

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

## **2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance Report**

2 December 2018 to 10 May 2019

Prepared by  
Alessandra Cicci, Ji Yoon Han and the G20 Research Group, Toronto,  
and Irina Popova, Andrey Shelepov, Andrey Sakharov and Alexander Ignatov and the  
Center for International Institutions Research  
of the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration,  
Moscow

26 June 2019

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

## Contents

Contents.....	2
Preface.....	3
Toronto Research Team .....	4
CIIR G20 Research Team .....	5
Introduction and Summary.....	6
Commitment Breakdown.....	7
Selection of Commitments .....	7
Final Compliance Scores.....	7
Final Compliance by Member .....	7
Final Compliance by Commitment .....	7
Table 1: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Commitments Selected for Compliance Monitoring .....	8
Table 2: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance Scores .....	10
Table 4: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance by Member .....	11
Table 5: 2018 G20 Buenos Aires Summit Final Compliance by Commitment .....	12
Table 6: G20 Compliance by Member, 2008–2017 .....	13
Conclusions.....	14
Future Research and Reports .....	14
Considerations and Limitations .....	14
Appendix: General Considerations .....	15
1. Climate Change: Disaster Resilience.....	16
2. Development: Early Childhood Development .....	47
3. Digital Economy: Data Governance .....	74
4. Employment: Skills Development .....	104
5. Energy: Cleaner, Flexible and Transparent Systems .....	146
6. Financial Regulation: Tax Administration .....	208
7. Food Security: Malnutrition .....	240
8. Gender: Economic Empowerment.....	302
9. Reform of the International Financial Institutions: International Monetary Fund.....	358
10. Macroeconomics: Inclusive Growth.....	379
11. Climate Change: Paris Agreement.....	430
12. Digital Economy: Digital Infrastructure .....	461
13. Employment: Future of Work.....	490
14. Energy: Energy Security.....	513
15. Financial Regulation: Technology .....	541
16. Financial Regulation: International Taxation .....	567
17. Food and Agriculture: Sustainable Agriculture .....	584
18. Health: Universal Health Coverage.....	616
19. Infrastructure: Infrastructure Investment.....	651
20. Trade: Reform of the World Trade Organization .....	672

## 18. Health: Universal Health Coverage

“We reaffirm the need for stronger health systems providing cost effective and evidence-based intervention to achieve better access to health care and to improve its quality and affordability to move towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC), in line with their national contexts and priorities.”

*G20 Leaders Buenos Aires Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia		0	
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico			+1
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.85	

### Background

The G20 first addressed the issues related to healthcare in Brisbane in 2014. That year the world was deeply concerned with the outbreak of Ebola virus in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The G20 members approved a joint statement on the Ebola threat and pledged to “do what is necessary to ensure the international effort can extinguish the outbreak” and urged the World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund (IMF) to “continue their strong support for the affected countries.” Moreover, the G20 members pledged to fully implement the World Health Organization (WHO)’s International Health Regulations (IHR) addressing “longer-term systemic issues and gaps in capability, preparedness and response capacity that expose the global economy to the impacts of infectious disease.”<sup>3845</sup>

The G20 again addressed healthcare issues in 2017 during the Presidency of Germany. At a ministerial meeting in Berlin, Health Ministers produced the joint Berlin Declaration. The G20 members’ ministers of health acknowledged the exceptional role of the WHO’s IHR 2005 and agreed to act “accordingly with our obligations under the IHR and support the leadership and coordination

<sup>3845</sup> G20 Leaders’ Brisbane Statement on Ebola, CIIR RANEPa (Brisbane). Access date: 11 December 2018.  
<https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2014brisbane/G20%20Leaders%E2%80%99%20Brisbane%20Statement%20on%20Ebola.pdf>

of WHO in the event of health crises of international concern.” In addition to taking joint international actions, the G20 members agreed to “strengthen the national and, where applicable, regional monitoring and surveillance of both antimicrobial resistance and the consumption of antibiotics” within their own jurisdictions.<sup>3846</sup> In the communique, the G20 leaders acknowledged the antimicrobial resistance (AMR) “growing threat to public health and economic growth” and pledged to “strengthen public awareness, infection prevention and control and improve the understanding of the issue of antimicrobials in the environment.”<sup>3847</sup>

At the 2018 Buenos Aires Summit, the G20 leaders in their joint declaration acknowledged “the need for further multi-sectoral action to reduce the spread of AMR” and also extended the health-related agenda of the G20 by pledging to “tackle malnutrition, with a special focus on childhood overweight and obesity, through national, community-based and collaborative multi-stakeholder approaches.”<sup>3848</sup> In addition, the G20 leaders focused on the provision of “better health care” and agreed to “improve health care quality and affordability to move towards Universal Health Coverage.”<sup>3849</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

The G20 reaffirmed “the need for stronger health systems providing cost effective and evidence-based intervention to achieve better access to health care and to improve its quality and affordability to move towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC), in line with their national contexts and priorities.”

The commitment requires G20 members to improve healthcare systems to ensure its quality and affordability “in line with ... national contexts and priorities” in a move towards UHC.<sup>3850</sup> As defined by WHO, providing UHC means that “all people and communities can use the promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services ... of sufficient quality.” Actions of a G20 member in line with obligations to promote moving towards UHC may refer to three main objectives pointed out by WHO:

1. “Equity in access to health services – everyone who needs services should get them, not only those who can pay for them;
2. The quality of health services should be good enough to improve the health of those receiving services; and
3. People should be protected against financial-risk, ensuring that the cost of using services does not put people at risk of financial harm.”<sup>3851</sup>

---

<sup>3846</sup> Berlin Declaration of the G20 Health Ministers<sup>6</sup> CIIR RANEPa (Berlin). Access Date: 11 December 2018.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20\\_Health\\_Ministers\\_Declaration\\_engl.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20_Health_Ministers_Declaration_engl.pdf)

<sup>3847</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration Shaping an interconnected world, CIIR RANEPa (Hamburg). Access Date: 11 December 2018.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders\\_%20communiqu%C3%A9.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders_%20communiqu%C3%A9.pdf).

<sup>3848</sup> Childhood Overweight Policy Brief, WHO (Geneva) 2014. Access date: 23 May

2019. [https://www.who.int/nutrition/topics/globaltargets\\_overweight\\_policybrief.pdf](https://www.who.int/nutrition/topics/globaltargets_overweight_policybrief.pdf)

<sup>3849</sup> G20 leader's declaration Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, CIIR RANEPa (Buenos Aires). Access Date: 11 December 2018.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos\\_aires\\_leaders\\_declaration.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf)

<sup>3850</sup> G20 leader's declaration Building consensus for fair and sustainable, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 1 December 2019. Access Date: 23 May 2019. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/12/01/g20-leaders-declaration/>.

<sup>3851</sup> World Health Organization. Health financing, WHO (Geneva). Access Date: 11 December 2018.

[https://www.who.int/health\\_financing/universal\\_coverage\\_definition/en/](https://www.who.int/health_financing/universal_coverage_definition/en/).

WHO specified some key aspects of achieving the UHC in practice. Accordingly, actions of the G20 countries may include, but not limited to:

- Pooling funds from compulsory funding sources (such as mandatory insurance contributions);
- Improving the availability, accessibility, and capacity of health workers;
- Investments in quality primary health care workforce.<sup>3852</sup>

WHO's definition of primary health care refers to three main key elements:

- “ensuring people’s health problems are addressed through comprehensive promotive, protective, preventive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative care throughout the life course, strategically prioritizing key system functions aimed at individuals and families and the population as the central elements of integrated service delivery across all levels of care;
- systematically addressing the broader determinants of health (including social, economic, environmental, as well as people’s characteristics and behaviours) through evidence-informed public policies and actions across all sectors; and
- empowering individuals, families, and communities to optimize their health, as advocates for policies that promote and protect health and wellbeing, as co-developers of health and social services through their participation, and as self-carers and care-givers to others.”<sup>3853</sup>

Other critical elements of achieving the UHC specified as follows:

- Good governance;
- Sound systems of procurement and supply of medicines;
- Health technologies and well-functioning health information systems.<sup>3854</sup>

WHO also specified what should not be included in the scope of the UHC:

- “UHC does not mean free coverage for all possible health interventions, regardless of the cost, as no country can provide all services free of charge on a sustainable basis.
- UHC is not just about health financing. It encompasses all components of the health system: health service delivery systems, the health workforce, health facilities and communications networks, health technologies, information systems, quality assurance mechanisms, and governance and legislation.
- UHC is not only about ensuring a minimum package of health services, but also about ensuring a progressive expansion of coverage of health services and financial protection as more resources become available.

---

<sup>3852</sup> Universal Health Coverage. World Health Organisation (Geneva) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 14 May 2019. [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-\(uhc\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-(uhc))

<sup>3853</sup> Universal Health Coverage. World Health Organisation (Geneva) 29 January 2019. Access date: 14 May 2019. [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-\(uhc\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-(uhc)).

<sup>3854</sup> Universal Health Coverage. World Health Organisation (Geneva) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 14 May 2019. [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-\(uhc\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-(uhc))

- UHC is not only about individual treatment services, but also includes population-based services such as public health campaigns, adding fluoride to water, controlling mosquito breeding grounds, and so on.
- UHC is comprised of much more than just health; taking steps towards UHC means steps towards equity, development priorities, and social inclusion and cohesion.”<sup>3855</sup>

Finally, WHO pointed out that “moving towards UHC requires strengthening health systems in all countries.”<sup>3856</sup> It means that the G20 countries actions should not be limited to their own territory but also include actions at international fora.

As specified in the Buenos Aires Leaders’ Declaration, the G20 members may also take actions aimed at development of “scientifically proven traditional and complementary medicine, assuring the safety, quality and effectiveness of health services.”<sup>3857</sup>

To achieve full compliance, a G20 member is required to take action aimed at promotion of universal health coverage both within its own territory and abroad (including both other G20 members’ territories and third countries).

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G20 member did not take any action aimed at promotion of Universal Health Coverage.
0	The G20 member take actions aimed at promotion of Universal Health Coverage domestically OR internationally.
+1	The G20 member take actions aimed at promotion of Universal Health Coverage domestically AND internationally.

### Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage.

On 3 December 2018, the eighth meeting of the Argentinian Federal Council of Health (COFESA) was held in Buenos Aires under an overall theme of universal health coverage.<sup>3858</sup> The participants discussed developments with the Digital Health strategy aimed at the creation of a unified electronic information system for all Argentine patients containing their clinical history. A total of 21 Argentine provinces signed the agreement on implementing the strategy.<sup>3859</sup> The strategy will help to increase territorial health coverage in the country as well as address chronic noncommunicable diseases such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes and high blood pressure in early stages. At the meeting,

<sup>3855</sup> Universal Health Coverage. World Health Organisation(Geneva) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 14 May 2019. [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-\(uhc\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-(uhc))

<sup>3856</sup> Universal Health Coverage. World Health Organisation(Geneva) 29 January 2019. Access Date: 14 May 2019. [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-\(uhc\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/universal-health-coverage-(uhc))

<sup>3857</sup> G20 leader's declaration Building consensus for fair and sustainable development, CIIR RANEPa (Buenos Aires). Access date: 11 December 2018.

[https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos\\_aires\\_leaders\\_declaration.pdf](https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2018buenosaires/buenos_aires_leaders_declaration.pdf)

<sup>3858</sup> Comenzó en Buenos Aires la última reunión del año de las máximas autoridades de salud del país, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comenzo-en-buenos-aires-la-ultima-reunion-del-ano-de-las-maximas-autoridades-de-salud-del>.

<sup>3859</sup> Comenzó en Buenos Aires la última reunión del año de las máximas autoridades de salud del país, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comenzo-en-buenos-aires-la-ultima-reunion-del-ano-de-las-maximas-autoridades-de-salud-del>.

Minister of Health of Argentina Adolfo Rubinstein announced a granting of 112 ambulance cars to the provincial health ministries.<sup>3860</sup>

On 17 December 2018, the Ministry of Health and Social Development launched the National Plan for the Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Arterial Hypertension aimed at detecting patients with this problem.<sup>3861</sup> The initiative was supported by the Pan American Health Organization and World Health Organization.

On 18 December 2018, it was announced that in October-November 2,500,000 children aged 13 months to four years living across the country (coverage of 89 per cent) received an additional dose of the triple viral vaccine that protects against measles, rubella and mumps under the National Monitoring Campaign against Measles and Rubella of the Argentinian Ministry of Health and Social Development.<sup>3862</sup>

On 28 December 2018, the third technical meeting on Interprofessional Education in Health was held in Buenos Aires.<sup>3863</sup> The discussion focused on the issues of universal health coverage. The events were organized by the Argentinian Ministry of Health and Social Development, Pan American Health Organization, World Health Organization and Regional Network of Interprofessional Education of the Americas. The meeting was attended by representatives of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Suriname and Uruguay.<sup>3864</sup> The participants presented their national measures and plans to achieve universal health, strategies to improve health practices, interprofessional education, etc.<sup>3865</sup>

On 8 January 2019, the territorial body of the Ministry of Health and Social Development launched an initiative aimed at providing various health services for workers engaged in recycling processes for two weeks in José León Suárez city located in Mendoza province.<sup>3866</sup> The workers will be able to

---

<sup>3860</sup> Comenzó en Buenos Aires la última reunión del año de las máximas autoridades de salud del país, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 3 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comenzo-en-buenos-aires-la-ultima-reunion-del-ano-de-las-maximas-autoridades-de-salud-del>.

