

Health – Civil20

Civil Society Recommendations to the G20

The C20 commends the German presidency for placing global health on the agenda of the G20. We urge future presidencies to take forward this work.

Today's world sees rising alarm regarding the inability to respond to emerging pandemics and antimicrobial resistance. New tools are needed but the current commercial research and development system is failing to provide them. We believe that every person has a right to health, requiring a sustainable, equitable and agile global health policy. Health should not be predominantly described as a threat to security and is much more than crisis management. Health is as an outcome of, and a prerequisite for, sustainable development.

We call on the G20 to focus and deliver on antimicrobial resistance; multilateral institutional support; and Health Systems Strengthening and Universal Health Coverage.

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

AMR is a threat to public health, growth and economic stability that requires immediate action. Leaders at the Hangzhou G20 Summit pledged to “unlock R&D into new and existing antimicrobials from a G20 value-added perspective”.

Tuberculosis (TB) is the world's deadliest communicable disease and is the only airborne drug-resistant epidemic, accounting for one-third of all the world's AMR deaths. By 2050, drug-resistant TB will claim an additional 75 million lives at a global economic cost of USD\$16.7 trillion. The majority of these deaths (45%) and 62% of global economic loss (USD\$10.5 trillion) will fall on G20 countries.

Supporting innovative R&D models for TB that go beyond incentives based on high prices and sales represents an opportunity for the G20 to tackle the broader AMR burden and ensure that health technologies become 'public goods', affordable to all in need. Holding clinical trials of combinations of drugs early in the development process will build on existing efforts of grant-funded research in G20 countries and improve cost-effectiveness. Furthermore, the development of a mechanism to develop a TB regimen would have the potential of widespread applicability to address other AMR market failures.

C20 Recommendations:

The C20 calls on the G20 to

- **prioritise TB in the AMR agenda by supporting and funding a mechanism to fast track the development of a new pan-TB treatment regimen and an effective vaccine.**

Multilateral Institutional Support / WHO

The profile of the global health burden; and the frequency and magnitude of humanitarian crises are rapidly changing. WHO and other multilateral institutions such as GAVI and UNAIDS, must radically adapt, coordinate and respond to this shifting and escalated need, and leverage lessons learnt from decades of action, including polio eradication.

WHO requires strong core financing for independent activities and be accountable to global health needs. WHO's work is shaped by priorities and practices of its Member States, and the G20 has an opportunity and responsibility to ensure that good practice adopted and disseminated by WHO is of the highest standard.

Health interventions in humanitarian crises have increased significantly. Collaboration with WHO and multilateral institutions is essential, considering the diversity of these crises, their complex contexts and needs. This will ensure continuity and quality of care and generate more evidence on effective and cost-effective humanitarian health interventions, in light of environmental changes, state fragility, population mobility, demographic shifts, urbanization, and violent extremism.

C20 Recommendations:

The C20 calls on the G20 to

- **support the proposed 10% increase in assessed contributions, as well as the reform and strengthening of WHO, based on global health need.**

Health Systems Strengthening / Universal Health Coverage

Ebola and Zika outbreaks have exposed global unpreparedness and the inabilities of under-resourced health systems. Acute crisis management must be coupled with strengthening health systems and universal health coverage (UHC). The promotion of UHC is a precondition and a goal of sustainable development and ensures that quality health interventions are based on sustainable financing, strengthening community based health services, and include all people, in particular those most often left behind.

The meaningful engagement of affected populations is key to attaining the Sustainable Development Goals. The G20 should prioritise the most marginalised and vulnerable populations; particularly those affected by humanitarian crises, through working with proven instruments like the Global Fund across areas of maternal and child health; sexual and reproductive health and rights, infectious diseases, including the eradication of polio, PRNDs and NCDs while applying a human rights-based approach.

C20 Recommendations:

The C20 calls on the G20 to

- **ensure that effective pandemic emergency preparedness is coupled with resilient national health systems based on universal health coverage (UHC), respecting the 2030 agenda principle to leave no one behind and the needs of the most marginalized and vulnerable populations.**

Civil20 is the G20 engagement group of the international civil society. It represents organisations and individuals from all continents, giving civil society a loud voice in the G20. Find out more at www.civil-20.org.