

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		0	
Canada			+1
China			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa			+1
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.80	

Background

At the 2017 Hamburg Summit, the G20 committed to strengthening global health systems and the health workforce.¹³⁹² 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,¹³⁹³ and to combating antimicrobial resistance.¹³⁹⁴ While strengthening health systems was addressed in the G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the 2016

¹³⁹² 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.

¹³⁹³ 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.

¹³⁹⁴ 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. 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.

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.¹³⁹⁵

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."¹³⁹⁶ 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),¹³⁹⁷ the joint publication by WHO, the International Labour Organization and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on improving the health workforce.¹³⁹⁸ 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 2017.¹³⁹⁹ 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."¹⁴⁰⁰

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 2015.¹⁴⁰¹ 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 5.¹⁴⁰² 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."¹⁴⁰³ The Leaders' Declaration, as well as the Hamburg Update: Taking Forward the G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for

¹³⁹⁵ 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.

¹³⁹⁶ 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.

¹³⁹⁷ 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.

¹³⁹⁸ 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.

¹³⁹⁹ 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/.

¹⁴⁰⁰ 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.

¹⁴⁰¹ 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/>.

¹⁴⁰² 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.

¹⁴⁰³ 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.¹⁴⁰⁴

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.¹⁴⁰⁵ 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).¹⁴⁰⁶ 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.¹⁴⁰⁷ While the G20 is not an official partner of UHC2030,¹⁴⁰⁸ 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.¹⁴⁰⁹ 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.¹⁴¹⁰

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

¹⁴⁰⁴ 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>.

¹⁴⁰⁵ 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.

¹⁴⁰⁶ 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.

¹⁴⁰⁷ 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.

¹⁴⁰⁸ UHC2030 Partners, UHC2030 (Geneva). Access Date: 31 October 2017. <https://www.uhc2030.org/about-us/uhc2030-partners/>.

¹⁴⁰⁹ 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.

¹⁴¹⁰ 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.

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.¹⁴¹¹ 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”¹⁴¹² 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 in 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

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¹⁴¹¹ Health Systems Strengthening Glossary, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 30 October 2017. http://www.who.int/healthsystems/hss_glossary/en/index5.html.

¹⁴¹² Health Systems, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 30 October 2017. 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.¹⁴¹³ The commitments included expanded regulation of packaged foods and limiting sodium and trans fat content in foods.¹⁴¹⁴

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.¹⁴¹⁵ 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.¹⁴¹⁶

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).¹⁴¹⁷ 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.¹⁴¹⁸

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.¹⁴¹⁹ It is to be used for the acquisition of medical equipment and training of health professionals in the implementation of the Program of

¹⁴¹³ 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>.

¹⁴¹⁴ 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>.

¹⁴¹⁵ 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-farmacautica-janssen-firmaron-un-acuerdo-marco-de-cooperacion>.

¹⁴¹⁶ 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-farmacautica-janssen-firmaron-un-acuerdo-marco-de-cooperacion>.

¹⁴¹⁷ 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>.

¹⁴¹⁸ 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>.

¹⁴¹⁹ 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.¹⁴²⁰ Argentina is also to receive aid from PAHO to help train their professionals.¹⁴²¹

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.¹⁴²² 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 2030.¹⁴²³

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.¹⁴²⁴ At the conference, Minister Lemus arranged with WHO General Director Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus a 2018 conference about municipal health systems.¹⁴²⁵ 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.¹⁴²⁶

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

¹⁴²⁰ 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>.

¹⁴²¹ 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>.

¹⁴²² 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>.

¹⁴²³ 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>.

¹⁴²⁴ 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>.

¹⁴²⁵ 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>.

¹⁴²⁶ 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.¹⁴²⁷ The funds will also be used to train more healthcare personnel and thereby expand the health workforce.¹⁴²⁸

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.¹⁴²⁹ 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.¹⁴³⁰ 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.¹⁴³¹

Argentina has successfully strengthened their own health system, as well as those of other countries, through cooperative action. It has also expanded and trained the health workforce of others as well as of themselves. Argentina has worked with multitudinous countries from three continents, led health conferences, 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 strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 20 July 2017, Minister for Foreign Affairs Julie Bishop announced a contribution of AUD500,000 to the World Health Organization (WHO) to help fight dengue fever in Sri Lanka.¹⁴³² The funds will be used to implement a “comprehensive Dengue Prevention and Control Plan to enhance hospital triage and case management, cleaning, public awareness and surveillance

¹⁴²⁷ 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>.

¹⁴²⁸ 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>.

¹⁴²⁹ 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>.

¹⁴³⁰ 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>.

¹⁴³¹ 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>.

¹⁴³² Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170720.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

systems.”¹⁴³³ In addition, Minister Bishop launched a partnership between Monash University’s Eliminate Dengue Program and the Sri Lankan Ministry of Health in order to reduce risk of dengue in Sri Lanka.¹⁴³⁴

On 12 August 2017, Minister Bishop announced the investment of AUD7.7 million in pilot programs to fight mosquito-borne diseases, such as dengue fever, in Fiji, Vanuatu and Kiribati.¹⁴³⁵ These programs aim to build “countries’ capabilities to detect, assess and respond to diseases with epidemic potential.”¹⁴³⁶ Minister Bishop also announced an AUD4 million investment in winners of the LAUNCH Food Challenge in order to fight malnutrition, AUD2.5 million of which will go towards Pacific states.¹⁴³⁷ LAUNCH Food Challenge is a partnership between the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and United States Agency for International Development (USAID).¹⁴³⁸

On 1 September 2017, Australia pledged AUD2 million to international relief efforts in Nepal following floods and landslides in the country.¹⁴³⁹ AUD1 million was designated to the World Food Programme (WFP) in order to treat moderate acute malnutrition, and AUD1 million was designated to Australian non-profit organizations to provide emergence food, shelter, clean water and healthcare.¹⁴⁴⁰ Australia also pledged the provision of hygiene supplies and health services to 6,600 Nepalese women and girls.¹⁴⁴¹

On 9 September 2017, Minister Bishop announced AUD5 million in humanitarian assistance to Bangladesh and Myanmar in response to violence in Rakhine State in Myanmar. The funding goes towards the WFP, International Organization for Migration (IOM), and Red Cross.¹⁴⁴²

¹⁴³³ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170720.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴³⁴ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170720.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴³⁵ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170812.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴³⁶ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170812.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴³⁷ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170812.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴³⁸ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170812.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴³⁹ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017 Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170901.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁴⁰ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170901.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁴¹ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170901.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁴² Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170909.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

On 16 September 2017, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade announced AUD30 million in support for Yemen, South Sudan, and Somalia in order to combat famine and medical emergencies. In South Sudan and Somalia, the funding will go towards providing food, clean water, and medical and psychological support to survivors of sexual violence.¹⁴⁴³ In Yemen, the funding will go towards providing food and access to clean water, and combatting cholera.¹⁴⁴⁴ The support will be provided through the WFP, UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and Australian non-profit organizations.¹⁴⁴⁵

On 17 September 2017, the Government of Australia pledged up to AUD15 million to provide “essential health services for displaced people in Bangladesh” who have been affected by the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar.¹⁴⁴⁶ The funds will go towards the WFP, IOM, and other humanitarian organizations.¹⁴⁴⁷

On 8 October 2017, Australia announced the launch of the Indo-Pacific Health Security Initiative.¹⁴⁴⁸ This initiative will disperse AUD300 million over five years (2017-2022) to fund research on infectious diseases (AUD16 million), develop new pharmaceutical products (AUD75 million), and strengthen health systems in developing countries of the Western Pacific region, including Cambodia and Papua New Guinea.¹⁴⁴⁹ 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.¹⁴⁵⁰ The initiative’s AUD300 million budget will also include AUD20 million over four years to WHO’s Health Emergencies Program.¹⁴⁵¹

On 9 October 2017 Region Committee for the Pacific Region, the Federal Government signed its first Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) with WHO, between Minister of Health Greg Hunt and

¹⁴⁴³ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170916a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁴⁴ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170916a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁴⁵ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170916a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁴⁶ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170919.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁴⁷ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170919.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁴⁸ Indo-Pacific Health Security Initiative, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171008.aspx.

¹⁴⁴⁹ Health Security in the 2017 Foreign Policy White Paper, Indo-Pacific Centre for Health Security, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) November 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018.

<http://indopacifichealthsecurity.dfat.gov.au/Pages/News/News/White-Paper.aspx>.

¹⁴⁵⁰ New initiatives put regional health security at the forefront of Australian aid priorities, Devex (Canberra) 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>.

¹⁴⁵¹ Indo-Pacific Health Security Initiative, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171008.aspx.

WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific Dr. Shin Young-soo.¹⁴⁵² The CCS identifies “four strategic priorities as a focus for the partnership over the coming five years: 1) health security; 2) people-centered 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.”¹⁴⁵³

On 23 October 2017, Minister Bishop announced a further AUD10 million to support people affected by the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar and Bangladesh.¹⁴⁵⁴ The funding will support the WFP, Save The Children, Oxfam, Care, Australian Red Cross, and UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), each of which 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.¹⁴⁵⁵

On 14 November 2017, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade published a “success story” about eye-care non-governmental organization, Sight For All, which is operating in Myanmar and has been supported by the Australia NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).¹⁴⁵⁶ The Government of Australia has provided regular foreign aid funding through the ANCP, which is estimated to provide AUD129.3 million in 2017-18¹⁴⁵⁷ to various initiatives—including supporting other eye-health projects that have provided training for biomedical technicians in Kiribati¹⁴⁵⁸ and Pakistan.¹⁴⁵⁹

On 15 December 2017, Minister Bishop announced AUD600,000 in humanitarian support for communities affected by volcanic activity in Bali, Indonesia.¹⁴⁶⁰ This humanitarian support will help meet the needs of 17,000 displaced persons, providing sanitation services and medical care.¹⁴⁶¹

¹⁴⁵² New Country Cooperation Strategy signed will leverage Aust's experience and expertise to solve regional health problems, Twitter (Canberra) October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <https://twitter.com/healthgovau/status/917274502752378880>.

¹⁴⁵³ Australia-WHO Country Cooperation Strategy 2018-2022 (Canberra) October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <http://iris.wpro.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665.1/13681/WPRO-2017-DPM-028-eng.pdf>.

¹⁴⁵⁴ Rohingya Crisis: Australia Commits Further \$10M In Humanitarian Aid, Huffington Post Australia (Sydney) 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/.

