

## **Preparation for the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on universal health coverage**

### **Draft resolution proposed by Japan and Thailand**

The Executive Board,

Having considered the report on Primary health care towards universal health coverage,

RECOMMENDS to the Seventy-second World Health Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The Seventy-second World Health Assembly,

(PP1) Recalling the WHO Constitution which recognizes that the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition;

(PP2) Recognizing that through the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015, Heads of State and Government had made a bold commitment, inter alia, to achieve universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all;

(PP3) Recalling the United Nations General Assembly resolution 67/81 of 12 December 2012, entitled “Global health and foreign policy” which recognizes that UHC is an important element on the international development agenda, and a means of promoting a sustained, inclusive and equitable growth, social cohesion and well-being of the population, as well as achieving other milestones for social development;

(PP4) Recalling the United Nations General Assembly resolution 71/159 of 15 December 2016, entitled “Global health and foreign policy: health employment and economic growth”, which underlined the primary responsibility of Member States to accelerate the transition towards UHC;

(PP5) Recalling also the United Nations General Assembly resolution 72/139 of 12 December 2017, entitled “Global health and foreign policy: addressing the health of the most

vulnerable for an inclusive society”, in which Member States decided to hold a high-level meeting of the General Assembly in 2019 on universal health coverage;

(PP6) Recalling further the United Nations General Assembly resolution 72/138 of 12 December 2017, entitled “International Universal Health Coverage Day”, in which Member States decided to proclaim 12 December as International Universal Health Coverage Day;

(PP7) Reaffirming WHO Member States’ commitment to the resolution WHA71.1, on Thirteenth General Programme of Work, to support the work towards the achievement of the vision “triple billion” goals, including one billion more people benefitting from universal health coverage, one billion more people protected from health emergencies, as well as further contributing to one billion more people enjoying better health and well-being;

(PP8) Reaffirming all previous Health Assembly resolutions aimed at promoting physical and mental health and well-being, as well as contributing to the advancement of UHC;

(PP9) Noting with great concern that more than half of the world’s population still lacks access to essential health care services, and with the current progress of extension of population coverage, health care service expansion and financial risk protection, many countries will be off-track for realizing UHC;

(PP10) Noting that health is a major driver of economic growth;

(PP11) Noting especially that current government’s spending on health, especially in low- and middle-income countries, are not adequate to ensure universal access to essential health care services and protection from financial hardship, as was reflected by high levels of household health spending and medical poverty;

(PP12) Acknowledging the important role and necessary contribution of non-State actors to the achievement of national objectives on UHC, and the need in this regard for collaboration between all relevant stakeholders;

(PP13) Recognizing the role of parliamentarians, as part of the governments’ efforts and actions, in advancing the UHC agenda;

(PP14) Noting that investment in strong, transparent, accountable, and effective health service delivery systems, including an adequately distributed, skilled, motivated, and fit-for-purpose health workforce, as well as access to medicines and vaccines are key elements for achieving UHC;

(PP15) Recognizing that effective and financially sustainable implementation of UHC is based on a resilient and responsive health system with capacities for broad public health measures, prevention of diseases, health protection, health promotion, and addressing of determinants of health through policies across sectors, including promotion of the health literacy of the population;

(PP16) Noting that increasingly complex and protracted emergency situations hinder achievement of UHC, and that health systems strengthening in fragile settings is particularly important;

(PP17) Noting the Astana Declaration on primary health care, and recognizing the fundamental role of primary health care in UHC in providing equitable access to a comprehensive set of integrated health care services, including prevention, health promotion, curative care, rehabilitation, palliative care and disease surveillance, which contribute to the health of the population;

(PP18) Recognizing that patient safety and access to quality promotive, preventive, curative, as well as rehabilitation services and palliative care, is essential to achieving UHC,

(OP1) URGES Member States:

(OP1.1) to accelerate progress towards the goal of UHC, with a specific emphasis on the poor, vulnerable and marginalized segments of the population;

(OP1.2) to support the preparation for the high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in 2019 on universal health coverage, including enabling highest-level participation;

(OP1.3) to continue to mobilize adequate and sustainable resources to support UHC, including efficient, equitable and transparent resource allocation, under good governance, on the basis of a clear decision by government including, as appropriate, through collaboration between health and finance ministries;

(OP1.4) to continue investing in and strengthening primary health care under good governance as a cornerstone of UHC;

(OP1.5) to ensure access to appropriate technologies and the best value for money by strengthening national systems of health intervention and technology assessment, and to encourage their systematic utilization to inform policy decisions in support of UHC;

(OP1.6) to ensure adequate, competent and committed health workforce by active implementation of the Global strategy on human resources for health: workforce 2030;

(OP1.7) 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;

(OP1.8) to make the best use of the annual International Universal Health Coverage Day, including by considering appropriate activities, in accordance with national needs and priorities;

(OP2) Call upon international development partners and stakeholders from the health sector and beyond to harmonize and synergize their support, aligning with countries' priorities in realizing UHC;

(OP3) REQUESTS the Director-General:

(OP3.1) to fully support Member States' efforts towards achieving UHC by 2030, in collaboration with other organizations of the UN System and other relevant stakeholders including the Inter-parliamentary Union (IPU), by strengthening WHO's normative work

and its capacity to provide technical cooperation and policy advice to Member States, including with regard to health systems strengthening;

(OP3.2) to facilitate and support the learning and sharing of UHC experiences across WHO Member States;

(OP3.3) to produce a monitoring report on UHC to be discussed at the HLM in 2019;

(OP3.4) to report the biennial progress in implementing this resolution, starting from Seventy-third World Health Assembly until 2030, as part of existing reporting on WHA69.11.

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