a vaccination campaign to fight polio, measles, and other infectious diseases in Papua New Guinea.<sup>2085</sup>

By undertaking the above measures, Australia has demonstrated a strong commitment to pursuing cooperative action, strengthening health systems, and developing the health workforce in multiple health sectors and in multiple regions of the world.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Bruce Cinnamon*

### **Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 19 September 2017, the Brazilian and Chilean Ministries of Health met to discuss healthy eating policies as well building food guides and policies regarding front food labeling.<sup>2086</sup> The meeting was mediated alongside the General Coordination of Food and Nutrition alongside the Advisory Board on International Health Affairs.<sup>2087</sup> The two nations began preparations for bilateral health cooperation.<sup>2088</sup>

On 26 September 2017, the Brazilian and American governments signed a partnership to produce the second stage of the Zika vaccine.<sup>2089</sup> This agreement was signed between Minister of Health Ricardo Barros and United States Minister of Health Thomas Price at the Pan American Sanitary Conference.<sup>2090</sup> The agreement marks the beginning the human testing phase of the Zika vaccine clinical trial.<sup>2091</sup> The American and Brazilian researchers will streamline the vaccine production process to develop it efficiently.<sup>2092</sup>

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<sup>2085</sup> \$10 million boost for immunisation in PNG, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, September 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. [https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/mp\\_mr\\_180913.aspx](https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/mp_mr_180913.aspx).

<sup>2086</sup> Brasil e Chile debatem políticas de alimentação saudável, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://portalsaude.saude.gov.br/index.php/o-ministerio/aisa/noticias-aisa/29687-brasil-e-chile-debatem-politicas-de-alimentacao-saudavel>.

<sup>2087</sup> Brasil e Chile debatem políticas de alimentação saudável, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://portalsaude.saude.gov.br/index.php/o-ministerio/aisa/noticias-aisa/29687-brasil-e-chile-debatem-politicas-de-alimentacao-saudavel>.

<sup>2088</sup> Brasil e Chile debatem políticas de alimentação saudável, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://portalsaude.saude.gov.br/index.php/o-ministerio/aisa/noticias-aisa/29687-brasil-e-chile-debatem-politicas-de-alimentacao-saudavel>.

<sup>2089</sup> Brazil to speed up zika virus vaccine production, says Health minister, EBC Agencia Brasil (Brasilia) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 26 November 2017. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/geral/noticia/2017-09/brazil-speed-zika-virus-vaccine-production-says-health-minister>.

<sup>2090</sup> Brazil to speed up zika virus vaccine production, says Health minister, EBC Agencia Brasil (Brasilia) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 26 November 2017. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/geral/noticia/2017-09/brazil-speed-zika-virus-vaccine-production-says-health-minister>.

<sup>2091</sup> Brazil to speed up zika virus vaccine production, says Health minister, EBC Agencia Brasil (Brasilia) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 26 November 2017. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/geral/noticia/2017-09/brazil-speed-zika-virus-vaccine-production-says-health-minister>.

<sup>2092</sup> Brazil to speed up zika virus vaccine production, says Health minister, EBC Agencia Brasil (Brasilia) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 26 November 2017. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/geral/noticia/2017-09/brazil-speed-zika-virus-vaccine-production-says-health-minister>.



On 6 October 2017, Brazil and Bolivia signed a cooperation agreement on health in the border region between the two states.<sup>2093</sup> The agreement was signed by the Secretary of Strategic and Participatory Management at the Ministry of Health Gerlane Baccarin and by the Bolivian Minister of Foreign Affairs Fernando Huanacuni.<sup>2094</sup> The agreement aims to stimulate coordination efforts in the border region, and to create the Working Group on Health at the Brazil-Bolivia Border.<sup>2095</sup> This group will identify the issues that affect health at the border.<sup>2096</sup>

On 20 October 2017, the World Bank approved a USD50 million commitment to initiate the Paraíba Sustainable Rural Development Project in Brazil.<sup>2097</sup> Together, the World Bank and Brazil will work towards improving access to clean and safe water for the citizens of Paraíba by investing in desalination facilities, household rainwater harvesting systems, and rehabilitation of piped and non-piped water systems.<sup>2098</sup>

On 15 November 2017, the Third Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean on Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) took place in Haiti with representatives from Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.<sup>2099</sup> The forum reaffirmed the goals of HIV/AIDS impact reduction by the year 2020 and established strategies for sustainability in responses to HIV/AIDS, to be implemented by the year 2030.<sup>2100</sup>

On 19 December 2017, the Ministry of Health and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) began a pilot project to improve the nutritional status of indigenous children under five, and to promote food and nutritional surveillance in indigenous villages.<sup>2101</sup> Part of the project are

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<sup>2093</sup> Brasil e Bolívia assinam acordo de cooperação em saúde na área de fronteira, Ministry of Health (Brasília) 6 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://portalsaude.saude.gov.br/index.php/o-ministerio/aisa/noticias-aisa/29922-brasil-e-bolivia-assinam-acordo-de-cooperacao-em-saude-na-area-de-fronteira>.

<sup>2094</sup> Brasil e Bolívia assinam acordo de cooperação em saúde na área de fronteira, Ministry of Health (Brasília) 6 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://portalsaude.saude.gov.br/index.php/o-ministerio/aisa/noticias-aisa/29922-brasil-e-bolivia-assinam-acordo-de-cooperacao-em-saude-na-area-de-fronteira>.

<sup>2095</sup> Brasil e Bolívia assinam acordo de cooperação em saúde na área de fronteira, Ministry of Health (Brasília) 6 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://portalsaude.saude.gov.br/index.php/o-ministerio/aisa/noticias-aisa/29922-brasil-e-bolivia-assinam-acordo-de-cooperacao-em-saude-na-area-de-fronteira>.

<sup>2096</sup> Brasil e Bolívia assinam acordo de cooperação em saúde na área de fronteira, Ministry of Health (Brasília) 6 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://portalsaude.saude.gov.br/index.php/o-ministerio/aisa/noticias-aisa/29922-brasil-e-bolivia-assinam-acordo-de-cooperacao-em-saude-na-area-de-fronteira>.

<sup>2097</sup> Paraíba Sustainable Rural Development, The World Bank (Washington) 20 October 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018. <http://projects.worldbank.org/P147158?lang=en>.

<sup>2098</sup> Paraíba Sustainable Rural Development, The World Bank (Washington) 20 October 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018. <http://projects.worldbank.org/P147158?lang=en>.

<sup>2099</sup> Argentina Está al Frente del Grupo que Reúne a las Autoridades de VIH-sida en América Latina y el Caribe, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 15 July 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-esta-al-frente-del-grupo-que-reune-las-autoridades-de-vih-sida-en-america-latina>.

<sup>2100</sup> Argentina Está al Frente del Grupo que Reúne a las Autoridades de VIH-sida en América Latina y el Caribe, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 15 July 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-esta-al-frente-del-grupo-que-reune-las-autoridades-de-vih-sida-en-america-latina>.

<sup>2101</sup> Ministry of Health and UNICEF promote food and nutritional surveillance workshops in indigenous villages, Ministry of Health (Brasília) 19 December 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sesai/42210-ministerio-da-saude-e-unicef-promovem-oficinas-de-vigilancia-alimentar-e-nutricional-em-aldeias-indigenas>.

workshops with develop skills of indigenous families to understand what factors lead to child malnutrition, how to improve the quality of food and how to intervene directly in eating habits.<sup>2102</sup> The workshops are specifically tailored to the community that the Ministry of Health and UNICEF are trying to reach.<sup>2103</sup> The aims of this program are to reduce child mortality and malnutrition, as well as negate the impact of the increase in consumption of industrialized products.<sup>2104</sup>

On 27 December 2017, Brazil and Russia announced a five-year agreement under which the JSC Isotope will provide the National Nuclear Energy Commission with isotope products for diagnostic nuclear medicine.<sup>2105</sup> The agreement extends current weekly isotope supplies from Russia to include lutetium-177, yttrium-90, cobalt-57, and ionizing radiation based on iridium-192, germanium-68, and gallium-68.<sup>2106</sup>

On 25 January 2018, Brazil launched the world's largest yellow fever vaccination campaign with strategic and material support from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The campaign will use fractional doses to vaccinate approximately 23.8 million people in Brazil.<sup>2107</sup>

On 15 June 2018, the Minister for Health signed a declaration ratifying the elimination of illegal trade in tobacco products.<sup>2108</sup> The protocol of action was developed under the World Health Organization (WHO)'s Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, and was also signed by Argentina, Uruguay, Chile and Paraguay. The document signed by Brazil and its neighbours plans to enforce the licensing of participants of the supply chain and the maintenance of records and regulation of sales on the internet.<sup>2109</sup>

On 10 July 2018, 70 nurses and health workers from Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Brazil were trained in Buenos Aires using a curriculum developed by PAHO and Gran Chaco Suramericano

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<sup>2102</sup> Ministry of Health and UNICEF promote food and nutritional surveillance workshops in indigenous villages, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 19 December 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018.

<http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sesai/42210-ministerio-da-saude-e-unicef-promovem-oficinas-de-vigilancia-alimentar-e-nutricional-em-aldeias-indigenas>.

<sup>2103</sup> Ministry of Health and UNICEF promote food and nutritional surveillance workshops in indigenous villages, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 19 December 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018.

<http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sesai/42210-ministerio-da-saude-e-unicef-promovem-oficinas-de-vigilancia-alimentar-e-nutricional-em-aldeias-indigenas>.

<sup>2104</sup> Ministry of Health and UNICEF promote food and nutritional surveillance workshops in indigenous villages, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 19 December 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018.

<http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sesai/42210-ministerio-da-saude-e-unicef-promovem-oficinas-de-vigilancia-alimentar-e-nutricional-em-aldeias-indigenas>.

<sup>2105</sup> Rosatom expands Russian-Brazilian cooperation in the field of nuclear medicine, Rosatom (Moscow) January 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://www.isotop.ru/en/view/2218/>.

<sup>2106</sup> Brazil and Russia extend cooperation in nuclear medicine, World Nuclear News (London) December 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/C-Russia-and-Brazil-extend-cooperation-in-nuclear-medicine-27121701.html>.

<sup>2107</sup> Brazil launches world's largest campaign with fractional dose yellow fever vaccine, Pan American Health Organization (Washington) January 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. [http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=14065&Itemid=135&lang=en](http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14065&Itemid=135&lang=en).

<sup>2108</sup> Brazil signs declaration to eliminate illicit trade in tobacco, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 22 September 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/43591-brasil-assina-declaracao-para-eliminar-comercio-ilicito-de-tabaco>.

<sup>2109</sup> Brazil signs declaration to eliminate illicit trade in tobacco, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 15 June 2018. Access Date: 22 September 2018. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/43591-brasil-assina-declaracao-para-eliminar-comercio-ilicito-de-tabaco>.

region health officials in vaccination procedures, including preparation before going into the field, application techniques, and waste procedures.<sup>2110</sup> The training workshop was conducted as a step towards the initiative “Hacia la Salud Universal en el Gran Chaco Suramericano” [Towards Universal Health in the Gran Chaco Suramericano], which seeks to reduce inequities in health care, specifically in terms of maternal, neonatal, and infant morbidity and mortality.<sup>2111</sup>

On 25 July 2018, ITAIPU Binational, an energy company managed by the governments of Brazil and Paraguay, signed a technical cooperation agreement with PAHO/WHO.<sup>2112</sup> The goal of the agreement is to strengthen healthcare systems along the border between Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay via efforts including integrating health surveillance, addressing non-communicable diseases and mental health, and developing human resources in health.<sup>2113</sup>

On 7 August 2018, Brazil attended the first meeting of the Advisory Group for the Preparation of the PAHO Strategic Plan for 2020-2025 in Panama City.<sup>2114</sup> Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, the Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Canada, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States, and Venezuela gathered and drafted the Strategic Plan, which will be used as the primary instrument to meet the Health Agenda for the Americas 2030, and thereby, the UN Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>2115</sup>

Brazil has fully complied with its health compliance targets. The Ministry of Health has demonstrated cooperative action by initiating projects to improve health and sanitation in rural areas of Brazil alongside international organizations such as UNICEF and the World Bank. In addition, Brazil is actively cooperating with other states to share their expertise and to continue improving the health of the international community. An example of this cooperation is the joint development of the Zika vaccine by Brazil and the United States which is helping to address an international health problem. Finally, Brazil made a cooperative effort to improve the health workforce by emphasizing human resources in health in the ITAIPU agreement with PAHO.

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<sup>2110</sup>Unos 70 Trabajadores de la Salud del Chaco Salteño Entrenados en Vacunación, Panamerican Health Organization (Buenos Aires) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018.

[https://www.paho.org/arg/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=10241:unos-70-trabajadores-de-la-salud-del-chaco-salteno-entrenados-en-vacunacion&Itemid=285](https://www.paho.org/arg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=10241:unos-70-trabajadores-de-la-salud-del-chaco-salteno-entrenados-en-vacunacion&Itemid=285).

<sup>2111</sup>Unos 70 Trabajadores de la Salud del Chaco Salteño Entrenados en Vacunación, Panamerican Health Organization (Buenos Aires) 10 July 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018.

[https://www.paho.org/arg/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=10241:unos-70-trabajadores-de-la-salud-del-chaco-salteno-entrenados-en-vacunacion&Itemid=285](https://www.paho.org/arg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=10241:unos-70-trabajadores-de-la-salud-del-chaco-salteno-entrenados-en-vacunacion&Itemid=285).

<sup>2112</sup>PAHO signs agreement with ITAIPU to improve healthcare systems along the triple frontier between Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay, WHO Regional Office for the Americas (Washington D.C.) 25 July 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. [https://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=14521:ops-e-itaipu-firman-acuerdo-para-fortalecer-los-sistemas-de-salud-en-la-triple-frontera-entre-argentina-brasil-y-paraguay&Itemid=135&lang=en](https://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14521:ops-e-itaipu-firman-acuerdo-para-fortalecer-los-sistemas-de-salud-en-la-triple-frontera-entre-argentina-brasil-y-paraguay&Itemid=135&lang=en).

<sup>2113</sup>PAHO signs agreement with ITAIPU to improve healthcare systems along the triple frontier between Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay, WHO Regional Office for the Americas (Washington D.C.) 25 July 2018. Access Date: 12 October 2018. [https://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=14521:ops-e-itaipu-firman-acuerdo-para-fortalecer-los-sistemas-de-salud-en-la-triple-frontera-entre-argentina-brasil-y-paraguay&Itemid=135&lang=en](https://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=14521:ops-e-itaipu-firman-acuerdo-para-fortalecer-los-sistemas-de-salud-en-la-triple-frontera-entre-argentina-brasil-y-paraguay&Itemid=135&lang=en).

<sup>2114</sup>Argentina Participó en Reunión para la Elaboración del Plan Estratégico 2020-2025 de la OPS, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 August 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-en-reunion-para-la-elaboracion-del-plan-estrategico-2020-2025-de-la-ops>.

<sup>2115</sup>Argentina Participó en Reunión para la Elaboración del Plan Estratégico 2020-2025 de la OPS, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 August 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-en-reunion-para-la-elaboracion-del-plan-estrategico-2020-2025-de-la-ops>.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dorota Borowsky*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 7 September 2017, Global Affairs Canada (GAC) announced its Feminist International Assistance Policy, which places priority on reproductive and sexual health services and access for women and girls.<sup>2116</sup> The policy also emphasizes the need to increase female access to nutrition, to “fight infectious diseases through equity-based approaches,” and to empower female health workers.<sup>2117</sup>

On 18 October 2017, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), a Canadian crown corporation aimed at supporting research in developing countries, and Cancer Research UK launched the Economics of Tobacco Control Research Initiative, a five-year initiative to prevent tobacco-related diseases and promote public health in Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East and North Africa, and Sub-Saharan Africa.<sup>2118</sup> The initiative offers up to CAD1 million over four years to support research on effective local policy solutions for tobacco control.<sup>2119</sup>

On 15 November 2017, the IRDC announced two new initiatives to support science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) careers for women in developing countries.<sup>2120</sup> The first is a CAD15 million fellowship program for early career female scientists funded by IRDC and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency through the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)’s Organization for Women in Science in the Developing World.<sup>2121</sup> The second is a grant of up to CAD1.5 million for 20 postdoctoral fellowships for indigenous Mexican women to pursue studies in STEM.<sup>2122</sup>

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<sup>2116</sup> Canada’s Feminist International Assistance Policy, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 7 September 2017. Access Date: 8 January 2018. [http://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/campaign-campagne/iap-pai/index.aspx?lang=eng&utm\\_campaign=iap-pai-2017&utm\\_source=sm&utm\\_medium=twitter-en](http://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/campaign-campagne/iap-pai/index.aspx?lang=eng&utm_campaign=iap-pai-2017&utm_source=sm&utm_medium=twitter-en).

<sup>2117</sup> Canada’s Feminist International Assistance Plan, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. [http://international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues\\_development-enjeux\\_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng](http://international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/policy-politique.aspx?lang=eng) - 5.1.

<sup>2118</sup> The Economics of Tobacco Control Research Initiative, International Development Research Centre (Ottawa) Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.idrc.ca/en/initiative/economics-tobacco-control-research-initiative>.

<sup>2119</sup> The Economics of Tobacco Control Research Initiative, International Development Research Centre (Ottawa) Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.idrc.ca/en/initiative/economics-tobacco-control-research-initiative>.

<sup>2120</sup> Two new initiatives to support STEM careers for women, International Development Research Centre (Ottawa) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.idrc.ca/en/news/two-new-initiatives-support-stem-careers-women>.

<sup>2121</sup> Two new initiatives to support STEM careers for women, International Development Research Centre (Ottawa) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.idrc.ca/en/news/two-new-initiatives-support-stem-careers-women>.

<sup>2122</sup> Two new initiatives to support STEM careers for women, International Development Research Centre (Ottawa) 15 November 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.idrc.ca/en/news/two-new-initiatives-support-stem-careers-women>.

On 17 November 2017, the Governments of Canada and India announced a joint venture to fund collaborative medical electronics research and development.<sup>2123</sup> A particular focus is on the development of low-field MRI scanners, which will improve portability and affordability, particularly for rural communities.<sup>2124</sup>

On 13 December 2017, the Government of Canada announced an aid package of CAD50 million to the Rohingya humanitarian crisis.<sup>2125</sup> Organizations that will receive aid include Medecins sans Frontieres and Medecins du Monde.<sup>2126</sup> Targeting funding will also go towards safe water supply, sanitation and hygiene facilities, sexual health and reproductive services, and mental health supports.<sup>2127</sup>

On 7 February 2018, the Centre of Excellence for CRVS Systems launched a new website to improve ease of access to online resources for developing countries aiming to improve their civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems.<sup>2128</sup> CRVS improvements increase populations' access to public health services, and allow governments to better prioritize health goals.<sup>2129</sup> The Centre of Excellence was established by GAC and IRDC.<sup>2130</sup>

On 9 February 2018, GAC announced seven new programs designed to improve the sexual and reproductive health of adolescent girls and women, and health of populations with emergency needs. Overall, CAD86.9 million was pledged to assist Southern Senegal, Benin, Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, and Niger.<sup>2131</sup>

On 19 to 20 February 2018, Canada joined Austria, Australia, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Italy, Korea, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sweden, the United States, the United Kingdom, and WHO to establish the Global Digital Health Partnership (GDHP) at a summit in Canberra,

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<sup>2123</sup> India-Canada joint venture in medical electronics to ensure affordable healthcare, India Times (India) 17 November 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/medical-devices/india-canada-joint-venture-in-medical-electronics-to-ensure-affordable-healthcare/61686467>.

<sup>2124</sup> India-Canada joint venture in medical electronics to ensure affordable healthcare, India Times (India) 17 November 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/medical-devices/india-canada-joint-venture-in-medical-electronics-to-ensure-affordable-healthcare/61686467>.

<sup>2125</sup> Canada's response to Rohingya humanitarian crisis tops 50M dollars, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Ottawa) 13 December 2017. Access Date: 6 January 2018. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-aid-rohingya-myanmar-bangladesh-1.4446139>.

<sup>2126</sup> Canada's response to Rohingya humanitarian crisis tops 50M dollars, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Ottawa) 13 December 2017. Access Date: 6 January 2018. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-aid-rohingya-myanmar-bangladesh-1.4446139>.

<sup>2127</sup> Canada's response to Rohingya humanitarian crisis tops 50M dollars, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Ottawa) 13 December 2017. Access Date: 6 January 2018. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-aid-rohingya-myanmar-bangladesh-1.4446139>.

<sup>2128</sup> New website will help record vital life events to improve access to services for all, International Development Research Centre (Ottawa) 7 February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.idrc.ca/en/news/new-website-will-help-record-vital-life-events-improve-access-services-all>

<sup>2129</sup> About CRVS Systems, Centre of Excellence IDRC (Canada). Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://crvssystem.ca/about-crvs-systems>.

<sup>2130</sup> New website will help record vital life events to improve access to services for all, International Development Research Centre (Ottawa) 7 February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.idrc.ca/en/news/new-website-will-help-record-vital-life-events-improve-access-services-all>.

<sup>2131</sup> Improving sexual and reproductive health and rights for women and girls, and humanitarian assistance, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 9 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018 [https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/02/improving\\_sexualandreproductivehealthandrightsforwomenandgirls.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/02/improving_sexualandreproductivehealthandrightsforwomenandgirls.html).

Australia.<sup>2132</sup> The GDHP “is an opportunity for deep, transformational engagement by governments, digital health agencies, and the WHO so they can learn, share policy and other evidence that supports them to deliver better digital health services.”<sup>2133</sup>

On 21 February 2018, GAC announced three new initiatives to improve Haiti’s healthcare system.<sup>2134</sup> The first is a pledge of CAD15 million over four years to the UN Population Fund aimed at building Haiti’s capacity to train, recruit, deploy, and retain midwives.<sup>2135</sup> The second is a pledge of CAD20 million over five years to the UN Foundation and Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves.<sup>2136</sup> This project aims to improve women’s health and economic situations through the promotion of clean energy and cookstoves.<sup>2137</sup> The third initiative pledges CAD550,000 to Partners in Health and Zanmi Lasante’s project of improving information collection systems to provide better sexual violence prevention services for women and girls.<sup>2138</sup>

On 22 February 2018, IDRC and the Government of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding to continue research in India on development innovation in fields such as finance, agriculture, industry and health.<sup>2139</sup>

On 28 February 2018, Minister of Finance Bill Morneau announced that Canadian foreign aid would be receiving an additional CAD2 billion over the next five years as part of the 2018-2019 budget reveal.<sup>2140</sup> Improving international healthcare systems is one of the stated goals of the aid.<sup>2141</sup>

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<sup>2132</sup> Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency (Canberra) February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

<sup>2133</sup> Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency (Canberra) February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

<sup>2134</sup> Canada announces projects in Haiti’s health and agricultural sectors, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018. [https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/02/canada\\_announcesprojectsinhaitishealthandagriculturalsectors.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/02/canada_announcesprojectsinhaitishealthandagriculturalsectors.html).

<sup>2135</sup> Canada announces projects in Haiti’s health and agricultural sectors, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018. [https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/02/canada\\_announcesprojectsinhaitishealthandagriculturalsectors.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/02/canada_announcesprojectsinhaitishealthandagriculturalsectors.html).

<sup>2136</sup> Canada announces projects in Haiti’s health and agricultural sectors, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018. [https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/02/canada\\_announcesprojectsinhaitishealthandagriculturalsectors.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/02/canada_announcesprojectsinhaitishealthandagriculturalsectors.html).

<sup>2137</sup> Canada announces projects in Haiti’s health and agricultural sectors, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018. [https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/02/canada\\_announcesprojectsinhaitishealthandagriculturalsectors.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/02/canada_announcesprojectsinhaitishealthandagriculturalsectors.html).

<sup>2138</sup> Canada announces projects in Haiti’s health and agricultural sectors, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 21 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018. [https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/02/canada\\_announcesprojectsinhaitishealthandagriculturalsectors.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/02/canada_announcesprojectsinhaitishealthandagriculturalsectors.html).

<sup>2139</sup> IDRC and the Government of India announce their renewed support for research, International Development Research Centre (Ottawa) 22 February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.idrc.ca/en/news/idrc-and-government-india-announce-their-renewed-support-research>.

<sup>2140</sup> Canada’s foreign aid spending still below OECD average after budget boost, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Ottawa) 28 February 2017. Access Date: 1 March 2018. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-foreign-aid-budget-1.4556537>.

<sup>2141</sup> Canada’s foreign aid spending still below OECD average after budget boost, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Ottawa) 28 February 2017. Access Date: 1 March 2018. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-foreign-aid-budget-1.4556537>.

On 16 March 2018, GAC announced CAD8.15 million in humanitarian assistance for Rohingya refugees.<sup>2142</sup> The funding will go towards the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Organization for Migration, World Food Programme, UN Population Fund, Adventist Development and Relief Agency, UN High Commission for Refugees, and Action Against Hunger.<sup>2143</sup> The health goals of the funding include providing clean drinking water, nutrition services, mental health and psychological support services, family planning and sexual health and reproductive services, and hygiene kits for women and girls.<sup>2144</sup>

On 19 March 2018, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie Marie-Claude Bibeau announced CAD40 million would be allocated for partnerships with Canadian organizations for initiatives that increase demand for, supply of, and access to sexual health and reproductive rights of women and adolescent girls in developing countries.<sup>2145</sup>

On 25 April 2018, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs Omar Alghabra announced CAD19.5 million to address humanitarian needs in Syria and Lebanon.<sup>2146</sup> This includes the provision of comprehensive health, water, sanitation, hygiene and protection services, in addition to specialized protection for women and girls and reproductive health services.<sup>2147</sup>

On 27 April 2018, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Ahmed D. Hussen announced that Canada will provide an addition CAD18 million to support vulnerable communities in Somalia.<sup>2148</sup> Funding will be allocated to UN agencies, the International Red Cross, and non-governmental organizations to help provide health and nutrition services, food, water, and sanitation.<sup>2149</sup>

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<sup>2142</sup> Canada commits \$8.15 million to aid Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh and people in Myanmar, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 16 March 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/03/canada-commits-815-million-to-aid-rohingya-refugees-in-bangladesh-and-people-in-myanmar.html>.

<sup>2143</sup> Canada commits \$8.15 million to aid Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh and people in Myanmar, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 16 March 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/03/canada-commits-815-million-to-aid-rohingya-refugees-in-bangladesh-and-people-in-myanmar.html>.

<sup>2144</sup> Canada commits \$8.15 million to aid Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh and people in Myanmar, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 16 March 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/03/canada-commits-815-million-to-aid-rohingya-refugees-in-bangladesh-and-people-in-myanmar.html>.

<sup>2145</sup> Minister Bibeau announces call for preliminary proposals on sexual and reproductive health and rights, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 19 March 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/03/minister-bibeau-announces-call-for-preliminary-proposals-on-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-rights.html>

<sup>2146</sup> Canada announces funding for humanitarian assistance in Syria and Lebanon, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 25 April 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/04/canada-announces-funding-for-humanitarian-assistance-in-syria-and-lebanon.html>

<sup>2147</sup> Canada announces funding for humanitarian assistance in Syria and Lebanon, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 25 April 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/04/canada-announces-funding-for-humanitarian-assistance-in-syria-and-lebanon.html>

<sup>2148</sup> Canada continues to provide much-needed humanitarian assistance in Somalia, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 27 April 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/04/canada-continues-to-provide-much-needed-humanitarian-assistance-in-somalia.html>

<sup>2149</sup> Canada continues to provide much-needed humanitarian assistance in Somalia, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 27 April 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/04/canada-continues-to-provide-much-needed-humanitarian-assistance-in-somalia.html>

On 14 May 2018, Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland announced CAD1.3 million in humanitarian assistance to Latin America and the Caribbean, which includes funding for healthcare supplies and personnel.<sup>2150</sup>

On 19 May 2018, Minister Bibeau announced CAD2.5 million in emergency humanitarian assistance following an Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.<sup>2151</sup> The funding recipients included the WHO, Doctors Without Borders, UNICEF and the World Food Programme's United Nations Air Service, with a focus on disease treatment and prevention, water, sanitation, and logistics and coordination support.<sup>2152</sup>

On 25 May 2018, Minister Bibeau announced the creation of a new partnership that will match the private sector with government funding to advance the empowerment of women and girls in the developing world.<sup>2153</sup> This will be done in accordance with the Feminist International Assistance policy which emphasizes healthcare access for women.<sup>2154</sup>

On 1 June 2018, 17 low and middle-income groups and innovators in India received a seed grant of CAD100,000 each funded by Grand Challenges Canada with financial support from the Canadian government.<sup>2155</sup> This total investment of over CAD10 million is geared towards developing and testing various innovations targeted at overcoming challenges in women and child healthcare in NGOs, research institutes, universities and hospitals.<sup>2156</sup> CAD4 million will be dedicated to addressing sexual and reproductive health rights, in accordance with Canada's Feminist International

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<sup>2150</sup>Canada announces humanitarian assistance in response to crisis in Venezuela, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 14 May 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/05/canada-announces-humanitarian-assistance-in-response-to-crisis-in-venezuela.html>

<sup>2151</sup>Canada to provide emergency humanitarian assistance to stop spread of Ebola in Democratic Republic of Congo, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 19 May 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/05/canada-to-provide-emergency-humanitarian-assistance-to-help-stop-spread-of-ebola-in-democratic-republic-of-congo.html>

<sup>2152</sup>Canada to provide emergency humanitarian assistance to stop spread of Ebola in Democratic Republic of Congo, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 19 May 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/05/canada-to-provide-emergency-humanitarian-assistance-to-help-stop-spread-of-ebola-in-democratic-republic-of-congo.html>

<sup>2153</sup>Canada announces new partnership to fund gender equality and empower women and girls in developing countries, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 25 May 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/05/canada-announces-new-partnership-to-fund-gender-equality-and-empower-women-and-girls-in-developing-countries.html>

<sup>2154</sup>Canada announces new partnership to fund gender equality and empower women and girls in developing countries, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 25 May 2018. Access Date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2018/05/canada-announces-new-partnership-to-fund-gender-equality-and-empower-women-and-girls-in-developing-countries.html>

<sup>2155</sup>Canadian government funds 17 Indian healthcare projects for women and children from low-income groups, FirstPost (New Delhi) 1 June 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.firstpost.com/world/canadian-government-funds-17-indian-healthcare-projects-for-women-and-children-from-low-income-groups-4491321.html>

<sup>2156</sup>Canadian government funds 17 Indian healthcare projects for women and children from low-income groups, FirstPost (New Delhi) 1 June 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.firstpost.com/world/canadian-government-funds-17-indian-healthcare-projects-for-women-and-children-from-low-income-groups-4491321.html>



Assistance Policy.<sup>2157</sup> All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Jodhpur will use this grant to help adolescents access accurate information regarding sexual and reproductive health rights.<sup>2158</sup>

On 7 August 2018, Canada attended the first meeting of the Advisory Group for the Preparation of the PAHO Strategic Plan for 2020-2025 in Panama City.<sup>2159</sup> Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, the Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Canada, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States, and Venezuela gathered and drafted the Strategic Plan, which will be used as the primary instrument to meet the Health Agenda for the Americas 2030, and thereby, the UN Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>2160</sup>

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to cooperative action as demonstrated by its joint initiatives with countries such as India, and organizations such as UNESCO. Canada has also strengthened health systems worldwide through actions such as the new Centre of Excellence for CRVS website, and through humanitarian aid and support. Canada has also improved the health workforce by encouraging women in STEM, and by providing training for Haitian midwives.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Heather Wong*

#### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 29 July 2017, the Chinese government provided a new round of health aid to South Sudan, including an ambulance car with medical equipment for the Juba Teaching hospital, along with funds for the hospital's modernization and USD1 million toward the eradication of cholera.<sup>2161</sup> Ambassador to South Sudan He Xiandong and Minister of Health Chen Zhu, as well as South Sudan's Minister of Finance and Planning, met at the hospital for the handover ceremony.<sup>2162</sup>

On 18 October 2017, Premier Xi Jinping addressed the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) to announce the establishment of a medical insurance network to ensure 1.4

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<sup>2157</sup> Canadian government funds 17 Indian healthcare projects for women and children from low-income groups, FirstPost (New Delhi) 1 June 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.firstpost.com/world/canadian-government-funds-17-indian-healthcare-projects-for-women-and-children-from-low-income-groups-4491321.html>.

<sup>2158</sup> Canadian government funds 17 Indian healthcare projects for women and children from low-income groups, FirstPost (New Delhi) 1 June 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.firstpost.com/world/canadian-government-funds-17-indian-healthcare-projects-for-women-and-children-from-low-income-groups-4491321.html>.