¹⁴⁵⁵ Further humanitarian assistance to Bangladesh and Myanmar, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171023.aspx.

¹⁴⁵⁶ Strengthening eye health care in Myanmar, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) 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>.

¹⁴⁵⁷ 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>.

¹⁴⁵⁸ 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>.

¹⁴⁵⁹ 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>.

¹⁴⁶⁰ 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+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁶¹ 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+g9ZKEg==.

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.¹⁴⁶² The Australian Medical Assistance Team (AUSMAT) will be funded from the Government of Australia's existing AUD30 million commitment to help people affected by the Rohingya crisis.¹⁴⁶³ Australian medical professionals will work with WHO partners to contain the disease outbreak.¹⁴⁶⁴

On 18 January 2018, Australia announced AUD1.5 million in support for the IOM in order to combat a diphtheria outbreak among Rohingya living in camps in Bangladesh.¹⁴⁶⁵ The support will “supply life-saving medicines, help quarantine the sick, train local medical staff, and boost community awareness activities aimed at reducing infection rates.”¹⁴⁶⁶

On 16 February 2018, Minister Bishop pledged AUD3 million in funding to support short and long-term recovery efforts in Tonga following Tropical Cyclone Gita.¹⁴⁶⁷ The funding will support the Red Cross Movement, the Tongan Women and Children's Crisis Centre, and Australian NGOs.¹⁴⁶⁸ In the long term, Australia pledged to support restoration of critical infrastructure, as well as health and education services.¹⁴⁶⁹

On 19-20 February 2018, Australia hosted the inaugural Global Digital Health Partnership (GDHP) summit.¹⁴⁷⁰ 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.”¹⁴⁷¹ According to the 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 evidence that supports

¹⁴⁶² Australian medical team to assess disease outbreak in Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171221.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁶³ Australian medical team to assess disease outbreak in Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171221.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁶⁴ Australian medical team to assess disease outbreak in Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171221.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁶⁵ Additional humanitarian assistance to Tonga and Samoa, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) February 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180216a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁶⁶ Additional humanitarian assistance to Tonga and Samoa, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) February 2018. Access Date: 18 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180216a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁶⁷ Additional humanitarian assistance to Tonga and Samoa, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) February 2018 Access Date: 18 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180216a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁶⁸ Additional humanitarian assistance to Tonga and Samoa, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) February 2018 Access Date: 18 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180216a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁶⁹ Additional humanitarian assistance to Tonga and Samoa, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Canberra) February 2018 Access Date: 18 March 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180216a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK+g9ZKEg==.

¹⁴⁷⁰ 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>.

¹⁴⁷¹ 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>.

them to deliver better digital health services.”¹⁴⁷² Australia will host the GDHP secretariat for the next year.¹⁴⁷³

Australia has demonstrated a strong commitment to pursuing cooperative action, as demonstrated by its partnerships with international organizations such as the WFP and WHO, and by its role in establishing the GDHP. Australia has also strengthened international health systems, particularly in Sri Lanka, the Pacific region and Myanmar. In addition, Australia has developed health workforces, as demonstrated by its establishment of a new Health Security Corps, and by its training of biomedical technicians in Kiribati and Pakistan.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Bruce Cinnamon

Brazil: 0

Brazil has partially 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.¹⁴⁷⁴ The meeting was mediated alongside the General Coordination of Food and Nutrition alongside the Advisory Board on International Health Affairs.¹⁴⁷⁵ The two nations began preparations for bilateral health cooperation.¹⁴⁷⁶

On 26 September 2017, the Brazilian and American governments signed a partnership to produce the second stage of the Zika vaccine.¹⁴⁷⁷ This agreement was signed between Minister of Health Ricardo Barros and United States Minister of Health Thomas Price at the Pan American Sanitary Conference.¹⁴⁷⁸ The agreement marks the beginning the human testing phase of the Zika vaccine

¹⁴⁷² 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>.

¹⁴⁷³ Global Digital Health Partnership — 19 & 20 February 2018 Summit Canberra, Australia Communique, Australian Digital Health Agency (Canberra) February 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership/Global-Digital-Health-Partnership-Summit-Communique-February-2018-FINAL.pdf>.

¹⁴⁷⁴ 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>.

¹⁴⁷⁵ 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>.

¹⁴⁷⁶ 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>.

¹⁴⁷⁷ 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>.

¹⁴⁷⁸ 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>.

clinical trial.¹⁴⁷⁹ The American and Brazilian researchers will streamline the vaccine production process to develop it efficiently.¹⁴⁸⁰

On 6 October 2017, Brazil and Bolivia signed a cooperation agreement on health in the border region between the two states.¹⁴⁸¹ 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.¹⁴⁸² The agreement aims to stimulate coordination efforts in the border region, and to create the Working Group on Health at the Brazil-Bolivia Border.¹⁴⁸³ This group will identify the issues that affect health at the border.¹⁴⁸⁴

On 20 October 2017, the World Bank approved a USD50 million commitment to initiate the Paraíba Sustainable Rural Development Project in Brazil.¹⁴⁸⁵ 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.¹⁴⁸⁶

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.¹⁴⁸⁷ The forum reaffirmed the goals of HIV/AIDS impact

¹⁴⁷⁹ 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>.

¹⁴⁸⁰ 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>.

¹⁴⁸¹ Brasil e Bolívia assinam acordo de cooperação em saúde na área de fronteira, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 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>.

¹⁴⁸² Brasil e Bolívia assinam acordo de cooperação em saúde na área de fronteira, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 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>.

¹⁴⁸³ Brasil e Bolívia assinam acordo de cooperação em saúde na área de fronteira, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 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>.

¹⁴⁸⁴ Brasil e Bolívia assinam acordo de cooperação em saúde na área de fronteira, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 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>.

¹⁴⁸⁵ Paraíba Sustainable Rural Development, The World Bank (Washington) 20 October 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018. <http://projects.worldbank.org/P147158?lang=en>.

¹⁴⁸⁶ Paraíba Sustainable Rural Development, The World Bank (Washington) 20 October 2017. Access Date: 13 January 2018. <http://projects.worldbank.org/P147158?lang=en>.

¹⁴⁸⁷ 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>.

reduction by the year 2020 and established strategies for sustainability in responses to HIV/AIDS, to be implemented by the year 2030.¹⁴⁸⁸

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.¹⁴⁸⁹ Part of the project are 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.¹⁴⁹⁰ The workshops are specifically tailored to the community that the Ministry of Health and UNICEF are trying to reach.¹⁴⁹¹ 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.¹⁴⁹²

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.¹⁴⁹³ 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-68.¹⁴⁹⁴

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.¹⁴⁹⁵

Brazil has partially 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

¹⁴⁸⁸ 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>.

¹⁴⁸⁹ 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>.

¹⁴⁹⁰ 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>.

¹⁴⁹¹ 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>.

¹⁴⁹² 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>.

¹⁴⁹³ 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/>.

¹⁴⁹⁴ 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>.

¹⁴⁹⁵ 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.

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. However, Brazil has not made improvements to the health workforce.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of 0.

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.¹⁴⁹⁶ 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.¹⁴⁹⁷

On 18 October 2017, the International Development Research Centre (IRDC), 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.¹⁴⁹⁸ The initiative offers up to CAD1 million over four years to support research on effective local policy solutions for tobacco control.¹⁴⁹⁹

On 15 November 2017, the IRDC announced two new initiatives to support science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) careers for women in developing countries.¹⁵⁰⁰ 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

¹⁴⁹⁶ 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.

¹⁴⁹⁷ 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 - 5.1.

¹⁴⁹⁸ 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>.

¹⁴⁹⁹ 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>.

¹⁵⁰⁰ 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>.

Developing World.¹⁵⁰¹ The second is a grant of up to CAD1.5 million for 20 postdoctoral fellowships for indigenous Mexican women to pursue studies in STEM.¹⁵⁰²

On 17 November 2017, the Governments of Canada and India announced a joint venture to fund collaborative medical electronics research and development.¹⁵⁰³ A particular focus is on the development of low-field MRI scanners, which will improve portability and affordability, particularly for rural communities.¹⁵⁰⁴

On 13 December 2017, Canada announced an aid package of CAD50 million to the Rohingya humanitarian crisis.¹⁵⁰⁵ Organizations that will receive aid include Medecins sans Frontieres and Medecins du Monde.¹⁵⁰⁶ Targeting funding will also go towards safe water supply, sanitation and hygiene facilities, sexual health and reproductive services, and mental health supports.¹⁵⁰⁷

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.¹⁵⁰⁸ CRVS improvements increase populations' access to public health services, and allow governments to better prioritize health goals.¹⁵⁰⁹ The Centre of Excellence was established by GAC and IRDC.¹⁵¹⁰

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.

¹⁵⁰¹ 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>.

¹⁵⁰² 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>.

¹⁵⁰³ 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>.

¹⁵⁰⁴ 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>.

¹⁵⁰⁵ 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>.

¹⁵⁰⁶ 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>.

¹⁵⁰⁷ 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>.

¹⁵⁰⁸ 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>

¹⁵⁰⁹ About CRVS Systems, Centre of Excellence IDRC (Canada). Access Date: 19 March 2018. <https://crvssystem.ca/about-crvs-systems>.

¹⁵¹⁰ 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>.

Overall, CAD86.9 Million was pledged to assist Southern Senegal, Benin, Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, and Niger.¹⁵¹¹

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, Australia.¹⁵¹² 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.”¹⁵¹³

On 21 February 2018, GAC announced three new initiatives to improve Haiti’s healthcare system.¹⁵¹⁴ 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.¹⁵¹⁵ The second is a pledge of CAD20 million over five years to the UN Foundation and Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves.¹⁵¹⁶ This project aims to improve women’s health and economic situations through the promotion of clean energy and cookstoves.¹⁵¹⁷ 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.¹⁵¹⁸

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.¹⁵¹⁹

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.¹⁵²⁰ Improving international healthcare systems is one of the stated goals of the aid.¹⁵²¹

¹⁵¹¹ 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.

¹⁵¹² 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>.

¹⁵¹³ 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>.

¹⁵¹⁴ 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.

¹⁵¹⁵ 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.

¹⁵¹⁶ 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.

¹⁵¹⁷ 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.

¹⁵¹⁸ 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.

¹⁵¹⁹ 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>.

On 16 March 2018, GAC announced CAD8.15 million in humanitarian assistance for Rohingya refugees.¹⁵²² 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.¹⁵²³ 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.¹⁵²⁴

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.¹⁵²⁵ 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.¹⁵²⁶

¹⁵²⁰ 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>.