<sup>3861</sup> Rubinstein lanzó Plan Nacional de Prevención, Diagnóstico y Tratamiento de la Hipertensión Arterial en el primer nivel de atención, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 17 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-lanzo-plan-nacional-de-prevencion-diagnostico-y-tratamiento-de-la-hipertension>.

<sup>3862</sup> Argentina logró una cobertura del 89% en la Campaña Nacional de Seguimiento contra el Sarampión y la Rubéola, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 18 December 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-logro-una-cobertura-del-89-en-la-campana-nacional-de-seguimiento-contra-el>.

<sup>3863</sup> Salud organizó la Tercera Reunión Técnica sobre Educación Interprofesional de la región de las Américas, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-organizo-la-tercera-reunion-tecnica-sobre-educacion-interprofesional-de-la-region-de>.

<sup>3864</sup> Salud organizó la Tercera Reunión Técnica sobre Educación Interprofesional de la región de las Américas, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-organizo-la-tercera-reunion-tecnica-sobre-educacion-interprofesional-de-la-region-de>.

<sup>3865</sup> Salud organizó la Tercera Reunión Técnica sobre Educación Interprofesional de la región de las Américas, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-organizo-la-tercera-reunion-tecnica-sobre-educacion-interprofesional-de-la-region-de>.

<sup>3866</sup> Atención sanitaria a recuperadores de residuos en Ceamse, Ministerio de Salud y Desarrollo Social (Buenos Aires) 8 January 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/atencion-sanitaria-recuperadores-de-residuos-en-ceamse>.

have health checks, tests for HIV and Syphilis and vaccination. A team of health specialists will teach the first aid courses and workshops.

On 21 March 2019, the Ministry of Health and Social Development and Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Technology of Argentina presented the Healthy School Environments Guide that includes a set of recommendations to establish nutritional criteria for food and prohibit the sale of sugary drinks and foods high in sugars, fats and sodium in schools.<sup>3867</sup> The Guide aims to prevent childhood overweight and obesity.

On 5 April 2019, Secretary of Health of Argentina Adolfo Rubinstein together with mayor of the city of Corrientes Eduardo Tassano opened the first health station in the municipality of El Sombrero in Corrientes province, which aims to prevent chronic diseases through the promotion of healthy lifestyles, detection of risk factors and treatment at the first level of care.<sup>3868</sup> The project aims to contribute to the national universal health coverage goals. The station will provide free basic sanitary controls and counseling of healthy lifestyles to the population.<sup>3869</sup> Its staff consists of nurses, nutritionists and physical education teachers who will advise how to prevent cardiovascular diseases and choose right diet. A cooperation agreement between the Ministry of Health, Health Ministry of Corrientes and Municipality of Corrientes was signed to guarantee good functioning of health promotion posts and prevent chronic noncommunicable diseases among population through weight, body mass index, blood pressure and blood glucose and blood cholesterol control.<sup>3870</sup> These activities will be carried out openly and free of charge. In addition, the Ministry of Health delivered to the province a number of vehicles for transferring health agents and other health equipment.<sup>3871</sup>

On 10 April 2019, representatives of the Ministry of Health participated in the presentation of the report of the High Level Commission on “Universal Health in the XXI Century: 40 Years of Alma-Ata” in Mexico City, event that was led by the President of Mexico, Andrés Manuel López Obrador, and was attended by the director of the Pan American Health Organization, Carissa Etienne and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet.<sup>3872</sup> The document reaffirms the commitment to health for all people, with special emphasis on the role of primary health care, on the path to achieving universal health in the region.<sup>3873</sup> The objective of this initiative of the Pan American Health Organization is to reflect progress and challenges and provide recommendations to

---

<sup>3867</sup> Salud y Educación presentaron la Guía de Entornos Escolares Saludables para prevenir la obesidad, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 21 March 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-y-educacion-presentaron-la-guia-de-entornos-escolares-saludables-para-prevenir-la>.

<sup>3868</sup> Rubinstein inauguró la primera Estación Saludable de Corrientes, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-inauguro-la-primera-estacion-saludable-de-corrientes>.

<sup>3869</sup> Rubinstein inauguró la primera Estación Saludable de Corrientes, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-inauguro-la-primera-estacion-saludable-de-corrientes>.

<sup>3870</sup> Rubinstein inauguró la primera Estación Saludable de Corrientes, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-inauguro-la-primera-estacion-saludable-de-corrientes>.

<sup>3871</sup> Rubinstein inauguró la primera Estación Saludable de Corrientes, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 5 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/rubinstein-inauguro-la-primera-estacion-saludable-de-corrientes>.

<sup>3872</sup> Argentina participó del lanzamiento del Informe de Alto Nivel “Salud Universal en el Siglo XXI: 40 años de Alma-Ata” en México, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-del-lanzamiento-del-informe-de-alto-nivel-salud-universal-en-el-siglo>.

<sup>3873</sup> Argentina participó del lanzamiento del Informe de Alto Nivel “Salud Universal en el Siglo XXI: 40 años de Alma-Ata” en México, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-del-lanzamiento-del-informe-de-alto-nivel-salud-universal-en-el-siglo>.



expand access and health coverage in the region by the year 2030, taking into account social, political and other factors as well as institutions of each country.<sup>3874</sup> The Argentine officials shared with the participants the Universal Health Coverage Strategy implemented by the National Government.<sup>3875</sup>

On 8-12 April 2019, the commissions of Health Care Services, Health Surveillance and Health Products, with their respective subcommittees and working groups from Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, held the L Ordinary Meeting of MERCOSUR Health, which reached different agreements and strategies on blood programs, health transfers and epidemiological surveillance.<sup>3876</sup> The participants agreed to implement joint actions for the production of drugs derived from surplus plasma as well as share semiannual epidemiological information relevant to a timely warning and an adequate response to situations that require it.<sup>3877</sup> The national plans for the prevention and control of antimicrobial resistance were also reviewed and the health response was exchanged on travelers, migrants and refugees.<sup>3878</sup> Finally, the national coordinators agreed to carry out a technical cooperation project to train inspectors in the pharmaceutical area, under the regulatory framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between MERCOSUR and the Pan American Health Organization and to hold two cooperation workshops on food labeling and border health.<sup>3879</sup>

On 9-12 April 2019, technical teams of the Ministry of Health of Argentina and National Service for Agrifood Health and Quality jointly with the European Union organized a course on antimicrobial resistance in Buenos Aires for the countries of the region to promote integrated work between the sectors of industry and health.<sup>3880</sup> The event was attended by leaders from Brazil, Paraguay, Chile, Uruguay, Colombia, Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador.

On 16 April 2019, Secretary of Health of Argentina Adolfo Rubinstein launched the anti-flu vaccination campaign.<sup>3881</sup> More than 10 million doses of influenza vaccine, in particular eight million – for adults and two million – for children, will be disseminated free of charge to those people who

---

<sup>3874</sup> Argentina participó del lanzamiento del Informe de Alto Nivel “Salud Universal en el Siglo XXI: 40 años de Alma-Ata” en México, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-del-lanzamiento-del-informe-de-alto-nivel-salud-universal-en-el-siglo>.

<sup>3875</sup> Argentina participó del lanzamiento del Informe de Alto Nivel “Salud Universal en el Siglo XXI: 40 años de Alma-Ata” en México, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-del-lanzamiento-del-informe-de-alto-nivel-salud-universal-en-el-siglo>.

<sup>3876</sup> Se realizó la reunión ordinaria del subgrupo de trabajo Salud MERCOSUR, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-realizo-la-reunion-ordinaria-del-subgrupo-de-trabajo-salud-mercosur>.

<sup>3877</sup> Se realizó la reunión ordinaria del subgrupo de trabajo Salud MERCOSUR, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-realizo-la-reunion-ordinaria-del-subgrupo-de-trabajo-salud-mercosur>.

<sup>3878</sup> Se realizó la reunión ordinaria del subgrupo de trabajo Salud MERCOSUR, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-realizo-la-reunion-ordinaria-del-subgrupo-de-trabajo-salud-mercosur>.

<sup>3879</sup> Se realizó la reunión ordinaria del subgrupo de trabajo Salud MERCOSUR, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-realizo-la-reunion-ordinaria-del-subgrupo-de-trabajo-salud-mercosur>.

<sup>3880</sup> Equipos técnicos de Salud e Industria se capacitaron en resistencia antimicrobiana, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/equipos-tecnicos-de-salud-e-industria-se-capacitaron-en-resistencia-antimicrobiana>.

<sup>3881</sup> Nación lanzó la campaña de vacunación contra la gripe 2019, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nacion-lanzo-la-campana-de-vacunacion-contra-la-gripe-2019>.

are at risk of complications in case of having the disease.<sup>3882</sup> The purpose of the strategy is to achieve coverage greater than or equal to 95 per cent in each group of the population at risk to reduce complications, hospitalizations, sequelae and deaths caused by the influenza virus. The recipients include pregnant women, puerperal women (up to 10 days after delivery if they did not receive it during pregnancy), children from 6 to 24 months of age, adults 65 years of age or older and people between two and 64 years of age who have risk factors (heart, respiratory or kidney disease, immunosuppression, diabetes).<sup>3883</sup> The total investment for the purchase of the flu vaccine dose was more than USD2,550 million. Each province will inform the local population when it will begin to apply the vaccine. Since 2011, Argentina has annually supported the vaccination strategy against influenza for the target population through the trivalent vaccine, which covers strains of influenza A H3N2, H1N1 and influenza B.<sup>3884</sup>

Argentina has taken actions aimed at promotion of Universal Health Coverage domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elizaveta Safonkina*

### **Australia: 0**

Australia has partially complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 6 December 2018, the Government supported the brightest minds with a AUD240 million program giving researchers significant funds for their innovative and transformational medical research. The Frontiers program is filling a gap in the research sector by providing government funding for early innovative projects and ideas that traditionally would not have received funding at this stage. This investment has the potential to transform healthcare and stimulate growth in the Australian medical technologies, biomedical and pharmaceutical sector, a vital part of the innovation economy.<sup>3885</sup>

On 12 December 2018, the Government announced investing more than half a billion dollars in world-leading health and medical research that aims to improve the lives of all Australians. A total of 682 grants will be funded through the National Health and Medical Research Council.<sup>3886</sup>

On 17 December 2018, an investment of AUD512 million was made in strengthening primary care to support Australia's doctors and specialists to deliver improved access and outcomes for patients. An expert advisory group has been established to propose potential new models of patient centered,

---

<sup>3882</sup> Nación lanzó la campaña de vacunación contra la gripe 2019, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nacion-lanzo-la-campana-de-vacunacion-contra-la-gripe-2019>.

<sup>3883</sup> Nación lanzó la campaña de vacunación contra la gripe 2019, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nacion-lanzo-la-campana-de-vacunacion-contra-la-gripe-2019>.

<sup>3884</sup> Nación lanzó la campaña de vacunación contra la gripe 2019, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 16 April 2019. Access Date: 24 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/nacion-lanzo-la-campana-de-vacunacion-contra-la-gripe-2019>.

<sup>3885</sup> \$240 million for research into the next big medical breakthrough, Department of Health (Canberra) 6 December 2018. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2018-hunt166.htm>

<sup>3886</sup> More than \$500 million research boost to improve lives, Department of Health (Canberra) 12 December 2018. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2018-hunt173.htm>

innovative and flexible primary care, particularly to address the challenges of chronic and complex conditions and to deliver more coordinated care for patients.<sup>3887</sup>

On 4 February 2019, the government announced that it will provide AUD54.5 million for research that will support more than 120,000 Australian children and adults living with type 1 diabetes. The government is aware of the significant impact that diabetes has on people and their families and is committed to working towards the broad prevention of the disease in the Australian community.<sup>3888</sup>

On 4 February 2019, the government announced that it will expand its Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) program to 50 new MRI licences, giving patients from all around Australia access to life saving scans. The Government of Australia will invest a further AUD150 million, bringing the total investment to AUD375 million over the forward estimates and delivering 50 MRI licences nationally. Access to MRI scans keep the cost of healthcare down for families and will help Australians in their fight against cancer.<sup>3889</sup>

On 5 February 2019, the Government of Australia made a AUD70 million investment in a world-first national network of specialist care units that will benefit some of the most vulnerable Australians who live with dementia. The innovative program will see more than 30 specialist care units established to provide best practice person-centred care for people exhibiting very severe behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia. It will provide much needed specialist care for people who are currently unable to be appropriately cared for by mainstream residential aged care services.<sup>3890</sup>

On 5 February 2019, the Minister for Regional Services Bridget McKenzie, announced funding of AUD61 million so Primary Health Networks across Australia can continue to commission treatment services. This funding forms part of the broader treatment funding under the National Ice Action Strategy providing AUD241.5 million for Primary Health Networks to commission additional drug and alcohol treatment services to meet local need.<sup>3891</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the national government announced establishing the HeartKids Project with financing of AUD26 million to tackle childhood heart disease, which affects more than 65,000 Australians. The funding is for an open grant round aimed at better understanding the disease's genetic causes and prevention and treatment options.<sup>3892</sup>