<sup>2159</sup> Argentina Participó en Reunión para la Elaboración del Plan Estratégico 2020-2025 de la OPS, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 August 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-en-reunion-para-la-elaboracion-del-plan-estrategico-2020-2025-de-la-ops>.

<sup>2160</sup> Argentina Participó en Reunión para la Elaboración del Plan Estratégico 2020-2025 de la OPS, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 August 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-en-reunion-para-la-elaboracion-del-plan-estrategico-2020-2025-de-la-ops>.

<sup>2161</sup> China Provides Aid to South Sudan in Health Sector, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 20 July 2017. Access Date: January 15, 2017. [http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/wjb\\_663304/zwjg\\_665342/zwbd\\_665378/y1481086.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjb_663304/zwjg_665342/zwbd_665378/y1481086.shtml).

<sup>2162</sup> China Provides Aid to South Sudan in Health Sector, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 20 July 2017. Access Date: January 15, 2017. [http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/wjb\\_663304/zwjg\\_665342/zwbd\\_665378/y1481086.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjb_663304/zwjg_665342/zwbd_665378/y1481086.shtml).

billion people worldwide.<sup>2163</sup> He stressed that the government would ensure the delivery of comprehensive lifecycle health services for its people and provide basic healthcare, medical insurance and quality and efficient healthcare services.<sup>2164</sup> During the Congress, the Premier also announced the launch of the “Healthy China Initiative” which will improve the accessibility of medical and health services.<sup>2165</sup>

On 12 November 2017, China, Korea, and Japan agreed to exchange information and technology pertaining to managing chronic disease at the Tripartite Health Ministers’ meeting.<sup>2166</sup> They additionally agreed to incorporate traditional medicine under the international disease classification and create international industrial standards in traditional medicine through the International Organization for Standardization.<sup>2167</sup> In the context of China, Korea and Japan, traditional medicine includes treatments such as acupuncture, herbal medicine, and cupping.<sup>2168</sup>

On 14 November 2017, Premier Xi attended the foundation-laying ceremony for the Mahosot hospital in Laotian capital Vientiane along with Laotian President Bounnhang Vorachit.<sup>2169</sup> During the event, which was part of a larger visit by Premier Xi, who pledged a USD90 million grant to the hospital which will open in 2020.<sup>2170</sup> The Chinese government has also agreed to supply doctors for the first three years of the hospital’s operation.<sup>2171</sup>

On 26 November 2017, Peace Ark, a Chinese naval hospital ship, completed its several month-long voyage around the African continent providing medical treatment to civilians.<sup>2172</sup> The near 100 day voyage included “246 surgeries, for 52,000 people in Djibouti, Sierra Leone, Gabon, the Republic of

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<sup>2163</sup>China Establishes World’s Largest Medical Insurance Network, All-China Women’s Federation (Beijing) 20 October 2017. Access Date: November 25, 2017.

<http://www.womenofchina.cn/womenofchina/html1/features/health/1710/2715-1.htm>.

<sup>2164</sup>China Establishes World’s Largest Medical Insurance Network, All-China Women’s Federation (Beijing) 20 October 2017. Access Date: November 25, 2017.

<http://www.womenofchina.cn/womenofchina/html1/features/health/1710/2715-1.htm>.

<sup>2165</sup> President Xi’s ‘Healthy China’ vow will save lives proactively, Chinadaily (Beijing) 25 October 2017. Access Date: January 15, 2017. [usa.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2017-10/25/content\\_33684899.htm](http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2017-10/25/content_33684899.htm).

<sup>2166</sup>S. Korea, China, Japan to enhance cooperation on aging population, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017.

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/business/2017/11/12/0504000000AEN20171112002100315.html>.

<sup>2167</sup>S. Korea, China, Japan to enhance cooperation on aging population, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017.

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/business/2017/11/12/0504000000AEN20171112002100315.html>.

<sup>2168</sup>Traditional, complementary and integrative medicine: Activities, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://www.who.int/traditional-complementary-integrative-medicine/activities/en/>.

<sup>2169</sup>Xi Jinping Jointly Attends Foundation-laying Ceremony for Mahosot Hospital with General Secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and President Bounnhang Vorachit of Laos, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China (Beijing) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017. [http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/zxxx\\_662805/t1511171/shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1511171/shtml).

<sup>2170</sup>Xi Jinping Jointly Attends Foundation-laying Ceremony for Mahosot Hospital with General Secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and President Bounnhang Vorachit of Laos, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China (Beijing). 14 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

[http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/zxxx\\_662805/t1511171/shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1511171/shtml).

<sup>2171</sup>China’s aid a matter of life and death for Laos, Asia Times (Hong Kong). 12 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017. <http://www.atimes.com/article/chinas-aid-matter-life-death-laos/>.

<sup>2172</sup>China’s experience helps Africa, Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (Beijing) 29 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017. <http://www.focac.org/eng/zxxx/t1522601.htm>.

Congo, Angola, Mozambique and Tanzania.”<sup>2173</sup> In Dar Es Salaam, the ship also provided medical training to local medical staff.<sup>2174</sup>

On 14 December 2017, the Korean Ministry of Health and Welfare announced an agreement with China’s national health and family planning commission to “cooperate in healthcare areas of [mutual interest].”<sup>2175</sup> These areas include advancing health care coverage, and furthering the technology of traditional medicine, mental health, patient safety, and aging.<sup>2176</sup> The two health ministries also agreed to work together to prepare against and manage infectious diseases and cancer.<sup>2177</sup>

On 10 January 2018, China provided over 50 ambulances with cutting-edge equipment to 18 emergency medical aid centers in Kyiv worth more than \$3.5 million.<sup>2178</sup> The assistance is intended to provide medicine and education to victims of natural disasters.<sup>2179</sup>

On 2 February 2018, the British Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the China Food and Drug Administration.<sup>2180</sup> The two organizations agree to “new areas of cooperation such as an exchange of learning from the accelerated access review and how to regulate the trading of medicines online.”<sup>2181</sup>

On 27 February 2018, the Ministry of Defense provided several types of medical equipment to the Cambodian Government-run Prach Ket Meala military hospital.<sup>2182</sup> The equipment all serves to support heart and blood treatments, and includes scanning machines and operating tools.<sup>2183</sup>

On 9 May 2018, Chinese health officials attended a medical conference in Seoul, Republic of Korea for three days.<sup>2184</sup> The Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Korean Ministry of Health and

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<sup>2173</sup> China’s experience helps Africa, Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (Beijing) 29 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017. <http://www.focac.org/eng/zxxx/t1522601.htm>.

<sup>2174</sup> Chinese naval hospital ship Peace Ark arrives in Tanzania, Chinadaily (Beijing) 20 November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017. [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2017-11/20/content\\_34757172.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2017-11/20/content_34757172.htm).

<sup>2175</sup> Korea, China agree to cooperate on healthcare, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=2132>.

<sup>2176</sup> Korea, China agree to cooperate on healthcare, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=2132>.

<sup>2177</sup> Korea, China agree to cooperate on healthcare, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=2132>.

<sup>2178</sup> China hands over 50 ambulances equipped with cutting-edge medical devices to Ukraine, MENA Report, (Amman). 25 September 2018. Access Date: 1 October 2018. <https://menafn.com/1097480982/China-hands-over-50-ambulances-equipped-with-cuttingedge-medical-devices-to-Ukraine>.

<sup>2179</sup> China hands over 50 ambulances equipped with cutting-edge medical devices to Ukraine, MENA Report, (Amman). 25 September 2018. Access Date: 1 October 2018. <https://menafn.com/1097480982/China-hands-over-50-ambulances-equipped-with-cuttingedge-medical-devices-to-Ukraine>.

<sup>2180</sup> UK and China sign memorandum of Understanding on Medicine and Device Regulation, UK Department of International Affairs, (London) February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-china-sign-memorandum-of-understanding-on-medicine-and-device-regulation>.

<sup>2181</sup> UK and China sign memorandum of Understanding on Medicine and Device Regulation, UK Department of International Affairs, (London) February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-china-sign-memorandum-of-understanding-on-medicine-and-device-regulation>.

<sup>2182</sup> China gifts medical equipment to state-run military hospital, Khmer Times (Phnom Penh). 27 February 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2018. <http://www.khmertimeskh.com/50110602/china-gifts-medical-equipment-to-state-run-military-hospital/>.

<sup>2183</sup> China gifts medical equipment to state-run military hospital, Khmer Times (Phnom Penh). 27 February 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2018. <http://www.khmertimeskh.com/50110602/china-gifts-medical-equipment-to-state-run-military-hospital/>.

Welfare co-hosted this “K-Pharma & Medical Academy” in order to share knowledge about the two healthcare systems, and to facilitate further medical cooperation between the two countries.<sup>2185</sup>

On 26 September 2018, Ambassador of China to Nepal Yu Hong joined Nepal’s Minister for Federal Affairs Lalbaby Pandit to jointly commence China’s project to renovate Nepal’s Civil Service Hospital.<sup>2186</sup> China will construct a new Surgical Ward of three-storeys with 120 beds and new equipment.<sup>2187</sup> China will also renovate the three existing buildings in the hospital which are 10 years old and have been providing affordable healthcare to over 1000 people each day.<sup>2188</sup>

In establishing an international medical insurance program, providing health aid to South Sudan, Cambodia and Laos, and treating patients across Africa via the Peace Ark, China has clearly strived for cooperative action to strengthen health systems worldwide. In addition, by supplying doctors to the Mahosot hospital and training medical staff in Dar Es Salaam, the Chinese government demonstrated that it has undertaken cooperative action to develop the health workforce internationally.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Armin Safavi*

#### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 13 July 2017, France and Monaco signed agreements on healthcare improvements, and on the handling of blood products.<sup>2189</sup> The first agreement will make French emergency healthcare resources available to Monaco, will pool medical resources, and will allow Monaco to integrate into France’s regional mechanisms for responding to health crises, thereby allowing Monaco to engage with the

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<sup>2184</sup> Chinese Officials in charge of Health and Medical Policies to visit ROK, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 8 May 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018.

[http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=319831&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=health&srchTp=0&multi\\_itm\\_seq=0&itm\\_seq\\_1=0&itm\\_seq\\_2=0&company\\_cd=&company\\_nm=&page=1&titleNm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=319831&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=health&srchTp=0&multi_itm_seq=0&itm_seq_1=0&itm_seq_2=0&company_cd=&company_nm=&page=1&titleNm=).

<sup>2185</sup> Chinese Officials in charge of Health and Medical Policies to visit ROK, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 8 May 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018.

[http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=319831&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=health&srchTp=0&multi\\_itm\\_seq=0&itm\\_seq\\_1=0&itm\\_seq\\_2=0&company\\_cd=&company\\_nm=&page=1&titleNm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=319831&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=health&srchTp=0&multi_itm_seq=0&itm_seq_1=0&itm_seq_2=0&company_cd=&company_nm=&page=1&titleNm=).

<sup>2186</sup> China-Aid to enable Nepali people to get quality, affordable healthcare services, Xinhua (Beijing) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 1 October 2018. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-09/26/c\\_137494778.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-09/26/c_137494778.htm).

<sup>2187</sup> China-Aid to enable Nepali people to get quality, affordable healthcare services, Xinhua (Beijing) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 1 October 2018. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-09/26/c\\_137494778.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-09/26/c_137494778.htm).

<sup>2188</sup> China-Aid to enable Nepali people to get quality, affordable healthcare services, Xinhua (Beijing) 26 September 2018. Access Date: 1 October 2018. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-09/26/c\\_137494778.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-09/26/c_137494778.htm).

<sup>2189</sup> France and Monaco sign agreements to cooperate on healthcare safety and on handling blood products, Government of Monaco (Monaco) 13 July 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://en.gouv.mc/Portail-du-Gouvernement/Policy-Practice/Social-Affairs-and-Health/News/France-and-Monaco-sign-agreements-to-cooperate-on-healthcare-safety-and-on-handling-of-blood-products>.

World Health Organization (WHO)'s International Health Regulations.<sup>2190</sup> The second agreement will allow France's national blood collection authority to handle blood collected in Monaco to improve efficiency and effectiveness of blood distribution and transfusion.<sup>2191</sup>

On 24 October 2017, President Emmanuel Macron and Egyptian President Abdel Fatah al-Sisi signed a number of memoranda of understanding, including an agreement for a French Development Agency (AFD) loan of EUR30 million to restore healthcare centres in five Egyptian governorates.<sup>2192</sup> The loan is accompanied by a EUR1 million program led primarily by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) to improve health education, nutrition, and disease prevention.<sup>2193</sup>

From 15 to 17 October 2017, France collaborated with Germany and the European Commission to host the 9th World Health Summit in Berlin.<sup>2194</sup> The summit brought together over 2000 decision-makers and representatives from over 100 countries.<sup>2195</sup> Commitments, in the form of endorsements and advocacy, were made regarding the following six areas: strong and reliable government, global health security, healthy and resilient cities, responsible approaches to big data, research, innovation and development, and lastly innovation and strengthening health systems in Africa.<sup>2196</sup>

On 9 February 2018, the Interministerial Committee on the International Cooperation for Development announced a new budget that increased the proportion of the French national budget that goes to foreign aid scales up to ultimately 0.55 per cent in 2022 from 0.38 per cent in 2016.<sup>2197</sup> Health is one of the explicitly mentioned domains of aid.<sup>2198</sup>

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<sup>2190</sup> France and Monaco sign agreements to cooperate on healthcare safety and on handling blood products, Government of Monaco (Monaco) 13 July 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://en.gouv.mc/Portail-du-Gouvernement/Policy-Practice/Social-Affairs-and-Health/News/France-and-Monaco-sign-agreements-to-cooperate-on-healthcare-safety-and-on-handling-of-blood-products>.

<sup>2191</sup> France and Monaco sign agreements to cooperate on healthcare safety and on handling blood products, Government of Monaco (Monaco) 13 July 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://en.gouv.mc/Portail-du-Gouvernement/Policy-Practice/Social-Affairs-and-Health/News/France-and-Monaco-sign-agreements-to-cooperate-on-healthcare-safety-and-on-handling-of-blood-products>.

<sup>2192</sup> En Egypte, Le Groupe AFD Reinforce son soutien au Programme de reformes socio-economiques, Agency of Development (France) 26 October 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/en-egypte-le-groupe-afd-renforce-son-soutien-au-programme-de-reformes-socio-economiques>.

<sup>2193</sup> En Egypte, Le Groupe AFD Reinforce son soutien au Programme de reformes socio-economiques, Agency of Development (France) 26 October 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.afd.fr/fr/en-egypte-le-groupe-afd-renforce-son-soutien-au-programme-de-reformes-socio-economiques>.

<sup>2194</sup> World Health Summit 2017 (Berlin) 16 October 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/world-health-summit-2017.html>.

<sup>2195</sup> World Health Summit 2017 (Berlin) 16 October 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/world-health-summit-2017.html>.

<sup>2196</sup> M8 Alliance Declaration World Health Summit 2017, World Health Summit (Berlin). Access Date: 20 November 2017. [https://d1wjxwc5zmlmv4.cloudfront.net/fileadmin/user\\_upload/downloads/2017/WHS\\_Berlin/Data/M8\\_Alliance\\_Declaration\\_2017\\_Berlin.pdf](https://d1wjxwc5zmlmv4.cloudfront.net/fileadmin/user_upload/downloads/2017/WHS_Berlin/Data/M8_Alliance_Declaration_2017_Berlin.pdf).

<sup>2197</sup> Aide au développement: la France réhabilite l'aide bilatérale et double ses contributions aux ONG, La Quotidien de médecin (Malakoff) 9 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018. [https://www.lequotidiendumedecin.fr/actualites/breve/2018/02/09/aide-au-developpement-la-france-rehabilite-laide-bilaterale-et-double-ses-contributions-aux-ong\\_854969](https://www.lequotidiendumedecin.fr/actualites/breve/2018/02/09/aide-au-developpement-la-france-rehabilite-laide-bilaterale-et-double-ses-contributions-aux-ong_854969).

<sup>2198</sup> Aide au développement: la France réhabilite l'aide bilatérale et double ses contributions aux ONG, La Quotidien de médecin (Malakoff) 9 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018. [https://www.lequotidiendumedecin.fr/actualites/breve/2018/02/09/aide-au-developpement-la-france-rehabilite-laide-bilaterale-et-double-ses-contributions-aux-ong\\_854969](https://www.lequotidiendumedecin.fr/actualites/breve/2018/02/09/aide-au-developpement-la-france-rehabilite-laide-bilaterale-et-double-ses-contributions-aux-ong_854969).

On 21 February 2018, Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian announced an emphasis on improving healthcare systems in Africa, with a focus on maternal, neonatal, and infant health.<sup>2199</sup>

On 23 February 2018, the Sahel Alliance, comprised of Brussels, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the UK the European Union, World Bank, African Development Bank, the UN Development Programme, has pledged EUR6 billion of investment meant to, among other initiatives, access to basic services in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger.<sup>2200</sup>

On 7 March 2018, the Agence Française de Développement pledged EUR3 million to the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network, a 22-member state organization that works together on vector control and monitoring the health impacts of climate change<sup>2201</sup>. The funding will train 80 health professionals responsible for health surveillance and the monitoring on epidemics in the field.<sup>2202</sup>

On 22 May 2018, the Agence Française de Développement signed financing agreements to pledge EUR10m to the North Mali Health Facility for three years, which will create community health and referral health centres.<sup>2203</sup>

France has demonstrated a commitment to strengthening international health systems, as demonstrated by its agreements with Egypt and Monaco. France has also demonstrated cooperative action by collaborating with Germany and the European Commission to promote strengthening health systems in Africa. France has demonstrated a commitment to improving the health workforces through its investment in the Pacific Public Health Surveillance Network.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Heather Wong*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

In July 2017, Germany began rolling-out electronic reporting health systems in Nepal with support through the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) in partnership with the Korea International Cooperation Agency.<sup>2204</sup> This initiative is working to connect health staff through an online health management information system using open source software, which helps to reduce administrative labour, and allows for improved health data sharing and

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<sup>2199</sup> Conseil des ministres du 21 février 2018. L'aide au développement, Vie Publique (Paris) 21 February 2018. Access Date: 1 March 2018 <http://discours.vie-publique.fr/notices/186000337.html>.

<sup>2200</sup> Sahel Alliance Launched: EUR6 Bn and 500 projects for development ,Agency of Development (France) 23February 2018 Access Date: 10September 2018. <https://www.afd.fr/en/sahel-alliance-launched-eur-6bn-and-500-projects-development>

<sup>2201</sup> Working for health surveillance in the Pacific, Agency of Development (France) 30July 2018. Access Date: 10September 2018.<https://www.afd.fr/en/working-health-surveillance-pacific>

<sup>2202</sup> Working for health surveillance in the Pacific, Agency of Development (France) 30July 2018.Access Date: 10September 2018.<https://www.afd.fr/en/working-health-surveillance-pacific>

<sup>2203</sup> North Mali: the Challenge of Access to Health Services, Agency of Development (France) 5June 2018. Access Date: 10September 2018.<https://www.afd.fr/en/north-mali-challenge-access-health-services>

<sup>2204</sup> Bring the power of digital data to rural Nepal, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) February 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [http://health.bmz.de/events/in\\_focus/bringing\\_power\\_digital\\_data\\_rural\\_nepal/index.html](http://health.bmz.de/events/in_focus/bringing_power_digital_data_rural_nepal/index.html).

communication.<sup>2205</sup> By June 2018, all 73 health facilities in Nuwakot District will be using e-reporting technology.<sup>2206</sup>

In July 2017, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), through the KfW Development Bank, granted EUR40 million to the Jordanian government for financial investment in improving water supply and disposal in the province of Irbid.<sup>2207</sup> Alongside funds from the European Union, for a total sum of EUR152 million, this initiative will help approximately one million people, including around 200,000 Syrian refugees.<sup>2208</sup> The German contribution will be allocated towards water distribution and safeguarding hygienic disposal of waste water to improve health in the region.<sup>2209</sup>

In August 2017, Minister of Health Hermann Gröhe established an International Advisory Board on Global Health, composed of six global health experts from around the world.<sup>2210</sup> This body will advise the Federal Ministry of Health on new strategies for global health policy.<sup>2211</sup>

On 4 September 2017, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, South Africa, Luxembourg, and the United Kingdom, as well as the Wellcome Trust, pledged EUR56.5 million for research on new antibiotic resistance treatments.<sup>2212</sup> This pledge was made at the Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP) event, hosted in Berlin by the Federal Ministries of Health and of Education and Research.<sup>2213</sup> Research will be conducted jointly by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative.<sup>2214</sup> Research and development by GARDP aims to deliver new treatments for bacterial infections where drug resistance is present and emerging.<sup>2215</sup> The funding will support four major health domains: sexually transmitted infections,

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<sup>2205</sup> Bring the power of digital data to rural Nepal, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) February 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [http://health.bmz.de/events/In\\_focus/bringing\\_power\\_digital\\_data\\_rural\\_nepal/index.html](http://health.bmz.de/events/In_focus/bringing_power_digital_data_rural_nepal/index.html).

<sup>2206</sup> Bring the power of digital data to rural Nepal, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) February 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [http://health.bmz.de/events/In\\_focus/bringing\\_power\\_digital\\_data\\_rural\\_nepal/index.html](http://health.bmz.de/events/In_focus/bringing_power_digital_data_rural_nepal/index.html).

<sup>2207</sup> Improvement in the water supply for one million people in Jordan (Frankfurt) 10 August 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details\\_428672.html](https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_428672.html).

<sup>2208</sup> Bring the power of digital data to rural Nepal, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) February 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [http://health.bmz.de/events/In\\_focus/bringing\\_power\\_digital\\_data\\_rural\\_nepal/index.html](http://health.bmz.de/events/In_focus/bringing_power_digital_data_rural_nepal/index.html).

<sup>2209</sup> Bring the power of digital data to rural Nepal, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) February 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [http://health.bmz.de/events/In\\_focus/bringing\\_power\\_digital\\_data\\_rural\\_nepal/index.html](http://health.bmz.de/events/In_focus/bringing_power_digital_data_rural_nepal/index.html).

<sup>2210</sup> Federal Health Minister convenes International Advisory Board on Global Health, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 17 August 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017.

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/international-advisory-council.html>.

<sup>2211</sup> Federal Health Minister convenes International Advisory Board on Global Health, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 17 August 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017.

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/international-advisory-council.html>.

<sup>2212</sup> More than EUR 56 million raised to fund initiative to fight antibiotic resistance Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 4 September 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/gardp-pledging-event.html>.

<sup>2213</sup> More than EUR 56 million raised to fund initiative to fight antibiotic resistance, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 4 September 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/gardp-pledging-event.html>.

<sup>2214</sup> Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership, Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (Geneva). Access Date: 5 March 2018. <https://www.gardp.org/about/>.

<sup>2215</sup> About, Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (Geneva). Access Date: 5 March 2018. <https://www.gardp.org/about/>.

antimicrobial memory recovery and exploratory research, neonatal sepsis, and paediatric antibiotics.<sup>2216</sup>

On 15 September 2017, Germany expanded funding to the International Patient Counselling Services for Germany from EUR5.2 to EUR9 million.<sup>2217</sup> This program provides health counselling and legal assistance to patients free of cost.<sup>2218</sup> Furthermore, Germany celebrated the first annual International Patient Safety Day, as declared by the German Coalition for Patient Safety, alongside the UN and WHO.<sup>2219</sup>

In October 2017, the GIZ funded the construction of an emergency unit at Azadi Hospital in Dohuk in collaboration with local partners in the autonomous region of Kurdistan in northern Iraq.<sup>2220</sup> The unit will be completed in 2019 and increase capacity of the hospital from 500 to 4,000 patients.<sup>2221</sup> Additionally, the BMZ has completed six health centres to deliver health care to people living in refugee camps, providing free treatment to 80,000 refugees and internally displaced peoples.<sup>2222</sup> This initiative also involves medical training for health professionals in the country, including training 2,000 women in three camps to work as health advisors.<sup>2223</sup>

From 15 to 17 October 2017, Germany hosted the 9th World Health Summit in collaboration with French President Emmanuel Macron and President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker.<sup>2224</sup> Commitments, in the form of endorsements and advocacy, were made in six areas: strong and reliable government, global health security, healthy and resilient cities, responsible approaches to big data, research, innovation and development, and lastly innovation and strengthening health systems in Africa.<sup>2225</sup>

On 2 November 2017, the Federal Ministry of Health launched 'Migration and Health,' an Internet portal system to help migrants navigate healthcare systems for themselves and their families.<sup>2226</sup> The service is available in a number of foreign languages and is organized into four health-related areas:

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<sup>2216</sup> More than EUR 56 million raised to fund initiative to fight antibiotic resistance, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 4 September 2017. Access Date: 18 November 2017. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/gardp-pledging-event.html>.

<sup>2217</sup> International Patient Safety Day, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 15 September 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/international-patient-safety-day.html>.

<sup>2218</sup> International Patient Safety Day, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 15 September 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/international-patient-safety-day.html>.

<sup>2219</sup> International Patient Safety Day, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 15 September 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/international-patient-safety-day.html>.

<sup>2220</sup> Improved healthcare for refugees in northern Iraq, German Corporation for International Cooperation (Bonn) 29 August 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. <https://www.giz.de/en/mediacenter/56328.html>.

<sup>2221</sup> Improved healthcare for refugees in northern Iraq, German Corporation for International Cooperation (Bonn) 29 August 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. <https://www.giz.de/en/mediacenter/56328.html>.

<sup>2222</sup> Improved healthcare for refugees in northern Iraq, German Corporation for International Cooperation (Bonn) 29 August 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. <https://www.giz.de/en/mediacenter/56328.html>.

<sup>2223</sup> Improved healthcare for refugees in northern Iraq, German Corporation for International Cooperation (Bonn) 29 August 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. <https://www.giz.de/en/mediacenter/56328.html>.

<sup>2224</sup> World Health Summit 2017, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 16 October 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/world-health-summit-2017.html>.

<sup>2225</sup> M8 Alliance Declaration World Health Summit 2017, World Health Summit (Berlin) October 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. [https://d1wjxwc5zmlmv4.cloudfront.net/fileadmin/user\\_upload/downloads/2017/WHS\\_Berlin/Data/M8\\_Alliance\\_Declaration\\_2017\\_Berlin.pdf](https://d1wjxwc5zmlmv4.cloudfront.net/fileadmin/user_upload/downloads/2017/WHS_Berlin/Data/M8_Alliance_Declaration_2017_Berlin.pdf).

<sup>2226</sup> New Internet Portal, Ministry of Migration and Health (Berlin) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/portal-migration-and-health.html>.



health care systems, health and preventive health care, long-term care, and addiction and drugs.<sup>2227</sup> The portal also provides vital information on immunisations, child health, screening processes, and early detection programs.<sup>2228</sup>

From 6 to 17 November 2017, Germany hosted the 23rd meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, where health was a major theme of discussion, specifically pertaining to global responses to climate change related health issues.<sup>2229</sup> Attention was primarily concerned with the least developed countries and small island developing states.<sup>2230</sup> At the conference, commitments were made to implementing the Paris Agreement's health and climate agendas, as well as assessing current progress and barriers in healthcare in the context of climate change.<sup>2231</sup> Running parallel to the COP, the Fifth Global Climate and Health Summit was also hosted in Bonn, Germany during the same period.<sup>2232</sup> This summit committed members to invest in communities and health systems in the context of climate change, as well as in terms of strengthening collaboration between health organizations globally.<sup>2233</sup>

On 7 December 2017, the BMZ, through the KfW Development Bank, committed EUR20 million for two development projects in northern Mali.<sup>2234</sup> One project, in collaboration with the French non-governmental organization ACTED, is building health centres in the country, including vaccination stations.<sup>2235</sup> The aim of this project is to improve healthcare access, thus allowing individuals the ability to generate a higher income through trade relationships.<sup>2236</sup>

On 20 December 2017, the KfW Development Bank, on behalf of the BMZ, committed EUR10 million to support South Sudanese refugees.<sup>2237</sup> Within this commitment, funds are being allocated to

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<sup>2227</sup> New Internet Portal, Ministry of Migration and Health (Berlin) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/portal-migration-and-health.html>.

<sup>2228</sup> New Internet Portal, Ministry of Migration and Health (Berlin) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/portal-migration-and-health.html>.

<sup>2229</sup> Health and Climate Change at COP23, World Health Organization (Bonn) 17 November 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/events/2017/health-climate-cop23/en/>.

<sup>2230</sup> Health and Climate Change at COP23, World Health Organization (Bonn) 17 November 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/events/2017/health-climate-cop23/en/>.

<sup>2231</sup> Health and Climate Change at COP23, World Health Organization (Bonn) 17 November 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/events/2017/health-climate-cop23/en/>.

<sup>2232</sup> Fifth Global Climate and Health Summit, World Health Organization (Bonn) 17 November 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <http://www.who.int/globalchange/mediacentre/news/5th-global-climate/en/>.

<sup>2233</sup> Fifth Global Climate and Health Summit, World Health Organization (Bonn) 17 November 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017. <http://www.who.int/globalchange/mediacentre/news/5th-global-climate/en/>.

<sup>2234</sup> More stability for northern Mali, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 7 December 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details\\_446592.html](https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_446592.html).

<sup>2235</sup> More stability for northern Mali, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 7 December 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details\\_446592.html](https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_446592.html).

<sup>2236</sup> More stability for northern Mali, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 7 December 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details\\_446592.html](https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_446592.html).

<sup>2237</sup> More support for refugees in Uganda, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 20 December 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details\\_448960.html](https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_448960.html).

developing sanitary facilities and hygiene programmes, and to constructing health stations for refugees, helping to improve healthcare for 13,000 people.<sup>2238</sup>

On 27 December 2017, the BMZ, through the KfW Development Bank, pledged EUR5 million for the Ebola support program in Liberia.<sup>2239</sup> This initiative will help equip the health sector in Liberia to be better prepared for any future epidemics.<sup>2240</sup> Since 2015, KfW has helped to build nine medical facilities in the country and helped implement hygiene programmes in schools and local markets.<sup>2241</sup> KfW's largest project in the county is constructing isolation wards in hospitals for Ebola patients to be housed.<sup>2242</sup>

From 14 to 17 February 2018, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Health Lutz Stroppe visited Ukraine for talks on health policy projects with the Ukrainian Minister of Health, Ulana Suprun.<sup>2243</sup> The purpose of the trip was to promote international cooperation in health policy.<sup>2244</sup> Health topics discussed included self-administration structures for physicians and bone marrow donation procedures.<sup>2245</sup> Secretary Stroppe visited local clinics and engaged in discussion with doctors and nurses. Meetings were held with the European Union and WHO, Joint UN Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and UN Children's Fund (UNICEF).<sup>2246</sup>

On 9 April 2018, the KfW Development Bank, on behalf of the BMZ, committed EUR31.5 million to expand support for conflict regions in Yemen with three new financing agreements.<sup>2247</sup> One financing agreement, of EUR5 million, is allocated to reducing maternal and infant mortality by

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<sup>2238</sup> More support for refugees in Uganda, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 20 December 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details\\_448960.html](https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_448960.html).

<sup>2239</sup> KfW supports Liberia in handling future epidemics, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 27 December 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details\\_449728.html](https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_449728.html).

<sup>2240</sup> KfW supports Liberia in handling future epidemics, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 27 December 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details\\_449728.html](https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_449728.html).

<sup>2241</sup> KfW supports Liberia in handling future epidemics, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 27 December 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details\\_449728.html](https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_449728.html).

<sup>2242</sup> KfW supports Liberia in handling future epidemics, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 27 December 2017. Access Date: 5 March 2018. [https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details\\_449728.html](https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/International-financing/KfW-Development-Bank/News/News-Details_449728.html).

<sup>2243</sup> State Secretary Lutz Stroppe makes a health policy trip to Ukraine, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 17 February 2018. Access Date: 2 March 2018. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/ministry/2018/health-policy-trip-to-ukraine.html>.

<sup>2244</sup> State Secretary Lutz Stroppe makes a health policy trip to Ukraine, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 17 February 2018. Access Date: 2 March 2018. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/ministry/2018/health-policy-trip-to-ukraine.html>.

<sup>2245</sup> State Secretary Lutz Stroppe makes a health policy trip to Ukraine, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 17 February 2018. Access Date: 2 March 2018. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/ministry/2018/health-policy-trip-to-ukraine.html>.

<sup>2246</sup> State Secretary Lutz Stroppe makes a health policy trip to Ukraine, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 17 February 2018. Access Date: 2 March 2018. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/ministry/2018/health-policy-trip-to-ukraine.html>.