¹⁵²¹ 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>.

¹⁵²² 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>.

¹⁵²³ 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>.

¹⁵²⁴ 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>.

¹⁵²⁵ 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.

¹⁵²⁶ 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.

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 billion people worldwide.¹⁵²⁷ 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.¹⁵²⁸ During the Congress, the Premier also announced the launch of the “Healthy China Initiative” which will improve the accessibility of medical and health services.¹⁵²⁹

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.¹⁵³⁰ 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.¹⁵³¹ In the context of China, Korea and Japan, traditional medicine includes treatments such as acupuncture, herbal medicine, and cupping.¹⁵³²

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.¹⁵³³ 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 2020.¹⁵³⁴ The Chinese government has also agreed to supply doctors for the first three years of the hospital’s operation.¹⁵³⁵

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.¹⁵³⁶ The near 100 day voyage included “246 surgeries, for 52,000 people in Djibouti, Sierra Leone, Gabon, the Republic of

¹⁵²⁷ 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>.

¹⁵²⁸ 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>.

¹⁵²⁹ 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.

¹⁵³⁰ 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>.

¹⁵³¹ 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>.

¹⁵³² 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/>.

¹⁵³³ 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.

¹⁵³⁴ 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.

¹⁵³⁵ 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/>.

¹⁵³⁶ 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.”¹⁵³⁷ In Dar Es Salaam, the ship also provided medical training to local medical staff.¹⁵³⁸

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].”¹⁵³⁹ These areas include advancing health care coverage, and furthering the technology of traditional medicine, mental health, patient safety, and aging.¹⁵⁴⁰ The two health ministries also agreed to work together to prepare against and manage infectious diseases and cancer.¹⁵⁴¹

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.¹⁵⁴² 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.”¹⁵⁴³

On 27 February 2018, the Ministry of Defense provided several types of medical equipment to the Cambodian Government-run Praeh Ket Meala military hospital.¹⁵⁴⁴ The equipment all serves to support heart and blood treatments, and includes scanning machines and operating tools.¹⁵⁴⁵

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

¹⁵³⁷ 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>.

¹⁵³⁸ 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.

¹⁵³⁹ 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>.

¹⁵⁴⁰ 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>.

¹⁵⁴¹ 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>.

¹⁵⁴² 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>.

¹⁵⁴³ 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>.

¹⁵⁴⁴ 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/>.

¹⁵⁴⁵ 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/>.

France: 0

France has partially 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.¹⁵⁴⁶ 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 World Health Organization (WHO)'s International Health Regulations.¹⁵⁴⁷ 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.¹⁵⁴⁸

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.¹⁵⁴⁹ 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.¹⁵⁵⁰

From 15 to 17 October 2017, France collaborated with Germany and the European Commission to host the 9th World Health Summit in Berlin.¹⁵⁵¹ The summit brought together over 2000 decision-makers and representatives from over 100 countries.¹⁵⁵² 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.¹⁵⁵³

¹⁵⁴⁶ 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>.

¹⁵⁴⁷ 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>.

¹⁵⁴⁸ 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>.

¹⁵⁴⁹ 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>.

¹⁵⁵⁰ 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>.

¹⁵⁵¹ World Health Summit 2017 (Berlin) 16 October 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017.

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/world-health-summit-2017.html>.

¹⁵⁵² World Health Summit 2017 (Berlin) 16 October 2017. Access Date: 20 November 2017.

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/ministry/world-health-summit-2017.html>.

¹⁵⁵³ 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.

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 2016.¹⁵⁵⁴ Health is one of the explicitly mentioned domains of aid.¹⁵⁵⁵

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.¹⁵⁵⁶

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. However, France has not demonstrated a commitment to improving the health workforces.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Natasha Comeau

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.¹⁵⁵⁷ 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.¹⁵⁵⁸ By June 2018, all 73 health facilities in Nuwakot District will be using e-reporting technology.¹⁵⁵⁹

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

¹⁵⁵⁴ 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.

¹⁵⁵⁵ 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.

¹⁵⁵⁶ 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>.

¹⁵⁵⁷ 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.

¹⁵⁵⁸ 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.

¹⁵⁵⁹ 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.

investment in improving water supply and disposal in the province of Irbid.¹⁵⁶⁰ 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.¹⁵⁶¹ The German contribution will be allocated towards water distribution and safeguarding hygienic disposal of waste water to improve health in the region.¹⁵⁶²

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.¹⁵⁶³ This body will advise the Federal Ministry of Health on new strategies for global health policy.¹⁵⁶⁴

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.¹⁵⁶⁵ 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.¹⁵⁶⁶ Research will be conducted jointly by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative.¹⁵⁶⁷ Research and development by GARDP aims to deliver new treatments for bacterial infections where drug resistance is present and emerging.¹⁵⁶⁸ The funding will support four major health domains: sexually transmitted infections, antimicrobial memory recovery and exploratory research, neonatal sepsis, and paediatric antibiotics.¹⁵⁶⁹

On 15 September 2017, Germany expanded funding to the International Patient Counselling Services for Germany from EUR5.2 to EUR9 million.¹⁵⁷⁰ This program provides health counselling and legal

¹⁵⁶⁰ 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.

¹⁵⁶¹ 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.

¹⁵⁶² 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.

¹⁵⁶³ 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>.

¹⁵⁶⁴ 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>.

¹⁵⁶⁵ 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>.

¹⁵⁶⁶ 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>.

¹⁵⁶⁷ Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership, Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (Geneva). Access Date: 5 March 2018. <https://www.gardp.org/about/>.

¹⁵⁶⁸ About, Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (Geneva). Access Date: 5 March 2018. <https://www.gardp.org/about/>.

¹⁵⁶⁹ 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>.

¹⁵⁷⁰ 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>.

assistance to patients free of cost.¹⁵⁷¹ Furthermore, Germany celebrated the first annual International Patient Safety Day, as declared by the German Coalition for Patient Safety, alongside the UN and WHO.¹⁵⁷²

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.¹⁵⁷³ The unit will be completed in 2019 and increase capacity of the hospital from 500 to 4,000 patients.¹⁵⁷⁴ 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.¹⁵⁷⁵ 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.¹⁵⁷⁶

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.¹⁵⁷⁷ 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.¹⁵⁷⁸

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.¹⁵⁷⁹ The service is available in a number of foreign languages and is organized into four health related areas: health care systems, health and preventive health care, long-term care, and addiction and drugs.¹⁵⁸⁰ The portal also provides vital information on immunisations, child health, screening processes, and early detection programs.¹⁵⁸¹

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

¹⁵⁷¹ 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>.

¹⁵⁷² 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>.

¹⁵⁷³ 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>.

¹⁵⁷⁴ 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>.

¹⁵⁷⁵ 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>.

¹⁵⁷⁶ 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>.

¹⁵⁷⁷ 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>.

¹⁵⁷⁸ 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.

¹⁵⁷⁹ 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>.

¹⁵⁸⁰ 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>.

¹⁵⁸¹ 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>.

of discussion, specifically pertaining to global responses to climate change related health issues.¹⁵⁸² Attention was primarily concerned with the least developed countries and small island developing states.¹⁵⁸³ 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.¹⁵⁸⁴ Running parallel to the COP, the Fifth Global Climate and Health Summit was also hosted in Bonn, Germany during the same period.¹⁵⁸⁵ This summit committed members to investment in communities and health systems in the context of climate change, as well as in terms of strengthening collaboration between health organizations globally.¹⁵⁸⁶

On 7 December 2017, the BMZ, through the KfW Development Bank, committed EUR20 million for two development projects in northern Mali.¹⁵⁸⁷ One project, in collaboration with the French non-governmental organization ACTED, is building health centres in the country, including vaccination stations.¹⁵⁸⁸ The aim of this project is to improve healthcare access, thus allowing individuals the ability to generate a higher income through trade relationships.¹⁵⁸⁹

On 20 December 2017, the KfW Development Bank, on behalf of the BMZ, committed EUR10 million to support South Sudanese refugees.¹⁵⁹⁰ Within this commitment, funds are being allocated to developing sanitary facilities and hygiene programmes, and to constructing health stations for refugees, helping to improve healthcare for 13,000 people.¹⁵⁹¹

On 27 December 2017, the BMZ, through the KfW Development Bank, pledged EUR5 million for the Ebola support program in Liberia.¹⁵⁹² This initiative will help equip the health sector in Liberia to

¹⁵⁸² 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/>.

¹⁵⁸³ 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/>.

¹⁵⁸⁴ 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/>.

¹⁵⁸⁵ 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/>.

¹⁵⁸⁶ 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/>.

¹⁵⁸⁷ 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.

¹⁵⁸⁸ 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.

¹⁵⁸⁹ 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.

¹⁵⁹⁰ 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.

¹⁵⁹¹ 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.

¹⁵⁹² 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.

be better prepared for any future epidemics.¹⁵⁹³ Since 2015, KfW has helped to build nine medical facilities in the country and helped implement hygiene programmes in schools and local markets.¹⁵⁹⁴ KfW's largest project in the county is constructing isolation wards in hospitals for Ebola patients to be housed.¹⁵⁹⁵

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.¹⁵⁹⁶ The purpose of the trip was to promote international cooperation in health policy.¹⁵⁹⁷ Health topics discussed included self-administration structures for physicians and bone marrow donation procedures.¹⁵⁹⁸ 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).¹⁵⁹⁹

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 WHO, UNFCCC, and the M8 Alliance.¹⁶⁰⁰ Germany has demonstrated an effort to improving global health systems in countries such as Liberia and Mali, 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 strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

¹⁵⁹³ 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.

¹⁵⁹⁴ 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.

¹⁵⁹⁵ 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.

¹⁵⁹⁶ 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>.

¹⁵⁹⁷ 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>.

¹⁵⁹⁸ 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>.

¹⁵⁹⁹ 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>.

¹⁶⁰⁰ 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>.