On 17 February 2019, the government announced that 170,000 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and adolescents aged five to 14 years of age will now be able to access an influenza vaccine for free. Also, an additional AUD12 million will be spent over the next three years to expand the

---

<sup>3887</sup> \$500 million to boost primary care in 2018-19 MYEFO, Department of Health (Canberra) 17 December 2018. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2018-hunt178.htm>

<sup>3888</sup> \$54.5 million for type 1 diabetes research, Department of Health (Canberra) 4 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt014.htm>

<sup>3889</sup> \$375 million for 50 MRI licences, Department of Health (Canberra) 4 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt015.htm>

<sup>3890</sup> \$70 million a year to better support people with severe symptoms of dementia, Department of Health (Canberra) 5 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-wyatt020.htm>

<sup>3891</sup> \$61 Million Boost for Drug Treatment, Department of Health (Canberra) 5 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-mckenzie012.htm>

<sup>3892</sup> The HeartKids Project: \$26 million to tackle childhood heart disease, Department of Health (Canberra) 14 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt020.htm>

reach of the successful Get the Facts about immunisation campaign which raises awareness of the benefits and importance of immunisation.<sup>3893</sup>

On 22 February 2019, it was announced that the government will invest AUD10 million to expand access to a medicine for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Intuniv (guanfacine) for the treatment of ADHD were made available as an add-on therapy to other ADHD medicines on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme from 1 March 2019. Without subsidy patients would pay over AUD1,600 per year for this treatment. Under the PBS the price goes down to just AUD40.30 per script, or AUD6.50 for concessional patients.<sup>3894</sup>

On 3 January 2019, the government made a commitment that Senior Australians living in regional, rural and remote areas will have more access to high quality, higher level aged care through a new AUD4 million annual investment in flexible aged care places. It will also fund delivery of higher-level care at 26 MPS centres including 15 in New South Wales, seven in South Australia, two in Queensland, and one each in Victoria and Western Australia.<sup>3895</sup>

On 16 January 2019, the government announced providing a record AUD1.45 billion for community mental health services and changing the funding model to ensure security for both jobs and services. The funding will be provided through the government's innovative 31 Primary Health Networks (PHNs), which are independent regional health organizations. PHNs will coordinate local support for child and youth mental health, psychological therapy, severe and complex illness, community-based suicide prevention and Indigenous mental health.<sup>3896</sup>

On 30 January 2019, the government made a significant investment of AUD36.8 million for Parkinson's medical research through the Garvin's Institute's Australian Parkinson Mission and in Parkinson's nurses to improve the life of people living the disease and ultimately to find a cure. This investment will help to trial promising drugs to reduce the progression of the disease and allow people to live in their homes longer.<sup>3897</sup>

On 8 March 2019, the Department of health announced that the government will support clinical trials to test the effectiveness of a world-first malaria vaccine in an attempt to globally eradicate the deadly disease. The Rotary clubs have raised AUD500,000 and the government will match this with funding of AUD500,000 towards the Malaria Vaccine Project, which has developed a new novel vaccine for the disease. The funding will be provided to Griffith University through the Medical Research Future Fund to undertake clinical trials to test the effectiveness of the new malaria vaccine PlasProtect.<sup>3898</sup>

---

<sup>3893</sup> Free flu vaccines for Aboriginal children and \$12 million to boost immunization, Department of Health (Canberra) 17 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt022.htm>

<sup>3894</sup> \$10 million for ADHD medicine on the PBS, Department of Health (Canberra) 22 February 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt025.htm>

<sup>3895</sup> Senior Australians Receive \$4 Million Regional Aged Care Boost, Department of Health (Canberra) 3 January 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-wyatt002.htm>

<sup>3896</sup> \$1.45 billion to strengthen mental health services and support job security, Department of Health (Canberra) 16 January 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt008.htm>

<sup>3897</sup> \$36.8 million for Parkinson's disease, Department of Health (Canberra) 30 January 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt013.htm>

<sup>3898</sup> New malaria vaccine clinical trials aims to globally eradicate the disease, Department of Health (Canberra) 8 March 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt038.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=03>

On 17 March 2019, the government launched a program that will help reduce the out of pocket medical expenses for families needing life-saving scans like ultrasounds and X-rays with an almost AUD200 million investment. For the first time in 20 years the indexation of Medicare Benefits Schedule items will be expanded to all ultrasound and diagnostic radiology services over three years from 1 July 2020. Medicare rebates for about 90 per cent of all diagnostic imaging services will now be indexed, including X-rays for fractures, mammograms, pregnancy ultrasounds, echocardiograms, angiograms, image guided procedures and CT scans for the diagnosis and management of cancer.<sup>3899</sup>

On 19 March 2019, the Australian government announced listing crucial medicines for Cancer, Parkinson's and motor neurone on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), saving patients up to AUD300,000 a year. The Government will invest AUD19 million to broaden the PBS listing of Adcetris (brentuximab vedotin) to include treatment of cutaneous T-cell lymphomas. It is a very rare form of cancer affecting around 150 to 200 Australians each year caused by cancerous growth of a type of white blood cell called a T-cell.<sup>3900</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the government invested almost AUD92 million to support better health care for all Tasmanians, improving waiting times for elective surgery, boosting mental health and maternity services and increasing cancer diagnosis scans.<sup>3901</sup> The Tasmanian Health Plan also provides greater support for Tasmanians in rural and remote locations while increasing a wide range of vital services, from general practitioners to hospital care and specialist health services.<sup>3902</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the government launched the National Women's Health Strategy 2020-2030 with more than AUD50 million in funding to improve women's health in areas such as ovarian cancer and endometriosis. The women's health strategy for 2020-2030 includes recommendations for action by governments, health professionals and women themselves.<sup>3903</sup> It recognises that there is no "average" woman and is inclusive of sexuality and gender identities. AUD20 million was allocated for research on ovarian cancer with a focus on early detection. AUD9 million was a contestable targeted call from the Medical Research Future Fund for endometriosis research to improve the treatment and understanding on an often misunderstood and crippling condition.<sup>3904</sup>

Australia has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically but no actions on international for a were registered during compliance period.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Anna Kotlyarova*

---

<sup>3899</sup> \$200 million to reduce out of pocket costs for scans, Department of Health (Canberra) 18 March 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt044.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=03>

<sup>3900</sup> Cancer, Parkinson's and motor neurone medicines listed on the PBS, Department of Health (Canberra) 19 March 2019. Access date: 31 March 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt046.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=03>

<sup>3901</sup> Boosting Health Services in Tasmania, Department of Health (Canberra) 10 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt129.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=04>

<sup>3902</sup> Boosting Health Services in Tasmania, Department of Health (Canberra) 10 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt129.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=04>

<sup>3903</sup> \$52.2 million to improve women's health, Department of Health (Canberra) 9 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt123.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=04>

<sup>3904</sup> \$52.2 million to improve women's health, Department of Health (Canberra) 9 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2019-hunt123.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2019&mth=04>

**Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 5 December 2018, the Ministry of Health released the list of projects approved to receive tax exemption resources by the National Program of Support to Oncologic Attention and the National Program to Support the Attention of the Health of People with Disabilities.<sup>3905</sup>

On 7 December 2019, the Ministry of Health provided BRL19,2 million to expand assistance in the state of Sergipe for improvement of home care, basic care, medium and high complexity care, mental health, child health, people with disabilities and health monitoring.<sup>3906</sup>

On 10 December 2018, the Ministry of Health allocated additional resources (BRL23,2 million) to five cities in the interior of Sao Paulo to expand hospital care.<sup>3907</sup>

On 10-12 December 2018, the Ministry of Health held the National Conference on Indigenous Health to discuss the proposals and demands of 10 different ethnic groups inhabiting Altamira. The basic document discussed in the local, district and national levels has seven axes: traditional indigenous health systems; model of care and organization of health services; human resources and personnel management in an intercultural context; infrastructure and sanitation of indigenous peoples' health care; financing; social determinants of health; and social control and participatory management.<sup>3908</sup>

On 13 December, the Ministry of Health allocated BRL4,9 million for Basic Units of Health (UBS) reforms to modernize the physical spaces of the UBS and promote better care.<sup>3909</sup>

On 19 December 2018, the Ministry of Health allocated BRL17,3 million to universities' hospitals to improve the health services. The resource can be used by managers to pay for ambulatory and hospital care and procedures, to finance renovation and expansion of spaces and physical structures, acquisition of medical and hospital materials, modernization of the environment and care for patients.<sup>3910</sup>

On 20 December 2018, the Health Minister Gilberto Occhi announced an allocation BRL66,6 million to expand and improve health services in 34 municipalities of Pernambuco. The resources

---

<sup>3905</sup> Publicados projetos que receberão recursos de isenção do Pronon e Pronas, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 5 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/44876-publicados-projetos-que-receberao-recursos-de-isencao-do-pronon-e-pronas>

<sup>3906</sup> Ministério da Saúde libera R\$ 19,2 milhões para ampliar assistência em Sergipe, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 7 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/44885-ministerio-da-saude-libera-r-19-2-milhoes-para-ampliar-assistencia-em-sergipe>

<sup>3907</sup> Cinco cidades do interior de SP terão adicional de R\$ 23,2 mi para ampliar assistência, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 10 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/44890-cinco-cidades-paulistas-terao-incremento-de-r-23-2-mi-para-ampliar-assistencia>

<sup>3908</sup> Conferência Nacional de Saúde Indígena: etapa distrital em Altamira/PA debate propostas do Médio Xingu, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sesai/44947-conferencia-nacional-de-saude-indigena-etapa-distrital-em-altamira-pa-debate-propostas-do-medio-xingu>

<sup>3909</sup> Ministério da Saúde libera R\$ 4,9 milhões para reformas de UBS, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 13 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/44953-ministerio-da-saude-libera-r-4-9-milhoes-para-reformas-de-ubs>

<sup>3910</sup> Ministério da Saúde libera R\$ 17,3 milhões para Hospitais Universitários, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 13 December 2018. Access Date : 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/44953-ministerio-da-saude-libera-r-4-9-milhoes-para-reformas-de-ubs>

will be used for hospital care, construction and habilitation of new services, and donation of vehicles to support the Specialized Centers in Rehabilitation.<sup>3911</sup>

On 20 December 2018, four ministries launched the National Plan for Prevention and Control of Antimicrobial Resistance. The main objective of the National Plan is to protect the health of the population, especially the hospitalized patient.<sup>3912</sup>

On 28 December 2018, the Ministry of Health allocated BRL51 million to improve oral health in 898 Brazilian municipalities. The money was intended to purchase 2,836 dental chairs, for all regions of the country. The investment contributes to qualify, expand and strengthen Oral Health care in the Unified Health System.<sup>3913</sup>

On 17 January 2019, the Minister of Health and five other ministers of State (Defense, Citizenship, Human Rights, Education, General Controllershship of the Union) visited the state of Roraima to confer the assistance to Venezuelan refugees in the scope of Operation «Welcomed». They learnt about the activities carried out by the Humanitarian Logistics Task Force, on the border with Venezuela. The Health Minister Luiz Henrique Mandetta highlighted the need to strengthen vaccination to protect the local population and immigrants from preventable diseases.<sup>3914</sup>

On 29 January 2019, the federal government launched the digital service for issuing the International Certificate of Vaccination or Prophylaxis. It reduces costs for the State and for the citizens.<sup>3915</sup>

On 23 January 2019, the federal government launched an integrated action plan for federal hospitals, consisting from diagnosis of each unit, production of management strategy and start of implementation of the action plan. Measure aims to optimize the operation of the services and improve the assistance, making service more agile and accessible.<sup>3916</sup>

On 22 February 2019, the meeting between the Ministry of Health, the Health Education and the representatives of Amazonas state medical entities was held in Brasília. The central theme of the debate was the performance of medical professionals and the expansion of the budget for public health financing in Brazil.<sup>3917</sup>

---

<sup>3911</sup> Pernambuco recebe R\$ 66,6 milhões para ampliar atendimento à população, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 20 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45001-pernambuco-recebe-r-66-6-milhoes-para-ampliar-atendimento-a-populacao>

<sup>3912</sup> Quatro ministérios lançam Plano Nacional de Controle de Antimicrobianos, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 8 January 2019. Access Date : 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/svs/45085-quatro-ministerios-lancam-plano-nacional-de-controle-de-antimicrobianos>

<sup>3913</sup> Municípios terão R\$ 51 mi para comprar equipamentos de saúde buccal, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 28 December 2018. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45046-municipios-terao-r-51-mi-para-comprar-equipamentos-de-saude-bucal>

<sup>3914</sup> Ministro da Saúde visita Roraima e acompanha assistência a venezuelanos, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 17 December 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45128-em-visita-a-roraima-ministro-acompanha-acolhida-a-venezuelanos>

<sup>3915</sup> Emissão de certificado internacional de vacinação passa a ser digital, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 28 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45147-ministro-da-saude-participa-das-comemoracoes-dos-20-anos-da-anvisa>

<sup>3916</sup> Governo Federal lança ação integrada para hospitais federais, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 23 January 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45136-governo-federal-lanca-acao-integrada-para-hospitais-federais>

<sup>3917</sup> Ministério de Saúde e entidades médicas do Amazonas se reúnem para debater a situação da saúde no estado, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 22 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sgtes/45253-ministerio-da-saude-e-entidades-medicas-do-amazonas-se-reunem-para-debater-a-situacao-da-saude-no-estado>