<sup>2247</sup> KfW provides EUR 31.5 million to support conflict regions in Yemen – measures to contain the humanitarian crisis, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 9 April 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. [https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_464448.html](https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_464448.html).

facilitating visits to maternity hospitals.<sup>2248</sup> This includes providing vouchers for pre- and post-natal check-ups and medically supervised births for the price of less than EUR1.<sup>2249</sup> To date, 57,500 vouchers have been distributed to expecting mothers and 24,000 babies have been safely delivered.<sup>2250</sup> Expanded funding is aimed at prioritizing areas with particularly high concentrations of internally displaced peoples.<sup>2251</sup>

On 8 May 2018, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), through the KfW Development Bank, granted EUR35 million to the World Food Program (WFP) and UN Food and Agriculture Organization (UNFAO) to support food security for over 180,000 refugees, internally displaced peoples, and the communities hosting them in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.<sup>2252</sup> This program includes subsidizing subsistence farming practices in the country to improve the population's food supply and nutritional health while generating new sources of income.<sup>2253</sup>

On 11 May 2018, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), through the KfW Development Bank, signed a financing agreement with the Ministry of Energy and Water of Lebanon for EUR38 million.<sup>2254</sup> The grant is funding improvements in water supply and sanitation for communities in Lebanon that have hosted Syrian refugees.<sup>2255</sup> The initiative will expand water supply to approximately 1 million people, including 75,000 Syrian refugees, improving the population's living conditions, hygiene and sanitation services, and overall health.<sup>2256</sup>

On 6 August 2018, the Federal Ministry of Health contributed USD3.5 million to the WHO to support Ebola control in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.<sup>2257</sup>

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<sup>2248</sup>KfW provides EUR 31.5 million to support conflict regions in Yemen – measures to contain the humanitarian crisis, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 9 April 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. [https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_464448.html](https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_464448.html).

<sup>2249</sup>KfW provides EUR 31.5 million to support conflict regions in Yemen – measures to contain the humanitarian crisis, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 9 April 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. [https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_464448.html](https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_464448.html).

<sup>2250</sup>KfW provides EUR 31.5 million to support conflict regions in Yemen – measures to contain the humanitarian crisis, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 9 April 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. [https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_464448.html](https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_464448.html).

<sup>2251</sup>KfW provides EUR 31.5 million to support conflict regions in Yemen – measures to contain the humanitarian crisis, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 9 April 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. [https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_464448.html](https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_464448.html).

<sup>2252</sup>Refilling the breadbasket of the Congo: helping to stabilize a formerly war-torn region, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 8 May 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. [https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_468800.html](https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_468800.html).

<sup>2253</sup>Refilling the breadbasket of the Congo: helping to stabilize a formerly war-torn region, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 8 May 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. [https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_468800.html](https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_468800.html).

<sup>2254</sup>Improved water supply for more than 1 million people, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 11 May 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. [https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_465216.html](https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_465216.html).

<sup>2255</sup>Improved water supply for more than 1 million people, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 11 May 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. [https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_465216.html](https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_465216.html).

<sup>2256</sup>Improved water supply for more than 1 million people, Bank of Responsibility (Frankfurt) 11 May 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. [https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details\\_465216.html](https://www.kfw.de/KfW-Group/Newsroom/Latest-News/Pressemitteilungen-Details_465216.html).

<sup>2257</sup>Spahn: Germany to support Ebola control with US \$3.5 million, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 16 August 2018. Access Date: 18 September 2018. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/press/2018/ebola.html>.

Germany has worked throughout its G20 presidency to make global health a priority issue, the country facilitated the first G20 commitment to health systems and improving the health workforce at the 2017 Hamburg Summit. Germany has taken multiple health-oriented cooperative actions alongside other states and international organizations, including the UN, WHO, WFP, UNFAO, UNFCCC, and the M8 Alliance.<sup>2258</sup> Germany has demonstrated an effort to improving global health systems in countries such as Liberia, Mali and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and has implemented specific policies to improve the health workforce by providing training to medical professionals in Kurdistan.

Therefore, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Natasha Comeau*

### **India: +1**

India has fully complied with its commitment to strive for cooperative action to strengthen health systems worldwide, including through developing the health workforce.<sup>2259</sup>

On 13 July 2017, Faggan Singh Kulaste, union minister of state health and family welfare, will initiate a telemedicine network at Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Research (JIPMER) in Puducherry connecting hospitals and healthcare institutions in South Asia and South East Asian countries.<sup>2260</sup> The telemedicine network aims to minimize the disparity of health care access between urban and rural Bay of Bengal Initiative of Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) countries. BIMSTEC countries include Bangladesh, Myanmar, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal.<sup>2261</sup>

On 24 July 2017, a delegation of the Conference of Indian Industry from healthcare met representatives of International Trade Center, Geneva, to concur a plan of action to foster exchange and partnership opportunities between India and Africa with consultation from various healthcare stakeholders.<sup>2262</sup> They discussed the possibility of broadening cooperation in 2 sectors in East Africa – health and education.<sup>2263</sup>

On 28 September 2017, Indian Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Norway's foreign affairs ministry signed a letter of intent which affirmed their intention of collaborating to improve

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<sup>2258</sup> State Secretary Lutz Stroppe makes a health policy trip to Ukraine, Federal Ministry of Health (Berlin) 17 February 2018. Access Date: 2 March 2018. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/ministry/2018/health-policy-trip-to-ukraine.html>.

<sup>2259</sup> Hamburg Update: Taking Forward the G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20 Information Centre (Hamburg) 8 July 2017. Access date: 30 October 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-g20-hamburg-update.html>.

<sup>2260</sup> Jipmer to bridge gap in healthcare access with South Asian partners, The Times of India (Puducherry) 13 July 2017. Access date: 21 November 2017. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/puducherry/jipmer-to-bridge-gap-in-healthcare-access-with-south-asian-partners/articleshow/59567897.cms>.

<sup>2261</sup> Jipmer to bridge gap in healthcare access with South Asian partners, The Times of India (Puducherry) 13 July 2017. Access date: 21 November 2017. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/puducherry/jipmer-to-bridge-gap-in-healthcare-access-with-south-asian-partners/articleshow/59567897.cms>.

<sup>2262</sup> India, East Africa to collaborate in healthcare, edu sectors, Outlook India (Coimbatore) 24 July 2017. Access date: 21 November 2017. <https://www.outlookindia.com/newscroll/india-east-africa-to-collaborate-in-healthcare-edu-sectors/1106601>.

<sup>2263</sup> India, East Africa to collaborate in healthcare, edu sectors, Outlook India (Coimbatore) 24 July 2017. Access date: 21 November 2017. <https://www.outlookindia.com/newscroll/india-east-africa-to-collaborate-in-healthcare-edu-sectors/1106601>.

reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health in India.<sup>2264</sup> Norway and India have committed to channel their efforts towards implementing the District Implementation Plan for Improving Maternal and Child Health Outcomes from September 2017.<sup>2265</sup> Both countries continue to work together on research projects, remain partners in Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) and continue to flourish the Norway India Partnership Initiative that designs and tests innovations which can be used by the Indian government to improve domestic health systems.<sup>2266</sup>

On 5 November 2017, Medtronic, a US based private medical device company and part of delegation of US-India Strategic Partnership Forum, partnered with the Uttar Pradesh government to overcome structural barriers towards healthcare.<sup>2267</sup> The rest of the delegation, including US companies such as Meck Sharp & Dohme Corp and GE Healthcare also met with UP Chief Minister on October 23 2017 where they organized a session on healthcare to focus on tackling obstacles in accessibility and affordability of health care in UP.<sup>2268</sup>

On 11 November 2017, it was announced that India will be collaborating with Australia's National Trauma Research Institute to develop trauma care policy. Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital, attached to Madras Medical College, will be developed into an extensive trauma care centre.<sup>2269</sup> This collaboration enables the health department to develop a trauma registry which allows hospitals to have unified, comprehensive health records. <sup>2270</sup>

On 14 November 2017, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Philippines whereby he discussed Philippines' commitment to improve public health systems and discussed the potential contributions of Indian infrastructure companies to Philippines' "build, build, build" programme. <sup>2271</sup>

On 17 November 2017, India and Canada announced a joint venture in medical electronics to enhance healthcare accessibility by improving cost-effectiveness.<sup>2272</sup> The project, completed in 2019, will allow for newer and more efficient MRI machines to become accessible by rural populations.<sup>2273</sup>

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<sup>2264</sup>Norway to cooperate India in improving maternal health: Envoy, India Today (New Delhi) 13 November 2017. Access date: 21 November 2017. <http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/norway-to-cooperate-india-in-improving-maternal-health-envoy/1/1088577.html>.

<sup>2265</sup>Norway to cooperate India in improving maternal health: Envoy, India Today (New Delhi) 13 November 2017. Access date: 21 November 2017. <http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/norway-to-cooperate-india-in-improving-maternal-health-envoy/1/1088577.html>.

<sup>2266</sup>Norway to cooperate India in improving maternal health: Envoy, India Today (New Delhi) 13 November 2017. Access date: 21 November 2017. <http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/norway-to-cooperate-india-in-improving-maternal-health-envoy/1/1088577.html>.

<sup>2267</sup>US based medical device company to partner with UP govt for healthcare, The Times of India (Lucknow) 5 November 2017. Access date: 21 November 2017. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/lucknow/us-based-medical-device-company-to-partner-with-up-govt-for-healthcare/articleshow/61520206.cms>.

<sup>2268</sup>US firms to meet Yogi Adityanath on Monday to explore investment opportunities, Hindustan Times (Lucknow) 22 October 2017. Access date: 21 November 2017. <http://www.hindustantimes.com/lucknow/us-firms-to-meet-yogi-adityanath-on-monday-to-explore-investment-opportunities/story-qrK2zGyUo8C0ln5gFhZ5LO.html>.

<sup>2269</sup>Comprehensive trauma care policy to be evolved, The Hindu (Tamil Nadu) 11 November 2017. Access date: 21 November 2017. <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-tamilnadu/comprehensive-trauma-care-policy-to-be-evolved/article20138246.ece>.

<sup>2270</sup>Comprehensive trauma care policy to be evolved, The Hindu (Tamil Nadu) 11 November 2017. Access date: 21 November 2017. <http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-tamilnadu/comprehensive-trauma-care-policy-to-be-evolved/article20138246.ece>.

<sup>2271</sup>India, Phillipines inks deal on defence, agriculture, The Indian Express (Manila) 14 November 2017. Access date: 21 November 2017. <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-philippines-ink-deals-on-defence-agriculture-pm-modi-duterte-asean-summit-4936341/>.

On 29 November 2017, the Indian and Italian Ministers of Health signed a Memorandum of Understanding to improve bilateral collaboration in the health sector, particularly in the fields of pharmaceutical industry and regulation.<sup>2274</sup> In addition, they agreed to cooperate in training medical personnel and improving nutrition.<sup>2275</sup>

On 7 December 2017, Health Minister JP Nadda and Cuban Public Health Minister Dr. Roberto Tomas Morales Ojeda signed a memorandum of understanding to cooperate in the field of biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.<sup>2276</sup> The countries will also be exchanging and training of medical and healthcare personnel.<sup>2277</sup> They will cooperate to concur plans to prevent non-communicable diseases and discuss the impact of climate change on communicable diseases and vector borne diseases.<sup>2278</sup>

On 20 January 2018, the British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (BAPIO) met in Cardiff on Saturday to discuss collaboration with India in strengthening the health system of both nations.<sup>2279</sup> BAPIO especially plans to focus on exchanging skills and knowledge. In 2016 and 2017, this collaboration was in the form of recruiting Indian health personnel in Wales.<sup>2280</sup>

On 31 January 2018, the Kakamega County General Hospital in Kenya to provide primary and secondary care as a result of an agreement signed between President Uhuru Kenyatta and Prime Minister Modi.<sup>2281</sup> India will be bringing oncology experts and medical professionals to Kenya to enhance primary and secondary oncology care in Kenya.<sup>2282</sup>

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<sup>2272</sup> India-Canada joint venture in medical electronics to ensure affordable healthcare, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 17 November 2017. Access date: 20 December 2018. <https://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/medical-devices/india-canada-joint-venture-in-medical-electronics-to-ensure-affordable-healthcare/61686467>.

<sup>2273</sup> India-Canada joint venture in medical electronics to ensure affordable healthcare, The Economic Times (New Delhi) 17 November 2017. Access date: 20 December 2018. <https://health.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/medical-devices/india-canada-joint-venture-in-medical-electronics-to-ensure-affordable-healthcare/61686467>.

<sup>2274</sup> Italia e India firmano Memorandum d'intesa nel settore Salute, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 29 November 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_4\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=4979](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=4979).

<sup>2275</sup> Italia e India firmano Memorandum d'intesa nel settore Salute, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 29 November 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_4\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=4979](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=4979).

<sup>2276</sup> India, Cuba sign MoU for enhanced cooperation in health sector, Jagran Josh (India) 7 December 2017. Access date: 20 December 2018. <https://www.jagranjosh.com/current-affairs/india-cuba-sign-mou-for-enhanced-cooperation-in-health-sector-1512621987-1>.

<sup>2277</sup> India, Cuba sign MoU for enhanced cooperation in health sector, Jagran Josh (India) 7 December 2017. Access date: 20 December 2018. <https://www.jagranjosh.com/current-affairs/india-cuba-sign-mou-for-enhanced-cooperation-in-health-sector-1512621987-1>.

<sup>2278</sup> India, Cuba sign MoU for enhanced cooperation in health sector, Jagran Josh (India) 7 December 2017. Access date: 20 December 2018. <https://www.jagranjosh.com/current-affairs/india-cuba-sign-mou-for-enhanced-cooperation-in-health-sector-1512621987-1>.

<sup>2279</sup> Wales-India 'ambitious' health links plan to be discussed, BBC News (Wales) 20 January 2018. Access date: 14 March 2018. <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-42746815>.

<sup>2280</sup> Wales-India 'ambitious' health links plan to be discussed, BBC News (Wales) 20 January 2018. Access date: 14 March 2018. <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-42746815>.

<sup>2281</sup> India offers medical expertise for cancer treatment in Kenya, Little India (Kenya) 31 January 2018. Access date: 14 March 2018. <https://littleindia.com/india-offers-medical-expertise-cancer-treatment-kenya/>.

<sup>2282</sup> India offers medical expertise for cancer treatment in Kenya, Little India (Kenya) 31 January 2018. Access date: 14 March 2018. <https://littleindia.com/india-offers-medical-expertise-cancer-treatment-kenya/>.

On 5 February 2018, the Export Import Bank of India (EXIM) announced that they plan to invest in Myanmar's healthcare sector to improve health care facilities and provide accessible high-quality care through Exim Bank's Market Outreach Programme.<sup>2283</sup> EXIM was set up in 1982 under an Act of Parliament of Government of India. <sup>2284</sup>

On 15 February 2018, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani met with Prime Minister Modi to sign two MoUs to foster co-operation in healthcare, which focused on establishing human resources and health care facilities in both nations.<sup>2285</sup> Both parties also plan to collaborate in exchanging knowledge about traditional medicine and drug/drugless therapies.<sup>2286</sup>

On 22 February 2018, India and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), a Canadian crown corporation, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to continue research in India on development innovation in fields such as finance, agriculture, industry and health.<sup>2287</sup>

On 23 February 2018, India, along with representatives from 13 other countries and World Health Organization, joined to establish the Global Digital Health Partnership at a summit in Canberra, Australia hosted by Australian Digital Health Agency.<sup>2288</sup> The partnership allows global experts to cooperate on projects and share knowledge to implement digital health services across countries more efficiently, taking into account that many of these countries face similar global health issues. <sup>2289</sup>

On 28 February 2018, India and Macedonia signed a memorandum of understanding to enhance medical personnel training, exchange health professionals, and set up healthcare facilities in both countries. <sup>2290</sup>

On 9 April 2018, India and Swaziland signed an agreement to ensure cooperation within the fields of health and medicine.<sup>2291</sup>

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<sup>2283</sup> India's Exim Bank to Invest in Myanmar's healthcare sector, Mizzima (Myanmar) 5 February 2018. Access date: 14 March 2018. <http://www.mizzima.com/development-news/india%E2%80%99s-exim-bank-invest-myanmar%E2%80%99s-healthcare-sector>.

<sup>2284</sup> India's Exim Bank to Invest in Myanmar's healthcare sector, Mizzima (Myanmar) 5 February 2018. Access date: 14 March 2018. <http://www.mizzima.com/development-news/india%E2%80%99s-exim-bank-invest-myanmar%E2%80%99s-healthcare-sector>.

<sup>2285</sup> India, Iran sign 9 agreements during Hassan Rouhani's visit: MoUs on medicine, trade and connectivity key highlights, First Post (India) 15 February 2018. Access date: 14 March 2018. <http://www.mizzima.com/development-news/india%E2%80%99s-exim-bank-invest-myanmar%E2%80%99s-healthcare-sector>.

<sup>2286</sup> India, Iran sign 9 agreements during Hassan Rouhani's visit: MoUs on medicine, trade and connectivity key highlights, First Post (India) 15 February 2018. Access date: 14 March 2018. <http://www.mizzima.com/development-news/india%E2%80%99s-exim-bank-invest-myanmar%E2%80%99s-healthcare-sector>.

<sup>2287</sup> IDRC and the Government of India announce their renewed support for research, International Development Research Centre (Ottawa) 22 February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.idrc.ca/en/news/idrc-and-government-india-announce-their-renewed-support-research>.

<sup>2288</sup> Global digital health network announced as Australia takes a lead in international collaboration (Canberra) 23 February 2018. Access date: 13 March 2018. <http://www.healthcareit.com.au/article/global-digital-health-network-announced-australia-takes-lead-role-international>.

<sup>2289</sup> Global digital health network announced as Australia takes a lead in international collaboration (Canberra) 23 February 2018. Access date: 13 March 2018. <http://www.healthcareit.com.au/article/global-digital-health-network-announced-australia-takes-lead-role-international>.

<sup>2290</sup> Cabinet approves India-Macedonia MoU in health, Business Standard (New Delhi) 28 February 2018. Access date: 14 March 2018. [http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/cabinet-approves-india-macedonia-mou-on-health-118022801262\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/cabinet-approves-india-macedonia-mou-on-health-118022801262_1.html).

On 29 May 2018, an Indian resolution regarding digital health was adopted by the World Health Organization (WHO) assembly in Geneva.<sup>2292</sup> The resolution allows WHO to develop a global strategy on digital health and identifies priority areas where WHO can focus its efforts.<sup>2293</sup> It gives other member states a chance to improve their health systems by incorporating digital health systems within their domestic health systems.<sup>2294</sup> The resolution is also a step toward accomplishing health-related sustainable development goals (SDGs).<sup>2295</sup> The resolution implements the inclusion of big data, deep machine learning, artificial intelligence, etc. in domestic health systems.<sup>2296</sup>

On 1 June 2018, 17 low and middle-income groups and innovators in India received a seed grant of CAD100,000 each funded by Grand Challenges Canada with financial support from the Canadian government.<sup>2297</sup> This total investment of over CAD10 million is geared towards developing and testing various innovations targeted at overcoming challenges in women and child healthcare in NGOs, research institutes, universities and hospitals.<sup>2298</sup> CAD4 million will be dedicated to addressing sexual and reproductive health rights, in accordance with Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy.<sup>2299</sup> All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Jodhpur will use this grant to help adolescents access accurate information regarding sexual and reproductive health rights.<sup>2300</sup>

On 4 July 2018, Human Resource Development minister, Prakash Javadekar, was present at the signing of a partnership between Australia's Deakin University and India's All India Institute of

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<sup>2291</sup>India, Swaziland sign 2 agreement on health, Visa waiver, Business Standard (Swaziland) 9 April 2018. Access date: 11 September 2018. [https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/india-swaziland-sign-2-agreement-on-health-visa-waiver-118040901308\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/india-swaziland-sign-2-agreement-on-health-visa-waiver-118040901308_1.html).

<sup>2292</sup>WHO adopts resolution on digital health initiated by India, Economic Times (New Delhi) 29 May 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/who-adopts-resolution-on-digital-health-initiated-by-india/articleshow/64367070.cms>.

<sup>2293</sup>WHO adopts resolution on digital health initiated by India, Economic Times (New Delhi) 29 May 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/who-adopts-resolution-on-digital-health-initiated-by-india/articleshow/64367070.cms>.

<sup>2294</sup>WHO adopts resolution on digital health initiated by India, Economic Times (New Delhi) 29 May 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/who-adopts-resolution-on-digital-health-initiated-by-india/articleshow/64367070.cms>.

<sup>2295</sup>WHO adopts resolution on digital health initiated by India, Economic Times (New Delhi) 29 May 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/who-adopts-resolution-on-digital-health-initiated-by-india/articleshow/64367070.cms>.

<sup>2296</sup>WHO adopts resolution on digital health initiated by India, Economic Times (New Delhi) 29 May 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/healthcare/who-adopts-resolution-on-digital-health-initiated-by-india/articleshow/64367070.cms>.

<sup>2297</sup>Canadian government funds 17 Indian healthcare projects for women and children from low-income groups, FirstPost (New Delhi) 1 June 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.firstpost.com/world/canadian-government-funds-17-indian-healthcare-projects-for-women-and-children-from-low-income-groups-4491321.html>.

<sup>2298</sup>Canadian government funds 17 Indian healthcare projects for women and children from low-income groups, FirstPost (New Delhi) 1 June 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.firstpost.com/world/canadian-government-funds-17-indian-healthcare-projects-for-women-and-children-from-low-income-groups-4491321.html>.

<sup>2299</sup>Canadian government funds 17 Indian healthcare projects for women and children from low-income groups, FirstPost (New Delhi) 1 June 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.firstpost.com/world/canadian-government-funds-17-indian-healthcare-projects-for-women-and-children-from-low-income-groups-4491321.html>.

<sup>2300</sup>Canadian government funds 17 Indian healthcare projects for women and children from low-income groups, FirstPost (New Delhi) 1 June 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.firstpost.com/world/canadian-government-funds-17-indian-healthcare-projects-for-women-and-children-from-low-income-groups-4491321.html>.



Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and JIPMER.<sup>2301</sup> The partnerships aimed at Deakin's continued efforts to research collaborations in India.<sup>2302</sup> This formal agreement provides opportunities of research collaborations and faculty/student exchange programs.<sup>2303</sup> Deakin has committed to develop a joint PhD program in areas such as molecular medicine, public health and psychiatry. Such a collaboration will offer more training opportunities for medical professionals in both countries.<sup>2304</sup>

On 16 July 2018, India and Bahrain signed a Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate in making pharmaceuticals.<sup>2305</sup> This MoU will allow both countries to delve into the healthcare industry, further expanding their bilateral relations.<sup>2306</sup>

On 8 August 2018, the BAPIO India-UK Healthcare Policy Forum took place at the Indian High Commission which aimed at developed a network of experienced physicians, policy-makers and entrepreneurs to provide support to health services within both countries.<sup>2307</sup> It will encourage bilateral training programs for healthcare professionals and strengthen healthcare infrastructure through greater investments.<sup>2308</sup>

On 9 August 2018, India and Indonesia signed a MoU which allows for cooperation within the health sector, specifically in research and development, active pharmaceutical ingredients, IT-based medical equipment and human resources development.<sup>2309</sup> A working group will be implemented to outline the finer details of this cooperation.<sup>2310</sup>

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<sup>2301</sup>Promoting better healthcare in India: Deakin University partners with AIIMS and JIPMER, Times of India (New Delhi) 4 July 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/promoting-better-healthcare-in-india-deakin-university-partners-with-aiims-and-jipmer/articleshow/64850404.cms>.

<sup>2302</sup>Promoting better healthcare in India: Deakin University partners with AIIMS and JIPMER, Times of India (New Delhi) 4 July 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/promoting-better-healthcare-in-india-deakin-university-partners-with-aiims-and-jipmer/articleshow/64850404.cms>.

<sup>2303</sup>Promoting better healthcare in India: Deakin University partners with AIIMS and JIPMER, Times of India (New Delhi) 4 July 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/promoting-better-healthcare-in-india-deakin-university-partners-with-aiims-and-jipmer/articleshow/64850404.cms>.

<sup>2304</sup>Promoting better healthcare in India: Deakin University partners with AIIMS and JIPMER, Times of India (New Delhi) 4 July 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/promoting-better-healthcare-in-india-deakin-university-partners-with-aiims-and-jipmer/articleshow/64850404.cms>.

<sup>2305</sup>India, Bahrain sign pact for healthcare opportunities, BioSpectrum (New Delhi) 16 July 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.biospectrumindia.com/news/22/11304/india-bahrain-sign-pact-for-healthcare-opportunities.html>.

<sup>2306</sup>India, Bahrain sign pact for healthcare opportunities, BioSpectrum (New Delhi) 16 July 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. <https://www.biospectrumindia.com/news/22/11304/india-bahrain-sign-pact-for-healthcare-opportunities.html>.

<sup>2307</sup>New policy forum to enhance India-UK healthcare collaborations, Business Standard (London) 9 August 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. [https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/new-policy-forum-to-enhance-india-uk-healthcare-collaborations-118080901562\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/new-policy-forum-to-enhance-india-uk-healthcare-collaborations-118080901562_1.html).

<sup>2308</sup>New policy forum to enhance India-UK healthcare collaborations, Business Standard (London) 9 August 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. [https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/new-policy-forum-to-enhance-india-uk-healthcare-collaborations-118080901562\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/new-policy-forum-to-enhance-india-uk-healthcare-collaborations-118080901562_1.html).

<sup>2309</sup>Cabinet nod to pacts between India, Indonesia for cooperation in science & technology, health (New Delhi) 9 August 2018. Access date: 11 September 2018. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/cabinet-nod-to-pacts-between-india-indonesia-for-cooperation-in-science-technology-health/articleshow/65340983.cms>.

<sup>2310</sup>Cabinet nod to pacts between India, Indonesia for cooperation in science & technology, health (New Delhi) 9 August 2018. Access date: 11 September 2018. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/cabinet-nod-to-pacts-between-india-indonesia-for-cooperation-in-science-technology-health/articleshow/65340983.cms>.

On 10 September 2018, Indian External Affairs Ministry signed an agreement with Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL) to implement a pan-African e-network between India and Africa.<sup>2311</sup> The project is known as e-VidyaBharati and e-ArogyaBharati network and improves tele-communication and tele-education between select Indian and African hospitals and educational institutions.<sup>2312</sup>

India has made progress in improving their own health system as well as contributing to assist improving world-wide health systems and healthcare workforce. India has made collaborative efforts to improve its domestic health system through partnerships with countries such as the UK, Canada and Australia. India has also made efforts to improve international health systems in countries such as Kenya and the Philippines. In addition, India has also demonstrated its commitment to improving the health workforce through its agreement with Italy to improve health personnel training.

Thus, India receives a compliance score of +1.

*Analyst: Drishti Thakkar*

### **Indonesia: +1**

Indonesia has fully complied with its commitment to strive for cooperative action to strengthen health systems worldwide, including through developing the health workforce.<sup>2313</sup>

On 31 August 2017, Foreign Minister Retno launched the Indonesian Humanitarian Alliance with Myanmar (AKIM), consisting of 11 community organizations to provide humanitarian aid to the Burmese state of Rakhine.<sup>2314</sup> The alliance consists of health, education, economy and basic assistance programs, and will last for two years. Indonesia is providing the community with USD2 million (from the government and Indonesian community) in aid and supporting medical training of health personnel in Rakhine.<sup>2315</sup>

On 3 September 2017, Indonesia promised to evaluate implementation of K3 in companies yearly and compensate companies devoted to K3 for their employees.<sup>2316</sup> The government also displayed support to Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries to increase cooperation in

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<sup>2311</sup> India to establish a pan-african e-network to address areas of education, health, Tech2 (New Delhi) 10 September 2018. Access date: 11 September 2018. <https://www.firstpost.com/tech/news-analysis/india-to-establish-a-pan-african-e-network-to-address-areas-of-education-health-5154091.html>.

<sup>2312</sup> India to establish a pan-african e-network to address areas of education, health, Tech2 (New Delhi) 10 September 2018. Access date: 11 September 2018. <https://www.firstpost.com/tech/news-analysis/india-to-establish-a-pan-african-e-network-to-address-areas-of-education-health-5154091.html>.

<sup>2313</sup> Hamburg Update: Taking Forward the G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, G20 Information Centre (Hamburg) 8 July 2017. Access date: 30 October 2017. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-g20-hamburg-update.html>.

<sup>2314</sup> Foreign Minister Retno Launches Indonesian Humanitarian Alliance for Myanmar, Sindo News (Jakarta) 31 August 2017. Access date: 22 November 2017. <https://international.sindonews.com/read/1235597/40/menlu-retno-luncurkan-aliansi-kemanusiaan-indonesia-untuk-myanmar-1504167196>.

<sup>2315</sup> Foreign Minister Retno Launches Indonesian Humanitarian Alliance for Myanmar, Sindo News (Jakarta) 31 August 2017. Access date: 22 November 2017. <https://international.sindonews.com/read/1235597/40/menlu-retno-luncurkan-aliansi-kemanusiaan-indonesia-untuk-myanmar-1504167196>.

<sup>2316</sup> Indonesia encourages ASEAN to Improve Occupational Safety and Health, Tribun News (Jakarta) 4 September 2017. Access date: 22 November 2017. <http://www.tribunnews.com/nasional/2017/09/04/indonesia-dorong-asean-tingkatkan-keselamatan-dan-kesehatan-kerja>.

implementation of Occupational Safety and Health (K3) to achieve sustainable economic growth at the ASEAN summit.<sup>2317</sup>

On 7 September 2017, the Minister of Health Nila Moeloek committed to establishing a health system robust against climate change along with other South-East Asia Regional Office (SEARO) countries in a meeting with health minister members present at the South-East Asia Regional Conference.<sup>2318</sup> Programs undertaken by Indonesia as part of this commitment include advocacy of climate change adoption strategies, ensuring capacity of health care workers in adapting with climate change, and reviewing vulnerability for malaria and dengue fever.<sup>2319</sup>

On 22 September 2017, Foreign Minister Retno LP Marsudi submitted the instrument of ratification that the Government of Indonesia commits to protect citizens from risks of mercury contamination and reaffirms its commitment to achieve the Sustainable Development 2030 goals at the UN Minamata Convention.<sup>2320</sup> This is in response to complying with a constitutional mandate to protect Indonesians from the threat of mercury pollution endangering human and ecosystem health.<sup>2321</sup>

On 25 September 2017, the Coordinating Minister for Human Development and Cultural Affairs Puan Maharani met with Japanese Liberal Democratic Party Research Council Deputy Chairman Nishimura Yasutoshi and Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida in Tokyo to discuss cooperation with Japan in the area of health based on each country's requirements.<sup>2322</sup> Indonesia specifically pledged to help Japan meet its growing need for caregivers, and its need for skilled nurses.<sup>2323</sup>

On 20 November 2017, Indonesia officially began construction of a hospital in Myanmar's western Rakhine state.<sup>2324</sup> The hospital cost USD1.8 million to build. The hospital will be completed mid-

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<sup>2317</sup>Indonesia encourages ASEAN to Improve Occupational Safety and Health, *Tribun News* (Jakarta) 4 September 2017. Access date: 22 November 2017. <http://www.tribunnews.com/nasional/2017/09/04/indonesia-dorong-asean-tingkatkan-keselamatan-dan-kesehatan-kerja>.

<sup>2318</sup>Indonesia calls for health action to address climate change, *Antara News* (Jakarta) 8 September 2017. Access date: 22 November 2017. <https://www.antaranews.com/berita/651427/indonesia-serukan-aksi-kesehatan-untuk-menghadapi-perubahan-iklim>.

<sup>2319</sup>Indonesia calls for health action to address climate change, *Antara News* (Jakarta) 8 September 2017. Access date: 22 November 2017. <https://www.antaranews.com/berita/651427/indonesia-serukan-aksi-kesehatan-untuk-menghadapi-perubahan-iklim>.

<sup>2320</sup>Indonesia submits the ratification instrument to the UN Minamata Convention, *Kompas.com* (Jakarta) 23 September 2017. Access date: 22 November 2017. <http://nasional.kompas.com/read/2017/09/23/20242211/indonesia-serahkan-instrumen-ratifikasi-konvensi-minamata-ke-pbb>.

<sup>2321</sup>Indonesia submits the ratification instrument to the UN Minamata Convention, *Kompas.com* (Jakarta) 23 September 2017. Access date: 22 November 2017. <http://nasional.kompas.com/read/2017/09/23/20242211/indonesia-serahkan-instrumen-ratifikasi-konvensi-minamata-ke-pbb>.