On 13 July 2017, Union Minister of State Health and Family Welfare Faggan Singh Kulaste announced the initiation of 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.¹⁶⁰¹ 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.¹⁶⁰² BIMSTEC countries include Bangladesh, Myanmar, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan, and Nepal.¹⁶⁰³

On 24 July 2017, a delegation of CII from healthcare met representatives of International Trade Center in Geneva to concur a plan of action to foster exchange and partnership opportunities between India and Africa with consultation from various healthcare stakeholders.¹⁶⁰⁴ They discussed the possibility of broadening cooperation in two sectors in East Africa — health and education.¹⁶⁰⁵

On 5 September 2017, Healthcare UK announced its support for a large project in India to create a network of 11 Medicities across India.¹⁶⁰⁶ The programme, called the Indo-UK Institute of Health, is one of the largest healthcare initiatives in the world.¹⁶⁰⁷ The programme aims to provide integrated healthcare across all of India through partnering with global professionals in research, education, technology, and health care.¹⁶⁰⁸

On 28 September 2017, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Norway's Ministry of Foreign Affairs signed a letter of intent which affirmed their intention of collaborating to improve reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health in India.¹⁶⁰⁹ Norway and India have committed to channel their efforts towards implementing the District Implementation Plan for Improving Maternal and Child Health Outcomes from September 2017.¹⁶¹⁰ Both countries continue to work together on research projects, remain partners in Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness

¹⁶⁰¹ 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>.

¹⁶⁰² 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>.

¹⁶⁰³ 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>.

¹⁶⁰⁴ 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>.

¹⁶⁰⁵ 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>.

¹⁶⁰⁶ India's Major Healthcare System Development, UK Government (London) 5 September 2017. Date of Access: 15 December 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/indias-major-healthcare-system-development>.

¹⁶⁰⁷ India's Major Healthcare System Development, UK Government (London) 5 September 2017. Date of Access: 15 December 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/indias-major-healthcare-system-development>.

¹⁶⁰⁸ India's Major Healthcare System Development, UK Government (London) 5 September 2017. Date of Access: 15 December 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/indias-major-healthcare-system-development>.

¹⁶⁰⁹ 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>.

¹⁶¹⁰ 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>.

Innovations 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.¹⁶¹¹

On 5 November 2017, Medtronic, a U.S.-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.¹⁶¹²

On 11 November 2017, it was announced that India will be collaborating with Australia's National Trauma Research Institute to develop trauma care policy.¹⁶¹³ Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital, attached to Madras Medical College, will be developed into an extensive trauma care centre.¹⁶¹⁴ This collaboration enables the health department to develop a trauma registry which allows hospitals to have unified, comprehensive health records.¹⁶¹⁵

On 14 November 2017, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the Philippines to discuss its commitment to improve public health systems and the potential contributions of Indian infrastructure companies to the Philippines' "build, build, build" programme.¹⁶¹⁶

On 17 November 2017, India and Canada announced a joint venture in medical electronics to enhance healthcare accessibility by improving cost-effectiveness.¹⁶¹⁷ The project, completed in 2019, will allow for newer and more efficient MRI machines to become accessible by rural populations.¹⁶¹⁸

On 30 November 2017, Minister of Health JP Nadda and Italian Minister of Health Beatrice Lorenzin signed a memorandum of understanding to collaborate in the field of pharmaceuticals, training of medical personnel, climate change impact, food safety, and hygiene awareness.¹⁶¹⁹

¹⁶¹¹ 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>.

¹⁶¹² 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>.

¹⁶¹³ 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>.

¹⁶¹⁴ 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>.

¹⁶¹⁵ 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>.

¹⁶¹⁶ 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>.

¹⁶¹⁷ 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>.

¹⁶¹⁸ 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>.

¹⁶¹⁹ India and Italy sign MoU for enhanced cooperation in health sector, Jagran Josh (India) 30 November 2017. Access Date: 20 December 2018. <https://www.jagranjosh.com/current-affairs/india-and-italy-sign-mou-for-enhanced-cooperation-in-health-sector-1512027192-1>.

On 7 December 2017, Minister Nadda and Cuban Minister of Public Health Dr. Roberto Tomas Morales Ojeda signed a memorandum of understanding to cooperate in the field of biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.¹⁶²⁰ The countries will also be exchanging and training of medical and healthcare personnel.¹⁶²¹ 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.¹⁶²²

On 24 January 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO) awarded prequalification to ROTVAC, a rotavirus vaccine. This vaccine prevents deaths and hospitalization due to rotavirus diarrhea.¹⁶²³ While the vaccine was launched in 2015 and became a part of the national immunization program in 2016, this prequalification will increase accessibility of ROTVAC vaccine in developing countries with a high prevalence of the rotavirus.¹⁶²⁴

On 31 January 2018, the Kakamega County General Hospital in Kenya to provide primary and secondary care as a result of the INR2 billion worth agreement signed between Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta and Prime Minister Modi.¹⁶²⁵ India will be bringing oncology experts and medical professionals to Kenya to enhance primary and secondary oncology care in Kenya.¹⁶²⁶

On 5 February 2018, delegates from top National Health Service (NHS) hospitals arrived in India to discuss innovation in healthcare through implementation of cutting-edge technology, such as artificial intelligence, wearable sensors and virtual reality.¹⁶²⁷ The British delegation aims to discuss cost-effectiveness, increased accessibility in remote areas, and personalized care with India.¹⁶²⁸

On 5 February 2018, the Export Import Bank of India (EXIM) announced its plan to invest in Myanmar's healthcare sector to improve health care facilities and provide accessible high-quality care

¹⁶²⁰ 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>.

¹⁶²¹ 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>.

¹⁶²² 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>.

¹⁶²³ WHO grants prequalification to Bharat Biotech's rotavirus vaccine ROTVAC, Biospectrum (India) 24 January 2018. Access Date: 14 March 2018. <https://www.biospectrumindia.com/news/22/10251/who-grants-prequalification-to-bharat-biotechs-rotavirus-vaccine-rotavac.html>.

¹⁶²⁴ WHO grants prequalification to Bharat Biotech's rotavirus vaccine ROTVAC, Biospectrum (India) 24 January 2018. Access Date: 14 March 2018. <https://www.biospectrumindia.com/news/22/10251/who-grants-prequalification-to-bharat-biotechs-rotavirus-vaccine-rotavac.html>.

¹⁶²⁵ India offers medical expertise for cancer treatment in Kenya, Little India (Kenya) 31 January 2018. Access Date: 14 March 2018. <https://www.biospectrumindia.com/news/22/10251/who-grants-prequalification-to-bharat-biotechs-rotavirus-vaccine-rotavac.html>.

¹⁶²⁶ India offers medical expertise for cancer treatment in Kenya, Little India (Kenya) 31 January 2018. Access Date: 14 March 2018. <https://www.biospectrumindia.com/news/22/10251/who-grants-prequalification-to-bharat-biotechs-rotavirus-vaccine-rotavac.html>.

¹⁶²⁷ NHS delegates in India to promote innovation in healthcare, Digital Health (India) 5 February 2018. Access Date: 14 March 2018. <https://www.digitalhealth.net/2018/02/nhs-india-innovation-healthcare/>.

¹⁶²⁸ NHS delegates in India to promote innovation in healthcare, Digital Health (India) 5 February 2018. Access Date: 14 March 2018. <https://www.digitalhealth.net/2018/02/nhs-india-innovation-healthcare/>.

through Exim Bank's Market Outreach Programme.¹⁶²⁹ EXIM was set up in 1982 under an act of parliament.¹⁶³⁰

On 15 February 2018, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani met with Prime Minister Modi to sign two Memorandums of Understanding to foster co-operation in healthcare, focusing on establishing human resources and health care facilities in both nations.¹⁶³¹ Both parties also plan to collaborate in exchanging knowledge about traditional medicine and drug/drugless therapies.¹⁶³²

On 19-20 February 2018, India, along with representatives from 13 other countries and WHO, met in Canberra at the inaugural the Global Digital Health Partnership Summit, hosted by the Australian Digital Health Agency.¹⁶³³ 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.¹⁶³⁴

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.¹⁶³⁵

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 score of +1.

Analyst: Drishti Thakkar

Indonesia: +1

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

¹⁶²⁹ 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-s-exim-bank-invest-myanmar-s-healthcare-sector>.

¹⁶³⁰ 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-s-exim-bank-invest-myanmar-s-healthcare-sector>.

¹⁶³¹ 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-s-exim-bank-invest-myanmar-s-healthcare-sector>.

¹⁶³² 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-s-exim-bank-invest-myanmar-s-healthcare-sector>.

¹⁶³³ 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>.

¹⁶³⁴ 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>.

¹⁶³⁵ 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.

On 15 July 2017, the Ministry of Health recruited and trained 1,963 Hajj providers to support the annual pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia, with the aim of ensuring that each pilgrim, Indonesian or non-Indonesian, could receive immediate medical attention from qualified personnel.¹⁶³⁶

On 31 August 2017, Minister of Foreign Affairs Retno LP Marsudi launched the Indonesian Humanitarian Alliance with Myanmar (AKIM) consisting of 11 community organizations to provide humanitarian aid to the Burmese state of Rakhine.¹⁶³⁷ The alliance consists of health, education, economy and basic assistance programs, and will last for two years.¹⁶³⁸ 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.¹⁶³⁹

On 3 September 2017, Indonesia promised to evaluate implementation of K3 in companies yearly and compensate companies devoted to K3 for their employees.¹⁶⁴⁰ The government also displayed support to Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries to increase cooperation in implementation of occupational safety and health (K3) to achieve sustainable economic growth at the ASEAN summit.¹⁶⁴¹

On 7 September 2017, 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.¹⁶⁴² 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.¹⁶⁴³

On 22 September 2017, Minister 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 Sustainable Development Goals at the United Nations

¹⁶³⁶ Ministry of Health Prepares 1,963 Hajj Health Provider 2017, Hidayatullah.com (Jakarta) 15 July 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://www.hidayatullah.com/berita/info-haji-umrah/read/2017/07/15/119866/kemenkes-siapkan-1-963-tenaga-penyelenggara-kesehatan-haji-2017.html>.

¹⁶³⁷ 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>.

¹⁶³⁸ 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>.

¹⁶³⁹ 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>.

¹⁶⁴⁰ 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>.

¹⁶⁴¹ 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>.

¹⁶⁴² Indonesia calls for health action to address climate change, Antara News (Jakarta) 8 September 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://www.antaraneews.com/berita/651427/indonesia-serukan-aksi-kesehatan-untuk-menghadapi-perubahan-iklim>.

¹⁶⁴³ Indonesia calls for health action to address climate change, Antara News (Jakarta) 8 September 2017. Access Date: 22 November 2017. <https://www.antaraneews.com/berita/651427/indonesia-serukan-aksi-kesehatan-untuk-menghadapi-perubahan-iklim>.