On 27 February 2019, the Ministry of Health announced that Santa Catarina received BRL30,4 million to expand the offer of hemodialysis services, home care, habilitation of new hospital beds, strengthening of the Stork Network and reception of pregnant women and infants, qualification and qualification of UPAs, qualification and renewal of the Mobile Emergency Care Service.<sup>3918</sup>

On 27 February 2019, the Ministry of Health renewed contracts of doctors who works in areas of greater vulnerability as a part of a federal programme “More Doctors,” which is a part of a broad effort by the Federal Government of the support of states and municipalities to improve care for users of the Unified Health System.<sup>3919</sup> It provides more physicians to areas where there is a shortage or absence of these professionals, more investments in the construction, remodeling and expansion of Basic Health Units, as well as new graduation vacancies and medical residency to qualify the training of these professionals.<sup>3920</sup>

On 28 February 2019, the Ministry of Health and Federal Council of Dentistry met to discuss expansion of the participation of dental professionals in multiprofessional teams, considering the need to supply Primary Care demand, especially in places of difficult access and extreme poverty.<sup>3921</sup>

On 1 March 2019, the site of the Ministry of Health report the beginning of the distribution of Child Health Passports, which allows to monitor and share health information, facilitating the communication between the services that take care of the child in the different levels of attention. 3,267,186 Health Passports were purchased. The document tracks the health situation of children up to the age of nine.<sup>3922</sup>

On 11 March 2019, the Minister of Health Luiz Henrique Mandetta participated in a debate on the theme “Health Project for a New Brazil.” He presented to an audience of businessmen of the sector the actions that he intends to implement to improve Brazilian public health, which were computerization of the system, the restructuring of Primary Care, the regionalization of health, the improvement of the “More Doctors” program, and the integrated action of federal hospitals to promote management improvements and, consequently, the quality of the provided to the population.<sup>3923</sup>

---

<sup>3918</sup> Santa Catarina terá R\$ 30,4 milhões para ampliar ações de saúde, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 27 February 2019. Access Date : 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45254-santa-catarina-tera-r-30-4-milhoes-para-ampliar-acoes-de-saude>

<sup>3919</sup> Saúde renovará contrato de médico que atua em áreas de maior vulnerabilidade, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45260-ministerio-vai-renovar-contrato-de-medicos-que-atuam-em-areas-de-maior-vulnerabilidade>

<sup>3920</sup> Saúde renovará contrato de médico que atua em áreas de maior vulnerabilidade, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 27 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45260-ministerio-vai-renovar-contrato-de-medicos-que-atuam-em-areas-de-maior-vulnerabilidade>

<sup>3921</sup> Ministério da Saúde e Conselho Federal de Odontologia se reúnem para discutir propostas de políticas públicas na área da saúde, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 28 February 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sgtes/45272-ministerio-da-saude-e-conselho-federal-de-odontologia-se-reunem-para-discutir-propostas-de-politicas-publicas-na-area-da-saude>

<sup>3922</sup> Cadernetas de saúde da criança estão sendo enviadas aos estados, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45277-cadernetas-de-saude-da-crianca-estao-sendo-enviadas-aos-estados>

<sup>3923</sup> Ministro da Saúde apresenta projetos para o setor a empresários, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 11 March 2019. Access Date: 11 March 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45289-ministro-da-saude-apresenta-projetos-para-o-setor-a-empresarios>



On 25 March 2019, the Ministry of Health announced an allocation of BRL27,7 million of federal resources to expand and qualify health care and the fight against endemic diseases in the state of Paraíba.<sup>3924</sup>

On 28 March 2019, the Ministry of Health announced a conference within the 6th National Conference on Indigenous Health with two thousand delegates to prepare proposals for Indigenous Health. The main issues to discuss will be organization of the health services for indigenous, infrastructure and sanitation, and financing.<sup>3925</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the Health Minister Luiz Henrique Mandetta announced new actions to qualify and expand access to Primary Care services.<sup>3926</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the Ministry of Health announced that 48 university hospitals in 22 states and in the Federal District will receive federal resources of BRL102,5 million to improve the infrastructure of the units, as well as to provide care to the population.<sup>3927</sup>

On 10 April 2019, the Ministry of Health held a meeting with representatives of the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the main points of the Quality Health Program for Brazil.<sup>3928</sup>

On 9-12 April 2019, technical teams of the Ministry of Health of Argentina and National Service for Agrifood Health and Quality jointly with the European Union organized a course on antimicrobial resistance in Buenos Aires for the countries of the region to promote integrated work between the sectors of industry and health.<sup>3929</sup> The event was attended by leaders from Brazil, Paraguay, Chile, Uruguay, Colombia, Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador.

On 20 April 2019, the Ministry of Health launched the 13th edition of the Indigenous Peoples' Immunization Month 2019 to intensify vaccination in indigenous areas in order to improve the vaccination coverage, especially in areas with difficult geographical access.<sup>3930</sup>

On 30 April 2019, the Ministry of Health extended the treatment available to children who undergo liver transplantation.<sup>3931</sup>

---

<sup>3924</sup> Saúde libera R\$ 27,7 milhões para ampliar assistência na Paraíba, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 25 March 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45315-saude-libera-r-27-7-milhoes-para-ampliar-assistencia-na-paraiba>

<sup>3925</sup> 6ª CNSI é lançada no Congresso Nacional, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 28 March 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sesai/45320-6-nsi-e-lancada-no-congresso-nacional>

<sup>3926</sup> Ministro da Saúde anuncia novas ações para fortalecimento da Atenção Básica, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 8 April 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45343-ministro-da-saude-anuncia-novas-acoes-para-fortalecimento-da-atencao-basica>

<sup>3927</sup> Hospitais Universitários ganham reforço de R\$ 102,5 milhões, Ministry of Health of Brazil 10 April 2019, (Brasília). Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45349-hospitais-universitarios-ganham-reforco-de-r-102-5-milhoes>

<sup>3928</sup> MS e MDH debatem propostas do programa QUALISAÚDE-BRASIL, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 12 April 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/sgtes/45361-ms-e-mdh-debatem-propostas-do-programa-qualisaude-brasil>

<sup>3929</sup> Equipos técnicos de Salud e Industria se capacitaron en resistencia antimicrobiana, Argentine government (Buenos Aires) 15 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/equipos-tecnicos-de-salud-e-industria-se-capacitaron-en-resistencia-antimicrobiana>

<sup>3930</sup> Começa o Mês de Vacinação dos Povos Indígenas, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45386-comeca-mes-de-vacinacao-dos-povos-indigenas>

<sup>3931</sup> Ministério da Saúde amplia oferta de medicamentos a crianças que realizaram transplante de fígado, Ministério de Saúde (Brasília) 30 April 2019. Access Date: 2 May 2019. <http://portalms.saude.gov.br/noticias/agencia-saude/45408-ministerio-da-saude-amplia-oferta-de-medicamentos-a-criancas-que-realizaram-transplante-de-figado>

Brazil has taken actions aimed at promotion of Universal Health Coverage domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Petrova*

**Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 21 December 2019, it was announced that The Canadian Institutes of Health Research will continue its long-standing collaboration with the European Commission by supporting eight joint transnational calls in 2019. The Canadian dedicated funding will support the involvement of Canadian researchers in multinational research consortia in areas such as personalized medicine, rare diseases, neurodegenerative diseases, mental health, cardiovascular diseases, and aging well.<sup>3932</sup>

In 2019, the Integrated Health Systems in Latin America and the Caribbean (IHSLAC) Project, a cooperation agreement between the Government of Canada's Department of Global Affairs Canada and the Pan American Health Organization is being implemented. IHSLAC responds to priorities within maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health. It is implemented in 11 countries. The IHSLAC Project runs from 2016 to 2019. Its ultimate outcome is to contribute to improved health of children, young girls and women (including mothers) in situations of vulnerability in Latin America and the Caribbean.<sup>3933</sup>

On 11 February 2019, on behalf of the Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, Member of Parliament, the Honourable Hedy Fry, announced CAD950,000 over 30 months to support RADIUS' Health Promotion Lab housed at Simon Fraser University's Beedie School of Business. Through this project, RADIUS will collaborate with organizations to develop, test and accelerate innovative initiatives that help address chronic diseases in Canada.<sup>3934</sup>

On 12 February 2019, the Minister of Health Ginette Petitpas Taylor announced that the Public Health Agency of Canada is providing CAD250,000 to Parachute Canada for its Pan-Canadian Seniors' Fall Prevention Network project. In collaboration with other organizations focused on injury prevention across Canada, Parachute Canada will create an online hub for individuals and health professionals, making it easier for them to find tools, resources and information related to fall prevention and recovery.<sup>3935</sup>

On 1 March 2019, the Minister of Health Ginette Petitpas Taylor announced an investment of CAD1.7 million over the next two years for 8 projects that will help improve the health of Canadians in changing climate. Funded projects will enhance surveillance and monitoring of infectious diseases

---

<sup>3932</sup> CIHR partners with the European Union to advance research in key areas, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 21 December 2018. Access date: 23 May 2019. <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51280.html>

<sup>3933</sup> Integrated Health Systems in Latin America and the Caribbean (IHSLAC), Pan-American Health Organisation (Washington). Access Date: 23 May 2019. [https://www.paho.org/can/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=302:integrated-health-systems-in-latin-america-and-the-caribbean-ihslac&Itemid=243&lang=es](https://www.paho.org/can/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=302:integrated-health-systems-in-latin-america-and-the-caribbean-ihslac&Itemid=243&lang=es)

<sup>3934</sup> Government of Canada Supports Hub to Promote Healthy Living - Innovative lab will help start-ups design and deliver activities to prevent chronic diseases. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 11 February 2019. Access date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/02/government-of-canada-supports-hub-to-promote-healthy-living---innovative-lab-will-help-start-ups-design-and-deliver-activities-to-prevent-chronic-d.html>

<sup>3935</sup> Public Health Agency of Canada Supports Fall Prevention Among Canadian Seniors. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 12 February 2019. Access date: 19 February 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/02/public-health-agency-of-canada-supports-fall-prevention-among-canadian-seniors.html>

linked to climate change as well as implement education and awareness activities across the country so that Canadians are informed about health risks and prevention strategies. Funding is provided through the Infectious Disease and Climate Change Fund which is now accepting proposals from interested applicants for future funding opportunities.<sup>3936</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the Minister of Health Ginette Petitpas Taylor announced funding for a community-based project that will better serve the complex needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) as well as their families and caregivers throughout their lives, with a focus on times of transition from youth to adult and from adult to senior.<sup>3937</sup> Projects funded through the Autism Spectrum Disorder Strategic Fund will provide opportunities for Canadians living with ASD as well as their families and caregivers to gain knowledge, resources and skills. Funding will also improve the capacity of communities to address the challenges of autism. This support is essential to helping Canadians affected by ASD achieve and maintain optimal health and wellbeing.<sup>3938</sup>

In April 2019, FUJIFILM Canada Inc. launched a new medical systems division to sell and market its diagnostic imaging solutions across Canada. To that end, FUJIFILM Canada Inc. will continue its 50-year long relationship with Christie Innomed, a Canadian company that develops, distributes, integrates and supports innovative medical imaging and health information management solutions to improve Canadian healthcare and will expand its Canadian sales workforce.<sup>3939</sup> On 2 April 2019, Health Canada and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration held joint public consultation meetings on International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH) guidelines currently under development.<sup>3940</sup> The aim of this initiative is to hold public consultation meetings prior to each bi-annual ICH face-to-face meeting, in order to seek input on areas where harmonised ICH guidelines would be beneficial. Stakeholder input received through this initiative will be considered in current or future guideline development. Health Canada also intends to use these opportunities to better understand areas in drug product regulation where Canadian requirements may differ from those in place in the U.S., with a view to minimizing these differences.<sup>3941</sup>

---

<sup>3936</sup> Government of Canada Announces New Projects that Will Help Reduce the Health Impacts of Climate Change. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 1 March 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/03/government-of-canada-announces-new-projects-that-will-help-reduce-the-health-impacts-of-climate-change.html>

<sup>3937</sup> Government of Canada Announces First Project under the Autism Spectrum Disorder Strategic Fund. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 2 April 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-first-project-under-the-autism-spectrum-disorder-strategic-fund.html>

<sup>3938</sup> Government of Canada Announces First Project under the Autism Spectrum Disorder Strategic Fund. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 2 April 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-announces-first-project-under-the-autism-spectrum-disorder-strategic-fund.html>

<sup>3939</sup> Canada announces closer collaboration with Japan, Site of the Prime Minister of Canada Justine Trudeau (Ottawa) 26 April 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. <https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2019/04/28/canada-announces-closer-collaboration-japan>

<sup>3940</sup> Notice: Health Canada and United States Food and Drug Administration Joint Public Consultation on the International Council on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH) Guidelines, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 April 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/public-involvement-consultations/drug-products/international-council-harmonisation-registration-pharmaceuticals-human-use-consultation-notice.html>

<sup>3941</sup> Notice: Health Canada and United States Food and Drug Administration Joint Public Consultation on the International Council on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH) Guidelines, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 April 2019. Access date: 23 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/public-involvement-consultations/drug-products/international-council-harmonisation-registration-pharmaceuticals-human-use-consultation-notice.html>