<sup>2322</sup>Indonesia will cooperate with Japan in healthcare, says Minister Puan, *The Jakarta Post* (Jakarta) 2 October 2017. Access date: 22 November 2017. <http://www.thejakartapost.com/adv/2017/10/02/indonesia-to-cooperate-with-japan-in-health-care-says-minister-puan.html>.

<sup>2323</sup>Indonesia will cooperate with Japan in healthcare, says Minister Puan, *The Jakarta Post* (Jakarta) 2 October 2017. Access date: 22 November 2017. <http://www.thejakartapost.com/adv/2017/10/02/indonesia-to-cooperate-with-japan-in-health-care-says-minister-puan.html>.

<sup>2324</sup>Indonesia starts building hospital in Myanmar's Rakhine, *Andolou Agency* (Indonesia) 20 November 2017. Access date: 15 January 2018. <http://aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/indonesia-starts-building-hospital-in-myanmar-s-rakhine/972170>.

2018 and can be used by the Rakhine population.<sup>2325</sup> The construction involves local contractors and raw materials from surrounding areas aiming to improve local economic opportunities.<sup>2326</sup> The hospital was inaugurated by Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar, representatives of Myanmar's health ministry, the representatives of a humanitarian organization, Indonesia Medical Emergency Rescue Committee local community leaders and people representing Buddhists and Muslims.<sup>2327</sup>

On 21 November 2017, Indonesia agreed to send 67 health workers, specifically nurses, to Japan after passing the selection of Indonesia-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (IJEPA) to meet the growing need of nurses in Japan.<sup>2328</sup>

On 22 November 2017, Kaikoukai Healthcare Group (KHG) from Japan was present in Indonesia to expand Kaikoukai Clinic Senayan (KCS) program which provides medical tourism services from Indonesia to Japan called Kaikoukai Japan Medical Tourism (KJMT).<sup>2329</sup> Expansion of this program will improve health care options for Indonesian patients by providing them high quality care and minimally invasive techniques at an affordable cost while fostering a stronger partnership in improving health systems between the two nations.<sup>2330</sup>

On 22 December 2017, Indonesia and the United States launched a five-year program to improve health services for marginalized mothers and their newborns, focusing on reducing preventable deaths.<sup>2331</sup> The aim of this program is to enhance receptivity in private and public health care to increase the efficiency of the health system by including health professionals, policymakers and insurance providers.<sup>2332</sup>

On 23 December 2017, the Nigerian and Indonesian governments signed a MoU to strengthen economic ties and to collaborate in the health sector by establishing pharmaceutical manufacturing companies along with expanding investments into oil and gas sector through building refineries.<sup>2333</sup>

On 29 December 2017, National Planning Minister Bambang Brodjonegoro signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with member countries of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) at IDB

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<sup>2325</sup>Indonesia starts building hospital in Myanmar's Rakhine, Andolou Agency (Indonesia) 20 November 2017. Access date: 15 January 2018. <http://aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/indonesia-starts-building-hospital-in-myanmar-s-rakhine/972170>.

<sup>2326</sup>Indonesia starts building hospital in Myanmar's Rakhine, Andolou Agency (Indonesia) 20 November 2017. Access date: 15 January 2018. <http://aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/indonesia-starts-building-hospital-in-myanmar-s-rakhine/972170>.

<sup>2327</sup>Indonesia starts building hospital in Myanmar's Rakhine, Andolou Agency (Indonesia) 20 November 2017. Access date: 15 January 2018. <http://aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/indonesia-starts-building-hospital-in-myanmar-s-rakhine/972170>.

<sup>2328</sup>67 Indonesian Health Workers Ready To Work In Japan, Sindo News (Jakarta) 21 November 2017. Access date: 22 November 2017. <https://ekbis.sindonews.com/read/1259101/34/67-tenaga-kesehatan-indonesia-siap-bekerja-di-jepang-1511186430>.

<sup>2329</sup>Kaikoukai Clinic Japan Expansion to Indonesia, Swa (Jakarta) 22 November 2017. Access date: 22 November 2017. <https://swa.co.id/swa/trends/kaikoukai-clinic-jepang-ekspansi-ke-indonesia>.

<sup>2330</sup>Kaikoukai Clinic Japan Expansion to Indonesia, Swa (Jakarta) 22 November 2017. Access date: 22 November 2017. <https://swa.co.id/swa/trends/kaikoukai-clinic-jepang-ekspansi-ke-indonesia>.

<sup>2331</sup>Indonesia, US Launch Program to Reduce Maternal, Infant Mortality (Jakarta) 22 December 2017. Access date: 15 January 2018. <http://jakartaglobe.id/news/indonesia-us-launch-program-reduce-maternal-infant-mortality/>.

<sup>2332</sup>Indonesia, US Launch Program to Reduce Maternal, Infant Mortality (Jakarta) 22 December 2017. Access date: 15 January 2018. <http://jakartaglobe.id/news/indonesia-us-launch-program-reduce-maternal-infant-mortality/>.

<sup>2333</sup>Indonesia, Nigeria strengthen economic ties, (Indonesia) 23 December 2017. Access date: 15 January 2018. <https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2017/12/23/indonesia-nigeria-strengthen-economic-ties/>.

headquarters in Saudi Arabia.<sup>2334</sup> These countries will be cooperating on vaccine development and pharmaceuticals amongst other economic collaborations.<sup>2335</sup>

On 6 February 2018, President Joko Widodo met with UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad al-Hussein.<sup>2336</sup> The commissioner admired Indonesia taking lead in consistently assisting the Rohingya Muslims by providing them aid (10.5 tonnes last month) and human resources (Indonesian Humanitarian Alliance and other agencies set up camp).<sup>2337</sup>

On 23 February 2018, Indonesia, along with representatives from 13 other countries and World Health Organization (WHO), joined to establish the Global Digital Health Partnership at a summit in Canberra, Australia hosted by Australian Digital Health Agency.<sup>2338</sup> The partnership allows global experts to cooperate on projects and share knowledge to implement digital health services across countries more efficiently, taking into account that many of these countries face similar global health issues.<sup>2339</sup>

On 5 August 2018, Indonesia hosted a Car Free Day in Jakarta which was supported by health ministries of ASEAN member states.<sup>2340</sup> This effort was a collective effort, agreed upon by member states, to promote a healthy lifestyle and reduce air pollution.<sup>2341</sup>

On 9 August 2018, Indonesia and India signed a Memorandum of Understanding, which allows for cooperation within the health sector, specifically in research and development, active pharmaceutical ingredients, IT-based medical equipment and human resources development. A working group will be implemented to outline the finer details of this cooperation.<sup>2342</sup>

Indonesia has improved the health workforce by recruiting and training health workers to support Hajj, and by training health personnel in Myanmar. Furthermore, the government has demonstrated cooperative action by committing to various worldwide initiatives developed by ASEAN, SEARO and the UN, which focus on areas such as the resilience of healthcare system, improving occupational safety and protecting people from mercury toxicity. Indonesia has also demonstrated a

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<sup>2334</sup>Indonesia to boost partnership with IDB members, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 29 December 2017. Access date: 15 January 2018. <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/12/29/indonesia-to-boost-partnership-with-idb-members.html>.

<sup>2335</sup>Indonesia to boost partnership with IDB members, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 29 December 2017. Access date: 15 January 2018. <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2017/12/29/indonesia-to-boost-partnership-with-idb-members.html>.

<sup>2336</sup>UN Rights chief, Indonesian leader talk Rohingya crisis (Jakarta) 5 February 2018. Access date: 13 March 2018. <https://www.yenisafak.com/en/world/un-rights-chief-indonesian-leader-talk-rohingya-crisis-3084061>.

<sup>2337</sup>UN Rights chief, Indonesian leader talk Rohingya crisis (Jakarta) 5 February 2018. Access date: 13 March 2018. <https://www.yenisafak.com/en/world/un-rights-chief-indonesian-leader-talk-rohingya-crisis-3084061>.

<sup>2338</sup>Global digital health network announced as Australia takes a lead in international collaboration (Canberra) 23 February 2018. Access date: 13 March 2018. <http://www.healthcareit.com.au/article/global-digital-health-network-announced-australia-takes-lead-role-international>.

<sup>2339</sup>Global digital health network announced as Australia takes a lead in international collaboration (Canberra) 23 February 2018. Access date: 13 March 2018. <http://www.healthcareit.com.au/article/global-digital-health-network-announced-australia-takes-lead-role-international>.

<sup>2340</sup>Indonesia launches ASEAN Car Free Day (Jakarta) 6 August 2018. Access date: 11 September 2018. <http://www.thejakartapost.com/life/2018/08/06/indonesia-launches-asean-car-free-day.html>.

<sup>2341</sup>Indonesia launches ASEAN Car Free Day (Jakarta) 6 August 2018. Access date: 11 September 2018. <http://www.thejakartapost.com/life/2018/08/06/indonesia-launches-asean-car-free-day.html>.

<sup>2342</sup>Cabinet nod to pacts between India, Indonesia for cooperation in science & technology, health (New Delhi) 9 August 2018. Access date: 11 September 2018. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/cabinet-nod-to-pacts-between-india-indonesia-for-cooperation-in-science-technology-health/articleshow/65340983.cms>.

commitment to improving health systems through alliances with countries and non-governmental organizations to improve children's health in Indonesia, and through its agreements to send healthcare workers to Japan and build hospitals in Myanmar.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Drishti Thakkar*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 26 September 2017, Director-General for Health Prevention Raniero Guerra, WHO Regional Director for Europe Zsuzsanna Jakab, and WHO Director-General Tedros Ghebreyesus signed a Country Cooperation Strategy, which defines a framework for cooperation between Italy and WHO from 2017-2022.<sup>2343</sup> The partnership aims to strengthen Italy's national health policies, address the problem of communicable diseases, and strengthen Italy's role in global health.<sup>2344</sup>

On 2 October 2017, the Ministry of Health and the Serbian Ministry of Health signed the Celiac Agreement to enable doctors to better cooperate with their European colleagues, allow better exchange of information, provide better recommendations on how to diagnose and treat Celiac patients, and increase food safety control.<sup>2345</sup>

On 31 October 2017, the Italian government allocated EUR500,000 to the United Nations Population Fund for improved sexual health and reproductive rights in Palestine.<sup>2346</sup> The funding will help ensure that Palestinian women will have better access to health services.<sup>2347</sup>

On 4 November 2017, the Ministry of Health hosted the Global Nutrition Summit 2017 in Milan.<sup>2348</sup> The summit galvanized USD640 million in new funding from non-governmental organizations and philanthropies from countries such as India and Nigeria in order to tackle the global malnutrition crisis.<sup>2349</sup> It also resulted in commitments from the governments of Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, and

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<sup>2343</sup> WHO and Italy sign first country cooperation strategy, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen). 26 September 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017.

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/italy/news/news/2017/09/who-and-italy-sign-first-country-cooperation-strategy>.

<sup>2344</sup> WHO and Italy sign first country cooperation strategy, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen). 26 September 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017.

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/italy/news/news/2017/09/who-and-italy-sign-first-country-cooperation-strategy>.

<sup>2345</sup> I Ministeri della salute serbo e italiano firmano l'accordo sulla Celiachia, Ministero della Salute (Rome). 6 October 2017. Access Date: 23 November 2017.

[http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_1\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3111](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3111).

<sup>2346</sup> Italy allocates 500,000 euros for sexual health in Palestine, Ansamed News (Rome). 31 October 2017. Access Date: 23 November 2017. [http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/politics/2017/10/31/italy-allocates-500000-euros-for-sexual-health-in-palestine\\_0da04adf-e899-43ed-9892-c2a3ea364c12.html](http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/politics/2017/10/31/italy-allocates-500000-euros-for-sexual-health-in-palestine_0da04adf-e899-43ed-9892-c2a3ea364c12.html).

<sup>2347</sup> Italy allocates 500,000 euros for sexual health in Palestine, Ansamed News (Rome). 31 October 2017. Access Date: 23 November 2017. [http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/politics/2017/10/31/italy-allocates-500000-euros-for-sexual-health-in-palestine\\_0da04adf-e899-43ed-9892-c2a3ea364c12.html](http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/politics/2017/10/31/italy-allocates-500000-euros-for-sexual-health-in-palestine_0da04adf-e899-43ed-9892-c2a3ea364c12.html).

<sup>2348</sup> Press Release: Global Nutrition Summit 2017: Milan, Nutrition for Growth (Milan) 4 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <https://nutritionforgrowth.org/press-release-global-nutrition-summit-2017-milan/>.

<sup>2349</sup> Press Release: Global Nutrition Summit 2017: Milan, Nutrition for Growth (Milan) 4 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <https://nutritionforgrowth.org/press-release-global-nutrition-summit-2017-milan/>.

Madagascar to increase nutrition programs, as well as a commitment from the World Bank to extend and increase 2013 spending commitments on nutrition.<sup>2350</sup>

On 9 November 2017, Argentina and Italy signed an agreement in which Italy provided Argentina with a EUR42 million loan to strengthen its health benefits and acquire equipment and training.<sup>2351</sup> This will allow Argentina to improve fifteen hospitals in five Argentine provinces as part of the Program of the Support of the Public Sector Phase II, which aims to improve the capacities of the Argentine healthcare sector.<sup>2352</sup>

On 14 November 2017, the Italian government contributed EUR4.3 million to eradicate polio and improve the nutritional status of children in Afghanistan.<sup>2353</sup> Of this money, EUR2.5 million will go to WHO, which is working through the National Emergency Action Plan for Polio to eradicate the disease in Afghanistan.<sup>2354</sup> The remaining EUR1.8 million will go to the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) to improve nutritional services for children under the age of five.<sup>2355</sup> This financial assistance will help to cover training of vaccinators, the delivery of vaccines, the monitoring of the coverage and quality of vaccination activities.<sup>2356</sup> In addition, the funds will help prevent new cases of malnutrition and strengthen community-based nutrition programming.<sup>2357</sup>

On 29 November 2017, the Italian and Indian Ministers of Health signed a Memorandum of Understanding to improve bilateral collaboration in the health sector, particularly in the fields of

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<sup>2350</sup> Press Release: Global Nutrition Summit 2017: Milan, Nutrition for Growth (Milan) 4 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <https://nutritionforgrowth.org/press-release-global-nutrition-summit-2017-milan/>.

<sup>2351</sup> Argentina firmó con Italia financiamiento para fortalecer prestaciones de salud. Argentina.gob.ar, Federal Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 9 November 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-firmo-con-italia-financiamiento-para-fortalecer-prestaciones-de-salud>.

<sup>2352</sup> Argentina firmó con Italia financiamiento para fortalecer prestaciones de salud. Argentina.gob.ar, Federal Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 9 November 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-firmo-con-italia-financiamiento-para-fortalecer-prestaciones-de-salud>.

<sup>2353</sup> Government of Italy boosts efforts to eradicate polio and improve child nutrition in Afghanistan, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.emro.who.int/afg/afghanistan-news/government-of-italy-boosts-efforts-to-eradicate-polio-and-improve-child-nutrition-in-afghanistan.html>.

<sup>2354</sup> Government of Italy boosts efforts to eradicate polio and improve child nutrition in Afghanistan, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.emro.who.int/afg/afghanistan-news/government-of-italy-boosts-efforts-to-eradicate-polio-and-improve-child-nutrition-in-afghanistan.html>.

<sup>2355</sup> Government of Italy boosts efforts to eradicate polio and improve child nutrition in Afghanistan, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.emro.who.int/afg/afghanistan-news/government-of-italy-boosts-efforts-to-eradicate-polio-and-improve-child-nutrition-in-afghanistan.html>.

<sup>2356</sup> Government of Italy boosts efforts to eradicate polio and improve child nutrition in Afghanistan, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.emro.who.int/afg/afghanistan-news/government-of-italy-boosts-efforts-to-eradicate-polio-and-improve-child-nutrition-in-afghanistan.html>.

<sup>2357</sup> Government of Italy boosts efforts to eradicate polio and improve child nutrition in Afghanistan, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 14 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.emro.who.int/afg/afghanistan-news/government-of-italy-boosts-efforts-to-eradicate-polio-and-improve-child-nutrition-in-afghanistan.html>.

pharmaceutical industry and regulation.<sup>2358</sup> In addition, they agreed to cooperate in training medical personnel and improving nutrition.<sup>2359</sup>

On 11 December 2017, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced EUR3 million to the UN Population Fund's new Country Programme for Somalia, in the period of 2017-2020.<sup>2360</sup> The contribution will help the Somali government reduce maternal deaths, address the issue of birth spacing, and end violence and harmful practices against women and girls.<sup>2361</sup>

On 19 to 20 February 2018, Italy joined Austria, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Korea, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sweden, the United States, the United Kingdom, and WHO in Canberra, Australia to establish the Global Digital Health Partnership (GDHP).<sup>2362</sup> The GDHP "is an opportunity for deep, transformational engagement by governments, digital health agencies, and the WHO so they can learn, share policy and other evidence that supports them to deliver better digital health services."<sup>2363</sup>

On 10 April 2018, Italy, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Spain, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom signed a declaration of cooperation for delivering cross-border access to genome information.<sup>2364</sup> According to the European Commission, this will improve understanding and prevention of diseases, and more personalized treatments and drug prescriptions.<sup>2365</sup>

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<sup>2358</sup> Italia e India firmano Memorandum d'intesa nel settore Salute, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 29 November 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018.

[http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_4\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=4979](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=4979).

<sup>2359</sup> Italia e India firmano Memorandum d'intesa nel settore Salute, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 29 November 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018.

[http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_4\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=4979](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=4979).

<sup>2360</sup> Government of Italy grants UNFPA Somalia three million Euros for the reduction of maternal mortality in Somalia, Relief Web (Mogadishu) 11 December 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018.

<https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/government-italy-grants-unfpa-somalia-three-million-euros-reduction-maternal>.

<sup>2361</sup> Government of Italy grants UNFPA Somalia three million Euros for the reduction of maternal mortality in Somalia, Relief Web (Mogadishu) 11 December 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018.

<https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/government-italy-grants-unfpa-somalia-three-million-euros-reduction-maternal>.

<sup>2362</sup> Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency (Canberra) February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

<sup>2363</sup> Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency (Canberra) February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

<sup>2364</sup> EU countries will cooperate in linking genomic databases across borders, European Commission (Brussels) 10 April 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/eu-countries-will-cooperate-linking-genomic-databases-across-borders>.

<sup>2365</sup> EU countries will cooperate in linking genomic databases across borders, European Commission (Brussels) 10 April 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/eu-countries-will-cooperate-linking-genomic-databases-across-borders>.



On 24 July 2018, the WHO announced an end to the ninth outbreak of Ebola in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.<sup>2366</sup> Among the financial contributors to the WHO's response included Italy, which provided EUR300,000 in funding.<sup>2367</sup>

On 22 August 2018, Italy received an additional EUR9 million from the European Union.<sup>2368</sup> The funding will be mobilized to support health care in reception facilities for asylum seekers and refugees, with a particular focus on child and maternal health.<sup>2369</sup>

Italy demonstrated cooperative effort with other countries and organizations. Examples of this include hosting the Global Nutrition Summit this year in Milan, and collaborations with countries such as Serbia and Argentina. In addition, Italy has shown its commitment to strengthening health systems worldwide by investing in women and children's health in countries such as Palestine and Somalia, as well as by providing financial aid to eradicate diseases like polio in Afghanistan. Italy has also demonstrated its commitment to improving the health workforce by contributing funding to improving vaccinator training in Afghanistan, and by agreeing to train medical personnel with India.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dorota Borovsky*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 24 August 2017, Japan and Fiji signed a Record of Discussions pledging to implement the Project for Improvement of Health Services according to 5S-KAIZEN-TQM, a work environment philosophy "intended to enhance productivity, service quality, cost management, service efficiency, medical safety, motivation and moral of workers."<sup>2370</sup> The project aims to build an organization framework at target Fijian hospitals to effectively integrate 5S-KAIZEN-TQM.<sup>2371</sup>

On 25 September 2017, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Fumio Kishida and Indonesian Coordinating Minister for Human Development and Cultural Affairs Puan Maharani met in Tokyo

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<sup>2366</sup> Ebola outbreak in DRC ends: WHO calls for international efforts to stop other deadly outbreaks in the country, WHO (Geneva) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <http://www.who.int/news-room/detail/24-07-2018-ebola-outbreak-in-drc-ends--who-calls-for-international-efforts-to-stop-other-deadly-outbreaks-in-the-country>.

<sup>2367</sup> Ebola outbreak in DRC ends: WHO calls for international efforts to stop other deadly outbreaks in the country, WHO (Geneva) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <http://www.who.int/news-room/detail/24-07-2018-ebola-outbreak-in-drc-ends--who-calls-for-international-efforts-to-stop-other-deadly-outbreaks-in-the-country>.

<sup>2368</sup> Migration: Commission awards €9 million to Italy to support health care for asylum seekers and refugees, The European Commission, August 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_MEX-18-5121\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-5121_en.htm).

<sup>2369</sup> Migration: Commission awards €9 million to Italy to support health care for asylum seekers and refugees, The European Commission, August 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_MEX-18-5121\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-5121_en.htm).

<sup>2370</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with Fiji: Support for enhanced services at three major national hospitals, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 24 August 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/170824\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/170824_01.html).

<sup>2371</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with Fiji: Support for enhanced services at three major national hospitals, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 24 August 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/170824\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/170824_01.html).

to discuss cooperation with in the area of health based on each country's requirements.<sup>2372</sup> Indonesia specifically pledged to help Japan meet its growing need for caregivers, and its need for skilled nurses.<sup>2373</sup>

On 27 October 2017, the International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a technical cooperation agreement with Ghana's Ministry of Health to improve the Continuum of Care in Ghana by introducing a combined Maternal and Child Health Record Book.<sup>2374</sup> The scheme will involve integrating several existing Maternal and Child Health Record Books into one comprehensive book that links the health records of mother and child from pregnancy until the child's fifth year.<sup>2375</sup>

On 12 November 2017, Japan, Korea, and China agreed to exchange information and technology pertaining to managing chronic disease at the Tripartite Health Ministers' meeting.<sup>2376</sup> They additionally agreed to incorporate traditional medicine under the international disease classification and create international industrial standards in traditional medicine through the International Organization for Standardization.<sup>2377</sup> In the context of Japan, Korea, and China, traditional medicine includes treatments such as acupuncture, herbal medicine, and cupping.<sup>2378</sup>

On 23 November 2017, the Kenyan Broadcasting Corporation announced the launch of a health development program seeking to integrate technology in the provision of healthcare as a collaboration between the Kenyan Government and the Policy and Human Resources Development of the Government of Japan.<sup>2379</sup> The project will develop a technologically aided platform that ensures that medical data is collected and monitored to allow for early warnings and risk management across Kenya, in collaboration with JICA.<sup>2380</sup>

On 27 November 2017, JICA and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) signed an agreement to provide grant aid of up to JPY978 million to the Project for Infectious Diseases

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<sup>2372</sup> Indonesia will cooperate with Japan in healthcare, says Minister Puan, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 2 October 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://www.thejakartapost.com/adv/2017/10/02/indonesia-to-cooperate-with-japan-in-health-care-says-minister-puan.html>.

<sup>2373</sup> Indonesia will cooperate with Japan in healthcare, says Minister Puan, The Jakarta Post (Jakarta) 2 October 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://www.thejakartapost.com/adv/2017/10/02/indonesia-to-cooperate-with-japan-in-health-care-says-minister-puan.html>.

<sup>2374</sup> JICA Develops Combined Maternal and Child Health Record Book for Ghana, Modern Ghana (Accra) 27 October 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://www.modernghana.com/news/813678/jica-develops-combined-maternal-and-child-health-record-book.html>.

<sup>2375</sup> Joint Press Release by Robert Cudjoe, Patrick Kuma-Aboagye, and Kie Kanda, Ghana Ministry of Health and Ghana Health Service with JICA Ghana Office (Accra) 27 October 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/ghana/english/office/topics/c8h0vm000001qnsf-att/press\\_171027\\_02.pdf](https://www.jica.go.jp/ghana/english/office/topics/c8h0vm000001qnsf-att/press_171027_02.pdf).

<sup>2376</sup> S. Korea, China, Japan to enhance cooperation on aging population, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/business/2017/11/12/0504000000AEN20171112002100315.html>.

<sup>2377</sup> S. Korea, China, Japan to enhance cooperation on aging population, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/business/2017/11/12/0504000000AEN20171112002100315.html>.

<sup>2378</sup> Traditional, complementary and integrative medicine: Activities, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://www.who.int/traditional-complementary-integrative-medicine/activities/en/>.

<sup>2379</sup> Kenya, Japan Launch Programme to Integrate Technology in Healthcare, KBC Central (Nairobi) 24 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.kbc.co.ke/technology/kenya-japan-launch-programme-integrate-technology-healthcare/>.

<sup>2380</sup> Kenya Partners with Japan to Launch Program to Integrate Technology in Healthcare, AFK Insider (Fort Lauderdale) 3 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <https://afkinsider.com/141462/kenya-partners-japan-launch-program-integrate-technology-healthcare/>.

Prevention for Children.<sup>2381</sup> The agreement will fund vaccines for routine immunization in Afghanistan and raise awareness of vaccination in the country.<sup>2382</sup>

On 7 December 2017, Japan and Laos signed a Record of Discussions introducing the Project for Sustainable Development and Quality Assurance of Health Care Professionals.<sup>2383</sup> This agreement will establish a licensing system for Laotian healthcare professionals, introduce a national licensing examination, particularly for nurses, and improve the medical professional training system.<sup>2384</sup>

On 21 December 2017, Japan and the Philippines signed a Record of Discussions to introduce the Project for Introducing Evidence-based Relapse Prevention Programs to Drug Dependence Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers.<sup>2385</sup> The project will include the development of drug addiction treatment and rehabilitation programs in the Philippines, and an accompanying training system, as well as the enhancement of research and monitoring functions.<sup>2386</sup>

On 6 February 2018, Japan and Myanmar signed an agreement providing grant aid of up to JPY2.665 billion to build a new building and supply medical equipment for Dawei General Hospital in Tanintharyi Region.<sup>2387</sup> The new building will include outpatient, diagnostic imaging, surgery and sterilization departments, and laboratory, endoscopy and intensive care units.<sup>2388</sup>

On 12 February 2018, JICA and the Iranian Ministry of Health and Medical Education signed an agreement providing grant aid of up to JPY1.534 billion to improve medical equipment in Tehran.<sup>2389</sup>

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<sup>2381</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with UNICEF for Afghanistan: Supporting infectious disease control in Afghanistan through a partnership with UNICEF, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 28 November 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018, [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/171128\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/171128_01.html).

<sup>2382</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with UNICEF for Afghanistan: Supporting infectious disease control in Afghanistan through a partnership with UNICEF, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 28 November 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018, [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/171128\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/171128_01.html).

<sup>2383</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with Laos: Supporting the creation of a licensing system for healthcare professionals toward achieving Universal Health Coverage, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 19 December 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018, [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/171219\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/171219_01.html).

<sup>2384</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with Laos: Supporting the creation of a licensing system for healthcare professionals toward achieving Universal Health Coverage, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 19 December 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018, [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/171219\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/171219_01.html).

<sup>2385</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with the Philippines: Developing evidence-based drug dependence treatment and rehabilitation programs, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 21 December 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018, [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/171221\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/171221_01.html).

<sup>2386</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with the Philippines: Developing evidence-based drug dependence treatment and rehabilitation programs, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 21 December 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018, [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/171221\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/171221_01.html).

<sup>2387</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Myanmar: Supporting healthcare and medical services through facility and equipment upgrades at a regional core hospital, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 13 February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018, [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/180213\\_03.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/180213_03.html).

<sup>2388</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Myanmar: Supporting healthcare and medical services through facility and equipment upgrades at a regional core hospital, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 13 February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018, [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/180213\\_03.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/180213_03.html).

<sup>2389</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Myanmar: Supporting healthcare and medical services through facility and equipment upgrades at a regional core hospital, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 13 February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018, [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/180213\\_03.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/180213_03.html).

The agreement specifically focuses on providing equipment for the detection and treatment of cancer and cardiovascular diseases.<sup>2390</sup>

On 15 February 2018, Japan and Laos signed an agreement providing grant aid of up to JPY1.94 billion to improve the facilities of two Laotian hospitals.<sup>2391</sup> JICA also pledged to “strengthen health administration functions and improve the knowledge and technical skills of medical professionals.”<sup>2392</sup>

On 14 March 2018, Japan and Sri Lanka signed a memorandum of understanding; granting Sri Lanka a JPY10,639 million loan for the development of the Health and Medical Service Improvement Project.<sup>2393</sup> These funds will contribute towards improving hospital infrastructure and equipment supplies, purchasing new equipment for medical laboratory technology schools, and maintaining current medical equipment.<sup>2394</sup> The project aims to strengthen the treatment of cardiovascular disease and other non-communicable illnesses.<sup>2395</sup>

On 21 March 2018, Ambassador H.E Seiji Okada and the Community Needs Initiative (CNI) Country Team leader Taban James Wani launched a primary health care unit construction project in South Sudan.<sup>2396</sup> This facility will provide basic healthcare services and medication for the people of Nesitu, and its neighbouring communities.<sup>2397</sup>

On 20 April 2018, the Government of Japan announced a donation of USD1 million towards preventative health, WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene), and nutrition initiatives in Zimbabwe.<sup>2398</sup> The funds will also contribute towards providing adequate nutrition for pregnant women, and

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<sup>2390</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Myanmar: Supporting healthcare and medical services through facility and equipment upgrades at a regional core hospital, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 13 February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/180213\\_03.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/180213_03.html).

<sup>2391</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Myanmar: Supporting healthcare and medical services through facility and equipment upgrades at a regional core hospital, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 13 February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/180213\\_03.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/180213_03.html).

<sup>2392</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Myanmar: Supporting healthcare and medical services through facility and equipment upgrades at a regional core hospital, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 13 February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/180213\\_03.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2017/180213_03.html).

<sup>2393</sup> Japan Extended Rs. 15,619 million for Health and Medical Service Improvement Project (Yen Loan), Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka (Colombo) 14 March 2018. Access Date: 17 September 2018. [http://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/00\\_000528.html](http://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/00_000528.html).

<sup>2394</sup> Japan Extended Rs. 15,619 million for Health and Medical Service Improvement Project (Yen Loan), Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka (Colombo) 14 March 2018. Access Date: 17 September 2018. [http://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/00\\_000528.html](http://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/00_000528.html).

<sup>2395</sup> Japan Extended Rs. 15,619 million for Health and Medical Service Improvement Project (Yen Loan), Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka (Colombo) 14 March 2018. Access Date: 17 September 2018. [http://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/00\\_000528.html](http://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/00_000528.html).

<sup>2396</sup> Launching of the Project funded by the Government of Japan for construction of Primary Health Care Center in Nesitu, Relief Web (Japan) 24 March 2018. Access Date: 17 September 2018. <https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/launching-project-funded-government-japan-construction-primary-health-care-center>.

<sup>2397</sup> Launching of the Project funded by the Government of Japan for construction of Primary Health Care Center in Nesitu, ReliefWeb (Japan) 24 March 2018. Access Date: 17 September 2018. <https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/launching-project-funded-government-japan-construction-primary-health-care-center>.

<sup>2398</sup> Government of Japan contributes US \$1 million to UNICEF and WFP for a comprehensive set of life-saving health, nutrition, food security and WASH interventions, World Food Programme (Harare) 20 April 2018. Access Date: 17 September 2018. <https://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/government-japan-contributes-us-1-million-unicef-and-wfp-comprehensive-set-life-sa>.

building a clean water pipeline.<sup>2399</sup> This program will be executed through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).<sup>2400</sup>

On 26 April 2018, JICA agreed to loan up to JYP2.86 billion to the Government of the Republic of Uganda for the "Project for the Improvement of Regional Referral Hospitals in Northern Uganda."<sup>2401</sup> This fund will contribute towards expanding and supplying three regional referral hospitals to improve the quality and access to health care in the region.<sup>2402</sup>

On 21 May 2018, Japan and Lithuania signed a Memorandum of Cooperation to collaborate in advancing their respective healthcare sectors through activities such as organizing joint conferences, exchanging information, and exchanging health specialists.<sup>2403</sup> They agreed to cooperate in fields including "biomedical and clinical research, rare and undiagnosed diseases, oncology, and other areas of mutual interest."<sup>2404</sup>

On 5 June 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced the JDR Infectious Disease Response Team will be dispatched to the Democratic Republic of Congo to assist the nation in its Ebola outbreak response.<sup>2405</sup> The team will comprise of epidemiologists and medical laboratory experts that aid in disease surveillance and laboratory work.<sup>2406</sup>

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<sup>2399</sup>Government of Japan contributes US \$1 million to UNICEF and WFP for a comprehensive set of life-saving health, nutrition, food security and WASH interventions, World Food Programme (Harare) 20 April 2018. Access Date: 17 September 2018. <https://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/government-japan-contributes-us-1-million-unicef-and-wfp-comprehensive-set-life-sa>.