Minamata Convention.¹⁶⁴⁴ This is in response to complying a constitutional mandate to protect Indonesians from the threat of mercury pollution endangering human and ecosystem health.¹⁶⁴⁵

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.¹⁶⁴⁶ Indonesia specifically pledged to help Japan meet its growing need for caregivers, and its need for skilled nurses.¹⁶⁴⁷

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 to meet the growing need of nurses in Japan.¹⁶⁴⁸

On 20 November 2017, Indonesia officially began construction of a hospital in Myanmar's western Rakhine state.¹⁶⁴⁹ The hospital cost USD1.8 million to build.¹⁶⁵⁰ The hospital will be completed mid-2018 and can be used by the Rakhine population.¹⁶⁵¹ The construction involves local contractors and raw materials from surrounding areas aiming to improve local economic opportunities.¹⁶⁵² The hospital was inaugurated by Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar, representatives of Myanmar's Ministry of Health, humanitarian organizations, the Indonesia Medical Emergency Rescue Committee, local community leaders, and Buddhists and Muslims.¹⁶⁵³

¹⁶⁴⁴ 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>.

¹⁶⁴⁵ 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>.

¹⁶⁴⁶ 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>.

¹⁶⁴⁷ 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>.

¹⁶⁴⁸ 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>.

¹⁶⁴⁹ 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>.

¹⁶⁵⁰ 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>.

¹⁶⁵¹ 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>.

¹⁶⁵² 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>.

¹⁶⁵³ 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>.

On 22 November 2017, Kaikoukai Healthcare Group from Japan visited Indonesia to expand the Kaikoukai Clinic Senayan program, which provides medical tourism services from Indonesia to Japan called Kaikoukai Japan Medical Tourism.¹⁶⁵⁴ 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 countries.¹⁶⁵⁵

On 22 December 2017, Indonesia and United States launched a five-year program to improve health services for marginalized mothers and their newborns, in order to reduce preventable deaths.¹⁶⁵⁶ The aim of this program is to increase the efficiency of the health system by integrating health professionals, policymakers and insurance providers.¹⁶⁵⁷

On 29 December 2017, Minister of National Planning Bambang Brodjonegoro signed a memorandum of understanding with member countries of the Islamic Development Bank in Saudi Arabia.¹⁶⁵⁸ The countries will be cooperating on vaccine and pharmaceutical development amongst other economic collaborations.¹⁶⁵⁹

On 23 February 2018, Indonesia, 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.¹⁶⁶⁰ 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.¹⁶⁶¹

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 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.

¹⁶⁵⁴ 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>.

¹⁶⁵⁵ 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>.

¹⁶⁵⁶ 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/>.

¹⁶⁵⁷ 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/>.

¹⁶⁵⁸ 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>.

¹⁶⁵⁹ 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>.

¹⁶⁶⁰ 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>.

¹⁶⁶¹ 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>.

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 28 July 2017, the Italian government enacted the Vaccine Decree, which makes ten vaccinations for children up to sixteen years old.¹⁶⁶² These vaccinations include anti-polio, anti-diphtheria, anti-tetanus, anti-hepatitis B, pertussis, measles, mumps, rubella, varicella and anti-Haemophilus influenzae type b.¹⁶⁶³ The law was based on the recommendation made by the World Health Organization (WHO) to maintain “flock immunity” in response to lowering rates of vaccinations.¹⁶⁶⁴

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 2017-2022.¹⁶⁶⁵ The partnership aims to strengthen Italy’s national health policies, address the problem of communicable diseases, and strengthen Italy’s role in global health.¹⁶⁶⁶

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.¹⁶⁶⁷

¹⁶⁶² 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>.

¹⁶⁶³ 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>.

¹⁶⁶⁴ 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>.

¹⁶⁶⁵ 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>.

¹⁶⁶⁶ 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>.

¹⁶⁶⁷ WHO and Italy sign first country cooperation strategy, Ministry of Health (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.

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.¹⁶⁶⁸ The funding will help ensure that Palestinian women will have better access to health services.¹⁶⁶⁹

On 4 November 2017, the Ministry of Health hosted the Global Nutrition Summit 2017 in Milan.¹⁶⁷⁰ 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.¹⁶⁷¹ It also resulted in commitments from the governments of Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, and Madagascar to increase nutrition programs, as well as a commitment from the World Bank to extend and increase 2013 spending commitments on nutrition.¹⁶⁷²

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.¹⁶⁷³ 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.¹⁶⁷⁴

On 14 November 2017, the Italian government contributed EUR4.3 million to eradicate polio and improve the nutritional status of children in Afghanistan.¹⁶⁷⁵ 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.¹⁶⁷⁶ The remaining EUR1.8 million will go to the UN Children's Fund

¹⁶⁶⁸ 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_Oda04adf-e899-43ed-9892-c2a3ea364c12.html.

¹⁶⁶⁹ 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_Oda04adf-e899-43ed-9892-c2a3ea364c12.html.

¹⁶⁷⁰ 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/>.

¹⁶⁷¹ 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/>.

¹⁶⁷² 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/>.

¹⁶⁷³ 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>.

¹⁶⁷⁴ 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>.

¹⁶⁷⁵ 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>.

¹⁶⁷⁶ 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>.

(UNICEF) to improve nutritional services for children under the age of five.¹⁶⁷⁷ This financial assistance will help to cover training of vaccinators, the delivery of vaccines, the monitoring of the coverage and quality of vaccination activities.¹⁶⁷⁸ In addition, the funds will help prevent new cases of malnutrition and strengthen community-based nutrition programming.¹⁶⁷⁹

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 pharmaceutical industry and regulation.¹⁶⁸⁰ In addition, they agreed to cooperate in training medical personnel and improving nutrition.¹⁶⁸¹

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 2017-2020.¹⁶⁸² The contribution will help the Somalian government reduce maternal deaths, address the issue of birth spacing, and end violence and harmful practices against women and girls.¹⁶⁸³

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).¹⁶⁸⁴ The GDHP "is an opportunity for deep, transformational engagement by governments,

¹⁶⁷⁷ 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>.

¹⁶⁷⁸ 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>.

¹⁶⁷⁹ 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>.

¹⁶⁸⁰ 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.

¹⁶⁸¹ 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.

¹⁶⁸² 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>.
¹⁶⁸³ 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>.
¹⁶⁸⁴ 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>.

digital health agencies, and the WHO so they can learn, share policy and other evidence that supports them to deliver better digital health services.”¹⁶⁸⁵

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 Borovský

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.”¹⁶⁸⁶ The project aims to build an organization framework at target Fijian hospitals to effectively integrate 5S-KAIZEN-TQM.¹⁶⁸⁷

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 to discuss cooperation with in the area of health based on each country’s requirements.¹⁶⁸⁸ Indonesia specifically pledged to help Japan meet its growing need for caregivers, and its need for skilled nurses.¹⁶⁸⁹

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.¹⁶⁹⁰ The scheme will involve

¹⁶⁸⁵ 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>.

¹⁶⁸⁶ 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.

¹⁶⁸⁷ 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.

¹⁶⁸⁸ 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>.

¹⁶⁸⁹ 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>.

¹⁶⁹⁰ 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>.

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.¹⁶⁹¹

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.¹⁶⁹² 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.¹⁶⁹³ In the context of Japan, Korea, and China, traditional medicine includes treatments such as acupuncture, herbal medicine, and cupping.¹⁶⁹⁴

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.¹⁶⁹⁵ 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.¹⁶⁹⁶

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 Prevention for Children.¹⁶⁹⁷ The agreement will fund vaccines for routine immunization in Afghanistan and raise awareness of vaccination in the country.¹⁶⁹⁸

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.¹⁶⁹⁹ This agreement

¹⁶⁹¹ 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.

¹⁶⁹² 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>.

¹⁶⁹³ 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>.

¹⁶⁹⁴ 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/>.

¹⁶⁹⁵ 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/>.

¹⁶⁹⁶ 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/>.

¹⁶⁹⁷ 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.

¹⁶⁹⁸ 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.

¹⁶⁹⁹ 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.

will establish a licensing system for Laotian healthcare professionals, introduce a national licensing examination, particularly for nurses, and improve the medical professional training system.¹⁷⁰⁰

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.¹⁷⁰¹ 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.¹⁷⁰²

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.¹⁷⁰³ The new building will include outpatient, diagnostic imaging, surgery and sterilization departments, and laboratory, endoscopy and intensive care units.¹⁷⁰⁴

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.¹⁷⁰⁵ The agreement specifically focuses on providing equipment for the detection and treatment of cancer and cardiovascular diseases.¹⁷⁰⁶

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.¹⁷⁰⁷ JICA also pledged to “strengthen health administration functions and improve the knowledge and technical skills of medical professionals.”¹⁷⁰⁸

¹⁷⁰⁰ 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.

¹⁷⁰¹ 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.

¹⁷⁰² 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.

¹⁷⁰³ 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.

¹⁷⁰⁴ 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.

¹⁷⁰⁵ 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.

¹⁷⁰⁶ 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.

¹⁷⁰⁷ 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.

¹⁷⁰⁸ 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.

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.

Analyst: Anna Wong

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 roll-out electronic reporting health systems in Nepal.¹⁷⁰⁹ 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.¹⁷¹⁰ By June 2018, all 73 health facilities in Nuwakot District will be using e-reporting technology.¹⁷¹¹

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.¹⁷¹² The Ministry of Health and Welfare originally created KOFIH to provide humanitarian assistance through health support projects to developing countries.¹⁷¹³ This contribution is part of the Maternal and Neo-natal healthcare project for safe child birth and prenatal care in Volta.¹⁷¹⁴

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.¹⁷¹⁵ The three-year memorandum of understanding will include training for thoracic surgeons,

¹⁷⁰⁹ Bring the power of digital data to rural Nepal (Berlin) February 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018. http://health.bmz.de/events/In_focus/bringing_power_digital_data_rural_nepal/index.html.

¹⁷¹⁰ Bring the power of digital data to rural Nepal (Berlin) February 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018. http://health.bmz.de/events/In_focus/bringing_power_digital_data_rural_nepal/index.html.

¹⁷¹¹ Bring the power of digital data to rural Nepal (Berlin) February 2018. Access Date: 5 March 2018. http://health.bmz.de/events/In_focus/bringing_power_digital_data_rural_nepal/index.html.

¹⁷¹² 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>.

¹⁷¹³ 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>.

¹⁷¹⁴ 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>.