On 17 April 2019, the Minister of Health Ginette Petitpas Taylor announced that the Public Health Agency of Canada is investing up to CAD1.5 million over three years in the Alliance Wellness and Rehabilitation Inc. (Alliance Health) Healthy Kids Initiative.<sup>3942</sup> This is a three-year initiative to improve the activity levels, eating habits and social supports of up to 3,000 children and youth between the ages of 10 and 17 in Moose Jaw, Regina and Saskatoon in Saskatchewan. The Healthy Kids Initiative is a 12-week program that takes a whole-of-community approach to promoting healthy living by providing daily physical activity and access to healthy eating and mental health sessions.<sup>3943</sup>

Canada has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Uliana Kopyukh*

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 5 March 2019, National Development and Reform Commission issued 2019 Draft Plan for National Economic and Social Development. The plan has established the goals for 2019 which particularly include reforms on medical and healthcare system aiming at providing the citizens with the modern hospital management, universal health insurance, medicine supplies, and comprehensive healthcare examination; developing Internet Plus Healthcare model; continuing the reform of medical insurance payouts; improving the long-term mechanism for supervision over vaccines and drugs, etc.<sup>3944</sup>

On 26 March 2019, China Civil Engineering Company set plans to construct 26 hospitals in South Sudan using Chinese financial sources.<sup>3945</sup>

On 8 April 2019, the 19th China Medical Team in Rwanda provided medical treatment to about 300 patients. The goal of the medical team is to provide quality medical services to those Rwandan people who are not able to afford medicines and higher quality health care.<sup>3946</sup>

On 15 April 2019, National Health Commission launched a capacity-building platform designed for strengthening healthcare services on the community level. Platform combines online and offline training programs for community level healthcare workers.<sup>3947</sup>

---

<sup>3942</sup> Government of Canada Supports Health and Well-being for Children and Youth in Saskatchewan. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 17 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-supports-health-and-well-being-for-children-and-youth-in-saskatchewan.html>

<sup>3943</sup> Government of Canada Supports Health and Well-being for Children and Youth in Saskatchewan. Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 17 April 2019. Access date: 1 May 2019. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2019/04/government-of-canada-supports-health-and-well-being-for-children-and-youth-in-saskatchewan.html>

<sup>3944</sup> Report on the Implementation of the 2018 Plan for National Economic and Social Development and on the 2019 Draft Plan for National Economic and Social Development, National Development and Reform Commission (Beijing) 5 March 2019. Access date: 27 April 2019. [www.xinhuanet.com/english/special/2019lh/download/Full%2520text%2520Report%2520on%2520China%27s%2520national%2520economic,%2520social%2520development%2520plan.doc+&cd=22&hl=ru&ct=clnk&gl=ru](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/special/2019lh/download/Full%2520text%2520Report%2520on%2520China%27s%2520national%2520economic,%2520social%2520development%2520plan.doc+&cd=22&hl=ru&ct=clnk&gl=ru)

<sup>3945</sup> Chinese firm to construct 26 hospitals in South Sudan, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 26 March 2019. Access date: 28 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/26/c\\_137925217.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/26/c_137925217.htm)

<sup>3946</sup> Chinese doctors provide free health care in Rwanda, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 8 April 2019. Access date: 28 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/08/c\\_137960672.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/08/c_137960672.htm)

On 17 April 2019, Chinese government, in collaboration with the World Health Organization, provided the Fijian government with the medical supplies for detecting and treatment of the cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases and cancer.<sup>3948</sup>

On 25 April 2019, National Health Commission reported that according to the China's healthcare reform aiming to provide more affordable drugs for patients, seventeen anti-cancer drugs were added to the medical insurance reimbursement list with their prices cut by 56.7 percent on average.<sup>3949</sup>

On 28 April 2019, Chinese medical team provided a free healthcare treatment for around 200 local workers in Ghana, including such medical services as acupuncture and ophthalmology.<sup>3950</sup>

China has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Yekaterina Litvintseva*

### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage.

On 1 January 2019, the assumption of 100 per cent health costs in the field of optics, audiology and dental gradually entered into force. Its deployment will continue until 2021. As of January 1, 2019, the prices of the "100 per cent health" basket are capped in audiology and dentistry. In addition, the reimbursement of hearing aids increases by EUR100 for the insured. In total, the remaining dependents will be reduced by EUR200 on average for "100 per cent health" hearing aids.<sup>3951</sup>

On 1 January 2019, as part of the national sexual health strategy to combat the spread of sexually transmitted infections (HIV, viral hepatitis, syphilis, gonorrhoea, chlamydia, etc.), a male condom mark is reimbursed by health insurance.<sup>3952</sup>

On 30 January 2019 in partnership with Public Health France, the Collège de France opened a new department dedicated to public health.<sup>3953</sup>

On 4 February 2019, Minister of Solidarities and Health Agnès Buzyn signed the Contract of the Health Industries and Technologies sector. The National Institute of Health Data will disappear in favor of an expanded "health data platform." Its role will be to "collect, organize and provide data from the National Health Data System"; the concept of "telecare" is coming into the health system. It is defined as a practice of distance care between a patient and one or more pharmacists. The

---

<sup>3947</sup> Platform launched to enhance China's community-level healthcare services, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 15 April 2019. Access date: 28 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/15/c\\_137978979.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/15/c_137978979.htm)

<sup>3948</sup> China provides Fiji medical equipments to detect non-communicable diseases, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 25 April 2019. Access date: 28 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/17/c\\_137984758.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/17/c_137984758.htm)

<sup>3949</sup> More affordable drugs offered with healthcare reform: official, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 25 April 2019. Access date: 28 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/25/c\\_138008495.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/25/c_138008495.htm)

<sup>3950</sup> Chinese medical team in Ghana offers free service to local workers, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 28 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/28/c\\_138019135.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/28/c_138019135.htm)

<sup>3951</sup> Ce qui change en 2019, Gouvernement de la République française (Paris) 1 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/ce-qui-change-en-2019>

<sup>3952</sup> Ce qui change en 2019, Gouvernement de la République française (Paris) 1 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/ce-qui-change-en-2019>

<sup>3953</sup> En partenariat avec Santé publique France, le Collège de France ouvre une nouvelle chaire consacrée à la santé publique, Santé publique France (Paris) 30 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <http://www.santepubliquefrance.fr/Actualites/En-partenariat-avec-Sante-publique-France-le-College-de-France-ouvre-une-nouvelle-chaire-consacree-a-la-sante-publique>

conditions of care will be specified by decree and will take into account “deficiencies in the supply of care due to insularity and geographical isolation”; diversification of the profiles of future health professionals, put an end to a competition system and to increase the number of doctors by 20 per cent.<sup>3954</sup>

On 22 January 2019, it was announced that French Development Agency and the Hospital Center of Western Guiana signed a partnership agreement that signals a new step forward in the reinforcement of healthcare cooperation between French Guiana and Suriname.<sup>3955</sup>

On 17 April 2019, it was announced that the Ministry of Solidarity and Health provides all stakeholders with a “guide to help with the preparation and management of hospital stresses and exceptional health situations.” Developed by the Directorate General for Health and the Directorate-General for Caregiving in close collaboration with hospital professionals, this guide offers facility managers, presidents of medical establishment committees and teams in the framework of the preparation and crisis management, consistent with the regional response mechanism “ORSAN1.”<sup>3956</sup>

France has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dariya Myasnikova*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage.

On 22 January 2019, Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron signed the Treaty of Aachen. The Treaty provides for specific solutions to make the everyday life of people living in border regions of the two countries easier. Practical cross-border projects are to facilitate dialogue, including the establishment of joint nurseries and education facilities, emergency and health services and new industrial estates.<sup>3957</sup>

On 30 January 2019, the government announced that from the start of the 2019 winter semester supplements to health and long-term nursing care insurance will also be increased for the recipients of state assistance under the German Federal Training Assistance Act.<sup>3958</sup>

On 19 February 2019, the Health Ministry launched the “Global Health Hub Germany” initiative. It is an independent Germany-based network of health organizations, foundations, non-governmental organizations, science and academia, and the healthcare industry promoting informal exchange and

---

<sup>3954</sup> Signature du Contrat stratégique de la filière « Industries et Technologies de Santé, Le portail de l'Économie, des Finances, de l'Action et des Comptes publics (Paris) 4 February 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. [https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure\\_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=D0F01FC6-D307-4D70-8FE9-A42AF36844FE&filename=1004.pdf](https://minefi.hosting.augure.com/Augure_Minefi/r/ContenuEnLigne/Download?id=D0F01FC6-D307-4D70-8FE9-A42AF36844FE&filename=1004.pdf)

<sup>3955</sup> Between French Guiana And Suriname, Healthcare Has No Borders, Le groupe Agence française de développement (AFD) (Paris) 22 January 2019. Access date: 1 April 2019. <https://www.afd.fr/en/between-french-guiana-and-suriname-healthcare-has-no-borders>

<sup>3956</sup> Le ministère accompagne les professionnels dans la préparation et la gestion des situations sanitaires exceptionnelles Santé publique France (Paris) 17 April 2019. Access date: 30 April 2019. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/le-ministère-accompagne-les-professionnels-dans-la-préparation-et-la-gestion>

<sup>3957</sup> Strengthening friendship, German Federal Government (Berlin) 22 January 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/strengthening-friendship-1571398>

<sup>3958</sup> More young people to receive Bafög training assistance, German Federal Government (Berlin) 30 January 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/search/more-young-people-to-receive-bafog-training-assistance-1575562>

facilitating the creation of new projects and partnerships in the area of global health.<sup>3959</sup> Over a period of three years (up to 2021), the Federal Ministry of Health will support the Global Health Hub Germany by means of seed funding. The German Agency for International Cooperation will serve as the network's managing office for this period of time.<sup>3960</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the German Bundestag adopted the law "for faster doctor appointments and better care" in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading. The law is expected to come into force in May 2019 and is not subject to approval by the Bundesrat. The new law is aimed at the expansion of appointment service points. They should become central contact points for patients reachable 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. Besides, the law provides for an increase in the minimum number of consultation hours offered by contract physicians. In underserved areas, the associations of physicians must in the future open their own practices or offer alternative care.<sup>3961</sup>

In 2019, Germany continued the implementation of the Universal health coverage project launched in October 2017. The project worth EUR19.5 million is implemented by the German Agency for International Cooperation and Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development in Benin, Cameroon, Guinea, Indonesia, Kenya, Cambodia, Laos, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Chad, Tanzania.<sup>3962</sup>

Germany has taken actions aimed at promotion of universal health coverage domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepov*

#### **India: +1**

India had fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 6 December 2018, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi gave its approval on the Memorandum of Cooperation between India and Japan in the field of Healthcare and Wellness signed on 29th October 2018.<sup>3963</sup>

On 14 December 2018, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation Suresh Prabhu announced setting up of a National Medical Devices Promotion Council under the Department of

---

<sup>3959</sup> Federal Minister of Health Jens Spahn: "A strong German network for global health", German Federal Ministry of Health (Bonn) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/press/2019/global-health-hub-germany.html>.

<sup>3960</sup> Federal Minister of Health Jens Spahn: "A strong German network for global health", German Federal Ministry of Health (Bonn) 19 February 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/press/2019/global-health-hub-germany.html>.

<sup>3961</sup> Bundestag beschließt Terminservice- und Versorgungsgesetz, German Federal Ministry of Health (Bonn) 14 March 2019. Access Date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/presse/pressemitteilungen/2019/1-quartal/tsvg-2-3-lesung-bundestag.html>.

<sup>3962</sup> Universal Health Coverage - Universelle soziale Absicherung im Krankheitsfall, German Agency for International Cooperation (Bonn). Access Date: 15 April 2019.

<https://www.giz.de/projektdaten/exportDetail.action?documentId=201720192&infotypeSource=projects>

<sup>3963</sup> Cabinet approves Memorandum of Cooperation between India and Japan in the field of Healthcare and Wellness, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 6 December 2018. Access date: 6 December 2018.