<sup>2400</sup>Government of Japan contributes US \$1 million to UNICEF and WFP for a comprehensive set of life-saving health, nutrition, food security and WASH interventions, World Food Programme (Harare) 20 April 2018. Access Date: 17 September 2018. <https://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/government-japan-contributes-us-1-million-unicef-and-wfp-comprehensive-set-life-sa>.

<sup>2401</sup>Signing of Grant Agreement with Uganda: Infrastructure and equipment for regional referral hospitals in Northern Uganda affected by internal conflict and incoming refugees to contribute to improvements in health service access and quality, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 27 April 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180427\\_04.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180427_04.html).

<sup>2402</sup>Signing of Grant Agreement with Uganda: Infrastructure and equipment for regional referral hospitals in Northern Uganda affected by internal conflict and incoming refugees to contribute to improvements in health service access and quality, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 27 April 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180427\\_04.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180427_04.html).

<sup>2403</sup>Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan and the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania on Cooperation in the Field of Health, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan (Japan) 21 May 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/file/04-Houdouhappyou-10501000-Daijinkanboukokusaika-Kokusaika/0000207495.pdf>

<sup>2404</sup>Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan and the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania on Cooperation in the Field of Health, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan (Japan) 21 May 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. <https://www.mhlw.go.jp/file/04-Houdouhappyou-10501000-Daijinkanboukokusaika-Kokusaika/0000207495.pdf>

<sup>2405</sup>JICA Dispatches JDR Infectious Diseases Response Team to the DRC, in Response to Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 8 June 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/180608\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/180608_01.html).

<sup>2406</sup>JICA Dispatches JDR Infectious Diseases Response Team to the DRC, in Response to Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 8 June 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/180608\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2018/180608_01.html).

On 11 July 2018, JICA agreed to loan the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (GOSL) up to JYP10.639 billion for the Health and Medical Service Improvement Project.<sup>2407</sup> The funds will contribute towards infrastructure and equipment improvements in hospitals and medical training facilities.<sup>2408</sup> The goal of this project is to improve the diagnosis and treatment of non-communicable diseases.<sup>2409</sup>

On 29 August 2018, JICA agreed to grant UNICEF up to JYP894 million to fund the Project for Promoting Maternal and Child Health Handbook.<sup>2410</sup> This program targets the accessibility and quality of healthcare for new mothers and their children by expanding the distribution of the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Handbook nationwide.<sup>2411</sup> The MCH handbook is a maternal and child health care information source, and a home-based medical information recording system for mothers.<sup>2412</sup>

Japan has engaged in health initiatives with other states that seek to improve global health systems such as its projects in Iran, the Philippines and Kenya. It has demonstrated cooperative action through its agreements with Korea and China, and with organizations such as UNICEF in Afghanistan. Japan has also strengthened the health workforce through the creation of a licensing system for Laotian healthcare professionals.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Anna Wong and Ivana Yuen*

#### **Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

Since July 2017, the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) is helping the German development agency, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, to

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<sup>2407</sup>Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Sri Lanka: Supporting improvement to health and medical services with Japanese technology, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180712\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180712_01.html).

<sup>2408</sup>Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Sri Lanka: Supporting improvement to health and medical services with Japanese technology, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180712\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180712_01.html).

<sup>2409</sup>Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Sri Lanka: Supporting improvement to health and medical services with Japanese technology, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 12 July 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180712\\_01.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180712_01.html).

<sup>2410</sup>Signing of Grant Agreement with UNICEF for Afghanistan: Supporting improved access to health services for mothers and children through a national campaign to promote the Maternal and Child Health Handbook, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180903\\_02.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180903_02.html).

<sup>2411</sup>Signing of Grant Agreement with UNICEF for Afghanistan: Supporting improved access to health services for mothers and children through a national campaign to promote the Maternal and Child Health Handbook, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180903\\_02.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180903_02.html).

<sup>2412</sup>Signing of Grant Agreement with UNICEF for Afghanistan: Supporting improved access to health services for mothers and children through a national campaign to promote the Maternal and Child Health Handbook, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Japan) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180903\\_02.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2018/180903_02.html).

roll-out electronic reporting health systems in Nepal.<sup>2413</sup> This initiative is working to connect health staff through an online health management information system using open source software, which helps to reduce administrative labour, and allow for improved health data sharing and communication.<sup>2414</sup> By June 2018, all 73 health facilities in Nuwakot District will be using e-reporting technology.<sup>2415</sup>

On 19 July 2017, the Foundation for International Healthcare (KOFIH) donated USD24,629 worth of medical equipment to Ghana Health Service to improve care for pregnant women and new born children in the Volta region.<sup>2416</sup> The Ministry of Health and Welfare originally created KOFIH to provide humanitarian assistance through health support projects to developing countries.<sup>2417</sup> This contribution is part of the Maternal and Neo-natal healthcare project for safe child birth and prenatal care in Volta.<sup>2418</sup>

On 24 July 2017, KOFIH announced an initiative with the Seoul National University College of Medicine, Addis Ababa Medical School, Black Lion Hospital, and Seoul National University Hospital for Korean doctors to train Ethiopian medical personnel to improve heart surgery capabilities.<sup>2419</sup> The three-year memorandum of understanding will include training for thoracic surgeons, pediatricians, operating room nurses, Intensive Care Unit nurses, and anesthesiologists within Ethiopia.<sup>2420</sup>

On 26 July 2017, Korea pledged USD1 million to the World Health Organization (WHO)'s Contingency Fund for Emergencies.<sup>2421</sup> The fund's aim is to enable WHO to respond rapidly to disease outbreak situations, and to contribute support in cases of natural disasters or humanitarian violations.<sup>2422</sup>

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<sup>2413</sup> Bring the power of digital data to rural Nepal (Berlin) February 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018.

[http://health.bmz.de/events/ln\\_focus/bringing\\_power\\_digital\\_data\\_rural\\_nepal/index.html](http://health.bmz.de/events/ln_focus/bringing_power_digital_data_rural_nepal/index.html).

<sup>2414</sup> Bring the power of digital data to rural Nepal (Berlin) February 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018.

[http://health.bmz.de/events/ln\\_focus/bringing\\_power\\_digital\\_data\\_rural\\_nepal/index.html](http://health.bmz.de/events/ln_focus/bringing_power_digital_data_rural_nepal/index.html).

<sup>2415</sup> Bring the power of digital data to rural Nepal (Berlin) February 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018.

[http://health.bmz.de/events/ln\\_focus/bringing\\_power\\_digital\\_data\\_rural\\_nepal/index.html](http://health.bmz.de/events/ln_focus/bringing_power_digital_data_rural_nepal/index.html).

<sup>2416</sup> Korea International Healthcare Foundation (Seoul) 31 March 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017.

<http://www.law.go.kr/lsSc.do?menuId=0&p1=&subMenu=1&nwYn=1&query=%ED%95%9C%EA%B5%AD%EA%B5%AD%EC%A0%9C%EB%B3%B4%EA%B1%B4%EC%9D%98%EB%A3%8C%EC%9E%AC%EB%8B%A8&x=0&y=0#undefined>.

<sup>2417</sup> Korea International Healthcare Foundation (Seoul) 31 March 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017.

<http://www.law.go.kr/lsSc.do?menuId=0&p1=&subMenu=1&nwYn=1&query=%ED%95%9C%EA%B5%AD%EA%B5%AD%EC%A0%9C%EB%B3%B4%EA%B1%B4%EC%9D%98%EB%A3%8C%EC%9E%AC%EB%8B%A8&x=0&y=0#undefined>.

<sup>2418</sup> KOFIH donates medical equipment to GHS, Ghana News Agency (Accra) 19 July 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.ghananewsagency.org/health/kofih-donates-medical-equipment-to-ghs-119793>.

<sup>2419</sup> KOFIH donates medical equipment to GHS, Ghana News Agency (Accra) 19 July 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.ghananewsagency.org/health/kofih-donates-medical-equipment-to-ghs-119793>.

<sup>2420</sup> KOFIH, SNU to enhance Ethiopia's heart surgery capabilities, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 24 July 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=931>.

<sup>2421</sup> Republic of Korea contributes US\$ 1 million to speed up WHO's operational response to health emergencies (Seoul) 27 July 2017. Access Date: 8 January 2018. [http://www.who.int/about/who\\_reform/emergency-capacities/contingency-fund/republic-of-korea-contributes-one-million/en/](http://www.who.int/about/who_reform/emergency-capacities/contingency-fund/republic-of-korea-contributes-one-million/en/).

<sup>2422</sup> Republic of Korea contributes US\$ 1 million to speed up WHO's operational response to health emergencies (Seoul) 27 July 2017. Access Date: 8 January 2018. [http://www.who.int/about/who\\_reform/emergency-capacities/contingency-fund/republic-of-korea-contributes-one-million/en/](http://www.who.int/about/who_reform/emergency-capacities/contingency-fund/republic-of-korea-contributes-one-million/en/).

On 26 July 2017, Korea began hosting the Global Health Security Meeting and the Global Health Security Agenda Steering Group Meeting in association with WHO.<sup>2423</sup> Over 40 countries, non-governmental organizations, and international organizations gathered to discuss health security and cooperative solutions to prevent and control infectious diseases.<sup>2424</sup>

On 10 August 2017, KOICA announced a grant of USD6 million to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) as part of its 'Better Life for Girls' initiative to support Jordanian and Syrian children in achieving better health, education, and protection.<sup>2425</sup> This initiative will last from 2017 to 2020. This grant will provide health education and improved sanitation in schools, allow children with disabilities to attend school, aim to prevent corporal punishment in schools, and provide support to at-risk women and girls.<sup>2426</sup>

On 28 August 2017, the WHO for the Western Pacific began a five-day Joint External Evaluation (JEE) mission to Korea to evaluate its preparedness and response measures for public health threats.<sup>2427</sup> The JEE report found that Korea has learned from its past experience with the 2015 MERS-CoV outbreak to improve its preparedness for national health threats.<sup>2428</sup> Korea was found to have strong immunization coverage, food borne disease monitoring systems, and laboratories that test for pathogens.<sup>2429</sup> Korea is the first developed country to allow the JEE process.<sup>2430</sup>

On 8 September 2017, the Ministry of Health and Welfare announced an agreement with the Russian Ministry of Health to work together in training their respective medical staff.<sup>2431</sup> One of the priorities outlined in the accord is for more structured management of trainees through the official channel between the health ministries.<sup>2432</sup> Additionally, a memorandum of understanding was signed between

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<sup>2423</sup> MOHW, WHO to hold health security conferences, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 25 July 2017. Access Date: 9 January 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=937>.

<sup>2424</sup> MOHW, WHO to hold health security conferences, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 25 July 2017. Access Date: 9 January 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=937>.

<sup>2425</sup> KOICA grants US\$6 million to UNICEF for improved access for vulnerable children in Jordan to health, protection, and education services, UNICEF (Amman) 10 August 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. [https://www.unicef.org/jordan/media\\_12146.html](https://www.unicef.org/jordan/media_12146.html).

<sup>2426</sup> KOICA grants US\$6 million to UNICEF for improved access for vulnerable children in Jordan to health, protection, and education services, UNICEF (Amman) 10 August 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. [https://www.unicef.org/jordan/media\\_12146.html](https://www.unicef.org/jordan/media_12146.html).

<sup>2427</sup> Republic of Korea: Learning from an outbreak to improve health security, World Health Organization: Western Pacific Region (Manila) 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.wpro.who.int/mediacentre/features/20171002/en/>.

<sup>2428</sup> Republic of Korea: Learning from an outbreak to improve health security, World Health Organization: Western Pacific Region (Manila) 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.wpro.who.int/mediacentre/features/20171002/en/>.

<sup>2429</sup> Republic of Korea: Learning from an outbreak to improve health security, World Health Organization: Western Pacific Region (Manila) 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.wpro.who.int/mediacentre/features/20171002/en/>.

<sup>2430</sup> Republic of Korea: Learning from an outbreak to improve health security, World Health Organization: Western Pacific Region (Manila) 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.wpro.who.int/mediacentre/features/20171002/en/>.

<sup>2431</sup> Korea, Russia to cooperate on training medical workers, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 8 September 2017. Access Date: 9 January 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=1326>.

<sup>2432</sup> Korea, Russia to cooperate on training medical workers, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 8 September 2017. Access Date: 9 January 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=1326>.



the Seoul National University Bundang Hospital (SNUBH) and the Moscow International Medical Cluster to allow the SNUBH to run a hospital in Russia.<sup>2433</sup>

On 15 September 2017, Korea donated medical equipment for tissue transplants, minimal invasive surgery, and locomotive system disorders, to three Belarusian healthcare and social institutions as a part of their official development assistance.<sup>2434</sup> This equipment included video image endoscopy systems, a pediatric bodybuilder with biological feedback, and artificial lungs.<sup>2435</sup> This equipment will go to the Research Centre for Otorhinolaryngology, the National Rehabilitation Centre for Disabled Children, and the National Research Centre for Organ and Tissue Transplants, respectively.<sup>2436</sup>

On 21 September 2017, the Ministry of Unification announced their decision to send USD8 million worth of aid to North Korea through the World Food Programme and UNICEF.<sup>2437</sup> This aid will allocate USD4,500,000 towards “nutritional products” for children and pregnant women, and USD3.5 million towards vaccines and medical care.<sup>2438</sup>

On 2 November 2017, KOFIH and the Seoul National University College of Medicine announced that they would organize the 2017 Healthcare Worker Education Professional Course.<sup>2439</sup> The course is an eight-week program established to train four Myanmarese workers to reform nursing education within their country.<sup>2440</sup> It focuses on the administration of education and the development of a curriculum for health care workers.<sup>2441</sup>

On 12 November 2017, Korea, China, and Japan agreed to exchange information and technology pertaining to managing chronic disease at the Tripartite Health Ministers’ meeting.<sup>2442</sup> They additionally agreed to incorporate traditional medicine under the international disease classification and create international industrial standards in traditional medicine through the International

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<sup>2433</sup> Korea, Russia to cooperate on training medical workers, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 8 September 2017. Access Date: 9 January 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=1326>.

<sup>2434</sup> South Korean equipment for Belarusian healthcare, social services, Belarus News (Minsk) 15 September 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://eng.belta.by/society/view/south-korean-equipment-for-belarusian-healthcare-social-services-104980-2017/>.

<sup>2435</sup> South Korean equipment for Belarusian healthcare, social services, Belarus News (Minsk) 15 September 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://eng.belta.by/society/view/south-korean-equipment-for-belarusian-healthcare-social-services-104980-2017/>.

<sup>2436</sup> South Korean equipment for Belarusian healthcare, social services, Belarus News (Minsk) 15 September 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://eng.belta.by/society/view/south-korean-equipment-for-belarusian-healthcare-social-services-104980-2017/>.

<sup>2437</sup> South Korea approves \$8 million aid to North Korea, timing to be decided later, Reuters (Seoul) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 9 January 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-missiles-southkorea-aid/south-korea-approves-8-million-aid-to-north-korea-timing-to-be-decided-later-idUSKCN1BW0AG?il=0>.

<sup>2438</sup> South Korea approves \$8 million aid to North Korea, timing to be decided later, Reuters (Seoul) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 9 January 2018. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-missiles-southkorea-aid/south-korea-approves-8-million-aid-to-north-korea-timing-to-be-decided-later-idUSKCN1BW0AG?il=0>.

<sup>2439</sup> SNU to help Myanmar’s nursing education reform, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=1782>.

<sup>2440</sup> SNU to help Myanmar’s nursing education reform, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=1782>.

<sup>2441</sup> SNU to help Myanmar’s nursing education reform, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 2 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=1782>.

<sup>2442</sup> S. Korea, China, Japan to enhance cooperation on aging population, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/business/2017/11/12/0504000000AEN20171112002100315.html>.

Organization for Standardization.<sup>2443</sup> In the context of Korea, China, and Japan, traditional medicine includes treatments such as acupuncture, herbal medicine, and cupping.<sup>2444</sup>

On 15 November 2017, Korea agreed to contribute USD500,000 to the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).<sup>2445</sup> These funds will contribute towards the continuation of the UNRWA's educational and health services to Palestinian refugees fleeing from Syria in Jordan.<sup>2446</sup> The donation will help fund health centers, free access to schools, and vocational training centers.<sup>2447</sup>

On 21 November 2017, the Government of Korea launched the Medical Korea global conference where healthcare professionals from various countries exchanged information about global healthcare and medical tourism.<sup>2448</sup> Qatar and Bahrain representatives met with Korean officials to “discuss state-funded movement of patients across borders and expansion of trading programs for medical personnel.”<sup>2449</sup> Korea, Croatia, and Nicaragua also signed a memorandum of understanding to increase medical cooperation.<sup>2450</sup>

On 27 November 2017, KOICA and the Cambodian Ministry of Health signed an agreement to fund a new ear, nose, and throat centre at the Preah Ang Duong Hospital in Cambodia.<sup>2451</sup> The centre will target the treatment of ear, nose, and throat diseases.<sup>2452</sup> KOICA will also help equip the centre with new medical machinery, and Korean doctors will also provide their expertise to medical trainees in the new facility.<sup>2453</sup>

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<sup>2443</sup> S. Korea, China, Japan to enhance cooperation on aging population, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 12 November 2017. Access Date: 24 November 2017.

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/business/2017/11/12/0504000000AEN20171112002100315.html>.

<sup>2444</sup> Traditional, complementary and integrative medicine: Activities, World Health Organization (Geneva) Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://www.who.int/traditional-complementary-integrative-medicine/activities/en/>.

<sup>2445</sup> Republic of Korea contributes US\$ 500,000 to promote a better and safer life for Palestine refugees from Syria in Jordan, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (Amman) 27 November 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. <https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/republic-korea-contributes-us-500000-promote-better-and-safer-life-0>.

<sup>2446</sup> Republic of Korea contributes US\$ 500,000 to promote a better and safer life for Palestine refugees from Syria in Jordan, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (Amman) 27 November 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. <https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/republic-korea-contributes-us-500000-promote-better-and-safer-life-0>.

<sup>2447</sup> Republic of Korea contributes US\$ 500,000 to promote a better and safer life for Palestine refugees from Syria in Jordan, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (Amman) 27 November 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. <https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/republic-korea-contributes-us-500000-promote-better-and-safer-life-0>.

<sup>2448</sup> Medical Korea conference to open Nov.21 in Seoul, Pulse by Maeil Business News Korea (Seoul) 20 November 2016. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?sc=30800028&year=2017&no=769247>.

<sup>2449</sup> Medical Korea conference to open Nov.21 in Seoul, Pulse by Maeil Business News Korea (Seoul) 20 November 2016. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?sc=30800028&year=2017&no=769247>.

<sup>2450</sup> Medical Korea conference to open Nov.21 in Seoul, Pulse by Maeil Business News Korea (Seoul) 20 November 2016. Access Date: 24 November 2017. <http://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?sc=30800028&year=2017&no=769247>.

<sup>2451</sup> Korea to fund ear, nose and throat centre, Khmer Times (Phnom Penh) 28 November 2017. Access Date: 8 January 2018. <http://www.khmertimeskh.com/92736/>.

<sup>2452</sup> Korea to fund ear, nose and throat centre, Khmer Times (Phnom Penh) 28 November 2017. Access Date: 8 January 2018. <http://www.khmertimeskh.com/92736/>.

<sup>2453</sup> Korea to fund ear, nose and throat centre, Khmer Times (Phnom Penh) 28 November 2017. Access Date: 8 January 2018. <http://www.khmertimeskh.com/92736/>.

On 1 December 2017, the Ministry of Health and Welfare announced an agreement with the Mongolian national university to establish a follow up care centre in a Mongolian hospital for Mongolian patients who have been originally treated in Korea.<sup>2454</sup> The goal of this system is to strengthen the quality of medical care.<sup>2455</sup> Korean and Mongolian doctors will cooperate to assess their patients through an online based system.<sup>2456</sup>

On 14 December 2017, Minister of Health Park Neunghoo signed an agreement with Iranian Health Minister Hassan Ghazizadeh Hashemi to cooperate in building three new hospitals in Iran to increase the supply of healthcare.<sup>2457</sup> The agreement is a chance to strengthen Iranian employment rates and to develop Iran's medical technology.<sup>2458</sup>

On 14 December 2017, the Ministry of Health and Welfare announced an agreement with the national health and family planning commission of the People's Republic of China to "cooperate in healthcare areas of [mutual interest]."<sup>2459</sup> These areas include advancing health care coverage, and furthering the technology of traditional medicine, mental health, patient safety, and aging.<sup>2460</sup> Both Ministries agreed to work together to prepare and manage infectious diseases and cancer.<sup>2461</sup>

On 17 December 2017, Korea pledged USD500,000 to help the UN Population Fund in Bangladesh with its "response to the ... sexual reproductive health and protection needs of women and girls affected by the ongoing Rohingya humanitarian crisis."<sup>2462</sup> The donation will contribute to sustaining the Fund's efforts of hiring midwives in Cox's Bazaar, supplying "Clean Delivery Kits" to prevent infections during birth, and providing "Women Friendly Spaces" for female counsel and referrals to sexual abuse health clinics.<sup>2463</sup>

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<sup>2454</sup>S. Korea joins hands with Mongolia on patient follow-up program, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 7 December 2017. Access Date: 8 January 2018.

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/search1/2603000000.html?cid=AEN20171207006500320>.

<sup>2455</sup>S. Korea joins hands with Mongolia on patient follow-up program, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 7 December 2017. Access Date: 8 January 2018.

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/search1/2603000000.html?cid=AEN20171207006500320>.

<sup>2456</sup>S. Korea joins hands with Mongolia on patient follow-up program, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 7 December 2017. Access Date: 8 January 2018.

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/search1/2603000000.html?cid=AEN20171207006500320>.

<sup>2457</sup>S. Korea to finance construction of 3 hospitals in Iran, Islamic Republic News Agency (Seoul) 14 December 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. <http://www.irna.ir/en/News/82763844>.

<sup>2458</sup>S. Korea to have a hand in Iran's health sector, Tehran Times (Tehran) 17 December 2017. Access Date: 14 December 2017. <http://www.tehrantimes.com/news/419403/S-Korea-to-have-a-hand-in-Iran-s-health-sector>.

<sup>2459</sup>Korea, China agree to cooperate on healthcare, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=2132>.

<sup>2460</sup>Korea, China agree to cooperate on healthcare, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=2132>.

<sup>2461</sup>Korea, China agree to cooperate on healthcare, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 15 December 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=2132>.

<sup>2462</sup>Republic of Korea pledges US\$ 500,000 to scale up UNFPA's response to the Rohingya refugee crisis in Bangladesh, UNFPA Bangladesh (Cox's Bazar) 17 December 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. <http://bangladesh.unfpa.org/en/news/republic-korea-pledges-us-500000-scale-unfpa-s-response-rohingya-refugee-crisis-bangladesh>.

<sup>2463</sup>Republic of Korea pledges US\$ 500,000 to scale up UNFPA's response to the Rohingya refugee crisis in Bangladesh, UNFPA Bangladesh (Cox's Bazar) 17 December 2017. Access Date: 7 January 2018. <http://bangladesh.unfpa.org/en/news/republic-korea-pledges-us-500000-scale-unfpa-s-response-rohingya-refugee-crisis-bangladesh>.

On 8 February 2018, KOICA, Samsung Corporation, Good Neighbours, and USAID funded 2,590 electronic tablets to Ghana Health Service for health workers to more efficiently gather and analyze patient records.<sup>2464</sup> These e-Trackers allow workers to input patient information that automatically relays to the District Health Information System database.<sup>2465</sup> Samsung contributed USD2 million for this project, and KOICA facilitated the USAID-Samsung initiative.<sup>2466</sup>

On 8 February 2018, President Moon Jae-in and Swiss President Alain Berset agreed to launch a biological science initiative committee to increase their cooperation in health and medical sectors with “Swiss advanced basic science” and South Korean industrial technology.<sup>2467</sup>

On 19 to 20 February 2018, Korea joined Austria, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Italy, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sweden, the United States, the United Kingdom, and WHO in Canberra, Australia to establish the Global Digital Health Partnership (GDHP).<sup>2468</sup> The GDHP “is an opportunity for deep, transformational engagement by governments, digital health agencies, and the WHO so they can learn, share policy and other evidence that supports them to deliver better digital health services.”<sup>2469</sup>

On 27 March 2018, the Korea Health Industry Development Institute and the Dubai Health Authority (DHA) signed a memorandum of understanding to exchange knowledge about specialized medical training and collaborate in fostering their healthcare services in sectors such as medical tourism and medical education.<sup>2470</sup>

On 28 March 2018, the Health Insurance Review and Assessment Service (HIRA) and Bahrain’s Supreme Council of Health (SCH) agreed to collaborate in fostering Bahrain’s health information system infrastructure.<sup>2471</sup> The HIRA agreed to develop a “National Electronic Medical Repository (NEMR)” to gather billing and treatment information from all medical institutions in the country.<sup>2472</sup> The agreement was made with goals of increasing the efficiency of healthcare spending and ensuring

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<sup>2464</sup> USAID and KOICA Enhance Health Care Using Samsung Tablets, Modern Ghana (Accra) 2 February 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2018. <https://www.modernghana.com/news/832600/usaid-and-koica-enhance-health-care-using-samsung-tablets.html>.

<sup>2465</sup> USAID and KOICA Enhance Health Care Using Samsung Tablets, Modern Ghana (Accra) 2 February 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2018. <https://www.modernghana.com/news/832600/usaid-and-koica-enhance-health-care-using-samsung-tablets.html>.

<sup>2466</sup> USAID and KOICA Enhance Health Care Using Samsung Tablets, Modern Ghana (Accra) 2 February 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2018. <https://www.modernghana.com/news/832600/usaid-and-koica-enhance-health-care-using-samsung-tablets.html>.

<sup>2467</sup> Leaders of S. Korea, Switzerland agree to boost science, technology cooperation, Yonhap News Agency (Yonhap) 8 February 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2018. <http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/search1/2603000000.html?cid=AEN20180208003800315>.

<sup>2468</sup> Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

<sup>2469</sup> Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

<sup>2470</sup> MoU signed with Korea Health Industry Development Institute, Gulf News (Dubai) 2 April 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <https://gulfnews.com/better-health/news/mou-signed-with-korea-health-industry-development-institute-1.2198212>.

<sup>2471</sup> HIRA to help Bahrain’s project to innovate healthcare system, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 29 March 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=2907>.

<sup>2472</sup> HIRA to help Bahrain’s project to innovate healthcare system, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 29 March 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=2907>.

good medical services are provided to the public.<sup>2473</sup> The HIRA expects this project will create over 200 jobs.<sup>2474</sup>

On 9 May 2018, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of Health and Welfare co-hosted a medical conference in Seoul for three days.<sup>2475</sup> The Republic of Korea invited Chinese health officials to this “K-Pharma & Medical Academy” to share knowledge about their healthcare system, and to facilitate further medical cooperation between the two countries.<sup>2476</sup>

On 21 June 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced a donation of USD2 million towards improving polio outbreak response and surveillance in the Horn of Africa.<sup>2477</sup> The funds were given to UNICEF and the WHO to administer.<sup>2478</sup>

On 27 June 2018, KOICA donated medical equipment valued at USD54,000 to progress patient diagnosis and maternal health services in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.<sup>2479</sup>

On 29 July 2018, the Government of Korea sent an emergency medical team to Laos for ten days in response to a flood.<sup>2480</sup> Upon arrival, the team established temporary clinics in Sanam Xay for affected victims, treated displaced residents, and tried to prevent the spread of disease.<sup>2481</sup>

On 7 August 2018, KOICA, the International Vaccine Institute (IVI), and the Government of Mozambique began a mass cholera vaccination campaign for at-risk individuals in Cuamba, Mozambique.<sup>2482</sup> Additionally, the Mozambique Cholera Prevention and Surveillance in Africa

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<sup>2473</sup> HIRA to help Bahrain’s project to innovate healthcare system, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 29 March 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=2907>.

<sup>2474</sup> HIRA to help Bahrain’s project to innovate healthcare system, Korea Biomedical Review (Seoul) 29 March 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=2907>.

<sup>2475</sup> Chinese Officials in charge of Health and Medical Policies to visit ROK, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 8 May 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018. [http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=319831&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=health&srchTp=0&multi\\_itm\\_seq=0&itm\\_seq\\_1=0&itm\\_seq\\_2=0&company\\_cd=&company\\_nm=&page=1&titleNm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=319831&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=health&srchTp=0&multi_itm_seq=0&itm_seq_1=0&itm_seq_2=0&company_cd=&company_nm=&page=1&titleNm=).

<sup>2476</sup> Chinese Officials in charge of Health and Medical Policies to visit ROK, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 8 May 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018. [http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=319831&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=health&srchTp=0&multi\\_itm\\_seq=0&itm\\_seq\\_1=0&itm\\_seq\\_2=0&company\\_cd=&company\\_nm=&page=1&titleNm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=319831&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=health&srchTp=0&multi_itm_seq=0&itm_seq_1=0&itm_seq_2=0&company_cd=&company_nm=&page=1&titleNm=).

<sup>2477</sup> Republic of Korea becomes first donor to support polio outbreak response in Horn of Africa, Global Polio Eradication Initiative (Geneva) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018. <http://polioeradication.org/news-post/republic-of-korea-becomes-first-donor-to-support-polio-outbreak-response-in-horn-of-africa/>.

<sup>2478</sup> Republic of Korea becomes first donor to support polio outbreak response in Horn of Africa, Global Polio Eradication Initiative (Geneva) 21 June 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018. <http://polioeradication.org/news-post/republic-of-korea-becomes-first-donor-to-support-polio-outbreak-response-in-horn-of-africa/>.

<sup>2479</sup> South Korea gives Tanzania \$54,000 health equipment, The Citizen (Dar es Salaam) 27 June 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/News/1840340-4634350-1nf5dtz/index.html>.

<sup>2480</sup> Korean Medical Team Helps Flood Victims in Laos, The Korea Bizwire (Seoul) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <http://koreabizwire.com/korean-medical-team-helps-flood-victims-in-laos/122164>.

<sup>2481</sup> Korean Medical Team Helps Flood Victims in Laos, The Korea Bizwire (Seoul) 1 August 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. <http://koreabizwire.com/korean-medical-team-helps-flood-victims-in-laos/122164>.

<sup>2482</sup> KOICA, IVI join forces with Mozambican MoH and INS, partners to vaccinate 190,00 people at risk of cholera in Mozambique, Korea International Cooperation Agency (Seoul) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018.

(MOCA) project involved constructing a diarrheal disease diagnosing facility to improve surveillance and prevention.<sup>2483</sup>

On 16 August 2018, KOICA began a 14-day capacity building program for ten Ugandan health and medical officers.<sup>2484</sup> The program involved lectures on topics such as health administration, hospital organization and management, universal health coverage, the management of communicable diseases, and health promotion policies in Korea.<sup>2485</sup>

On 20 August 2018, the Government of Korea commissioned a UGX2.4 billion health program in Bukomansimbi, Uganda involving the construction and supplying of a health centre with an emergency department.<sup>2486</sup> The project aims to build similar health centres in Kisojjo, Kibinge, Milambi, Bigasa, and Kigangazi by 2020 in order to decongest the current regional referral hospital.<sup>2487</sup>

On 23 August 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced it will donate USD500,000 to the Democratic Republic of the Congo to support their efforts against a recent Ebola outbreak in North Kivu.<sup>2488</sup> The WHO will administer these funds.<sup>2489</sup>

Korea has made significant progress in cooperating with the international community and with international organizations to improve health systems worldwide, including through developing the health workforce. This is seen through its initiatives to improve medical technology and increase medical aid funding in countries including Jordan, Cambodia, Belarus, and Mongolia, in conjunction with organizations such as UNICEF and WHO. Korea has demonstrated efforts to improve the international health workforce in their training initiatives and agreements with medical personnel from countries such as Ethiopia, Iraq, Myanmar, and Russia.