¹⁷¹⁵ 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>.

pediatricians, operating room nurses, Intensive Care Unit nurses, and anesthesiologists within Ethiopia.¹⁷¹⁶

On 26 July 2017, Korea pledged USD1 million to the World Health Organization (WHO)'s Contingency Fund for Emergencies.¹⁷¹⁷ 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.¹⁷¹⁸

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.¹⁷¹⁹ Over 40 countries, non-governmental organizations, and international organizations gathered to discuss health security and cooperative solutions to prevent and control infectious diseases.¹⁷²⁰

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.¹⁷²¹ 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.¹⁷²²

On 28 August 2017, 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.¹⁷²³ 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.¹⁷²⁴ Korea was found to have strong

¹⁷¹⁶ 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>.

¹⁷¹⁷ 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/.

¹⁷¹⁸ 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/.

¹⁷¹⁹ 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>.

¹⁷²⁰ 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>.

¹⁷²¹ 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.

¹⁷²² 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.

¹⁷²³ 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/>.

¹⁷²⁴ 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/>.

immunization coverage, food borne disease monitoring systems, and laboratories that test for pathogens.¹⁷²⁵ Korea is the first developed country to allow the JEE process.¹⁷²⁶

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.¹⁷²⁷ One of the priorities outlined in the accord is for more structured management of trainees through the official channel between the health ministries.¹⁷²⁸ Additionally, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Seoul National University Bundang Hospital (SNUBH) and the Moscow International Medical Cluster to allow the SNUBH to run a hospital in Russia.¹⁷²⁹

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.¹⁷³⁰ This equipment included video image endoscopy systems, a pediatric bodybuilder with biological feedback, and artificial lungs.¹⁷³¹ 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.¹⁷³²

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.¹⁷³³ This aid will allocate USD4,500,000 towards “nutritional products” for children and pregnant women, and USD3.5 million towards vaccines and medical care.¹⁷³⁴

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.¹⁷³⁵ The course

¹⁷²⁵ 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/>.

¹⁷²⁶ 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/>.

¹⁷²⁷ 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>.

¹⁷²⁸ 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>.

¹⁷²⁹ 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>.

¹⁷³⁰ 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/>.

¹⁷³¹ 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/>.

¹⁷³² 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/>.

¹⁷³³ 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>.

¹⁷³⁴ 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>.

¹⁷³⁵ 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>.

is an eight-week program established to train four Myanmar workers to reform nursing education within their country.¹⁷³⁶ It focuses on the administration of education and the development of a curriculum for health care workers.¹⁷³⁷

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.¹⁷³⁸ 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.¹⁷³⁹ In the context of Korea, China, and Japan, traditional medicine includes treatments such as acupuncture, herbal medicine, and cupping.¹⁷⁴⁰

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).¹⁷⁴¹ These funds will contribute towards the continuation of the UNRWA's educational and health services to Palestinian refugees fleeing from Syria in Jordan.¹⁷⁴² The donation will help fund health centers, free access to schools, and vocational training centers.¹⁷⁴³

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.¹⁷⁴⁴ Qatar and Bahrain representatives met with Korean officials to “discuss state-funded movement of patients across borders and expansion of trading programs for

¹⁷³⁶ 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>.

¹⁷³⁷ 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>.

¹⁷³⁸ 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>.

¹⁷³⁹ 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>.

¹⁷⁴⁰ 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/>.

¹⁷⁴¹ 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>.

¹⁷⁴² 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>.

¹⁷⁴³ 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>.

¹⁷⁴⁴ 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>.

medical personnel.”¹⁷⁴⁵ Korea, Croatia, and Nicaragua also signed a memorandum of understanding to increase medical cooperation.¹⁷⁴⁶

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.¹⁷⁴⁷ The centre will target the treatment of ear, nose, and throat diseases.¹⁷⁴⁸ 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.¹⁷⁴⁹

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.¹⁷⁵⁰ The goal of this system is to strengthen the quality of medical care.¹⁷⁵¹ Korean and Mongolian doctors will cooperate to assess their patients through an online based system.¹⁷⁵²

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.¹⁷⁵³ The agreement is a chance to strengthen Iranian employment rates and to develop Iran’s medical technology.¹⁷⁵⁴

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].”¹⁷⁵⁵ These areas include advancing health care coverage, and

¹⁷⁴⁵ 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>.

¹⁷⁴⁶ 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>.

¹⁷⁴⁷ 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/>.

¹⁷⁴⁸ 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/>.

¹⁷⁴⁹ 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/>.

¹⁷⁵⁰ 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>.

¹⁷⁵¹ 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>.

¹⁷⁵² 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>.

¹⁷⁵³ 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>

¹⁷⁵⁴ 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>

¹⁷⁵⁵ 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>

furthering the technology of traditional medicine, mental health, patient safety, and aging.¹⁷⁵⁶ Both Ministries agreed to work together to prepare and manage infectious diseases and cancer.¹⁷⁵⁷

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.”¹⁷⁵⁸ 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.¹⁷⁵⁹

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.¹⁷⁶⁰ These e-Trackers allow workers to input patient information that automatically relays to the District Health Information System database.¹⁷⁶¹ Samsung contributed USD2 million for this project, and KOICA facilitated the USAID-Samsung initiative.¹⁷⁶²

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.¹⁷⁶³

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).¹⁷⁶⁴ The GDHP “is an opportunity for deep, transformational engagement by governments,

¹⁷⁵⁶ 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>

¹⁷⁵⁷ 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>

¹⁷⁵⁸ 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>

¹⁷⁵⁹ 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>

¹⁷⁶⁰ 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>.

¹⁷⁶¹ 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>.

¹⁷⁶² 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>.

¹⁷⁶³ 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>.

¹⁷⁶⁴ Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2018. Date of Access: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

digital health agencies, and the WHO so they can learn, share policy and other evidence that supports them to deliver better digital health services.”¹⁷⁶⁵

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.

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.¹⁷⁶⁶ 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 2030.¹⁷⁶⁷

On 7 March 2018, the governments of Mexico and Ecuador negotiated an agreement to participate in six technical cooperation projects until 2020.¹⁷⁶⁸ The projects focus on agriculture and on health, and include the sharing of Ecuador’s national emergency service, ECU 911, in order to improve

¹⁷⁶⁵ Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2018. Date of Access: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

¹⁷⁶⁶ 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>.

¹⁷⁶⁷ 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>.

¹⁷⁶⁸ Ecuador and Mexico negotiate six projects in technological operation on emergencies, agriculture and health, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (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/>.

emergency response times in Mexico.¹⁷⁶⁹ The countries shall also collaborate to improve food and non-alcoholic beverage labelling.¹⁷⁷⁰

While Mexico has demonstrated cooperative action by participating in the Third Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean on HIV/AIDS and has undertaken some steps to improve their health system in conjunction with Ecuador, Mexico has not taken action to improve either the international or 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.”¹⁷⁷¹ 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.¹⁷⁷² This separate agreement will allow SNUBH to become the first Korean medical institution to operate in Russia.¹⁷⁷³

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.¹⁷⁷⁴ 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

¹⁷⁶⁹ Ecuador and Mexico negotiate six projects in technological cooperation on emergencies, agriculture and health, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (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/>.

¹⁷⁷⁰ Ecuador and Mexico negotiate six projects in technological cooperation on emergencies, agriculture and health, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (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/>.

¹⁷⁷¹ Russian-South Korean Talks, President of Russia (Moscow) September 2017. Access Date: 19 March 2018.

<http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/55540>.

¹⁷⁷² 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>.

¹⁷⁷³ 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>.

¹⁷⁷⁴ WHO hosts training for Russian translators in Moscow, World Health Organization: Regional Office for Europe, 31 October 2017. Date of Access: 22 November 2017. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/russian-federation/news/news/2017/10/who-hosts-training-for-russian-translators-in-moscow>.

systems in the Russian language.¹⁷⁷⁵ The purpose of the training course was to strengthen Russia's capacity to produce health information in the Russian language.¹⁷⁷⁶

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.¹⁷⁷⁷ 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.¹⁷⁷⁸

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.¹⁷⁷⁹ The helicopters will serve to improve sanitary transportation of patients to emergency medical treatment in southern Georgia and North Caucasus.¹⁷⁸⁰ Russian specialists will also provide infrastructure to maintain the aircrafts and train local specialists in service and maintenance.¹⁷⁸¹

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.¹⁷⁸² 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-68.¹⁷⁸³

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 course with WHO.

¹⁷⁷⁵ WHO hosts training for Russian translators in Moscow, World Health Organization: Regional Office for Europe, 31 October 2017. Date of Access: 22 November 2017. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/russian-federation/news/news/2017/10/who-hosts-training-for-russian-translators-in-moscow>.

¹⁷⁷⁶ WHO hosts training for Russian translators in Moscow, World Health Organization: Regional Office for Europe, 31 October 2017. Date of Access: 22 November 2017. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/russian-federation/news/news/2017/10/who-hosts-training-for-russian-translators-in-moscow>.

¹⁷⁷⁷ 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%3Apaho-russian-federation-sign-agreement-on-public-health-cooperation&catid=1443%3Aweb-bulletins&Itemid=135&lang=en.

¹⁷⁷⁸ 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%3Apaho-russian-federation-sign-agreement-on-public-health-cooperation&catid=1443%3Aweb-bulletins&Itemid=135&lang=en.

¹⁷⁷⁹ 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>.

¹⁷⁸⁰ 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>.

¹⁷⁸¹ 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>.

¹⁷⁸² 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/>.

¹⁷⁸³ 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>.

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mary Zelenova

Saudi Arabia: 0

Saudi Arabia has partially 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).¹⁷⁸⁴ The move includes the conversion of hospitals and health centres into public sector companies, as well as conducting public health awareness campaigns.¹⁷⁸⁵

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.¹⁷⁸⁶ The agreement focuses on early disease diagnosis, particularly regarding lifestyle-related diseases.¹⁷⁸⁷

On 31 October 2017, the King Salman Center for Relief and Humanitarian Aid signed an agreement with the International Committee of the Red Cross to provide emergency healthcare and activities in Yemen for 3.43 million people.¹⁷⁸⁸

While Saudi Arabia has worked to develop its domestic health capacity with WHO, has strengthened the health systems in Kyrgyzstan, and has demonstrated cooperative actions with Finland and the ICRC, it has not participated in initiatives to strengthen the health workforce.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Anna Wong

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

¹⁷⁸⁴ 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>.

¹⁷⁸⁵ 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>.

¹⁷⁸⁶ 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>.