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1554941>

Industrial Policy and Promotion in the Ministry of Commerce & Industry to give a fillip to the medical device sector, which is a sunrise sector.<sup>3964</sup>

On 28 December 2018, the President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the 12th Global Healthcare Summit organized by the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin in Mumbai.<sup>3965</sup>

On 2 January 2019, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has given its approval for continuation of five schemes under the “Umbrella Scheme for Family Welfare and Other Health Interventions” during the Fourteenth Finance Commission period 2017-18 to 2019-20.<sup>3966</sup>

On 4 April 2019, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare along with World Health Organization (WHO) formed a Solidarity Human Chain as part of the World Health Day celebrations to reaffirm their commitment to bridging gaps and working collaboratively towards Universal Health Coverage.<sup>3967</sup>

India has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Polina Sbtanko*

### **Indonesia: +1**

Indonesia has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 6 December 2018, it was reported Indonesia’s Ministry of Finance would allocate additional resources worth USD357 million to cover deficits the Social Security Agency for Health; however, it is yet to be defined how to overcome ever-lasting losses at the Agency as it continues to operate in a situation of claims paid out far exceeding premiums collected.<sup>3968</sup>

On 5 February 2019 it was reported that Indonesia was among a group of countries in the World Health Organization, which agreed to co-sponsor the draft resolution (originally proposed by Japan and Thailand) towards a United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting on universal health coverage to be held in autumn 2019.<sup>3969</sup>

---

<sup>3964</sup> National Medical Devices Promotion Council to be set up under DIPP, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 14 December 2018. Access date: 14 December 2018. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1555920>

<sup>3965</sup> President of India Inaugurates the 12th Global Healthcare Summit in Mumbai; Addresses the centenary celebration event of the Yoga Institute, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 28 December 2018. Access date: 28 December 2018. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1557714>

<sup>3966</sup> Cabinet approves Continuation of Umbrella scheme for "Family Welfare and Other Health Interventions" during 2017-18 to 2019-20, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 2 January 2019. Access date: 2 January 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1558207>

<sup>3967</sup> Health Ministry forms a Solidarity Human Chain; reaffirms commitment towards Universal Health Care, Public Information Bureau (Delhi) 4 April 2019. Access date: 4 April 2019. <http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1570052>

<sup>3968</sup> Indonesia to inject \$357 mln into state health insurer, Reuters (Jakarta) 6 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/indonesia-insurance-budget/indonesia-to-inject-357-mln-into-state-health-insurer-idUSL4N1YB28G>

<sup>3969</sup> TRIPS Debated As WHO Board Reaches Agreement On Universal Health Coverage, IP Watch (Geneva) 5 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.ip-watch.org/2019/02/05/trips-debated-board-reaches-agreement-universal-health-coverage/>



On 11-13 February 2019, Indonesia's Ministry of Health held a National Health Work Meeting; the Meeting reiterated the government's commitment to increase the rate of universal health coverage, and to undertake a series of efforts that are holistic, strategic and integral to all health development efforts at all stages of the human life cycle, so that all Indonesian people have access to comprehensive and quality health services without financial constraints; it was also stressed that Indonesia's Ministry of Health focuses on promotive, preventive efforts including disease control and curative and rehabilitative health services by mainstreaming quality primary health services.<sup>3970</sup>

Indonesia has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally. Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

## **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 11 December 2018, Tuscany Region, with the patronage of the Ministry of Health, launched a national pilot project with the objectives of facilitating the citizen's access to health services in areas with difficulty accessing care.<sup>3971</sup>

On 11-12 December 2018, National Agency for Regional Health Services presented "National accreditation manual for the delivery of ECM [continuing medical education] events," "Manual on continuing education of the healthcare professional" that aim at rationalization and simplification of rules, increase of controls on events in the name of transparency, as well as implementation of training courses calibrated to the knowledge needs of each healthcare provider with the sole aim of raising the overall quality of the training offer.<sup>3972</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the General director of the Food Safety Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Gabonese Republic Sylvain Patrick Enkoro, the General director of Ministry of Health for the Directorate General for Animal Health and Veterinary Drugs Silvio Borrello and the General director of Ministry of Health for the Directorate-General for Hygiene and Food Safety and Nutrition Gaetana Ferri signed the Technical Understanding in the field of food safety, phytopharmaceutical products and animal health in order to create a scientific collaboration and technical and administrative support between the Parties, in consideration of their duty to ensure controls on food safety, phytosanitary and animal health in their respective countries.<sup>3973</sup>

On 30 December 2018, the Italian government approved Budget law that allocates EUR4 million to mandatory neonatal diagnostic tests and EUR150 million to modernize infrastructure and to reduce waiting times for the provision of health services.<sup>3974</sup>

---

<sup>3970</sup> Ministry of Health Targets Universal Health Coverage, Suara Merdeka News (Jakarta) 28 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.suaramerdeka.com/news/baca/171181/kemenkes-targetkan-universal-health-coverage>

<sup>3971</sup> Sanità nelle isole, un progetto per migliorare il servizio, Gonews.it (Rome) 11 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.gonews.it/2018/12/11/sanita-nelle-isole-un-progetto-migliorare-servizio/>

<sup>3972</sup> Ecm, nuove regole dal 2019. Agenas: focus sulla qualità della formazione, Aboutpharma.online (Rome) 13 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.aboutpharma.com/blog/2018/12/13/ecm-nuove-regole-dal-2019-agenas-focus-sulla-qualita-della-formazione/>

<sup>3973</sup> Intesa tecnica tra Italia e Gabon nel settore della sicurezza alimentare, dei prodotti fitofarmaceutici e della sanità animale, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 18 December 2018. Access date: 30 February 2019. [www.salute.gov.it/portale/rapportiInternazionali/dettaglioNotizieRapportiInternazionali.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3579](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/rapportiInternazionali/dettaglioNotizieRapportiInternazionali.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3579)

<sup>3974</sup> LEGGE 30 dicembre 2018, n. 145, GAZZETTA UFFICIALE (Rome) 31 December 2018. Access date: 30 March 2019. <https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/gu/2018/12/31/302/so/62/sg/pdf>

On 29 January 2019, the Director of the Customs and Monopolies Agency adopted “Three-year plan for the prevention of corruption and transparency 2019-2021” in order to fight corruption and protect population against financial-risk.<sup>3975</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Ministry of Health decided to allocate EUR100 million to Southern Regions for the modernization of oncology radiotherapy, and in particular, for the acquisition of equipment equipped with robotic or rotational technology.<sup>3976</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the Minister of Health, Giulia Grillo, initiated collaboration con Autorità garante per l’infanzia e l’adolescenza in order to create a norm that would provide minors with free access to diagnostic tests of HIV and AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases so it would eliminate requirement of the prior consent of the parent or guardian for taking the test<sup>3977</sup>.

On 13 April 2019, the Minister of Health Giulia Grillo sent a task force composed of Health technicians, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Agenas, Carabinieri of the Nucleo Antisofisticazioni e Sanità in region Calabria to verify the full respect of the national anti-corruption plan and of the Anac provisions. Among his duties there is also an extraordinary recognition of the quality levels provided in all the departments of the hospital structures involved.<sup>3978</sup>

On 18 April 2019, the Council of ministries approved the “Decreto Calabria.” The decree establishes stringent restrictions on purchases and supplies, which the Calabrian Health Service will now have to carry out through the national central for the purchases of the Public Administration (Consip), or through the central purchasing bodies of other regions. New provisions concern the sub-threshold awarding procedures, which must be carried out with the coordination of the National Anti-Corruption Authority (Anac). The Decree confirmed the EUR82 million already allocated to Calabria for the technological modernization of its health system.<sup>3979</sup>

Italy has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically but no actions on international for a were registered during compliance period.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Svetlana Kochetkova*

## **Japan: +1**

Japan had fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

---

<sup>3975</sup> Piano Triennale per la prevenzione della corruzione e per la trasparenza 2019-2021, Agenzia delle Dogane e dei Monopoli (Rome) 29 January 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. <https://www.adm.gov.it/portale/piano-triennale-di-prevenzione-della-corruzione-2019-2021>

<sup>3976</sup> Sbloccati 100 milioni per svecchiare le radioterapie oncologiche del Sud, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 14 February 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_4\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5148](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5148)

<sup>3977</sup> Test hiv su minori senza consenso genitori, sì del Garante Infanzia al ministro Grillo per collaborazione su nuove regole, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 26 February 2019. Access date: 30 February 2019. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_4\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5158](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5158)

<sup>3978</sup> Umbria, ministero invia la task force, Ministero della salute (Rome) 18 April 2019. Access date: 24 April 2019. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_1\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3708](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3708)

<sup>3979</sup> Consiglio dei ministri approva all'unanimità il Decreto Calabria, Ministero della salute (Rome) 18 April 2019. Access date: 24 April 2019. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_1\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3715](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3715)

On 5-7 December 2018, Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare held the 16th Association of Southeast Asian Nations and Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies in Yokohama, having discussed, among others the issues of healthcare.<sup>3980</sup>

On 7 December 2018, a roadmap for European Union-Japan Science and Technology cooperation was published by the European Commission. In this roadmap the EU confirmed its readiness to engage in active cooperation with Japan in the field of health care, among other areas. The possibility of future cooperation in this area was said to be able to be examined and pursued through the Horizon 2020 International Cooperation Flagship on "Technologies for global health care," proposed for multilateral international cooperation. It also stated EU's and Japan's support to further development of international cooperation in digital transformation of health and care.<sup>3981</sup>

On 26 January 2019, in preparation for the United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting on universal health coverage in September 2019, draft resolution for this meeting drafted by Japan jointly with Thailand was published.<sup>3982</sup> The draft resolution calls, among other things, to accelerate progress towards the goal of universal health coverage, with a specific emphasis on the poor, vulnerable and marginalized segments of the population; to continue to mobilize adequate and sustainable resources to support universal health coverage; to continue investing in and strengthening primary health care under good governance as a cornerstone of universal health coverage; to ensure adequate, competent and committed health workforce by active implementation of the Global strategy on human resources for health 2030; and to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation platforms to support regular tracking of the progress in improving an equitable access to health care and financial risk protection.<sup>3983</sup>

On 4 February 2019, Japan International Cooperation Agency held its 3rd seminar in Egypt on the issues of UHC (jointly with Egypt's government bodies, World Bank and World Health Organization), "to share the Japanese knowledge and techniques in the field of Universal Health Coverage that dates back to more than 50 years ago so that the Egyptian side can avoid the obstacles that Japan has faced and benefit from the Japanese experience in the practical implementation of the Universal Health Insurance System."<sup>3984</sup>

On 13 February 2019, Japan International Cooperation Agency jointly with Asian Development Bank held a high-level Meeting on Achieving Universal Health Coverage in Asia and the Pacific, "to share global and regional experience in supporting Universal Health Coverage, and to discuss partnerships to bridge health care financing gaps, priority health issues including non-communicable diseases and elderly care, and pandemic preparedness."<sup>3985</sup>

---

<sup>3980</sup> Summary The 16th ASEAN and Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies, Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 7 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. [https://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/policy/affairs/asean/16th\\_summary.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/policy/affairs/asean/16th_summary.html)

<sup>3981</sup> Roadmap for EU-Japan S&T cooperation, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/jp\\_roadmap\\_2018.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/jp_roadmap_2018.pdf).

<sup>3982</sup> Preparation for the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on universal health coverage, World Health Organization (Geneva) 26 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/EB144/B144\\_CONF5-en.pdf](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB144/B144_CONF5-en.pdf)

<sup>3983</sup> Preparation for the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on universal health coverage, World Health Organization (Geneva) 26 January 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/EB144/B144\\_CONF5-en.pdf](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB144/B144_CONF5-en.pdf)

<sup>3984</sup> JICA holds 3rd seminar in Egypt on Universal Health Coverage, Egypt Today (Cairo) 5 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <http://www.egypttoday.com/Article/1/64319/JICA-holds-3rd-seminar-in-Egypt-on-Universal-Health-Coverage>

<sup>3985</sup> Universal Health Coverage meeting gets underway in Japan, Sierra Leone Times (Sydney) 13 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.sierraleonetimes.com/news/259510592/universal-health-coverage-meeting-gets-underway-in-japan>

On 24 February 2019, it was reported that Japan and the Philippines signed a memorandum of cooperation in the fields of healthcare, which aims to establish a mechanism for future cooperation between the Philippines and Japan on universal health coverage, elderly care, disease prevention, maternal and child health services and sanitation.<sup>3986</sup>

Japan has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 10-11 December 2018, a representative of National Health Insurance Service of Korea took part in a working session of the Joint Learning Network for Universal Health Coverage in Nairobi, Kenya. The session was devoted to data use in ensuring UHC; the example of Korea as one of the leading nations using health data for further improvement of healthcare services was highlighted as a milestone to achieve in building such a system in Kenya.<sup>3987</sup>

On 14 January 2019, the Ministry of Health of Korea announced that the National Health Insurance will cover Chuna manual therapy. This kind of therapy is used to treat and correct spinal disorders by hands – a practice that is similar to Western chiropractic treatment. The decision is based on evidence of growing demand for this kind of treatment.<sup>3988</sup>

Korea has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **Mexico: +1**

Mexico has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 21 December 2018, in Mérida, the Secretary of Health and the governors of Campeche, Chiapas, Guerrero, Oaxaca, Quintana Roo, Tabasco, Veracruz and Yucatan, signed an agreement to guarantee the right to health with medical care and free medicines for the population without social security. This allows to develop stronger health system in the southeast of the country.<sup>3989</sup>

On 25 December 2018, Health Secretary announced that as part of the cooperation in mental health, the Pan American Health Organization will support the state of Aguascalientes in the development of the state plan for the prevention of suicide, in order to address this serious health problem in the

---

<sup>3986</sup> Philippines, Japan finalize ¥3.56 B grants for infrastructure, Phil Star Global (Manila) 24 February 2019. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.philstar.com/business/2019/02/24/1896167/philippines-japan-finalize-356-b-grants-infrastructure#JWsLz1sVaYjiw7LV.99>

<sup>3987</sup> Data use case studies for Universal Health Coverage (UHC): from theory to practice, Digital Health Network (Baltimore). Access date: 2 April 2019. <https://www.globaldigitalhealthnetwork.org/resources/data-use-case-studies-universal-health-coverage-uhc-theory-practice>

<sup>3988</sup> National Health Insurance to cover Chuna treatment expense amid controversy, Korea Herald (Seoul) 14 January 2019. Access date: 2 April 2019. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190114000548&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20190114000548&ACE_SEARCH=1)