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<sup>2483</sup> KOICA, IVI join forced with Mozambican MoH and INS, partners to vaccinate 190,00 people at risk of cholera in Mozambique, Korea International Cooperation Agency (Seoul) 6 September 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. [http://www.koica.go.kr/english/board/KOICA\\_News/press\\_releases/1327447\\_3534.html](http://www.koica.go.kr/english/board/KOICA_News/press_releases/1327447_3534.html).

<sup>2484</sup> [Health] Capacity Building for Health and Medical Officers (Uganda), Korea International Cooperation Agency (Seoul), 16 August 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. [http://www.koica.go.kr/english/board/whats\\_new/1327249\\_3545.html](http://www.koica.go.kr/english/board/whats_new/1327249_3545.html).

<sup>2485</sup> [Health] Capacity Building for Health and Medical Officers (Uganda), Korea International Cooperation Agency (Seoul), 16 August 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. [http://www.koica.go.kr/english/board/whats\\_new/1327249\\_3545.html](http://www.koica.go.kr/english/board/whats_new/1327249_3545.html).

<sup>2486</sup> Korea rolls out sh2.4b Bukomansimbi health program, New Vision (Uganda) 20 August 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. [https://www.newvision.co.ug/new\\_vision/news/1484020/korea-rolls-sh24b-bukomansimbi-health-program](https://www.newvision.co.ug/new_vision/news/1484020/korea-rolls-sh24b-bukomansimbi-health-program).

<sup>2487</sup> Korea rolls out sh2.4b Bukomansimbi health program, New Vision (Uganda) 20 August 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. [https://www.newvision.co.ug/new\\_vision/news/1484020/korea-rolls-sh24b-bukomansimbi-health-program](https://www.newvision.co.ug/new_vision/news/1484020/korea-rolls-sh24b-bukomansimbi-health-program).

<sup>2488</sup> ROK Government Decides to Provide US\$500,000 in Humanitarian Aid to DR Congo through WHO to Help it Respond to Ebola Outbreak, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 23 August 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. [http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=320036&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=&srchTp=&multi\\_itm\\_seq=0&itm\\_seq\\_1=0&itm\\_seq\\_2=0&company\\_cd=&company\\_nm=&page=1&titleNm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=320036&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=&srchTp=&multi_itm_seq=0&itm_seq_1=0&itm_seq_2=0&company_cd=&company_nm=&page=1&titleNm=).

<sup>2489</sup> ROK Government Decides to Provide US\$500,000 in Humanitarian Aid to DR Congo through WHO to Help it Respond to Ebola Outbreak, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea (Seoul) 23 August 2018. Access Date: 9 September 2018. [http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m\\_5676/view.do?seq=320036&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=&srchTp=&multi\\_itm\\_seq=0&itm\\_seq\\_1=0&itm\\_seq\\_2=0&company\\_cd=&company\\_nm=&page=1&titleNm=](http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=320036&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=&srchTp=&multi_itm_seq=0&itm_seq_1=0&itm_seq_2=0&company_cd=&company_nm=&page=1&titleNm=).

Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Ivana Yuen*

#### **Mexico: 0**

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 15 November 2017, the Third Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean on Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) took place in Haiti with representatives from Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.<sup>2490</sup> The forum reaffirmed the goals of the HIV/AIDS impact reduction by 2020 and established strategies for sustainability in responses to HIV/AIDS, to be implemented by 2030.<sup>2491</sup>

On 7 March 2018, the Governments of Mexico and Ecuador negotiated an agreement to participate in six technical cooperation projects until 2020.<sup>2492</sup> The projects focus on agriculture and on health, and include the sharing of Ecuador's national emergency service, ECU 911, in order to improve emergency response times in Mexico.<sup>2493</sup> The countries shall also collaborate to improve food and non-alcoholic beverage labelling.<sup>2494</sup>

On 23-25 April 2018, the Secretariat of Health, the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS), the Federal Committee for Protection against Health Risks (COFEPRIS), and the Institute for Social Security and Services for State Workers (ISSSTE), along with Secretary of Health José Narro Robles, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, and Director of the Panamerican Health Organization (PAHO) Carissa Etienne, conducted the Vaccination Week for the Americas, which encouraged Latin American citizens to be vaccinated by promoting immunization and dispelling myths related to vaccines.<sup>2495</sup>

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<sup>2490</sup> Argentina Está al Frente del Grupo que Reúne a las Autoridades de VIH-sida en América Latina y el Caribe, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 15 July 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017.  
<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-esta-al-frente-del-grupo-que-reune-las-autoridades-de-vih-sida-en-america-latina>.

<sup>2491</sup> Argentina Está al Frente del Grupo que Reúne a las Autoridades de VIH-sida en América Latina y el Caribe, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 15 July 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2017.  
<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-esta-al-frente-del-grupo-que-reune-las-autoridades-de-vih-sida-en-america-latina>.

<sup>2492</sup> Ecuador y México Negocian Seis Proyectos en Cooperación Técnica sobre Emergencias, Agricultura y Salud (Mexico) 7 March 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018.  
<http://www.cancilleria.gob.ec/ecuador-y-mexico-negocian-seis-proyectos-en-cooperacion-tecnica-sobre-emergencias-agricultura-y-salud/>.

<sup>2493</sup> Ecuador y México Negocian Seis Proyectos en Cooperación Técnica sobre Emergencias, Agricultura y Salud (Mexico) 7 March 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018.  
<http://www.cancilleria.gob.ec/ecuador-y-mexico-negocian-seis-proyectos-en-cooperacion-tecnica-sobre-emergencias-agricultura-y-salud/>.

<sup>2494</sup> Ecuador y México Negocian Seis Proyectos en Cooperación Técnica sobre Emergencias, Agricultura y Salud (Mexico) 7 March 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018.  
<http://www.cancilleria.gob.ec/ecuador-y-mexico-negocian-seis-proyectos-en-cooperacion-tecnica-sobre-emergencias-agricultura-y-salud/>.

<sup>2495</sup> México, Salud y Cuba (Mexico) 23 April 2018. Access Date: 10 May 2018.  
<https://www.gob.mx/salud/es/articulos/mexico-salud-y-cuba?idiom=es>.

On 22 May 2018, Secretary of Health José Narro Robles participated in the 71<sup>st</sup> World Health Assembly in Geneva, in which members states endorsed the 13<sup>th</sup> General Program of Work for 2019-2023.<sup>2496</sup> Robles urged member states to combat the notion of health as a commodity and instead supported the idea of the right to health, with inequality as the enemy thereto.<sup>2497</sup>

On 7 August 2018, Mexico attended the first meeting of the Advisory Group for the Preparation of the PAHO Strategic Plan for 2020-2025 in Panama City.<sup>2498</sup> Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, the Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Canada, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States, and Venezuela gathered and drafted the Strategic Plan, which will be used as the primary instrument to meet the Health Agenda for the Americas 2030, and thereby, the UN Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>2499</sup>

While Mexico has demonstrated cooperative action by participating in the Third Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean on HIV/AIDS and through actions with PAHO as well as undertaking steps to improve its health system in conjunction with Ecuador, Mexico has taken no action to improve either the international health workforce or the domestic health workforce through cooperative means.

Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Jacob Newfeld*

#### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 6 September 2017, Russia and Korea announced the signing of a “protocol of intent on cooperation in professional medical education.”<sup>2500</sup> The agreement aims to allow more structured and official management of trainees between the two countries, and was accompanied by the signing of separate memoranda such as the one signed between Seoul National University Bundang Hospital (SNUBH) and the Moscow International Medical Cluster.<sup>2501</sup> This separate agreement will allow SNUBH to become the first Korean medical institution to operate in Russia.<sup>2502</sup>

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<sup>2496</sup> Major Outcomes of the 71st Session of the World Health Assembly of WHO, The South Centre (Geneva) July 2018. Access Date: 14 August 2018. [https://www.southcentre.int/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/PB49\\_Major-Outcomes-of-the-71st-Session-of-the-World-Health-Assembly-of-WHO\\_EN.pdf](https://www.southcentre.int/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/PB49_Major-Outcomes-of-the-71st-Session-of-the-World-Health-Assembly-of-WHO_EN.pdf).

<sup>2497</sup> México en la 71<sup>a</sup> Asamblea de la Organización de la Salud #WHA71, Secretarit of Health (Mexico) 22 May 2018. Access Date: 14 August 2018. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/es/articulos/mexico-en-la-71-asamblea-de-la-organizacion-mundial-de-la-salud-wha71?idiom=es>

<sup>2498</sup> Argentina Participó en Reunión para la Elaboración del Plan Estratégico 2020-2025 de la OPS, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 August 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-en-reunion-para-la-elaboracion-del-plan-estrategico-2020-2025-de-la-ops>.

<sup>2499</sup> Argentina Participó en Reunión para la Elaboración del Plan Estratégico 2020-2025 de la OPS, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 August 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-en-reunion-para-la-elaboracion-del-plan-estrategico-2020-2025-de-la-ops>.

<sup>2500</sup> Russian-South Korean Talks, President of Russia (Moscow) September 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/55540>.

<sup>2501</sup> Korea, Russia to cooperate on training medical workers, Korea Biomedical Review (Korea) September 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018 <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=1326>.

<sup>2502</sup> Korea, Russia to cooperate on training medical workers, Korea Biomedical Review (Korea) September 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018 <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=1326>.



On 31 October 2017, the World Health Organization (WHO)'s European Office for the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases and the Russian Languages Unit with the Division of Information, Evidence, Research and Innovation held a training course in collaboration with WHO Country Office in Moscow, Russia.<sup>2503</sup> The training course involved over 30 Russian translators and WHO staff, and aimed to strengthen WHO and Europe's capacity to develop knowledge for health systems in the Russian language.<sup>2504</sup> The purpose of the training course was to strengthen Russia's capacity to produce health information in the Russian language.<sup>2505</sup>

On 15 November 2017, Minister of Health Veronika Skvortsova and Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Director Carissa Etienne signed a Memorandum of Understanding pledging to collaborate in public health promotion.<sup>2506</sup> Areas of focus include the sharing of expertise and cooperation in maternal and newborn health, mental health policy, road safety, alcohol and tobacco control, nutrition and promotion of physical activity. The agreement also pledged to combat anti-microbial resistance and communicable diseases.<sup>2507</sup>

On 27 to 28 November 2017, representatives from seven WHO European Region member countries, and 11 Russian host cities for the 2018 FIFA World Cup met for a WHO technical consultation on mass gathering events and enhancing critical public health capacity.<sup>2508</sup> Participants were taught how to use mass gathering events to increase health systems' resiliency, and how to improve knowledge coordination and transferring between countries.<sup>2509</sup>

On 22 December 2017, the Ministry of Emergency Situations announced that it was granting two medical rescue helicopters to the city of Tskhinvali in South Ossetia.<sup>2510</sup> The helicopters will serve to improve sanitary transportation of patients to emergency medical treatment in southern Georgia and

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<sup>2503</sup> WHO hosts training for Russian translators in Moscow, World Health Organization: Regional Office for Europe, 31 October 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/russian-federation/news/news/2017/10/who-hosts-training-for-russian-translators-in-moscow>.

<sup>2504</sup> WHO hosts training for Russian translators in Moscow, World Health Organization: Regional Office for Europe, 31 October 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/russian-federation/news/news/2017/10/who-hosts-training-for-russian-translators-in-moscow>.

<sup>2505</sup> WHO hosts training for Russian translators in Moscow, World Health Organization: Regional Office for Europe, 31 October 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/russian-federation/news/news/2017/10/who-hosts-training-for-russian-translators-in-moscow>.

<sup>2506</sup> PAHO, Russian Federation sign agreement on public health cooperation, Pan American Health Organization (Washington) November 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. [http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=13930%3Aapaho-russian-federation-sign-agreement-on-public-health-cooperation&catid=1443%3Aweb-bulletins&Itemid=135&lang=en](http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13930%3Aapaho-russian-federation-sign-agreement-on-public-health-cooperation&catid=1443%3Aweb-bulletins&Itemid=135&lang=en).

<sup>2507</sup> PAHO, Russian Federation sign agreement on public health cooperation, Pan American Health Organization (Washington) November 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. [http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=13930%3Aapaho-russian-federation-sign-agreement-on-public-health-cooperation&catid=1443%3Aweb-bulletins&Itemid=135&lang=en](http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=13930%3Aapaho-russian-federation-sign-agreement-on-public-health-cooperation&catid=1443%3Aweb-bulletins&Itemid=135&lang=en).

<sup>2508</sup> Emergency preparedness for mass gatherings strengthens public health capacities, WHO Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 8 February 2018. Accessed 10 October 2018. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/russian-federation/news/news/2018/2/emergency-preparedness-for-mass-gatherings-strengthens-public-health-capacities>.

<sup>2509</sup> Emergency preparedness for mass gatherings strengthens public health capacities, WHO Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 8 February 2018. Accessed 10 October 2018. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/russian-federation/news/news/2018/2/emergency-preparedness-for-mass-gatherings-strengthens-public-health-capacities>.

<sup>2510</sup> Russia to Transfer Two Medical Rescue Helicopters to South Ossetia, Civil Georgia (Tbilisi) December 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://www.civil.ge/eng/article.php?id=30757>.

North Caucasus.<sup>2511</sup> Russian specialists will also provide infrastructure to maintain the aircrafts and train local specialists in service and maintenance.<sup>2512</sup>

On 27 December 2017, Russia and Brazil announced a five-year agreement under which JSC Isotope will provide the Brazilian National Nuclear Energy Commission with isotope products for diagnostic nuclear medicine.<sup>2513</sup> The agreement extends current weekly isotope supplies to include lutetium-177, yttrium-90, cobalt-57, and ionizing radiation based on iridium-192, germanium-68 and gallium-68.<sup>2514</sup>

On 3 January 2018, the WHO announced the attendance of virologists from the national influenza centre in St. Petersburg at a two-week course to improve influenza surveillance.<sup>2515</sup> The course was hosted by the WHO Collaborating Centre at the Francis Crick Institute, and focused on next generation sequencing (NGS) techniques, advantages and disadvantages of various NGS data software, NGS library training, and methods for establishing cost-effective sequencing protocols.<sup>2516</sup>

On 7 May 2018, the WHO announced a collaboration with the Ministry of Health on the clinical management of severe acute respiratory infection and influenza.<sup>2517</sup> The two parties agreed to produce and conduct a clinical management training course designed by the WHO to address the needs of Russian clinicians in order to improve infection and influenza responses.<sup>2518</sup>

Russia has demonstrated full compliance in cooperative action by signing agreements with organizations such as PAHO, and by working with WHO to improve Russian health information dissemination. Russia has also strengthened health systems worldwide, as demonstrated by its distribution of medical helicopters to South Ossetia, and its nuclear medicine agreement with Brazil. Lastly, Russia has taken steps to develop the health workforce, via its medical trainee agreement with Korea, and its training courses with WHO.

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<sup>2511</sup> Russia to Transfer Two Medical Rescue Helicopters to South Ossetia, Civil Georgia (Tbilisi) December 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://www.civil.ge/eng/article.php?id=30757>.

<sup>2512</sup> Russia to Transfer Two Medical Rescue Helicopters to South Ossetia, Civil Georgia (Tbilisi) December 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://www.civil.ge/eng/article.php?id=30757>.

<sup>2513</sup> Rosatom expand Russian-Brazilian cooperation in the field of nuclear medicine, ISOTOPE (Russia) January 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://www.isotop.ru/en/view/2218/>.

<sup>2514</sup> Russia and Brazil extend cooperation in nuclear medicine, World Nuclear News (London) December 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/C-Russia-and-Brazil-extend-cooperation-in-nuclear-medicine-27121701.html>.

<sup>2515</sup> WHO collaborating centre strengthens laboratory capacity of national influenza centres in WHO European Region, WHO Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 3 January 2018. Accessed 10 October 2018. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/russian-federation/news/news/2018/01/who-collaborating-centre-strengthens-laboratory-capacity-of-national-influenza-centres-in-the-who-european-region>.

<sup>2516</sup> WHO collaborating centre strengthens laboratory capacity of national influenza centres in WHO European Region, WHO Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 3 January 2018. Accessed 10 October 2018. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/russian-federation/news/news/2018/01/who-collaborating-centre-strengthens-laboratory-capacity-of-national-influenza-centres-in-the-who-european-region>.

<sup>2517</sup> Russian Federation and WHO kick off collaboration on reducing severe disease caused by influenza, WHO Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/russian-federation/news/news/2018/5/russian-federation-and-who-kick-off-collaboration-on-reducing-severe-disease-caused-by-influenza>.

<sup>2518</sup> Russian Federation and WHO kick off collaboration on reducing severe disease caused by influenza, WHO Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 7 May 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/russian-federation/news/news/2018/5/russian-federation-and-who-kick-off-collaboration-on-reducing-severe-disease-caused-by-influenza>.

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mary Zelenova*

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

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 9 July 2017, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud approved of the adoption of public health as a policy and priority in all regulations and legislations in Saudi Arabia, a policy derived from the World Health Organization (WHO).<sup>2519</sup> The move includes the conversion of hospitals and health centres into public sector companies, as well as conducting public health awareness campaigns.<sup>2520</sup>

On 30 July 2017, the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSRelief) signed a USD33 million agreement with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to combat and control the outbreak of cholera in Yemen.<sup>2521</sup> An additional USD33.7 million pledge has also been made to the World Health Organization (WHO).<sup>2522</sup>

On 15 August 2017, Minister of Health Dr. Tawfiq Al-Rabiah and the Finnish Minister of Social Affairs and Health signed a Memorandum of Understanding targeting health cooperation between the two countries.<sup>2523</sup> The agreement focuses on early disease diagnosis, particularly regarding lifestyle-related diseases.<sup>2524</sup>

On 8 October 2017, the KSRelief announced a USD2 million grant to establish an Orthopedic and Surgery Center at Al-Thawra General Hospital in Taiz, Yemen.<sup>2525</sup> This center is set to alleviate the suffering of patients who receive urgent medical interventions.

On 31 October 2017, KSRelief signed an agreement with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to provide emergency health care and activities in Yemen for 3.43 million people.<sup>2526</sup>

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<sup>2519</sup> King Approves Adopting Public Health as a Policy, Saudi Gazette (Riyadh) 9 July 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/512477/SAUDI-ARABIA/Hospitals>.

<sup>2520</sup> King Approves Adopting Public Health as a Policy, Saudi Gazette (Riyadh) 9 July 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://saudigazette.com.sa/article/512477/SAUDI-ARABIA/Hospitals>.

<sup>2521</sup> KSRelief signs an agreement with UNICEF to fight cholera in Yemen, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 30 July 2017. Access Date: 22 September 2018. <https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=799>.

<sup>2522</sup> KSRelief signs an agreement with UNICEF to fight cholera in Yemen, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 30 July 2017. Access Date: 22 September 2018. <https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=799>.

<sup>2523</sup> Saudi Arabia's Minister of Health Visits Finland — Cooperation Deepens in the area of Preventative Healthcare, Finland Health (Finland) 15 August 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://www.finlandhealth.fi/-/saudi-arabia-s-minister-of-health-visits-finland-cooperation-deepens-in-the-area-of-preventive-health-care>.

<sup>2524</sup> The cooperation in health care between Finland and Saudi Arabia deepened with the visit of Finnish healthcare companies to Riyadh, Embassy of Finland (Riyadh) 18 November 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://www.finland.org.sa/public/default.aspx?contentid=367737&nodeid=40844&contentlan=2&culture=en-US>.

<sup>2525</sup> KSRelief funds medical center in Taiz, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Aden) 8 October 2017. Access Date: 22 September 2018. <https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=908>.

<sup>2526</sup> King Salman relief center signs an agreement with ICRC for emergency health care in Yemen, Saudi Press Agency (Saudi Arabia) October 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <http://www.spa.gov.sa/viewfullstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1683024>.

In November 2017, KSRelief held a two-day course on the treatment protocol for medical staff at hospitals and health facilities in Hadramawt, Yemen.<sup>2527</sup> This project was part of KSRelief's larger Dengue Fever Control Project.

On 12 February 2018, KSRelief signed an agreement to supply medicines and supplies to clinics in Al Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan.<sup>2528</sup> This aid package contains 112 types of medications valued at SR557,157.<sup>2529</sup> This is a continuation of KSRelief's support for Syrian refugees in the region and for clinics in Al Zaatari camp, which receive at least 600 patients each day.<sup>2530</sup>

On 15 February 2018, KSRelief granted USD10,959,866 to the WHO to finance three projects to combat the cholera epidemic in Yemen.<sup>2531</sup> These projects include disease diagnosis, prevention, and surveillance. This grant is part of a total USD66.7 million that Prince Mohammad bin Salman has directed to be allocated for combating cholera in Yemen.<sup>2532</sup>

On 20 February 2018, KSRelief signed an agreement for six projects totaling USD2,940,333 for hospital programs in Yemen and Saudi Arabia to treat wounded Yemeni refugees.<sup>2533</sup> These projects are extensions of existing KSRelief programs to treat wounded Yemenis in private hospitals and to rehabilitate child soldiers.<sup>2534</sup>

On 28 February 2018, KSRelief announced a USD2 million grant to the World Health Organization to upgrade the Sadar District Hospital in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh to improve healthcare services for Rohingya refugees and their host communities.<sup>2535</sup>

On 9 April 2018, KSRelief allocated USD66.7 million to the WHO and UNICEF to aid in the fight against cholera in Yemen.<sup>2536</sup> One portion of the grant is allocated towards addresses the cholera

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<sup>2527</sup>KSRelief conducts treatment protocol course for medical staff in Hadramawt, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Mukalla) 13 November 2017. Access Date: 22 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=979>.

<sup>2528</sup>KSRelief signs an agreement to provide medicines to Syrian refugees in Al Zaatari camp, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Amman) 12 February 2018. Access Date: 21 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1171>.

<sup>2529</sup>KSRelief signs an agreement to provide medicines to Syrian refugees in Al Zaatari camp, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Amman) 12 February 2018. Access Date: 21 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1171>.

<sup>2530</sup>KSRelief signs an agreement to provide medicines to Syrian refugees in Al Zaatari camp, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Amman) 12 February 2018. Access Date: 21 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1171>.

<sup>2531</sup>KSRelief funds three WHO projects to combat Yemen's cholera epidemic, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 15 February 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1184>.

<sup>2532</sup>KSRelief signs three projects to combat and treat cholera in Yemen, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 13 February 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1177>.

<sup>2533</sup>KSRelief signs 6 projects to treat wounded Yemenis and rehabilitate child soldiers, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 20 February 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1192>.

<sup>2534</sup>KSRelief signs 6 projects to treat wounded Yemenis and rehabilitate child soldiers, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 20 February 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1192>.

<sup>2535</sup>Rohingya crisis: KSRelief gives US\$2 million to strengthen Sadar District Hospital in Cox's Bazar, World Health Organization Regional Office for South-East Asia (Cox's Bazar) 28 February 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. <http://www.searo.who.int/mediacentre/releases/2018/1681/en/>.

epidemic by renovating household water tanks, providing drinking water and chlorine for water purification, rehabilitating water systems, constructing latrines, and disposing of solid waste.<sup>2537</sup> The other portion of the grant is allocated for providing vaccines to 140,000 children under the age of five for poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, pertussis, tetanus, meningitis, hepatitis B, and diphtheria.<sup>2538</sup>

On 12 April 2018, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and KSRelief signed a USD3 million agreement to provide emergency assistance to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh.<sup>2539</sup> This aid includes support for the field hospital providing medical services to refugees.<sup>2540</sup>

On 26 April 2018, KSRelief signed an executive joint agreement with Physicians Across Continents Organization to provide primary health care services in five areas of Somalia for a total of USD1,074,108.<sup>2541</sup> The project will include the rehabilitation and operation of one primary health care center in each of the five locations, Mogadishu, Hargeisa, Garoowe, Bosaso, and Afgooye, treating approximately 253,800 patients each year.<sup>2542</sup> This includes 3,000 maternity check-ups and treatment for 2,250 women and newborns for up to three days after childbirth.<sup>2543</sup>

On 11 June 2018, KSRelief delivered medical aid to Sudan.<sup>2544</sup> This aid shipment was distributed to 40 health care centres and 15 health units located in all Sudanese states, serving a total of 50,000 beneficiaries.<sup>2545</sup>

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<sup>2536</sup>KSRelief signs projects with UNICEF to combat cholera in Yemen, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 9 April 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1370>.

<sup>2537</sup>KSRelief signs projects with UNICEF to combat cholera in Yemen, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 9 April 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1370>.

<sup>2538</sup>KSRelief signs projects with UNICEF to combat cholera in Yemen, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 9 April 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1370>.

<sup>2539</sup>UNHRC, King Salman Centre to provide emergency assistance for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, Relief Web (Cox's Bazar) 12 April 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. <https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/unhcr-king-salman-centre-provide-emergency-assistance-rohingya-refugees-bangladesh>.

<sup>2540</sup>UNHRC, King Salman Centre to provide emergency assistance for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, Relief Web (Cox's Bazar) 12 April 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. <https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/unhcr-king-salman-centre-provide-emergency-assistance-rohingya-refugees-bangladesh>.

<sup>2541</sup>KSRelief signs joint executive healthcare project for Somalia, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 26 April 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1435>.

<sup>2542</sup>KSRelief signs joint executive healthcare project for Somalia, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 26 April 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1435>.

<sup>2543</sup>KSRelief signs joint executive healthcare project for Somalia, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 26 April 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1435>.

<sup>2544</sup>KSRelief team delivers food, medical and shelter aid to Sudan, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 11 June 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1796>.

<sup>2545</sup>KSRelief team delivers food, medical and shelter aid to Sudan, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 11 June 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1796>.

On 22 July 2018, KSRelief delivered USD4 million worth of medical and food aid to Burkina Faso.<sup>2546</sup> This aid is aimed to help the country address its economic and social challenges, including weak agricultural production in the last growing season due to late rains.<sup>2547</sup>

On 8 August 2018, KSRelief launched the first shipment of six delivering dialysis equipment solutions and supplies to Yemen.<sup>2548</sup> This program will benefit 4,254 patients and costs a total of USD5.6 million.<sup>2549</sup>

On 1 September 2018, KSRelief delivered medical equipment and supplies to the Malaysian Field Hospital in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.<sup>2550</sup> This aid is to support the health services being provided to Rohingya refugees living in refugee camps, including laboratory services, surgical services, intensive care, in-patient care, and sterilization services.<sup>2551</sup>

On 11 September 2018, the Ministry of Health signed a memorandum of understanding with Metropolia University of Applied Sciences in Finland to cooperate in education and training of Saudi licensed nurses working in Finland.<sup>2552</sup>

On 11 September 2018, the KSRelief delivered USD400,000 worth of medical supplies to the Director General of the Public Health and Population Office in Ma'rib, Yemen.<sup>2553</sup> The aid shipment included IV fluids and 64 tons of dialysis solutions to treat dengue fever and dengue hemorrhagic fever.<sup>2554</sup>

On 12 September 2018, KSRelief delivered 145 tons of medical supplies to the Ministry of Public Health and Population Office in Hadramawt, Yemen.<sup>2555</sup> This included antipyretics, antibiotics, IV fluids, and 11,196 gallons of solutions for dialysis treatments.<sup>2556</sup>

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<sup>2546</sup>KSRelief Delivers Aid to Burkina Faso, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 22 July 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018. <https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1962>.

<sup>2547</sup>KSRelief Delivers Aid to Burkina Faso, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 22 July 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018. <https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=1962>.

<sup>2548</sup>KSRelief launches 13 aid trucks to support Yemen dialysis center, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 8 August 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018. <https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=2018>.

<sup>2549</sup>KSRelief launches 13 aid trucks to support Yemen dialysis center, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 8 August 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018. <https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=2018>.

<sup>2550</sup>KSRelief team delivers medical aid to Malaysian field hospital in Cox's Bazar, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 1 September 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018. <https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=2072>.

<sup>2551</sup>KSRelief team delivers medical aid to Malaysian field hospital in Cox's Bazar, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 1 September 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018. <https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=2072>.

<sup>2552</sup>MOH signs 2 MOUs, Ministry of Health Saudi Arabia (Riyadh) 11 September 2018. Access Date: 23 September 2018. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2018-09-11-005.aspx>.

<sup>2553</sup>KSRelief donates medical equipment to the Rohingyas, Arab News (Dhaka) 3 September 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2018. <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1365806/saudi-arabia>.

<sup>2554</sup>KSRelief delivers 138 tons of medical aid to Ma'rib, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 11 September 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018. <https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=2104>.

<sup>2555</sup>KSRelief delivers 145 tons of medical aid to the Public Health Office in Hadramawt, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018. <https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=2109>.

On 19 September 2018, the UNHCR and KSRelief signed two agreements worth USD2.24 million to provide dialysis treatment for Syrian refugees suffering from chronic renal failure.<sup>2557</sup> This treatment is expected to provide life-saving support for 128 Syrian refugees in Lebanon and Jordan for one year.<sup>2558</sup>

Saudi Arabia has worked to develop its domestic health capacity and to strengthen its health workforce through partnerships with countries such as Finland. Additionally, Saudi Arabia has strengthened the health systems of other countries, particularly Yemen and Bangladesh by providing healthcare to Syrian and Rohingya refugees respectively. Saudi Arabia has also demonstrated cooperative action with a number of international organizations, including the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Anna Wong and Natasha Comeau*

### South Africa: +1

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 26 July 2017, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) hosted a forum on effective interventions to reduce harmful alcohol use in South Africa in conjunction with the World Health Organization (WHO).<sup>2559</sup> The WHO South Africa Office presented a series of interventions that recognized social determinants of health, supported the development of local policy to reduce harmful use, and advocated health education as an evidence supported means to reduce the harmful use of alcohol.<sup>2560</sup> At the forum, WHO reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the DTI in gathering public health data to support its activities.<sup>2561</sup>

On 4 September 2017, South Africa pledged ZAR2 million over three years to the Global Antibiotic and Research Development Partnership (GARDP) at a pledging event hosted in Berlin by the German Federal Ministries of Health and of Education and Research.<sup>2562</sup> GARDP “aims to develop

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<sup>2556</sup> KSRelief delivers 145 tons of medical aid to the Public Health Office in Hadramawt, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (Riyadh) 12 September 2018. Access Date: 19 September 2018.

<https://www.ksrelief.org/English/MediaCenter/Pages/NewsDetails.aspx?NewsID=2109>.

<sup>2557</sup> UNHCR, KSRelief to provide dialysis treatment for Syrian refugees, Relief Web (New York) 19 September 2018.

Access Date: 19 September 2018. <https://reliefweb.int/report/jordan/unhcr-ksrelief-provide-dialysis-treatment-syrian-refugees>.

<sup>2558</sup> UNHCR, KSRelief to provide dialysis treatment for Syrian refugees, Relief Web (New York) 19 September 2018.

Access Date: 19 September 2018. <https://reliefweb.int/report/jordan/unhcr-ksrelief-provide-dialysis-treatment-syrian-refugees>.

<sup>2559</sup> WHO participates in a forum on effective interventions to reduce harmful use of alcohol, The World Health Organization South Africa (Pretoria) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017.

<http://www.afro.who.int/news/who-participates-forum-effective-interventions-reduce-harmful-use-alcohol>.

<sup>2560</sup> WHO participates in a forum on effective interventions to reduce harmful use of alcohol, The World Health Organization South Africa (Pretoria) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017.

<http://www.afro.who.int/news/who-participates-forum-effective-interventions-reduce-harmful-use-alcohol>.

<sup>2561</sup> WHO participates in a forum on effective interventions to reduce harmful use of alcohol, The World Health Organization South Africa (Pretoria) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017.

<http://www.afro.who.int/news/who-participates-forum-effective-interventions-reduce-harmful-use-alcohol>.