¹⁷⁸⁷ The cooperation in health care between Finland and Saudi Arabia deepened with the visit of Finnish health care 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>.

¹⁷⁸⁸ 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>.

Organization (WHO).¹⁷⁸⁹ 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.¹⁷⁹⁰ At the forum, WHO reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the DTI in gathering public health data to support its activities.¹⁷⁹¹

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.¹⁷⁹² GARDP “aims to develop 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.¹⁷⁹³ South Africa pledged funding alongside Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Luxembourg and the United Kingdom, as well as the Wellcome Trust.¹⁷⁹⁴

On 27 October 2017, the DTI and the United Nations released a joint statement concerning the development of South Africa’s intellectual property policy.¹⁷⁹⁵ The statement specifically addressed the ways in which intellectual property intersects with health, especially regarding vaccines and other methods of treatment.¹⁷⁹⁶ 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.”¹⁷⁹⁷

On 1 February 2018, the South African government announced the opening of ten new ophthalmology clinics in Soweto and surrounding areas.¹⁷⁹⁸ The initiative is a cross-border public-private partnership between the Gauteng Department of Health, the Standard Chartered Bank, and

¹⁷⁸⁹ 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>.

¹⁷⁹⁰ 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>.

¹⁷⁹¹ 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>.

¹⁷⁹² 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>.

¹⁷⁹³ 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>.

¹⁷⁹⁴ 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>.

¹⁷⁹⁵ 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>.

¹⁷⁹⁶ 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>.

¹⁷⁹⁷ 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>.

¹⁷⁹⁸ 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>.

the Brien Holden Vision Institute.¹⁷⁹⁹ 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 2020.¹⁸⁰⁰

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.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of 1.

Analyst: Armin Safavi

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.¹⁸⁰¹ TIKA's donation of a patient simulator, vital systems monitor, and drug recognition computer program will improve and expand the capacity for student training.¹⁸⁰²

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.¹⁸⁰³ 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.¹⁸⁰⁴

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,

¹⁷⁹⁹ 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>.

¹⁸⁰⁰ 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>.

¹⁸⁰¹ 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>.

¹⁸⁰² 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.

¹⁸⁰³ 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.

¹⁸⁰⁴ 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.

ITS, UTS licensing, and e-prescription” with Pakistani health officials.¹⁸⁰⁵ The agreement was part of a three-day Pakistan-Turkey Health Expo in Lahore tasked with boosting Pakistan’s healthcare sector.¹⁸⁰⁶

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.¹⁸⁰⁷

On 24 November 2017, TIKA announced the completion of a six-week project to provide health screening to low-income populations in Manila, Philippines.¹⁸⁰⁸ Over 15,000 people received medical diagnoses, dental treatment, optic examinations, eyeglass distribution, and prescription drugs from Turkish and Filipino doctors and volunteers.¹⁸⁰⁹ 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.¹⁸¹⁰

On 20 December 2017, Minister of Health Ahmet Demircan announced the ministry would provide aid and treatment to three Palestinian children born with congenital amputations and other defects.¹⁸¹¹ The Minister also revealed Turkey constructed a hospital in Gaza, which is set to open soon.¹⁸¹²

On 27 December 2017, the Turkish government announced a plan to improve the country’s stake in global health tourism.¹⁸¹³ 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.¹⁸¹⁴ A “Health Promotion Group” will

¹⁸⁰⁵ 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>.

¹⁸⁰⁶ 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>.

¹⁸⁰⁷ 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>.

¹⁸⁰⁸ 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.

¹⁸⁰⁹ 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.

¹⁸¹⁰ 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.

¹⁸¹¹ 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>.

¹⁸¹¹ 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>.

¹⁸¹² 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>.

¹⁸¹³ 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>.

¹⁸¹⁴ 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>.

be created to proliferate the Turkish health tourism sector, under which branches in which Turkish doctors prove adept will be introduced internationally.¹⁸¹⁵

On 27 December 2017, the Turkish and Iraqi governments ratified a healthcare cooperation agreement.¹⁸¹⁶ 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.¹⁸¹⁷ The two nations will also exchange experience in the medical field.¹⁸¹⁸

On 11 January 2018, TIKA completed renovations on a male dormitory in Yemen's Emin Nashir Health Institute.¹⁸¹⁹ The institute trains doctors and other health professionals in Yemen.¹⁸²⁰ The aid came after the dorms became unusable due to civil unrest in the country.¹⁸²¹ Now, the Institute will be able to accommodate more students into training than before.¹⁸²²

On 25 January 2018, TIKA announced the opening of the Shadyan BHC Clinic in Balkh Province in Afghanistan.¹⁸²³ 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.¹⁸²⁴ TIKA is also providing medical supplies and equipment.¹⁸²⁵

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.¹⁸²⁶ 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.¹⁸²⁷

On 28 February 2018, Chair of the Foreign Economic Relations Board Falti Atunbas announced the establishment of a Turkey-Mali Business Council during President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's visit to

¹⁸¹⁵ 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>.

¹⁸¹⁶ 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>.

¹⁸¹⁷ 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>.

¹⁸¹⁸ 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>.

¹⁸¹⁹ 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.

¹⁸²⁰ 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.

¹⁸²¹ 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.

¹⁸²² 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.

¹⁸²³ 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.

¹⁸²⁴ 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.

¹⁸²⁵ 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.

¹⁸²⁶ 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>.

¹⁸²⁷ 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>.

the country.¹⁸²⁸ 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.¹⁸²⁹

On 16 March 2018, the Ministry of Health announced that two “health weeks” were being held in Djibouti and Sudan respectively.¹⁸³⁰ 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.¹⁸³¹ Over the week, Turkish doctors provided over 1000 Djiboutian patients with medical consultations, performed 119 surgeries, and gave 38 Djiboutian healthcare professionals with on-site training in four cities.¹⁸³² In Sudan, a medical delegation was sent to perform plastic surgery on 100 children suffering from cleft lip and palate.¹⁸³³

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.¹⁸³⁴ This step is taken in conjunction with the World Health

¹⁸²⁸ 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>.

¹⁸²⁹ 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>.

¹⁸³⁰ 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>.

¹⁸³¹ 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>.

¹⁸³² 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>.

¹⁸³³ 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>.

¹⁸³⁴ World Hepatitis Day: Making Hepatitis Elimination a Reality, World Health Organization: Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 27 July 2017. Date of Access: 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.¹⁸³⁵

On 4 August 2017, the UK announced final efforts to eliminate polio globally.¹⁸³⁶ 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 2020.¹⁸³⁷ The funding will be channelled through WHO to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.¹⁸³⁸

On 11 August 2017, Secretary Patel announced the UK's renewed support for combatting cholera outbreaks in Yemen.¹⁸³⁹ The UK's support includes the provision of medical and sanitation supplies, and the rehabilitation of medical facilities to help 250,000 people.¹⁸⁴⁰ 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.¹⁸⁴¹

On 5 September 2017, Healthcare UK announced its support for a large project in India to create a network of 11 Medicities across India.¹⁸⁴² The programme, called the Indo-UK Institute of Health, is one of the largest healthcare initiatives in the world.¹⁸⁴³ The programme aims to provide integrated healthcare across all of India through partnering with global professionals in research, education, technology, and health care.¹⁸⁴⁴

On 2 November 2017, the Department for International Development announced the opening of a diagnostic laboratory at Connaught Hospital in Freetown, Sierra Leone.¹⁸⁴⁵ The laboratory will work

¹⁸³⁵ World Hepatitis Day: Making Hepatitis Elimination a Reality, World Health Organization: Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 27 July 2017. Date of Access: 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>.

¹⁸³⁶ 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>.

¹⁸³⁷ 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>.

¹⁸³⁸ 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>.

¹⁸³⁹ 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>.

¹⁸⁴⁰ 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>.

¹⁸⁴¹ 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>.

¹⁸⁴² India's Major Healthcare System Development, UK Government (UK) 5 September 2017. Date of Access: 15 December 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/indias-major-healthcare-system-development>.

¹⁸⁴³ India's Major Healthcare System Development, UK Government (UK) 5 September 2017. Date of Access: 15 December 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/indias-major-healthcare-system-development>.

¹⁸⁴⁴ India's Major Healthcare System Development, UK Government (UK) 5 September 2017. Date of Access: 15 December 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/indias-major-healthcare-system-development>.

¹⁸⁴⁵ 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.¹⁸⁴⁶ Its construction was accompanied by the training of local health technicians in molecular virology by Public Health England.¹⁸⁴⁷

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.¹⁸⁴⁸ The collaboration is expected to help share knowledge, expertise, and resources to improve the state of healthcare in both China and the UK.¹⁸⁴⁹

On 14 December 2017, Minister for Africa Rory Stewart has announced an additional GBP52 million package to help people affected by the humanitarian crisis in South Sudan.¹⁸⁵⁰ 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.¹⁸⁵¹

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 2018.¹⁸⁵² International Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt also confirmed the UK government's support for the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).¹⁸⁵³ The additional GBP21 million provided since the January 2018 will be added to the GBP55m as part of the UK's CERF funding of 2017.¹⁸⁵⁴

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.¹⁸⁵⁵

¹⁸⁴⁶ 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>.

¹⁸⁴⁷ 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>.

¹⁸⁴⁸ UK and China agree to £70 million of Business in Health Sectors, UK Government (UK) 8 December 2017. Date of Access: 14 December 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-china-agree-70-million-of-business-in-health-sectors>.

¹⁸⁴⁹ UK and China agree to £70 million of Business in Health Sectors, UK Government (UK) 8 December 2017. Date of Access: 14 December 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-china-agree-70-million-of-business-in-health-sectors>.

¹⁸⁵⁰ New UK Aid Support for South Sudan, UK Government (UK) 14 December 2017. Date of Access: 13 January 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-support-for-south-sudan>.

¹⁸⁵¹ New UK Aid Support for South Sudan, UK Government, (UK) 14 December 2017. Date of Access: 13 January 2018. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-support-for-south-sudan>.

¹⁸⁵² UK to add £21m to emergency aid fund for food, health services and clean water in 'bleak' 2018, The Independent (London) 31 December 2017. Date of Access: 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>.

¹⁸⁵³ UK to add £21m to emergency aid fund for food, health services and clean water in 'bleak' 2018, The Independent (London) 31 December 2017. Date of Access: 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>.

¹⁸⁵⁴ UK to add £21m to emergency aid fund for food, health services and clean water in 'bleak' 2018, The Independent (London) 31 December 2017. Date of Access: 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>.