<sup>3989</sup> Learn about the commitments signed by the Secretary of Health to improve the Health System in the Mexican southeast, Mexican Government (Mexico) 21 December 2018. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/en/articulos/learn-about-the-commitments-signed-by-the-secretary-of-health-to-improve-the-health-system-in-the-mexican-southeast?idiom=en>

entity. The support began in February 2019 and is based on the Health Gap Mental Intervention Guide, a model that was developed for mental, neurological and substance use disorders. This measure allows to develop health system and to provide qualified medical care for all.<sup>3990</sup>

On 27 December 2018, Health Secretary announced that negotiations began to discuss the participation of Mexico in the direct purchase of certain vaccines and medicines through Rotary and Strategic Funds from Pan-American and World Health Organizations, from which it would obtain benefits with respect to the prices offered. This measure would allow to achieve better access to health care and to improve its quality and affordability to population.<sup>3991</sup>

On 23 January 2019, Mexico's President, Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador announced that his commitment is providing access to health services, infrastructure and doctors for all the children population. This announcement leads to improvement of quality and affordability of the health system.<sup>3992</sup>

On 23 February 2019, the First National Health Week 2019 started. More than 37 million 884 thousand actions in health were taken in all national territory. This event contributed to providing cost effective and qualified health care to all population regardless their income.<sup>3993</sup>

On 26 February 2019, the Health Secretary presented the Health Project for 2019 - 2024 in the Fourth Transformation, which would give all Mexicans access to health services. The main actions to be taken include providing medical services and free medicines to society, making legal and structural changes to meet the needs and granting services with quality and equity, until achieving universalization. This measure leads to stronger health systems and better access to health care, while improving its quality and affordability.<sup>3994</sup>

On 10 April 2019, representatives of the Ministry of Health participated in the presentation of the report of the High Level Commission on "Universal Health in the XXI Century: 40 Years of Alma-Ata" in Mexico City, event that was led by the President of Mexico, Andrés Manuel López Obrador, and was attended by the director of the Pan American Health Organization, Carissa Etienne and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet.<sup>3995</sup> The document reaffirms the commitment to health for all people, with special emphasis on the role of primary health care, on the path to achieving universal health in the region. The objective of this initiative of the Pan American Health Organization is to reflect progress and challenges and provide recommendations to expand access and health coverage in the region by the year 2030, taking into account social, political and other factors as well as institutions of each country. The Argentine officials shared with the participants the UHC Strategy implemented by the National Government.

---

<sup>3990</sup> OPS apoyará a la prevención y atención del suicidio en Aguascalientes, Mexican Government (Mexico) 25 December 2018. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/479-ops-apoyara-a-la-prevencion-y-atencion-del-suicidio-en-aguascalientes?idiom=es>

<sup>3991</sup> México avanza en compra consolidada de vacunas y medicamentos, Mexican Government (Mexico) 27 December 2018. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/481-mexico-avanza-en-compra-consolidada-de-vacunas-y-medicamentos?idiom=es>

<sup>3992</sup> Health services for children, Mexican Government (Mexico) 23 January 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/en/articulos/health-services-for-children?idiom=en>

<sup>3993</sup> Inicia Primera Semana Nacional de Salud, Mexican Government (Mexico) 24 February 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/articulos/inicia-primera-semana-nacional-de-salud?idiom=es>

<sup>3994</sup> Meet the Health Project in the Fourth Transformation, Mexican Government (Mexico) 26 February 2019. Access date: 21 March 2019. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/articulos/78290>

<sup>3995</sup> Argentina participó del lanzamiento del Informe de Alto Nivel "Salud Universal en el Siglo XXI: 40 años de Alma-Ata" en México, Argentine Government (Buenos Aires) 10 April 2019. Access Date: 25 April 2019. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-del-lanzamiento-del-informe-de-alto-nivel-salud-universal-en-el-siglo>.

Mexico has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nadezhda Kamenkovich*

### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 31 January 2019, the Minister of Health of the Russian Federation V. Skvortsova signed the Order No. 33 on the creation of the Federal Information and Analytical Center for the Public-Private Partnership in Health Care Development.<sup>3996</sup> The key objectives of the Center would be preparation of: information and analytical materials on the use and improvement of public-private partnership mechanisms in health, proposals for improving these mechanisms in health, materials for educational activities on the development of such mechanisms in health care and monitoring the best practices of implementing projects on the principles of public-private partnership in health care.<sup>3997</sup>

On 6 March 2019, President of Russia V.V. Putin signed the federal law on the organization of palliative care developed by the government. The federal law expanded the concept of palliative care, clarified the types of such care, the procedure and conditions for its provision.<sup>3998</sup>

On 18 March 2019, Libya and Russia signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of health and the provision of medical services. The agreement is aimed at cooperation between countries “in the provision of basic medical services, improving their quality and management efficiency of hospitals and medical centers in Libya.” “Interaction between the parties in the field of research, information exchange and the organization of visits of experts in the field of health to increase the qualifications of specialists” is also expected.<sup>3999</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the Russian Academy of Sciences and the US National Academy of Sciences have signed a cooperation agreement. The respective academies signed an agreement on cooperation in scientific, engineering and medical research. According to this accord, the Russian-US cooperation includes such areas as biomedical research on cancer and Alzheimer’s disease as well as the monitoring of climate change in the Arctic, among other issues.<sup>4000</sup>

On 22 April 2019, Prime Minister of Russian Federation D.A. Medvedev signed the Order No 479. The signed order approved the Federal Scientific and Technical Program for the Development of Genetic Technologies for 2019–2027. The main objectives of the Program are a comprehensive

---

<sup>3996</sup> The Federal Information and Analytical Center for the Development of Public-Private Partnership in Healthcare has been created. Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 31 January 2019. 01 February 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/news/2019/02/01/10660-sozdan-federalnyy-informatsionno-analiticheskiy-tsentr-razvitiya-gosudarstvenno-chastnogo-partnerstva-v-zdravoohranenii>

<sup>3997</sup> The Federal Information and Analytical Center for the Development of Public-Private Partnership in Healthcare has been created. Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 31 January 2019. 01 February 2019. Access date: 15 February 2019. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/news/2019/02/01/10660-sozdan-federalnyy-informatsionno-analiticheskiy-tsentr-razvitiya-gosudarstvenno-chastnogo-partnerstva-v-zdravoohranenii>

<sup>3998</sup> The President of Russia signed the Federal Law on the Organization of Palliative Medical Care developed by the Government, Russian Government (Moscow) 6 March 2019. Access date: 30 March 2019. <http://government.ru/activities/selection/525/35978/>

<sup>3999</sup> Libya and Russia signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of health, TASS (Moscow) 18 March 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <https://tass.ru/obschestvo/6229238>

<sup>4000</sup> Russian, US Scientists Sign Cooperation Agreement, Sputnik News (Moscow) 13 March 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <https://sputniknews.com/us/201903131073181275-usa-russia-science-cooperation-agreement/>

solution of the tasks of accelerated development of genetic technologies, including technologies of genetic editing, the creation of scientific and technological reserves for medicine.<sup>4001</sup>

Russia has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Anna Piekaltins*

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

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 25 December 2018, the Ministry of Health of Saudi Arabia launched an emergency line for doctors allowing professionals communicate with each other about critical situations and cases. The endeavor aims at further improvement of health service of all emergency departments.<sup>4002</sup>

On 21 January 2019, the Ministry of Health launched the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative. The initiative includes a training course aimed at qualifying participating trainees and providing them with the basic skills to evaluate the health institutions on the baby-friendly initiative standards according to the standards of the World Health Organization and UNICEF.<sup>4003</sup>

On 23 January 2019, the Ministry of Health held a training course on X-ray pigment complications at Clinical Simulation Center of Alnoor Specialist Hospital in Makkah.<sup>4004</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the Ministry of Health launched the national vaccination campaign against measles and rubella targeting children aged six months to five years.<sup>4005</sup>

On 6 February 2019, the Ministry of Health launched the Public Health System Project aimed at outlining public health priorities and public needs in accordance with international health regulations and promoting international cooperation in the public health field.<sup>4006</sup>

On 18 February 2019, the Ministry of Health signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Technical and Vocational Training Corporation to promote cooperation in training of healthcare specialists and infrastructure development.<sup>4007</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the Ministry of Health signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Program to Support the Management of Projects in Public Entities “Mashoat.” The MoU aims at boosting cooperation between the Ministry and Mashoat in provision of consulting services

---

<sup>4001</sup> Order on April 22, 2019, Russian Government (Moscow) 22 April 2019. Access date: 25 April 2019.

<http://static.government.ru/media/files/1FErVexYSovYFduUn1tStWlLkyrkTEmu.pdf>

<sup>4002</sup> Health Minister Launches New Service to Facilitate Communication Between Emergency Doctors, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 25 December 2018. Access date: 06 May 2019.

<https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2018-12-25-002.aspx>

<sup>4003</sup> MOH Activates Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 21 January 2019. Access date: 06 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-01-21-006.aspx>

<sup>4004</sup> MOH Upgrades Skills of Radiology Staff in Makkah, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 23 January 2019. Access date: 06 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-01-23-003.aspx>

<sup>4005</sup> MOH: National Vaccination Campaign against Measles Launched, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 6 February 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-02-06-003.aspx>

<sup>4006</sup> Health Minister Launches Public Health System, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 6 February 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-02-06-001.aspx>

<sup>4007</sup> MOH Signs MoU with Technical and Vocational Training Corporation, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 18 February 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-02-18-001.aspx>

and technical support to contribute to raising the efficiency and quality of the Ministry's public health projects.<sup>4008</sup>

On 14 March 2019, the Ministry of Health of Saudi Arabia launched "Watin" mobile application for blood donation. The initiative seeks to meet blood needs of the Kingdom and improve donor experience.<sup>4009</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the Ministry of Health represented by Minister Tawfiq bin Fawzan Al Rabiah signed agreements aimed at promotion of healthcare services in Mahayel Asir Governorate. The agreements include establishment of several new healthcare centers on public-private partnership basis with worth SAR12 million.<sup>4010</sup>

On 23 April 2019, the Ministry of Health of Saudi Arabia announced launch of a new desalination plant in Al-Jaizah village, Adham province. With the Ministry's contribution of SAR750,000, the plant will produce 200 cubic meter of fresh water per day.<sup>4011</sup>

On 30 April 2019, the Ministry of Health of Saudi Arabia announced its intention to initialize the first of a kind public-private partnership project aimed at upgrading radiology and medical imaging services in Riyadh region. The project's value reaches SR 250 million and realization set up for the next 10 years.<sup>4012</sup>

On 1 May 2019, the Ministry of Health of Saudi Arabia announced inauguration of a new Fertility and Reproductive Health Center of the Maternity and Children Center in Arar, the capital of Northern Borders Region.<sup>4013</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 23 of January 2019, the Minister of Health, on recommendation of the Pricing Committee, issued a «Regulations relating to the transparent pricing system for medicines and scheduled substances: dispensing fee for pharmacists» which provided with more transparent legislation of pricing.<sup>4014</sup>

---

<sup>4008</sup> MOH Signs MoU with Mashoat Program, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 14 march 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/news-2019-03-14-007.aspx>

<sup>4009</sup> MOH Launches "Watin" Blood Donation App, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 14 march 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/news-2019-03-14-001.aspx>

<sup>4010</sup> Minister of Health Signs Community Partnership Agreements Worth SR 12 Million, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 2 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019.

<https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-04-02-001.aspx>

<sup>4011</sup> MOH: Desalination Plant Project was Launched at Al-Jaizah Village, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 23 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-04-23-003.aspx>

<sup>4012</sup> MOH: Radiology and Medical Imaging Service Targeted, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 30 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-04-30-004.aspx>

<sup>4013</sup> Arar; 1<sup>st</sup> Fertility and Reproductive Health Center Inaugurated, Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health (Riyadh) 1 May 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Ministry/MediaCenter/News/Pages/News-2019-05-01-004.aspx>

<sup>4014</sup> Regulations relating to the transparent pricing system for medicines and scheduled substances: dispensing fee for pharmacists», South African Government (Cape Town), 23 January 2019. Access date: 29 March 2019. [https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis\\_document/201901/42183gon28.pdf](https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/201901/42183gon28.pdf)



On 20 of February 2019, the South African Government announced a series of interventions in an effort to curb the rise of medical negligence claims against the State. The measures are contained in the National Treasury's 2019 Budget Review, which was released on 20 of February as Finance Minister Tito Mboweni tabled the national Budget.<sup>4015</sup>

On 20 of February 2019, the Government increased allocations in grants, for health care purposes such as the HIV/AIDS and malaria fighting and financing hiring and educating medical personnel.<sup>4016</sup>

South Africa has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically but no actions on international for a were registered during compliance period.

Thus, it receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Arseniy Zakharov*

### **Turkey: +1**

Turkey has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 8 December 2018, it was reported that Turkey and Iran signed a memorandum of understanding to collaborate on developing their healthcare systems through the use of information technology and electronic infrastructures.<sup>4017</sup>

On 14 February 2019, Europe's largest Ankara City Hospital was opened, with 3,623 beds and 12,000 staff. Another city hospital in Ankara, as well as city hospital in Bursa are planned to be opened by end-2019.