<sup>2562</sup> More than EUR 56 Million raised to fund initiative to fight antibiotic resistance, German Federal Ministry of Health (Bonn) September 2017. Access Date: 18 March 2018

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/gardp-pledging-event.html>.

and deliver new treatments for bacterial infections where drug resistance is present or emerging,” and the funding will go specifically towards the issue areas of sexually-transmitted infections, antimicrobial memory recovery, neonatal sepsis, paediatric antibiotics.<sup>2563</sup> South Africa pledged funding alongside Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Luxembourg and the United Kingdom, as well as the Wellcome Trust.<sup>2564</sup>

On 27 October 2017, the DTI and the United Nations released a joint statement concerning the development of South Africa’s intellectual property policy.<sup>2565</sup> The statement specifically addressed the ways in which intellectual property intersects with health, especially regarding vaccines and other methods of treatment.<sup>2566</sup> The UN Conference on Trade and Development and UN Development Programme helped the DTI run a three-day workshop, which the DTI sees as “crucial to enable government to develop a balanced, evidence based policy.”<sup>2567</sup>

On 1 February 2018, the South African government announced the opening of ten new ophthalmology clinics in Soweto and surrounding areas.<sup>2568</sup> The initiative is a cross-border public-private partnership between the Gauteng Department of Health, the Standard Chartered Bank, and the Brien Holden Vision Institute.<sup>2569</sup> The initiative is also a part of the Vision Service Plan Global program, and is aimed towards fulfilling the goals of the WHO’s Vision 2020 initiative, which aims to eliminate the causes of preventable blindness by 2020.<sup>2570</sup>

South Africa has made progress towards the fulfillment of the health commitment made at the Hamburg Summit. South Africa has taken cooperative steps to improve the health workforce within the country, such as through launching the Gauteng GP Care cell and the APFP with help from funding from international non-governmental organizations (NGOs). South Africa has also improved health systems by improving financing and resource availability, health governance, and health surveillance. In addition, South Africa has undertaken cooperative inter-state and international public-private partnerships actions such as its partnership with GSK to overhaul the paediatric surgery clinic at Soweto’s Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital, its work with WHO and the UNDP, and its international commitment to funding the GARDP.

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<sup>2563</sup> More than EUR 56 Million raised to fund initiative to fight antibiotic resistance, German Federal Ministry of Health (Bonn) September 2017. Access Date: 18 March 2018  
<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/gardp-pledging-event.html>.

<sup>2564</sup> More than EUR 56 Million raised to fund initiative to fight antibiotic resistance, German Federal Ministry of Health (Bonn) September 2017. Access Date: 18 March 2018  
<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/gardp-pledging-event.html>.

<sup>2565</sup> South Africa: Intellectual Property Policy to Help Build SA, All Africa (Cape Town) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201710300617.html>.

<sup>2566</sup> South Africa: Intellectual Property Policy to Help Build SA, All Africa (Cape Town) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201710300617.html>.

<sup>2567</sup> South Africa: Intellectual Property Policy to Help Build SA, All Africa (Cape Town) 30 October 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201710300617.html>.

<sup>2568</sup> Gauteng Health on opening of eye clinics in Soweto, The Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 1 February 2018. Access date: March 5 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/gauteng-health-opening-eye-clinics-soweto-1-feb-2018-0000>.

<sup>2569</sup> Gauteng Health on opening of eye clinics in Soweto, The Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 1 February 2018. Access date: March 5 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/gauteng-health-opening-eye-clinics-soweto-1-feb-2018-0000>.

<sup>2570</sup> Gauteng Health on opening of eye clinics in Soweto, The Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 1 February 2018. Access date: March 5 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/gauteng-health-opening-eye-clinics-soweto-1-feb-2018-0000>.



Thus, South Africa receives a score of 1.

*Analyst: Olivia Smith*

#### **Turkey: +1**

Turkey has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 31 July 2017, the Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) announced the donation of medical training equipment to the nursing faculty of the University of Antioquia in Medellin, Colombia.<sup>2571</sup> TIKA's donation of a patient simulator, vital systems monitor, and drug recognition computer program will improve and expand the capacity for student training.<sup>2572</sup>

On 18 August 2017, TIKA announced a project to establish a daily chemotherapy unit and acute inpatient ward in Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical Faculty and Research Hospital in Dhaka, Bangladesh.<sup>2573</sup> In addition to renovating hospital rooms and providing medical equipment, TIKA will provide training for medical staff to serve in patient wards and the chemotherapy unit.<sup>2574</sup>

On 28 September 2017, the Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices Agency (TITCK) agreed to share "certain successful applications in Turkey's healthcare transformation process, especially licensing, ITS, UTS licensing, and e-prescription" with Pakistani health officials.<sup>2575</sup> The agreement was part of a three-day Pakistan-Turkey Health Expo in Lahore tasked with boosting Pakistan's healthcare sector.<sup>2576</sup>

On 17 October 2017, the Turkish government sent an envoy of several doctors, mainly surgeons and specialists in spine injuries as well as the country's health minister to Somalia to provide health assistance in the aftermath of bombings that struck the country that week.<sup>2577</sup>

On 24 November 2017, TIKA announced the completion of a six-week project to provide health screening to low-income populations in Manila, Philippines.<sup>2578</sup> Over 15,000 people received medical diagnoses, dental treatment, optic examinations, eyeglass distribution, and prescription drugs from

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<sup>2571</sup> Gauteng Health on opening of eye clinics in Soweto, The Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 1 February 2018. Access date: March 5 2018. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/gauteng-health-opening-eye-clinics-soweto-1-feb-2018-0000>.

<sup>2572</sup> Tika Donates Medical Equipment to Colombian University, Republic of Turkey Prime Ministry (Turkey) July 2017. Access Date: 18 March 2018.

[http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/tika\\_donates\\_medical\\_equipment\\_to\\_colombian\\_university-36911](http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/tika_donates_medical_equipment_to_colombian_university-36911).

<sup>2573</sup> Tika Donates Medical Equipment to Colombian University, Republic of Turkey Prime Ministry (Turkey) July 2017. Access Date: 18 March 2018.

[http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/tika\\_donates\\_medical\\_equipment\\_to\\_colombian\\_university-36911](http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/tika_donates_medical_equipment_to_colombian_university-36911).

<sup>2574</sup> Tika Donates Medical Equipment to Colombian University, Republic of Turkey Prime Ministry (Turkey) July 2017. Access Date: 18 March 2018.

[http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/tika\\_donates\\_medical\\_equipment\\_to\\_colombian\\_university-36911](http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/tika_donates_medical_equipment_to_colombian_university-36911).

<sup>2575</sup> Pakistan: Pak-Turkey Health Expo begins in Lahore, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 28 September 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/pakistan-pak-turkey-health-expo-begins-in-lahore/921632>.

<sup>2576</sup> Pakistan: Pak-Turkey Health Expo begins in Lahore, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 28 September 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/pakistan-pak-turkey-health-expo-begins-in-lahore/921632>.

<sup>2577</sup> Somalia calls for blood donations after bombing, Turkey sends doctors, Reuters (London) 17 October 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <https://www.reuters.com/article/somalia-attacks/somalia-calls-for-blood-donations-after-bombing-turkey-sends-doctors-idUSL8N1MS28N>.

<sup>2578</sup> Health Screening in 6 Different Regions of Manila, Republic of Turkey (Turkey) November 2017. Access Date: 18 March 2018. [http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/health\\_screening\\_in\\_6\\_different\\_regions\\_of\\_manila-39630](http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/health_screening_in_6_different_regions_of_manila-39630).

Turkish and Filipino doctors and volunteers.<sup>2579</sup> TIKA also supplied medical devices for electrocardiograms, x-rays, and blood pressure measurement, as well as wheelchairs, walking sticks and nebulizer devices for asthma treatment.<sup>2580</sup>

On 20 December 2017, Minister of Health Ahmet Demircan announced the Ministry of Health would provide aid and treatment to three Palestinian children born with congenital amputations and other defects.<sup>2581</sup> The Minister also revealed Turkey constructed a hospital in Gaza, which is set to open soon.<sup>2582</sup>

On 27 December 2017, the Turkish government announced a plan to improve the country's stake in global health tourism.<sup>2583</sup> The Health Services Export Strategy and Draft Action Plan was developed by the Ministry of Economics and includes the permission of hospitals to "join sectoral trade and purchase delegations abroad," the increased international accreditation of Turkish medical staff and institutions and the provision of health visas will be facilitated.<sup>2584</sup> A "Health Promotion Group" will be created to proliferate the Turkish health tourism sector, under which branches in which Turkish doctors prove adept will be introduced internationally.<sup>2585</sup>

On 27 December 2017, the Turkish and Iraqi governments ratified a healthcare cooperation agreement.<sup>2586</sup> As per the agreement, the Ministry of Health will support the development of the Iraqi healthcare sector, including the construction of medical clinics in Baghdad and other major cities.<sup>2587</sup> The two nations will also exchange experience in the medical field.<sup>2588</sup>

On 11 January 2018, TIKA completed renovations on a male dormitory in Yemen's Emin Nashir Health Institute.<sup>2589</sup> The institute trains doctors and other health professionals in Yemen.<sup>2590</sup> The aid

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<sup>2579</sup> Health Screening in 6 Different Regions of Manila, Republic of Turkey (Turkey) November 2017. Access Date: 18 March 2018. [http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/health\\_screening\\_in\\_6\\_different\\_regions\\_of\\_manila-39630](http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/health_screening_in_6_different_regions_of_manila-39630).

<sup>2580</sup> Health Screening in 6 Different Regions of Manila, Republic of Turkey (Turkey) November 2017. Access Date: 18 March 2018. [http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/health\\_screening\\_in\\_6\\_different\\_regions\\_of\\_manila-39630](http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/health_screening_in_6_different_regions_of_manila-39630).

<sup>2581</sup> Turkey to help disabled Palestinian children in Gaza, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 20 December 2017. Access Date: January 15, 2018. <https://aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/turkey-to-help-disabled-palestinian-children-in-gaza/1010156>.

<sup>2581</sup> Turkey to help disabled Palestinian children in Gaza, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 20 December 2017. Access Date: January 15, 2018. <https://aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/turkey-to-help-disabled-palestinian-children-in-gaza/1010156>.

<sup>2582</sup> Turkey to help disabled Palestinian children in Gaza, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 20 December 2017. Access Date: January 15, 2018. <https://aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/turkey-to-help-disabled-palestinian-children-in-gaza/1010156>.

<sup>2583</sup> Turkish gov't prepares plan to increase share in global health tourism, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 27 December 2017. Access Date: January 15, 2018. <https://www.dailysabah.com/tourism/2017/12/28/turkish-govt-prepares-plan-to-increase-share-in-global-health-tourism>.

<sup>2584</sup> Turkish gov't prepares plan to increase share in global health tourism, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 27 December 2017. Access Date: January 15, 2018. <https://www.dailysabah.com/tourism/2017/12/28/turkish-govt-prepares-plan-to-increase-share-in-global-health-tourism>.

<sup>2585</sup> Turkish gov't prepares plan to increase share in global health tourism, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 27 December 2017. Access Date: January 15, 2018. <https://www.dailysabah.com/tourism/2017/12/28/turkish-govt-prepares-plan-to-increase-share-in-global-health-tourism>.

<sup>2586</sup> Turkey ratifies agreement with Iraq in healthcare field, Azernews (Baku) 27 December 2017. Access Date: January 15, 2018. <https://www.azernews.az/region/124680.html>.

<sup>2587</sup> Turkey ratifies agreement with Iraq in healthcare field, Azernews (Baku) 27 December 2017. Access Date: January 15, 2018. <https://www.azernews.az/region/124680.html>.

<sup>2588</sup> Turkey ratifies agreement with Iraq in healthcare field, Azernews (Baku) 27 December 2017. Access Date: January 15, 2018. <https://www.azernews.az/region/124680.html>.

<sup>2589</sup> Turkish agency renovates dorm of Yemeni institute, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 11 January 2018. Access Date: January 15, 2018. [aa.com.tr/en/health/turkish-agency-renovates-form-of-yemeni-institute-/1028085](https://aa.com.tr/en/health/turkish-agency-renovates-form-of-yemeni-institute-/1028085).

came after the dorms became unusable due to civil unrest in the country.<sup>2591</sup> Now, the Institute will be able to accommodate more students into training than before.<sup>2592</sup>

On 25 January 2018, TIKA announced the opening of the Shadyan BHC Clinic in Balkh Province in Afghanistan.<sup>2593</sup> The clinic will offer emergency room, gynecology, internal medicine and minor surgery units, in addition to a solar power system that will provide electricity for both the clinic and Shadyan village.<sup>2594</sup> TIKA is also providing medical supplies and equipment.<sup>2595</sup>

On 28 February 2018, the Turkish Military and Free Syrian Army provided medical assistance in the form of medical screenings to 22 civilians in a village called Marnawa in the Afrin region of Syria.<sup>2596</sup> The aid was part of Operation Olive Branch, which was launched by the Free Syrian Army and Turkish Military on January 20 to remove ISIS militants from Afrin.<sup>2597</sup>

On 28 February 2018, Chair of the Foreign Economic Relations Board Faltı Atunbas announced the establishment of a Turkey-Mali Business Council during President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's visit to the country.<sup>2598</sup> The Council will facilitate cooperative investment between the two nations, including in the health sector, which Malian Investment Promotion and Minister of the Private Sector Maitre Baber Gano says is crucial to Malinese development.<sup>2599</sup>

On 16 March 2018, the Ministry of Health announced that two "health weeks" were being held in Djibouti and Sudan respectively.<sup>2600</sup> The Ministry sent 19 healthcare professionals to Djibouti in fields such as cardiology, obstetrics, gynecology and urology, among others, along with 70 packages of medical assistant supplies, and five fully equipped ambulances.<sup>2601</sup> Over the week, Turkish doctors provided over 1000 Djiboutian patients with medical consultations, performed 119 surgeries, and

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<sup>2590</sup> Turkish agency renovates dorm of Yemeni institute, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 11 January 2018. Access Date: January 15, 2018. [aa.com.tr/en/health/turkish-agency-renovates-form-of-yemeni-institute-/1028085](http://aa.com.tr/en/health/turkish-agency-renovates-form-of-yemeni-institute-/1028085).

<sup>2591</sup> Turkish agency renovates dorm of Yemeni institute, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 11 January 2018. Access Date: January 15, 2018. [aa.com.tr/en/health/turkish-agency-renovates-form-of-yemeni-institute-/1028085](http://aa.com.tr/en/health/turkish-agency-renovates-form-of-yemeni-institute-/1028085).

<sup>2592</sup> Turkish agency renovates dorm of Yemeni institute, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 11 January 2018. Access Date: January 15, 2018. [aa.com.tr/en/health/turkish-agency-renovates-form-of-yemeni-institute-/1028085](http://aa.com.tr/en/health/turkish-agency-renovates-form-of-yemeni-institute-/1028085).

<sup>2593</sup> BHC Clinic in Afghanistan was Opened, Republic of Turkey Prime Ministry (Turkey) January 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. [http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/bhc\\_clinic\\_in\\_afghanistan\\_was\\_opened-41152](http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/bhc_clinic_in_afghanistan_was_opened-41152).

<sup>2594</sup> BHC Clinic in Afghanistan was Opened, Republic of Turkey Prime Ministry (Turkey) January 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. [http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/bhc\\_clinic\\_in\\_afghanistan\\_was\\_opened-41152](http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/bhc_clinic_in_afghanistan_was_opened-41152).

<sup>2595</sup> BHC Clinic in Afghanistan was Opened, Republic of Turkey Prime Ministry (Turkey) January 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. [http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/bhc\\_clinic\\_in\\_afghanistan\\_was\\_opened-41152](http://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/bhc_clinic_in_afghanistan_was_opened-41152).

<sup>2596</sup> Turkey provides health screening to Syrian civilians, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 28 February 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2018. <https://aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/turkey-provides-health-screening-to-syrian-civilians/1076373>.

<sup>2597</sup> Turkey provides health screening to Syrian civilians, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 28 February 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2018. <https://aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/turkey-provides-health-screening-to-syrian-civilians/1076373>.

<sup>2598</sup> Turkey, Mali seek mutual gains through investment, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 1 March 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2018. <https://www.dailysabah.com/economy/2018/03/02/turkey-mali-seek-mutual-gains-through-investments>.

<sup>2599</sup> Turkey, Mali seek mutual gains through investment, Daily Sabah (Istanbul) 1 March 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2018. <https://www.dailysabah.com/economy/2018/03/02/turkey-mali-seek-mutual-gains-through-investments>.

<sup>2600</sup> Turkish Doctors' Helping Hands Reach Beyond Borders, General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs (Turkey) March 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <http://disab.saglik.gov.tr/EN,32925/turkish-doctors-helping-hands-reach-beyond-borders.html>.

<sup>2601</sup> Turkish Doctors' Helping Hands Reach Beyond Borders, General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs (Turkey) March 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <http://disab.saglik.gov.tr/EN,32925/turkish-doctors-helping-hands-reach-beyond-borders.html>.

gave 38 Djiboutian healthcare professionals with on-site training in four cities.<sup>2602</sup> In Sudan, a medical delegation was sent to perform plastic surgery on 100 children suffering from cleft lip and palate.<sup>2603</sup>

On 21 July 2018, Turkey's state-run aid agency sent doctors to Naguru Hospital in Uganda's capital city Kampala to perform 35 free urology surgeries over the span of 8 days.<sup>2604</sup> The assistance came in response to the hospital's lack of appropriate equipment and was performed in cooperation with Doctors Worldwide and Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU).<sup>2605</sup>

On 31 July 2018, Turkey's state-run aid agency opened a well in Cameroon's capital city Yaounde to provide nearby residents access to clean and safe drinking water.<sup>2606</sup> The well is projected to service approximately 1000 residents in the city.<sup>2607</sup>

Turkey's assistance to and cooperation with Yemen, Iraq, Somalia, Pakistan, Syria, Mali, Uzbekistan, and Palestine show evidence of efforts to strengthen health systems worldwide. Turkey also has also demonstrated its commitment to developing the health workforce by offering training to healthcare workers in countries such as Colombia, Bangladesh and Djibouti. Additionally, the planned expansion of their medical tourism industry abroad, and the growth in the Malinese health workforce that will result from the creation of their trade council further demonstrate evidence of cooperative action to strengthen health systems worldwide.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Armin Safavi*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 1 August 2017, the UK government began providing a hexavalent vaccine, including hepatitis B, for children at the age of 2 months.<sup>2608</sup> This step is taken in conjunction with the World Health

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<sup>2602</sup> Turkish Doctors' Helping Hands Reach Beyond Borders, General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs (Turkey) March 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <http://disab.saglik.gov.tr/EN,32925/turkish-doctors-helping-hands-reach-beyond-borders.html>.

<sup>2603</sup> Turkish Doctors' Helping Hands Reach Beyond Borders, General Directorate of EU and Foreign Affairs (Turkey) March 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018. <http://disab.saglik.gov.tr/EN,32925/turkish-doctors-helping-hands-reach-beyond-borders.html>.

<sup>2604</sup> Turkey, Mali seek mutual gains through investment, Daily Sabah (Istanbul). 1 March 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2018. <https://www.dailysabah.com/economy/2018/03/02/turkey-mali-see-mutual-gains-through-investments>.

<sup>2605</sup> Turkey, Mali seek mutual gains through investment, Daily Sabah (Istanbul). 1 March 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2018. <https://www.dailysabah.com/economy/2018/03/02/turkey-mali-see-mutual-gains-through-investments>.

<sup>2606</sup> Africa: Turkish aid agency opens well in Cameroon, Anadolu Agency (Ankara). 31 July 2018. Access Date: 1 October, 2018. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/africa-turkish-aid-agency-opens-well-in-cameroon/1218633>.

<sup>2607</sup> Africa: Turkish aid agency opens well in Cameroon, Anadolu Agency (Ankara). 31 July 2018. Access Date: 1 October 2018. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/africa-turkish-aid-agency-opens-well-in-cameroon/1218633>.

<sup>2608</sup> World Hepatitis Day: Making Hepatitis Elimination a Reality, World Health Organization: Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 27 July 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/united-kingdom-of-great-britain-and-northern-ireland/news/news/2017/07/world-hepatitis-day-making-hepatitis-elimination-a-reality>.

Organization (WHO)’s anti-hepatitis initiative, and is thought to bring the European region one step closer to controlling HBV infection.<sup>2609</sup>

On 4 August 2017, the UK announced final efforts to eliminate polio globally.<sup>2610</sup> International Development Secretary Priti Patel announced that the UK would be providing GBP100 million in aid to immunize 45 million children per year against polio until 2020.<sup>2611</sup> The funding will be channeled through WHO to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.<sup>2612</sup>

On 11 August 2017, Secretary Patel announced the UK’s renewed support for combatting cholera outbreaks in Yemen.<sup>2613</sup> The UK’s support includes the provision of medical and sanitation supplies, and the rehabilitation of medical facilities to help 250,000 people.<sup>2614</sup> The UK also supported the secondment of an international healthcare specialist from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to the Emergency Operations Centre in Sana’a to improve the response.<sup>2615</sup>

On 5 September 2017, Healthcare UK announced its support for a large project in India to create a network of 11 Medicities across India.<sup>2616</sup> The programme, called the Indo-UK Institute of Health, is one of the largest healthcare initiatives in the world.<sup>2617</sup> The programme aims to provide integrated healthcare across all of India through partnering with global professionals in research, education, technology, and health care.<sup>2618</sup>

On 2 November 2017, the Department for International Development announced the opening of a diagnostic laboratory at Connaught Hospital in Freetown, Sierra Leone.<sup>2619</sup> The laboratory will work

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<sup>2609</sup> World Hepatitis Day: Making Hepatitis Elimination a Reality, World Health Organization: Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 27 July 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/united-kingdom-of-great-britain-and-northern-ireland/news/news/2017/07/world-hepatitis-day-making-hepatitis-elimination-a-reality>.

<sup>2610</sup> UK leads final push to make polio history, UK Department for International Development (UK) August 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-final-push-to-make-polio-history>.

<sup>2611</sup> UK leads final push to make polio history, UK Department for International Development (UK) August 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-final-push-to-make-polio-history>.

<sup>2612</sup> UK leads final push to make polio history, UK Department for International Development (UK) August 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-final-push-to-make-polio-history>.

<sup>2613</sup> UK renews push to tackle world’s worst cholera outbreak in Yemen, UK Department for International Development (UK) August 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-renews-push-to-tackle-worlds-worst-cholera-outbreak-in-yemen>.

<sup>2614</sup> UK renews push to tackle world’s worst cholera outbreak in Yemen, UK Department for International Development (UK) August 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-renews-push-to-tackle-worlds-worst-cholera-outbreak-in-yemen>.

<sup>2615</sup> UK renews push to tackle world’s worst cholera outbreak in Yemen, UK Department for International Development (UK) August 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-renews-push-to-tackle-worlds-worst-cholera-outbreak-in-yemen>.

<sup>2616</sup> India’s Major Healthcare System Development, UK Government (UK) 5 September 2017. Access Date: 15 December 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/indias-major-healthcare-system-development>.

<sup>2617</sup> India’s Major Healthcare System Development, UK Government (UK) 5 September 2017. Access Date: 15 December 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/indias-major-healthcare-system-development>.

<sup>2618</sup> India’s Major Healthcare System Development, UK Government (UK) 5 September 2017. Access Date: 15 December 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/indias-major-healthcare-system-development>.

<sup>2619</sup> UK Aid opens refurbished hospital laboratory in Sierra Leone, UK Department for International Development (UK) November 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-opens-refurbished-hospital-laboratory-in-sierra-leone>.

to detect and control diseases such as Ebola and yellow fever.<sup>2620</sup> Its construction was accompanied by the training of local health technicians in molecular virology by Public Health England.<sup>2621</sup>

On 8 December 2017, the UK government announced agreements with the health sectors of China, which facilitated an influx of over GBP70 million into businesses and spearheaded into partnerships between universities, hospitals, companies, and academic councils.<sup>2622</sup> The collaboration is expected to help share knowledge, expertise, and resources to improve the state of healthcare in both China and the UK.<sup>2623</sup>

On 14 December 2017, Minister for Africa Rory Stewart announced an additional GBP52 million package to help people affected by the humanitarian crisis in South Sudan.<sup>2624</sup> Among other things, the funding will provide food, shelter, and support for those fleeing the conflict in South Sudan and help Sudan, Uganda, and Ethiopia to tackle the recent refugee crisis in Africa.<sup>2625</sup>

On 31 December 2017, the UK government announced its plan to add GBP21 million to its emergency aid fund for food, clean water, and health services in 2018.<sup>2626</sup> International Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt also confirmed the UK government's support for the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).<sup>2627</sup> The additional GBP21 million provided since the January 2018 will be added to the GBP55m as part of the UK's CERF funding of 2017.<sup>2628</sup>

On 2 February 2018, the Medicine and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the China Food and Drug Administration.<sup>2629</sup>

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<sup>2620</sup> UK Aid opens refurbished hospital laboratory in Sierra Leone, UK Department for International Development (UK) November 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-opens-refurbished-hospital-laboratory-in-sierra-leone>.

<sup>2621</sup> UK Aid opens refurbished hospital laboratory in Sierra Leone, UK Department for International Development (UK) November 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-opens-refurbished-hospital-laboratory-in-sierra-leone>.

<sup>2622</sup> UK and China agree to £70 million of Business in Health Sectors, UK Government (UK) 8 December 2017. Access Date: 14 December 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-china-agree-70-million-of-business-in-health-sectors>.

<sup>2623</sup> UK and China agree to £70 million of Business in Health Sectors, UK Government (UK) 8 December 2017. Access Date: 14 December 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-china-agree-70-million-of-business-in-health-sectors>.

<sup>2624</sup> New UK Aid Support for South Sudan, UK Government (UK) 14 December 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-support-for-south-sudan>.

<sup>2625</sup> New UK Aid Support for South Sudan, UK Government, (UK) 14 December 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-support-for-south-sudan>.

<sup>2626</sup> UK to add £21m to emergency aid fund for food, health services and clean water in 'bleak' 2018, The Independent (London) 31 December 2017. Access Date: 14 January 2018. <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/uk-add-21-million-emergency-aid-cerf-water-health-penny-mordaunt-2018-a8135231.html>.

<sup>2627</sup> UK to add £21m to emergency aid fund for food, health services and clean water in 'bleak' 2018, The Independent (London) 31 December 2017. Access Date: 14 January 2018. <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/uk-add-21-million-emergency-aid-cerf-water-health-penny-mordaunt-2018-a8135231.html>.

<sup>2628</sup> UK to add £21m to emergency aid fund for food, health services and clean water in 'bleak' 2018, The Independent (London) 31 December 2017. Access Date: 14 January 2018. <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/uk-add-21-million-emergency-aid-cerf-water-health-penny-mordaunt-2018-a8135231.html>.

<sup>2629</sup> UK and China sign Memorandum of Understanding on Medicine and Device Regulation, UK Department for International Development (UK) February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-china-sign-memorandum-of-understanding-on-medicine-and-device-regulation>.

The two organizations agree to new areas of cooperation such as an exchange of learning from the accelerated access review and how to regulate the trading of medicines online.<sup>2630</sup>

On 3 February 2018, the UK Emergency Medical Team returned home following a six-week mission in Bangladesh to combat a diphtheria outbreak in Rohingya camps in Bangladesh.<sup>2631</sup> The UK doctors, nurses and paramedics triaged over 3,000 people and trained Bangladeshi health professionals in infection prevention and control.<sup>2632</sup> The aid was provided in conjunction with WHO, the International Organization for Migration, and Médecins sans frontières.<sup>2633</sup>

On 19 to 20 February 2018, the UK joined Austria, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Korea, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sweden, the United States, and WHO in Canberra, Australia to establish the Global Digital Health Partnership (GDHP).<sup>2634</sup> The GDHP “is an opportunity for deep, transformational engagement by governments, digital health agencies, and the WHO so they can learn, share policy and other evidence that supports them to deliver better digital health services.”<sup>2635</sup>

On 27 February 2018, Minister of International Development Harriett Baldwin announced that the Department for International Development would be supporting Nursing Now’s campaign to increase the training of nurses and midwives in developing countries.<sup>2636</sup> Minister Baldwin announced a contribution of GBP5 million to the program.<sup>2637</sup>

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<sup>2630</sup> UK and China sign Memorandum of Understanding on Medicine and Device Regulation, UK Department for International Development (UK) February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-china-sign-memorandum-of-understanding-on-medicine-and-device-regulation>.

<sup>2631</sup> UK Emergency Medical Team heads home after bringing Bangladesh diphtheria outbreak under control,, UK Department for International Development (UK) February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-emergency-medical-team-heads-home-after-bringing-bangladesh-diphtheria-outbreak-under-control>.

<sup>2632</sup> UK Emergency Medical Team heads home after bringing Bangladesh diphtheria outbreak under control,, UK Department for International Development (UK), February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-emergency-medical-team-heads-home-after-bringing-bangladesh-diphtheria-outbreak-under-control>.

<sup>2633</sup> UK Emergency Medical Team heads home after bringing Bangladesh diphtheria outbreak under control,, UK Department for International Development (UK), February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-emergency-medical-team-heads-home-after-bringing-bangladesh-diphtheria-outbreak-under-control>.

<sup>2634</sup> Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency (Canberra) February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

<sup>2635</sup> Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency (Canberra) February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

<sup>2636</sup> UK aid supports Nursing Now campaign to empower nurses in the world’s poorest countries, UK Department for International Development (UK) February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-supports-nursing-now-campaign-to-empower-nurses-in-the-worlds-poorest-countries>.

<sup>2637</sup> UK aid supports Nursing Now campaign to empower nurses in the world’s poorest countries, UK Department for International Development (UK) February 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-supports-nursing-now-campaign-to-empower-nurses-in-the-worlds-poorest-countries>.

On 19 March 2018, the UK signed the European X-Ray Free-Electron Laser (XFEL) convention in Berlin, Germany, pledging EUR26 million to the agreement.<sup>2638</sup> As one of the most powerful X-ray machines built to date, XFEL “uses a super-strength laser to help understand life-threatening viruses,” and will thus help the development of treatments and cures.<sup>2639</sup>

On 10 April 2018, the UK and Italy, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Spain, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Finland, and Sweden signed a declaration of cooperation for delivering cross-border access to genome information.<sup>2640</sup> According to the European Commission, this will improve understanding and prevention of diseases, and more personalized treatments and drug prescriptions.<sup>2641</sup>

On 20 April 2018, the Department of Health and Social Care announced a new global nursing partnership with Jamaica.<sup>2642</sup> The partnership will allow nurses from Jamaica to work in the National Health Service (NHS) for three years to develop expertise in areas such as emergency medicine and intensive care.<sup>2643</sup> In exchange, NHS staff will travel to Jamaica to share their own expertise and improve care in the Jamaican health service.<sup>2644</sup>

On 3 July 2018, the Department for International Development announced GBP1.5 million of aid to the WHO following an Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.<sup>2645</sup> The aid will go towards prevention, detection and containment of Ebola and other diseases, with a specific focus on community healers, health workers and religious leaders to promote safe burials and improve symptom referrals.<sup>2646</sup>

On 8 August 2018, the BAPIO India-UK Healthcare Policy Forum took place at the Indian High Commission which aimed at developed a network of experienced physicians, policy-makers and

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<sup>2638</sup>The United Kingdom officially joins European XFEL, European XFEL (Hamburg) March 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. [https://www.xfel.eu/news\\_and\\_events/news/index\\_eng.html?openDirectAnchor=1435&two\\_columns=0](https://www.xfel.eu/news_and_events/news/index_eng.html?openDirectAnchor=1435&two_columns=0).

<sup>2639</sup> UK joins world-leading research programme to help develop medicines of the future, UK Department for International Development (UK) March 2018. Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-joins-world-leading-research-programme-to-help-develop-medicines-of-the-future>.

<sup>2640</sup>EU countries will cooperate in linking genomic databases across borders, European Commission (Brussels) 10 April 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/eu-countries-will-cooperate-linking-genomic-databases-across-borders>.

<sup>2641</sup>EU countries will cooperate in linking genomic databases across borders, European Commission (Brussels) 10 April 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/eu-countries-will-cooperate-linking-genomic-databases-across-borders>.

<sup>2642</sup>UK to establish global nursing partnership with Jamaica, UK Department of Health and Social Care (UK), 20 April 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-establish-global-nursing-partnership-with-jamaica>.

<sup>2643</sup>UK to establish global nursing partnership with Jamaica, UK Department of Health and Social Care (UK), 20 April 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-establish-global-nursing-partnership-with-jamaica>.

<sup>2644</sup>UK to establish global nursing partnership with Jamaica, UK Department of Health and Social Care (UK), 20 April 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-establish-global-nursing-partnership-with-jamaica>.

<sup>2645</sup>UK steps up fight against Ebola following outbreak in Democratic Republic of the Congo, UK Department for International Development (UK) 3 July 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-steps-up-fight-against-ebola-following-outbreak-in-democratic-republic-of-congo>.