¹⁸⁵⁵ 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.¹⁸⁵⁶

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.¹⁸⁵⁷ The UK doctors, nurses and paramedics triaged over 3,000 people and trained Bangladeshi health professionals in infection prevention and control.¹⁸⁵⁸ The aid was provided in conjunction with WHO, the International Organization for Migration, and Médecins sans Frontières.¹⁸⁵⁹

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).¹⁸⁶⁰ 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.”¹⁸⁶¹

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.¹⁸⁶² Minister Baldwin announced a contribution of GBP5 million to the program.¹⁸⁶³

¹⁸⁵⁶ 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>.

¹⁸⁵⁷ 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>.

¹⁸⁵⁸ 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>.

¹⁸⁵⁹ 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>.

¹⁸⁶⁰ Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency (Canberra) February 2018. Date of Access: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

¹⁸⁶¹ Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency (Canberra) February 2018. Date of Access: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

¹⁸⁶² 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>.

¹⁸⁶³ 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.¹⁸⁶⁴ 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.¹⁸⁶⁵

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 and has also developed the health workforce by supporting Nursing Now, and training healthcare workers in Bangladesh and Sierra Leone.

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.¹⁸⁶⁶

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).¹⁸⁶⁷ The strategy emphasizes the importance of targeted interventions as well as educational programming to further the global HIV/AIDS response.¹⁸⁶⁸ PEPFAR works with many low and middle-income

¹⁸⁶⁴The 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.

¹⁸⁶⁵ 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>.

¹⁸⁶⁶ 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>.

¹⁸⁶⁷ 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>.

¹⁸⁶⁸ 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>.

countries to contain the global HIV/AIDS pandemic.¹⁸⁶⁹ For the 2018 fiscal year, the US Government allocated USD5.6 billion to PEPFAR.¹⁸⁷⁰

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).¹⁸⁷¹ 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.¹⁸⁷² Support from PMI will enhance "overall country capacity and [strengthen] health systems while improving malaria prevention and treatment services. PMI support includes strengthening supply chain logistics, malaria case surveillance, and monitoring and evaluation of impact."¹⁸⁷³

On 26 September 2017, the US and Brazilian governments signed a partnership to produce the second stage of the Zika vaccine.¹⁸⁷⁴ This agreement was signed between Minister of Health Thomas Price and Brazilian Minister of Health Ricardo Barros at the Pan American Sanitary Conference.¹⁸⁷⁵ The agreement marks the beginning the human testing phase of the Zika vaccine clinical trial.¹⁸⁷⁶ The American and Brazilian researchers will streamline the vaccine production process to develop it efficiently.¹⁸⁷⁷

¹⁸⁶⁹ .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>.

¹⁸⁷⁰ 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>.

¹⁸⁷¹ 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>.

¹⁸⁷² 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>.

¹⁸⁷³ 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>.

¹⁸⁷⁴ 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>.

¹⁸⁷⁵ 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>.

¹⁸⁷⁶ 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>.

¹⁸⁷⁷ 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 13 October 2017, USAID launched several “Transform” initiatives to aid Ethiopia in preventing maternal and child deaths alongside the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).¹⁸⁷⁸ 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.¹⁸⁷⁹

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.¹⁸⁸⁰ 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.¹⁸⁸¹

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 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.”¹⁸⁸² The program is projected to reach up to 600,000 pregnant women and save 10,000 lives over the next five years.¹⁸⁸³

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.¹⁸⁸⁴ 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.¹⁸⁸⁵

On 18 January 2018, PEPFAR released its Fiscal Year 2018 Country Operational Plan Guidance for Standard Countries.¹⁸⁸⁶ The guidance tracks the annual investments of the US government “to ensure

¹⁸⁷⁸ 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/usaid-launches-181-million-activities-help-prevent-maternal-child-deaths/>.

¹⁸⁷⁹ 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/usaid-launches-181-million-activities-help-prevent-maternal-child-deaths/>.

¹⁸⁸⁰ 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>.

¹⁸⁸¹ 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>.

¹⁸⁸² 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>.

¹⁸⁸³ 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>.

¹⁸⁸⁴ 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/>.

¹⁸⁸⁵ 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/>.

¹⁸⁸⁶ 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>.

every US dollar is maximally focused and traceable for impact.”¹⁸⁸⁷ The plan contains country specific plans and denotes areas of focus for the 2018 activities of PEPFAR and its partner organizations and countries.¹⁸⁸⁸ 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.”¹⁸⁸⁹

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.¹⁸⁹⁰ These e-Trackers allow workers to input patient information that automatically relays to the District Health Information System database.¹⁸⁹¹

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).¹⁸⁹² 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.”¹⁸⁹³

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.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Olivia Smith

1887 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>.

¹⁸⁸⁸ 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>.

1889 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>.

¹⁸⁹⁰ 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>.

¹⁸⁹¹ 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>.

¹⁸⁹² Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2018. Date of Access: 7 March 2018. <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

¹⁸⁹³ Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency (Canberra) February 2018. Date of Access: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

European Union: +1

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

On 13 July 2017, 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, at a High-Level Meeting on the Internally Displaced Persons Crisis in Mosul.¹⁸⁹⁴

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 “human resources are lacking, in particular for intensive care units or in the nursing sector.”¹⁸⁹⁵

On 13 September 2017, the European Commission launched the Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections.¹⁸⁹⁶ This initiative brings together 44 partners from across Europe, including EU members and international organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.¹⁸⁹⁷ The initiative is co-funded by the third Health Programme of the EU 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.”¹⁸⁹⁸

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.¹⁸⁹⁹

On 16 November 2017, the EU announced a EUR400 million aid package to assist Guinea in its recovery from the Ebola epidemic.¹⁹⁰⁰ This aid package includes EUR40 million of funding that will

¹⁸⁹⁴ Humanitarian aid for Iraq - EU announces additional €30 million, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (Brussels) July 2017. Date of Access: 21 November 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/humanitarian-aid-iraq-eu-announces-additional-30-million_en.

¹⁸⁹⁵ €10 million in emergency assistance for increasing humanitarian needs in Libya, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (Brussels) July 2017. Date of Access: 21 November 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/10-million-emergency-assistance-respond-increasing-humanitarian-needs-libya_en.

¹⁸⁹⁶ Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections, European Commission-CHAFEA (Brussels) September 2017. Date of Access: 21 November 2017. <http://ec.europa.eu/chafea/news/news522.html>.

¹⁸⁹⁷ Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance & Healthcare-Associated Infections “EU-JAMRAI” Kick-off Meeting Agenda, EU-JAMRAI (Brussels) September 2017. Date of Access: 21 November 2017. https://eu-jamrai.sciencesconf.org/data/EU_JAMRAI_Kickoff_Agenda_VF2.pdf.

¹⁸⁹⁸ EU: Joint action on antimicrobial resistance to be launched in Paris tomorrow, Science Business (UK) September 2017. Date of Access: 21 November 2017. <https://sciencebusiness.net/healthy-measures/news/eu-joint-action-antimicrobial-resistance-be-launched-paris-tomorrow>.

¹⁸⁹⁹ Commissioner Stylianides announces additional €10 million EU humanitarian aid for Iraq, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (Brussels) September 2017. Date of Access: 21 November 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/commissioner-stylianides-announces-additional-10-million-eu-humanitarian-aid-iraq_en.

¹⁹⁰⁰ The European Union announces €400 million to support Guinea, The European Commission (Brussels) November 2017. Date of Access: 15 January 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-4691_en.htm.

“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.”¹⁹⁰¹

On 12 December 2017, the EU committed EUR10.9 million to support the development of health systems in Libya.¹⁹⁰² The 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.”¹⁹⁰³ It will be used in partnership with the UN.¹⁹⁰⁴

On 30 December 2017, an EU-funded mobile reproductive team from the UN Population Fund provided healthcare services to 80 vulnerable women in Aleppo, Syria.¹⁹⁰⁵ Health services, particularly focused on maternal health, is the EU’s top priority in the area. The team is expected to help enable a regular delivery of services by humanitarian partners through mobile units in Aleppo.¹⁹⁰⁶

On 27 February 2018, Commissioner of Health Vytenis Andriukaitis met with Iranian Health Minister Hassan Ghazizadeh Hashemi in Brussels and 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 Eliminate illicit trade of tobacco under WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, a number of sanitary and phytosanitary issues, and collaboration on health research.”¹⁹⁰⁷ The meeting laid the groundwork for a joint workshop on health research and innovation to be held in Tehran in April.¹⁹⁰⁸

The European Union has a robust and multivalent strategy to strengthen health systems, as demonstrated by their financial and material support for health systems in countries such as Libya, Guinea, and Iraq. The EU has also demonstrated cooperative action alongside organizations such as the UN Population Fund and WHO and has demonstrated a commitment to improving the health workforce through its support for nurse and midwife training in Libya.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Bruce Cinnamon

¹⁹⁰¹ The European Union announces €400 million to support Guinea, The European Commission (Brussels) November 2017. Date of Access: 15 January 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-4691_en.htm.

¹⁹⁰² The European Union adopts new assistance programme to improve health services in Libya, The European Commission, December 2017. Date of Access: 15 January 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-5222_en.htm.

¹⁹⁰³ The European Union adopts new assistance programme to improve health services in Libya, The European Commission, December 2017. Date of Access: 15 January 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-5222_en.htm.

¹⁹⁰⁴ The European Union adopts new assistance programme to improve health services in Libya, The European Commission, December 2017. Date of Access: 15 January 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-5222_en.htm.

¹⁹⁰⁵ EU support enables UNFPA to deliver aid to an area previously unreached in Aleppo, Syria, The European Commission, December 2017. Date of Access: 7 March 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/echo/blog/eu-support-enables-unfpa-deliver-aid-area-previously-unreached-aleppo-syria_en.

¹⁹⁰⁶ EU support enables UNFPA to deliver aid to an area previously unreached in Aleppo, Syria, The European Commission, December 2017. Date of Access: 7 March 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/echo/blog/eu-support-enables-unfpa-deliver-aid-area-previously-unreached-aleppo-syria_en.

¹⁹⁰⁷ EU Health Commissioner meets Iranian Minister of Health and Medical Education, The European Commission, February 2018. Date Accessed: 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 27 Feb 2018&lang=default

¹⁹⁰⁸ EU Health Commissioner meets Iranian Minister of Health and Medical Education, The European Commission, February 2018. Date Accessed: 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 27 Feb 2018&lang=default