Turkey has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

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

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 29 January 2019 the UK and Russia signed Memorandum of understanding on Regulatory Cooperation on Medicines. Medicines regulators of the UK and Russian set out key principles to support their collaboration on improving public health.<sup>4018</sup>

On 26 February 2019, it was announced that three projects will receive funding through a collaboration between Innovate UK and Asthma UK to help ensure asthma patients receive better treatment. With each project set to receive more than GBP200,000, it is expected that patients will

---

<sup>4015</sup> Government acts to curb medico-legal claims South African Government News Agency (Pretoria), 20 February 2019, Access date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/government-acts-curb-medico-legal-claims>

<sup>4016</sup> Increased allocations in grants, education and health, South African News Agency (Pretoria), 20 February 2019, Access date: 28 March 2019. <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/increased-allocations-grants-education-and-health>

<sup>4017</sup> Iran, Turkey sign MOU on e-health development, Tehran Times (Tehran) 8 December 2018. Access date: 15 April 2019. <https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/430426/Iran-Turkey-sign-MOU-on-e-health-development>

<sup>4018</sup> UK and Russia sign MoU on Regulatory Cooperation on Medicines, UK Government (London) 29 January 2019. Access date: 20 March 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-russia-sign-mou-on-regulatory-cooperation-on-medicines>

see an improvement in services thanks to new diagnostic testing that better predicts response to treatment.<sup>4019</sup>

On 9 April 2019, the Department of Health and Social Care, National Health System (NHS) of England and the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee began discussions for the contractual framework for 2019 to 2020 and beyond. The negotiations will support the delivery of the NHS Long Term Plan's vision for the future of primary care, in which all providers work together, making the best use of their unique skills for the benefit of patients.<sup>4020</sup>

On 30 April 2019, it was announced that all NHS organisations will get the fastest broadband available, which will improve the range and quality of digital healthcare services offered to patients.<sup>4021</sup>

On 6 May 2019, it was announced that the UK government is backing plans to create new digital innovation hubs, changing the way scientists access NHS data. Plans to transform the way scientists access health data are being backed by GBP37 million of Industrial Strategy Government investment, to pioneer new, faster treatments for patients and new cures for diseases. The new centres across the UK – known as Digital Innovation Hubs – will enable scientists and innovators to access data from the NHS, universities and social care to deliver more efficient clinical trials.<sup>4022</sup>

The United Kingdom has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Mariya Kalugina*

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

United States has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 31 January 2019, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the 2019 CMS Equity Award winners at the CMS Quality Conference. At the 2019 CMS Quality Conference, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services presented the 2019 CMS Health Equity Award to recognize organizations that demonstrate an exceptional commitment to health equity by reducing disparities among minority and other underserved populations.<sup>4023</sup>

On 14 February 2019, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, announced a new payment model for emergency ambulance services that aims to allow Medicare Fee-For-Service beneficiaries to receive the most appropriate level of care at the

---

<sup>4019</sup> Better, faster, more personalised asthma treatment, UK Government (London) 26 February 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/better-faster-more-personalised-asthma-treatment>

<sup>4020</sup> Negotiations started for the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework 2019 to 2020, UK Government (London) 9 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/negotiations-started-for-the-community-pharmacy-contractual-framework-2019-to-2020>

<sup>4021</sup> NHS hospitals and GP practices to get fibre optic internet, UK Government (London) 30 April 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nhs-hospitals-and-gp-practices-to-get-fibre-optic-internet>

<sup>4022</sup> Investment to transform access to data to help pioneer new patient treatments, UK Government (London) 6 May 2019. Access date: 6 May 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/investment-to-transform-access-to-data-to-help-pioneer-new-patient-treatments>

<sup>4023</sup> CMS announces winners of CMS Equity Awards, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (Washington) 31 January 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/equity-initiatives/equity-awards.html>

right time and place with the potential for lower out-of-pocket costs. This new payment model will help to improve quality of medical service.<sup>4024</sup>

On 13 March 2019, the Russian Academy of Sciences and the US National Academy of Sciences have signed a cooperation agreement. The respective academies signed an agreement on cooperation in scientific, engineering and medical research. According to this accord, the Russian-US cooperation includes such areas as biomedical research on cancer and Alzheimer's disease as well as the monitoring of climate change in the Arctic, among other issues.<sup>4025</sup>

On 22 April 2019, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar and CMS Administrator Seema Verma are announcing the CMS Primary Cares Initiative, a new set of payment models that will transform primary care to deliver better value for patients throughout the healthcare system.<sup>4026</sup>

On 24 April 2019, the CMS sent a letter to State Medicaid Directors inviting states to partner with CMS to test innovative approaches to better serve those who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. Many of the 12 million dually eligible beneficiaries have complex healthcare issues, including multiple chronic conditions, and often have socioeconomic risk factors that can lead to poor outcomes.<sup>4027</sup>

United States has taken actions aimed at promotion of UHC domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Dmitry Lukanin*

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

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment on universal health coverage (UHC).

On 4 December 2018, it was announced that over EUR64 million from the European Regional Development Fund was invested in modernising healthcare infrastructure in the Pauls Stradins Clinical University Hospital, in the Latvian capital of Riga. By purchasing highly specialized medical equipment and introducing new information technology systems, this EU-funded project would improve access to high-quality medical services for almost 2 million Latvian citizens once it is completed in 2023.<sup>4028</sup> This investment came on top of a previous, EUR24 million EU investment in

---

<sup>4024</sup> HHS launches innovative payment model with new treatment and transport options, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 14 February 2019. Access Date: 31 March 2019. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/02/14/hhs-launches-innovative-payment-model-new-treatment-transport-options.html>

<sup>4025</sup> Russian, US Scientists Sign Cooperation Agreement, Sputnik News (Moscow) 13 March 2019. Access date: 8 May 2019. <https://sputniknews.com/us/201903131073181275-usa-russia-science-cooperation-agreement/>

<sup>4026</sup> HHS To Deliver Value-Based Transformation in Primary Care, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (Washington) 22 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/hhs-news-hhs-deliver-value-based-transformation-primary-care>

<sup>4027</sup> CMS Announces New Opportunities to Test Innovative Integrated Care Models for Dually Eligible Individuals, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (Washington) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 30 April 2019. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-announces-new-opportunities-test-innovative-integrated-care-models-dually-eligible-individuals>

<sup>4028</sup> Latvia: improved access to high-quality health care services thanks to EU funds, European Commission (Brussels) 4 December 2018. Access date: 10 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/newsroom/news/2018/12/12-04-2018-latvia-improved-access-to-high-quality-healthcare-services-thanks-to-eu-funds](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/newsroom/news/2018/12/12-04-2018-latvia-improved-access-to-high-quality-healthcare-services-thanks-to-eu-funds).

the hospital. The EU funding would help increase the hospital capacity by over 500 beds in a new area of more than 68,000 m<sup>2</sup>.<sup>4029</sup>

On 7 December 2018, a roadmap for EU-Japan Science and Technology cooperation was published by the European Commission. In this roadmap the EU confirmed its readiness to engage in active cooperation with Japan in the field of health care, among other areas. The possibility of future cooperation in this area was said to be able to be examined and pursued through the Horizon 2020 International Cooperation Flagship on “Technologies for global health care,” proposed for multilateral international cooperation. It also stated EU’s and Japan’s support to further development of international cooperation in digital transformation of health and care.<sup>4030</sup>

On 8 February 2019, it was announced by the EU that a 2-days study visit would be held in March by the Thematic network “Healthcare in cross-border Regions” in Lower Austria.<sup>4031</sup> It aimed at bringing together different stakeholder organisations to produce joint statements on health-related developments. The network was hosted on the EU health policy platform and supported by Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE). The “Healthcare in cross-border regions” thematic network, led by EUREGHA and Healthacross, also aimed to support the European Commission in its exercise of mapping and building cross-border and regional cooperation in healthcare through the identification of crucial challenges and successful existing experiences to be scaled up.<sup>4032</sup>

On 19 February 2019, the European Commission published a booklet on enhancing healthcare cooperation in cross-border regions, which briefly presented 12 good practice examples to illustrate the success factors and the added value of cross border cooperation in health sector. Cooperation between health services, facilities and authorities was said to mean better care for patients on both sides of the border. It was also established to be a win-win for health authorities, helping them manage scarce resources (labour, skills, infrastructure) more effectively while taking advantage of new opportunities.<sup>4033</sup>

On 4 March 2019, the European Commission announced top results from quasi experimental “participatory action research.” This was the overriding conclusion of an international research team backed by the European Union, which was based on such keys to overcoming widespread fragmentation and improving service quality and health outcomes in Latin America as long-term vision, high-level endorsement and participation, and tailored forms of international scientific collaboration. Each of the Europe’s Latin American partners was working together with a public

---

<sup>4029</sup> Latvia: improved access to high-quality health care services thanks to EU funds, European Commission (Brussels) 4 December 2018. Access date: 10 February 2019.

[https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/newsroom/news/2018/12/12-04-2018-latvia-improved-access-to-high-quality-healthcare-services-thanks-to-eu-funds](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/newsroom/news/2018/12/12-04-2018-latvia-improved-access-to-high-quality-healthcare-services-thanks-to-eu-funds).

<sup>4030</sup> Roadmap for EU-Japan S&T cooperation, European Commission (Brussels) 7 December 2018. Access date: 12 February 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/jp\\_roadmap\\_2018.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/jp_roadmap_2018.pdf).

<sup>4031</sup> EUREGHA's Thematic network "Healthcare in cross-border Regions" - Conference and 2-days study visit, European Commission (Brussels) 8 February 2019. Access date: 10 February 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/health/eureghas-thematic-network-healthcare-cross-border-regions-conference-and-2-days-study-visit-0>.

<sup>4032</sup> EUREGHA's Thematic network "Healthcare in cross-border Regions" - Conference and 2-days study visit, European Commission (Brussels) 8 February 2019. Access date: 10 February 2019.

<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/health/eureghas-thematic-network-healthcare-cross-border-regions-conference-and-2-days-study-visit-0>.

<sup>4033</sup> Enhancing Healthcare Cooperation in Cross-border Regions, European Commission (Brussels) 19 February 2019. Access date: 23 March 2019.

[https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/system/files/ged/booklet\\_enhancing\\_healthcare\\_cooperation.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/system/files/ged/booklet_enhancing_healthcare_cooperation.pdf)

healthcare services network using the participatory action research approach to design and implement ways to improve clinical coordination across levels of care.<sup>4034</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the meeting of the Expert Panel on effective ways of investing in health was held. The meeting discussed the achievements and further actions of the Working group on Task shifting in healthcare systems. The meeting was co-organized by DG SANTE. By applying task shifting the use of human resources in health care was said to be made more efficient and therefore the quality of health care services would be maximized.<sup>4035</sup>

On 2 April 2019, the European Commission announced it dedicated this year's EU Health Award to initiatives of cities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and schools that already contributed or are contributing to a higher level of public health in the European Union and its Member States through preventing and reducing obesity in children and young people (6-18 years old).<sup>4036</sup>

On 24 April 2019, the 15th Plenary Meeting of the Expert Panel on effective ways of investing in health was held in Brussels, Belgium. During the plenary meeting European stakeholders shared opinions on value-based health care, task shifting in health care systems, defined categories for public health priority setting and discussed the EU level cooperation on health issues.<sup>4037</sup>

On 26 April 2019, the European Commission announced it would organise, in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), a Global Vaccination Summit on 12 September 2019 in Brussels.<sup>4038</sup> It would take place under the joint auspices of the European Commission President Jean Claude Juncker and WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. The objective was to give high level visibility and political endorsement to the topic of vaccination and issue a statement to endorse and promote the benefits of vaccination as the most successful public health measure that saves millions of lives every year.<sup>4039</sup> It would also demonstrate EU leadership for global commitment to vaccination, boost political commitment towards eliminating vaccine preventable diseases and engage political leaders and leaders from scientific, medical, industry, philanthropic and civil society. The Summit would bring together around 400 participants from around the globe, including high-level political decision makers, health ministers, United Nations organisations, NGOs, academia representatives, renowned researchers and healthcare professionals, vaccine industry CEOs, celebrities and social media influencers who actively support vaccination.<sup>4040</sup>

The European Union has taken actions aimed at promotion of Universal Health Coverage domestically and internationally.

Thus, it receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Karina Khasanova*

---

<sup>4034</sup> Top results from quasi experimental "participatory action research", European Commission (Brussels) 4 March 2019. Access date: 23 March 2019. [http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/article\\_en.cfm?artid=49937](http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/article_en.cfm?artid=49937).

<sup>4035</sup> Meeting of the Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health, European Commission (Brussels) 2 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/expert\\_panel/sites/expertpanel/files/ev\\_20190402\\_mi\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/expert_panel/sites/expertpanel/files/ev_20190402_mi_en.pdf)

<sup>4036</sup> 2019 EU Health Award for Cities, NGOs and Schools, European Commission (Brussels) 2 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/ngo\\_award/home\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/ngo_award/home_en).

<sup>4037</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting of the Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health, European Commission (Brussels) 24 April 2019. Access Date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/expert\\_panel/sites/expertpanel/files/ev\\_20190424\\_ag\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/expert_panel/sites/expertpanel/files/ev_20190424_ag_en.pdf).

<sup>4038</sup> Global Vaccination Summit, European Commission (Brussels) 26 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/ev\\_20190912\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/ev_20190912_en).

<sup>4039</sup> Global Vaccination Summit, European Commission (Brussels) 26 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/ev\\_20190912\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/ev_20190912_en).

<sup>4040</sup> Global Vaccination Summit, European Commission (Brussels) 26 April 2019. Access date: 29 April 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/ev\\_20190912\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/vaccination/ev_20190912_en).