<sup>2646</sup>UK steps up fight against Ebola following outbreak in Democratic Republic of the Congo, UK Department for International Development (UK) 3 July 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-steps-up-fight-against-ebola-following-outbreak-in-democratic-republic-of-congo>.



entrepreneurs to provide support to health services within both countries.<sup>2647</sup> It will encourage bilateral training programs for healthcare professionals and strengthen healthcare infrastructure through greater investments.<sup>2648</sup>

On 15 August 2018, Minister Baldwin announced Tsogolo Langa, a collaborative programme with Malawi's Ministry of Health to provide 300,000 Malawians with sexual and reproductive health services.<sup>2649</sup> The UK's aid programme will provide modern contraceptives and other clinical needs, offer accurate health information to women in rural areas, and work with youths to reduce teenage and unwanted pregnancies.<sup>2650</sup>

On 17 August 2018, the Department for International Development announced a new aid package to protect and assist civilians in North West Syria by including emergency assistance and vital health support.<sup>2651</sup> The package will provide doctors, nurses, midwives, medicine and medical equipment for four health centres and two mobile health clinics, along with psychological support, dignity kits, and support staff for essential services such as access to civil documents.<sup>2652</sup>

On 4 September 2018, Minister for the Middle East Alistair Burt announced GBP7 million in funding for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) to ensure continued access by Palestinians to vital healthcare and education services.<sup>2653</sup> The aid aims to provide medical care to 3.5 million refugees.<sup>2654</sup>

The UK has partaken in cooperative policy action, as demonstrated by its support of WHO to eradicate polio worldwide, and its agreements with countries such as India and China. The UK has also undertaken to strengthen worldwide health systems through its aid to Yemen and South Sudan. Lastly, the UK has also developed the health workforce by supporting Nursing Now, and training healthcare workers in Bangladesh and Sierra Leone.

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<sup>2647</sup>New policy forum to enhance India-UK healthcare collaborations, Business Standard (London) 9 August 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. [https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/new-policy-forum-to-enhance-india-uk-healthcare-collaborations-118080901562\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/new-policy-forum-to-enhance-india-uk-healthcare-collaborations-118080901562_1.html).

<sup>2648</sup>New policy forum to enhance India-UK healthcare collaborations, Business Standard (London) 9 August 2018. Access date: 10 September 2018. [https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/new-policy-forum-to-enhance-india-uk-healthcare-collaborations-118080901562\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/new-policy-forum-to-enhance-india-uk-healthcare-collaborations-118080901562_1.html).

<sup>2649</sup>Minister for Africa announces funding boost for sexual health services in Malawi, UK Department for International Development (UK) 15 August 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-for-africa-announces-funding-boost-for-sexual-health-services-in-malawi>.

<sup>2650</sup>Minister for Africa announces funding boost for sexual health services in Malawi, UK Department for International Development (UK) 15 August 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-for-africa-announces-funding-boost-for-sexual-health-services-in-malawi>.

<sup>2651</sup>New UK help to protect millions at risk from deadly airstrikes in North West Syria, UK Department for International Development (UK) 17 August 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-help-to-protect-millions-at-risk-from-deadly-airstrikes-in-north-west-syria>.

<sup>2652</sup>New UK help to protect millions at risk from deadly airstrikes in North West Syria, UK Department for International Development (UK) 17 August 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-help-to-protect-millions-at-risk-from-deadly-airstrikes-in-north-west-syria>.

<sup>2653</sup>New UK aid package to meet immediate needs of Palestinians through UN Relief and Works Agency, UK Department for International Development (UK) 4 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-package-to-meet-immediate-needs-of-palestinians-through-un-relief-and-works-agency>.

<sup>2654</sup>New UK aid package to meet immediate needs of Palestinians through UN Relief and Works Agency, UK Department for International Development (UK) 4 September 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-package-to-meet-immediate-needs-of-palestinians-through-un-relief-and-works-agency>.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mary Zelenova*

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

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 14 September 2017, the US Agency for International Development (USAID) announced that 10,000 community health volunteers in Madagascar would be receiving equipment through the agency's Community Capacity for Health Program, including awareness-raising materials, management tools, and equipment for community-based integrated child support, nutrition monitoring, and family planning services.<sup>2655</sup>

On 19 September 2017, the US government released the President's Emergency Fund for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Strategy for Accelerating HIV/AIDS Epidemic Control (2017-2020).<sup>2656</sup> The strategy emphasizes the importance of targeted interventions as well as educational programming to further the global HIV/AIDS response.<sup>2657</sup> PEPFAR works with many low and middle-income countries to contain the global HIV/AIDS pandemic.<sup>2658</sup> For the 2018 fiscal year, the US Government allocated USD5.6 billion to PEPFAR.<sup>2659</sup>

On 21 September 2017, USAID Ambassador Mark Green announced that USAID will be cooperating with the Centre for Disease Control to expand the programming of the US President's Malaria Initiative (PMI).<sup>2660</sup> The expansion will see new malaria control programs implemented in Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger, and Sierra Leone, and an expansion of PMI's programming in Burkina-Faso.<sup>2661</sup> Support from PMI will enhance "overall country capacity and [strengthen] health systems while improving malaria prevention and treatment services. PMI support includes

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<sup>2655</sup> 10,000 Community Health Volunteers Receive Equipment from USAID's Community Capacity for Health Program, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 14 September 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://www.usaid.gov/Madagascar/press-releases/10000-community-health-volunteers-receive-equipment-usaid%E2%80%99s>.

<sup>2656</sup> Strategy for Accelerating HIV/AIDS Epidemic Control (2017-2020), President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (Washington) 19 September 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://www.pepfar.gov/documents/organization/274400.pdf>.

<sup>2657</sup> Strategy for Accelerating HIV/AIDS Epidemic Control (2017-2020), President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (Washington) 19 September 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://www.pepfar.gov/documents/organization/274400.pdf>.

<sup>2658</sup> S. Global Health Funding: President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) FY 2004-FY 2018 Request, The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation (Menlo Park) 17 August 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://www.pepfar.gov/documents/organization/274400.pdf>.

<sup>2659</sup> US Global Health Funding: President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) FY 2004-FY 2018 Request, The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation (Menlo Park) 17 August 2017. Access Date: November 22 2017. <https://www.pepfar.gov/documents/organization/274400.pdf>.

<sup>2660</sup> USAID Administrator Green Announces PMI Launch and Expansion in West and Central Africa, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-21-2017-pmi-launches-and-expands-west-and-central-africa>.

<sup>2661</sup> USAID Administrator Green Announces PMI Launch and Expansion in West and Central Africa, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-21-2017-pmi-launches-and-expands-west-and-central-africa>.

strengthening supply chain logistics, malaria case surveillance, and monitoring and evaluation of impact.”<sup>2662</sup>

On 26 September 2017, the US and Brazilian governments signed a partnership to produce the second stage of the Zika vaccine.<sup>2663</sup> This agreement was signed between Minister of Health Thomas Price and Brazilian Minister of Health Ricardo Barros at the Pan American Sanitary Conference.<sup>2664</sup> The agreement marks the beginning the human testing phase of the Zika vaccine clinical trial.<sup>2665</sup> The American and Brazilian researchers will streamline the vaccine production process to develop it efficiently.<sup>2666</sup>

On 13 October 2017, USAID launched several “Transform” initiatives to aid Ethiopia in preventing maternal and child deaths alongside the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).<sup>2667</sup> These initiatives aim to strengthen primary health care systems, promote sanitation to reduce rates of diarrheal disease, provide better pregnancy and child health services to developing regions, and monitor and adapt to the progress of the latter three initiatives.<sup>2668</sup>

On 29 November 2017, USAID and PEPFAR partnered with the Foundation for Professional Development and the Gauteng Province Department of Health in South Africa to launch the General Practitioner Care Cell pilot project.<sup>2669</sup> The project aims to expand access to HIV treatment services and strengthen the health system by linking private General Practitioners with the public health service.<sup>2670</sup>

On 14 December 2017, USAID announced the Utkrisht Impact Bond, a new maternal and newborn health development bond that aims to reduce the incidence of maternal and newborn death in the

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<sup>2662</sup> USAID Administrator Green Announces PMI Launch and Expansion in West and Central Africa, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 15 November 2017. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/sep-21-2017-pmi-launches-and-expands-west-and-central-africa>.

<sup>2663</sup> Brazil to speed up zika virus vaccine production, says Health minister, EBC Agencia Brasil (Brasilia) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 26 November 2017. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/geral/noticia/2017-09/brazil-speed-zika-virus-vaccine-production-says-health-minister>.

<sup>2664</sup> Brazil to speed up zika virus vaccine production, says Health minister, EBC Agencia Brasil (Brasilia) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 26 November 2017. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/geral/noticia/2017-09/brazil-speed-zika-virus-vaccine-production-says-health-minister>.

<sup>2665</sup> Brazil to speed up zika virus vaccine production, says Health minister, EBC Agencia Brasil (Brasilia) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 26 November 2017. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/geral/noticia/2017-09/brazil-speed-zika-virus-vaccine-production-says-health-minister>.

<sup>2666</sup> Brazil to speed up zika virus vaccine production, says Health minister, EBC Agencia Brasil (Brasilia) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 26 November 2017. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/geral/noticia/2017-09/brazil-speed-zika-virus-vaccine-production-says-health-minister>.

<sup>2667</sup> USAID Launches \$181 Million in Activities to Help Prevent Maternal and Child Deaths, U.S Embassy in Ethiopia (Addis Ababa) 16 October 2017. Access: Date 24 November 2017. <https://et.usembassy.gov/usaaid-launches-181-million-activities-help-prevent-maternal-child-deaths/>.

<sup>2668</sup> USAID Launches \$181 Million in Activities to Help Prevent Maternal and Child Deaths, U.S Embassy in Ethiopia (Addis Ababa) 16 October 2017. Access: Date 24 November 2017. <https://et.usembassy.gov/usaaid-launches-181-million-activities-help-prevent-maternal-child-deaths/>.

<sup>2669</sup> Launch of the GP Care Cell Pilot Project in Atteridgeville, Pretoria, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 29 November 2017. Access Date: January 8 2018. <https://www.usaid.gov/southern-africa-regional/news/launch-gp-care-cell-pilot-project-atteridgeville-pretoria>.

<sup>2670</sup> Launch of the GP Care Cell Pilot Project in Atteridgeville, Pretoria, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 29 November 2017. Access Date: January 8 2018. <https://www.usaid.gov/southern-africa-regional/news/launch-gp-care-cell-pilot-project-atteridgeville-pretoria>.

Indian state of Rajasthan by enabling its implementing partners to support “440 Small Healthcare Organizations to improve services, meet new government quality standards, and adhere to them over the long term.”<sup>2671</sup> The program is projected to reach up to 600,000 pregnant women and save 10,000 lives over the next five years.<sup>2672</sup>

On 22 December 2017, the US and Indonesia launched a five-year program to improve health services for marginalized mothers and their newborns, focusing on reducing preventable deaths.<sup>2673</sup> The aim of this program is to enhance receptivity in private and public health care to increase the efficiency of the health system by including health professionals, policymakers, and insurance providers.<sup>2674</sup>

On 18 January 2018, PEPFAR released its Fiscal Year 2018 Country Operational Plan Guidance for Standard Countries.<sup>2675</sup> The guidance tracks the annual investments of the US government “to ensure every US dollar is maximally focused and traceable for impact.”<sup>2676</sup> The plan contains country specific plans and denotes areas of focus for the 2018 activities of PEPFAR and its partner organizations and countries.<sup>2677</sup> Areas of focus include continuing to focus on prevention among children and adolescents and “working with and implementing activities through indigenous partners, including faith-based organizations (FBOs), HIV network organizations, and community-based organizations directly servicing communities and populations at-risk and most affected by HIV, to build local capacity ... increase program sustainability.”<sup>2678</sup>

On 8 February 2018, USAID, KOICA, Samsung Corporation, and Good Neighbours jointly funded 2,590 electronic tablets to Ghana Health Service for health workers to more efficiently gather and analyze patient records.<sup>2679</sup> These e-Trackers allow workers to input patient information that automatically relays to the District Health Information System database.<sup>2680</sup>

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<sup>2671</sup> The Maternal and Newborn Health Development Impact Bond, The United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 14 December 2017. Access Date: January 8 2018. <https://www.usaid.gov/cii/IndiaDIB>.

<sup>2672</sup> The Maternal and Newborn Health Development Impact Bond, The United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 14 December 2017. Access Date: January 8 2018. <https://www.usaid.gov/cii/IndiaDIB>.

<sup>2673</sup> Indonesia, US Launch Program to Reduce Maternal, Infant Mortality (Jakarta) 22 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://jakartaglobe.id/news/indonesia-us-launch-program-reduce-maternal-infant-mortality/>.

<sup>2674</sup> Indonesia, US Launch Program to Reduce Maternal, Infant Mortality (Jakarta) 22 December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. <http://jakartaglobe.id/news/indonesia-us-launch-program-reduce-maternal-infant-mortality/>.

<sup>2675</sup> PEPFAR 2018 Country Operational Plan Guidance for Standard Process Countries, President’s Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (Washington) 18 January 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2018. <https://www.pepfar.gov/reports/guidance/c77910.htm>.

<sup>2676</sup> PEPFAR 2018 Country Operational Plan Guidance for Standard Process Countries, President’s Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (Washington) 18 January 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2018. <https://www.pepfar.gov/reports/guidance/c77910.htm>.

<sup>2677</sup> PEPFAR 2018 Country Operational Plan Guidance for Standard Process Countries, President’s Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (Washington) 18 January 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2018. <https://www.pepfar.gov/reports/guidance/c77910.htm>.

<sup>2678</sup> PEPFAR 2018 Country Operational Plan Guidance for Standard Process Countries, President’s Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (Washington) 18 January 2018. Access Date: 4 March 2018. <https://www.pepfar.gov/reports/guidance/c77910.htm>.

<sup>2679</sup> USAID and KOICA Enhance Health Care Using Samsung Tablets, Modern Ghana (Accra) 2 February 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2018. <https://www.modernghana.com/news/832600/usaid-and-koica-enhance-health-care-using-samsung-tablets.html>.

<sup>2680</sup> USAID and KOICA Enhance Health Care Using Samsung Tablets, Modern Ghana (Accra) 2 February 2018. Access Date: 3 March 2018. <https://www.modernghana.com/news/832600/usaid-and-koica-enhance-health-care-using-samsung-tablets.html>.

On 19 to 20 February 2018, the US joined Austria, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Italy, Korea, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and WHO in Canberra, Australia to establish the Global Digital Health Partnership (GDHP).<sup>2681</sup> The GDHP “is an opportunity for deep, transformational engagement by governments, digital health agencies, and the WHO so they can learn, share policy and other evidence that supports them to deliver better digital health services.”<sup>2682</sup>

On 1 June 2018, USAID announced USD8 million in funding in response to the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.<sup>2683</sup> USD5.3 million was provided to the WHO for laboratory confirmation, USD2 million was provided to the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) for water, sanitation and hygiene measures, and USD700,000 was provided to the International Federation of the Red Cross Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) for infection prevention and control.<sup>2684</sup> Additional support included diagnostic testing and logistics, personal protective equipment, and short-term specialist support.<sup>2685</sup>

On 7 August 2018, Panama City hosted the first meeting of the Advisory Group for the Preparation of the PAHO Strategic Plan for 2020-2025.<sup>2686</sup> Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, the Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Canada, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States, and Venezuela gathered and drafted the Strategic Plan, which will be used as the primary instrument to meet the Health Agenda for the Americas 2030, and thereby, the UN Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>2687</sup>

The United States has undertaken cooperative international actions to strengthen health systems, and to support the health workforce. International cooperative actions include USAID’s new maternal and newborn health development bond, and the Guateng GP Care Cell project. The global health workforce has been supported by these programs, as well as programs such as USAID’s Community Capacity for Health Program and by PEPFAR’s continued funding.

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<sup>2681</sup> Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

<sup>2682</sup> Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency (Canberra) February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

<sup>2683</sup> Fact Sheet: USAID Response to the Ebola Outbreak, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 1 Juny 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-1-2018-fact-sheet-usaid-response-ebola-outbreak>.

<sup>2684</sup> Fact Sheet: USAID Response to the Ebola Outbreak, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 1 Juny 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-1-2018-fact-sheet-usaid-response-ebola-outbreak>.

<sup>2685</sup> Fact Sheet: USAID Response to the Ebola Outbreak, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 1 Juny 2018. Access Date: 10 October 2018. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/jun-1-2018-fact-sheet-usaid-response-ebola-outbreak>.

<sup>2686</sup> Argentina Participó en Reunión para la Elaboración del Plan Estratégico 2020-2025 de la OPS, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 August 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-en-reunion-para-la-elaboracion-del-plan-estrategico-2020-2025-de-la-ops>.

<sup>2687</sup> Argentina Participó en Reunión para la Elaboración del Plan Estratégico 2020-2025 de la OPS, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 August 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-en-reunion-para-la-elaboracion-del-plan-estrategico-2020-2025-de-la-ops>.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Olivia Smith*

### European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to pursue cooperative action to strengthen health systems worldwide, including through developing the health workforce.

On 13 July 2017, speaking in Washington DC at a High-Level Meeting on the Internally Displaced Persons Crisis in Mosul (Iraq), EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides announced EUR30 million in aid for Iraq, including funding for emergency medical service workers on the frontlines.<sup>2688</sup>

On 20 July 2017, Commissioner Stylianides announced EUR10 million in humanitarian aid to support healthcare organizations in Libya, whose “health system has practically collapsed” and where “[h]uman resources are lacking, in particular for intensive care units or in the nursing sector.”<sup>2689</sup>

On 13 September 2017, at the French Ministry of Health in Paris, the European Commission launched the Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections (EU-JAMRAI).<sup>2690</sup> This initiative brings together 44 partners from across Europe, including EU member states and international organizations like the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).<sup>2691</sup> The initiative is co-funded by the third Health Programme of the European Union and has a EUR4 million budget “to support member states in the development and implementation of national strategies; ensure a common approach at European level on the implementation of a global action plan; produce guidance documents and tools allowing member states to step up the fight against AMR at national and local levels; and enhance the implementation of organisational change and/or other methods to enable sustainable improvements in practice by health care professionals.”<sup>2692</sup>

On 21 September 2017, Commissioner Stylianides announced a further EUR10 million to help displaced persons in Iraq, including funding mental health supports for survivors of violence.<sup>2693</sup>

On 11 October 2017, the European Commission published a mid-term evaluation of the EU’s third Health Programme 2014-2020.<sup>2694</sup> With a total budget of EUR449.4 million, the third Health

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<sup>2688</sup>Humanitarian aid for Iraq - EU announces additional €30 million, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, July 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [http://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/humanitarian-aid-iraq-eu-announces-additional-30-million\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/humanitarian-aid-iraq-eu-announces-additional-30-million_en).

<sup>2689</sup>€10 million in emergency assistance for increasing humanitarian needs in Libya, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, July 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [http://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/10-million-emergency-assistance-respond-increasing-humanitarian-needs-libya\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/10-million-emergency-assistance-respond-increasing-humanitarian-needs-libya_en).

<sup>2690</sup>Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections, European Commission-CHAFEA, September 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. <http://ec.europa.eu/chafea/news/news522.html>.

<sup>2691</sup>Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance & Healthcare-Associated Infections “EU-JAMRAI” Kick-off Meeting Agenda, EU-JAMRAI, September 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [https://eu-jamrai.sciencesconf.org/data/EU\\_JAMRAI\\_Kickoff\\_Agenda\\_VF2.pdf](https://eu-jamrai.sciencesconf.org/data/EU_JAMRAI_Kickoff_Agenda_VF2.pdf).

<sup>2692</sup>EU: Joint action on antimicrobial resistance to be launched in Paris tomorrow, Science Business, September 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. <https://sciencebusiness.net/healthy-measures/news/eu-joint-action-antimicrobial-resistance-be-launched-paris-tomorrow>.

<sup>2693</sup>Commissioner Stylianides announces additional €10 million EU humanitarian aid for Iraq, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, September 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [http://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/commissioner-stylianides-announces-additional-10-million-eu-humanitarian-aid-iraq\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/commissioner-stylianides-announces-additional-10-million-eu-humanitarian-aid-iraq_en).

Programme is the EU's major tool for distributing funding to health initiatives; "[m]ore than 539 actions have been or are being funded through the third Health Programme from 2014 to 2016, for a total cost of €165.6 million."<sup>2695</sup> The mid-term evaluation described successes in fighting the spread of infectious diseases and in "updating of skills for health professionals and other front line staff working on emergent issues such as the refugees crisis."<sup>2696</sup>

On 16 November 2017, the EU announced a EUR400 million aid package to assist Guinea in its recovery from the Ebola epidemic.<sup>2697</sup> This aid package includes EUR40 million of funding that will "support governance of the health sector so as to enable the State to deliver quality basic healthcare services and fulfil its role in monitoring health."<sup>2698</sup>

On 12 December 2017, the EU announced a EUR10.9 million funding commitment to support the development of health systems in Libya. The support package will include funding for "assistance to maternal and new-born health, trainings for future nurse and midwifery and the establishment of a national prevention strategy at primary health care level countrywide."<sup>2699</sup> This action is done in partnership with the United Nations.

On 30 December 2017, an EU-funded mobile reproductive team from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) provided healthcare services to 80 vulnerable women in Aleppo, Syria.<sup>2700</sup> Health service, particularly focused on maternal health, is the EU's top priority in the area. According to the EU Humanitarian Aid worker who oversaw the project, "this first intervention supported by the EU should pave the way for a regular delivery of services by humanitarian partners through mobile units in Aleppo."<sup>2701</sup>

On 27 February 2018, EU Health Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis met with Iranian Health Minister Hassan Ghazizadeh Hashemi in Brussels, where they discussed "antimicrobial resistance, health security [including] the international health regulations, health technology assessment, fight against non-communicable diseases, tobacco – with a focus on the ratification of the Protocol to

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<sup>2694</sup>Third Health Programme (2014-2020): Mid-term review shows major progress in improving cooperation in health and healthcare, EU Health and Food Safety Directorate General, October 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?newsletter\\_service\\_id=327&newsletter\\_issue\\_id=5494&page=1&fullDate=Fri%2010%20Nov%202017&lang=default](http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=5494&page=1&fullDate=Fri%2010%20Nov%202017&lang=default).

<sup>2695</sup>The results are in: EU's third Health Programme is on track and having impact, EU Health and Food Safety Directorate General, November 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/health-eu-newsletter-204-focus\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/health-eu-newsletter-204-focus_en).

<sup>2696</sup>Mid-term evaluation of the 3rd Health Programme 2014-2020, EU Health and Food Safety Directorate General, November 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/programme/policy/2014-2020/midterm\\_evaluation\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/programme/policy/2014-2020/midterm_evaluation_en).

<sup>2697</sup>The European Union announces €400 million to support Guinea, The European Commission, November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-17-4691\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-4691_en.htm).

<sup>2698</sup>The European Union announces €400 million to support Guinea, The European Commission, November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-17-4691\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-4691_en.htm).

<sup>2699</sup>The European Union adopts new assistance programme to improve health services in Libya, The European Commission, December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-17-5222\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-5222_en.htm).

<sup>2700</sup>EU support enables UNFPA to deliver aid to an area previously unreachable in Aleppo, Syria, The European Commission, December 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. [http://ec.europa.eu/echo/blog/eu-support-enables-unfpa-deliver-aid-area-previously-unreached-aleppo-syria\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/echo/blog/eu-support-enables-unfpa-deliver-aid-area-previously-unreached-aleppo-syria_en).

<sup>2701</sup>EU support enables UNFPA to deliver aid to an area previously unreachable in Aleppo, Syria, The European Commission, December 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. [http://ec.europa.eu/echo/blog/eu-support-enables-unfpa-deliver-aid-area-previously-unreached-aleppo-syria\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/echo/blog/eu-support-enables-unfpa-deliver-aid-area-previously-unreached-aleppo-syria_en).

Eliminate illicit trade of tobacco under World Health Organisation (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, a number of sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) issues, and collaboration on health research.”<sup>2702</sup> The meeting laid the groundwork for a joint workshop on health research and innovation which will be held in Tehran in April.<sup>2703</sup>

On 28 February 2018, the EU announced a EUR24 million in humanitarian assistance, including funding for essential health services, to help people affected by conflict in eastern Ukraine.<sup>2704</sup>

On 12 March 2018, the EU announced a new EUR50 million program to support basic human services for vulnerable populations in Libya. The program includes funding to strengthen local health systems, including “the delivery of medical equipment to three Primary Health Care Centres in Sabha and one in Qatroun” and “the provision of generators to several health facilities in Sabha.”<sup>2705</sup>

On 26 March 2018, the EU announced a further EUR60 million commitment to help those affected by the humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including funding for health assistance against epidemics. “During his visit, the Commissioner [for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides] visited the EU funded Panzi hospital run by the 2014 Sakharov Prize laureate Dr D. Mukwege in Bukavu and the Ndoshoh hospital in Goma,” highlighting the EU’s contribution to strengthening local health systems.<sup>2706</sup>

On 3 April 2018, the EU announced EUR107.5 million in aid to Yemeni civilians, including funding to help support the country’s precarious health sector and fight the cholera outbreak affecting Yemen.<sup>2707</sup>

On 16 April 2018, the EU launched the Joint Action on Innovative Partnership for Action against Cancer (IPPAC). This initiative involves all EU member states—as well as Norway, Moldova, and Serbia—in implementing best practices for cancer research and treatment in their health systems.<sup>2708</sup>

On 25 April 2018, the EU announced new measures to increase healthcare data sharing among EU member states.<sup>2709</sup> These measures include a new law on Public Sector Information, a set of

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<sup>2702</sup> EU Health Commissioner meets Iranian Minister of Health and Medical Education, The European Commission, February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018. [http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?newsletter\\_service\\_id=327&newsletter\\_issue\\_id=7405&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2027%20Feb%202018&lang=default](http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=7405&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2027%20Feb%202018&lang=default).

<sup>2703</sup> EU Health Commissioner meets Iranian Minister of Health and Medical Education, The European Commission, February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018. [http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?newsletter\\_service\\_id=327&newsletter\\_issue\\_id=7405&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2027%20Feb%202018&lang=default](http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=7405&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2027%20Feb%202018&lang=default).

<sup>2704</sup> EU announces €24 million to address the humanitarian situation in eastern Ukraine, The European Commission, February 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-1282\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-1282_en.htm).

<sup>2705</sup> EU expands its support to Libyan municipalities to enhance access to basic and social services for migrants and Libyans, The European Commission, March 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-1641\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-1641_en.htm).

<sup>2706</sup> Commissioner Stylianides visits the Democratic Republic of Congo: over €60 million for the Great Lakes region, The European Commission, March 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-2242\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-2242_en.htm).

<sup>2707</sup> EU pledges €107.5 million to address urgent needs of Yemeni civilians, The European Commission, April 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-2701\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-2701_en.htm).

<sup>2708</sup> Fight against cancer: Joint Action Kick-off Meeting, Luxembourg, 16-17 April, 2018, The European Commission, April 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter\\_service\\_id=327&newsletter\\_issue\\_id=8259&page=2&fullDate=Mon%2016%20Apr%202018&lang=default](http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=8259&page=2&fullDate=Mon%2016%20Apr%202018&lang=default).



recommendations on establishing a European Open Science Cloud, and legal guidance for businesses operating in the EU, among other initiatives.<sup>2710</sup>

On 18 May 2018, the EU announced EUR1.5 million of emergency funding to the WHO and EUR130,000 to the International Federation of the Red Cross to help fight the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.<sup>2711</sup> The EU also activated its Echo Flight program, transporting medical experts, emergency workers, and medical equipment to the affected areas.<sup>2712</sup>

On 23 May 2018, the EU Commission published country-specific recommendations for health system reform in 12 EU member states, providing policy recommendations for improving the effectiveness and resilience of their health systems.<sup>2713</sup>

On 30 May 2018, as part of the EU's 2021-2027 budget process, the EU Commission adopted a proposal for a new European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) Programme—one of the goals of which is to “strengthen health systems, by supporting the digital transformation of health and care, developing a sustainable EU health information system, and supporting national reform processes for more effective, accessible and resilient health systems.”<sup>2714</sup> The proposed budget for the health strand of ESF+ is EUR413 million.<sup>2715</sup>

On 19 June 2018, the EU announced EUR68 million in humanitarian assistance to support vulnerable populations in Sudan and South Sudan, including funding for basic health services.<sup>2716</sup>

On 17 July 2018, the European Commission established the Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases.<sup>2717</sup> “The Steering Group will advise the Commission on the selection of best practices and using them to support their transfer

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<sup>2709</sup> Data in the EU: Commission steps up efforts to increase availability and boost healthcare data sharing, April 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-3364\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-3364_en.htm).

<sup>2710</sup> Data in the EU: Commission steps up efforts to increase availability and boost healthcare data sharing, April 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-3364\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-3364_en.htm).

<sup>2711</sup> EU releases emergency aid and starts humanitarian flight service to contain Ebola in Democratic Republic of Congo, The European Commission, May 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-3850\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-3850_en.htm).

<sup>2712</sup> EU releases emergency aid and starts humanitarian flight service to contain Ebola in Democratic Republic of Congo, The European Commission, May 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-3850\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-3850_en.htm).

<sup>2713</sup> European Semester: Commission proposes health recommendations to 12 EU countries, The European Commission, May 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter\\_service\\_id=327&newsletter\\_issue\\_id=8829&page=1&fullDate=Wed%2023%20May%202018&lang=default](http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=8829&page=1&fullDate=Wed%2023%20May%202018&lang=default).

<sup>2714</sup> Health policies in the future EU budget (2021-2027), The European Commission, May 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter\\_service\\_id=327&newsletter\\_issue\\_id=9001&page=1&fullDate=Wed%2030%20May%202018&lang=default](http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=9001&page=1&fullDate=Wed%2030%20May%202018&lang=default).

<sup>2715</sup> EU Health Budget for the Future, The European Commission, May 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/programme/docs/2021\\_budget\\_factsheet\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/programme/docs/2021_budget_factsheet_en.pdf).

<sup>2716</sup> Humanitarian Aid: EU releases €68 million for Sudan and South Sudan, The European Commission, May 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-18-4206\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4206_en.htm).

<sup>2717</sup> Commission establishes Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases, The European Commission, July 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter\\_service\\_id=327&newsletter\\_issue\\_id=9978&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2017%20Jul%202018&lang=default](http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=9978&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2017%20Jul%202018&lang=default).

and scaling up at the national and European level using the funds from the EU Health Programme or other EU financial instruments.”<sup>2718</sup>

On 24 July 2018, the WHO announced an end to the ninth outbreak of Ebola in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).<sup>2719</sup> The WHO listed the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (EU-ECHO) as contributing EUR1.5 million to the WHO’s efforts in the DRC.<sup>2720</sup> Commissioner Stylianides also issued a statement outlining the EU’s non-financial contributions including logistical support, expert deployment, medical equipment, vaccines developed by way of EU research grants, and satellite mapping systems.<sup>2721</sup>

On 22 August 2018, the EU announced that an additional EUR9 million will be mobilized to support health care in reception facilities for asylum seekers and refugees in Italy, with a particular focus on child and maternal health.<sup>2722</sup>

On 24 September 2018, the EU pledged to contribute EUR3 million to the Defeat-NCD (noncommunicable diseases) Partnership, which seeks to help low income states strengthen their health systems and fight against NCDs like cancer, diabetes, and cardiovascular and respiratory diseases.<sup>2723</sup>

The European Union has a robust and multivalent strategy to strengthen health systems in Europe and worldwide, including through developing the health workforce and through cooperative action with international organizations. Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Bruce Cinnamon*

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<sup>2718</sup> Commission establishes Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases, The European Commission, July 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter\\_service\\_id=327&newsletter\\_issue\\_id=9978&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2017%20Jul%202018&lang=default](http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=9978&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2017%20Jul%202018&lang=default).

<sup>2719</sup> Ebola outbreak in DRC ends: WHO calls for international efforts to stop other deadly outbreaks in the country, WHO (Geneva) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <http://www.who.int/news-room/detail/24-07-2018-ebola-outbreak-in-drc-ends--who-calls-for-international-efforts-to-stop-other-deadly-outbreaks-in-the-country>.

<sup>2720</sup> Ebola outbreak in DRC ends: WHO calls for international efforts to stop other deadly outbreaks in the country, WHO (Geneva) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <http://www.who.int/news-room/detail/24-07-2018-ebola-outbreak-in-drc-ends--who-calls-for-international-efforts-to-stop-other-deadly-outbreaks-in-the-country>.

<sup>2721</sup> Statement by Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides on the end of the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo, The European Commission, March 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_STATEMENT-18-4647\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-4647_en.htm).

<sup>2722</sup> Migration: Commission awards €9 million to Italy to support health care for asylum seekers and refugees, The European Commission, August 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_MEX-18-5121\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-5121_en.htm).

<sup>2723</sup> The European Union joins forces with partners to defeat noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) in developing countries, The European Commission, September 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-joins-forces-partners-defeat-noncommunicable-diseases-ncds-developing\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-joins-forces-partners-defeat-noncommunicable-diseases-ncds-developing_en).