

## MMI statement for UHC HLM “multi-stakeholder hearing” at the UN HQ in New York, 29 April 2019

We support the UHC2030 “Key Asks”: Indeed, if properly designed and well implemented, UHC is the key contribution of the health system to achieving universal access to health.

We support the attention given to regulation and legislation and to political leadership beyond health, but draw your attention to two elephants in the room:

1.

The “multi-stakeholder” paradigm in the discourse on UHC tends to neglect/disguise the adverse impact of financialization, privatisation, commodification and commercialisation of health services on universal access to health care.

We insist on the responsibility and leadership of governments as main duty bearers that goes beyond regulation and stewardship. We call for strong public systems for both health care financing and delivery.

2.

Many members of Medicus Mundi International are active in the field of development cooperation. We call for development cooperation that supports and accelerates national health policies, priorities and systems. However, the aid agenda is often not aligned with national public health policies but captured by the political and economic interests behind development finance, including the commercialisation of health care services and the securitisation of health as a global risk for richer countries. A critical reflection on policies, structures and practices of development cooperation is much needed.

Allowed max. length: 200 words

Speaker, if selected: Thomas Schwarz

Medicus Mundi International  
Network Health for All  
Murbacherstrasse 34, CH-4056 Basel

Phone +41 61 383 18 11  
office@medicusmundi.org  
www.medicusmundi.org

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