

**WHO UHC GLOBAL ROADMAP:
PREPARING FOR
THE UN HIGH-LEVEL MEETING 2023
AND ACHIEVING HEALTH FOR ALL**

VERSION: JANUARY 2023



**World Health
Organization**



Presentation overview

1. UHC HLM 2019 to 2023
2. Progress on UHC and challenges
3. Priority areas for action
4. Breakdown or breakthrough

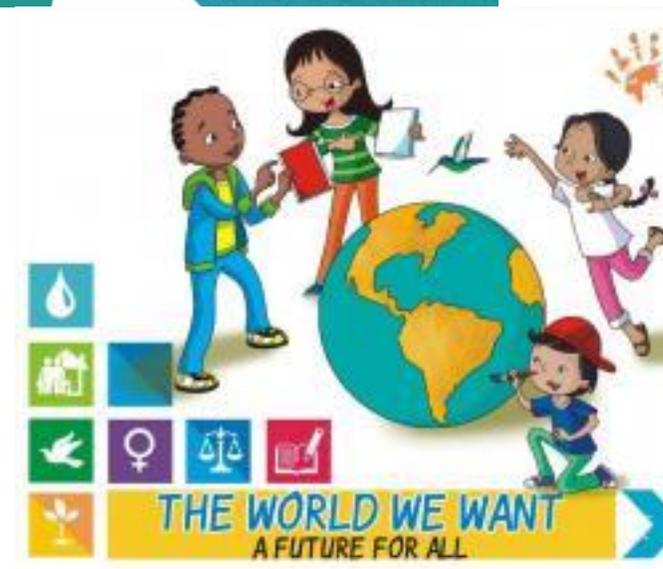
UHC High-Level Meeting Declaration, 2019

to COVID-19 and Building the World We Want

UHC “implies that all people have access, without discrimination, to nationally determined sets of the needed promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative essential health services, and essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines and vaccines, while ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the users to financial hardship, with a special emphasis on the poor, vulnerable and marginalized segments of the population.”

The UHC HLM declaration has comprehensive references to most health topics, including to:

”Enhance emergency health preparedness and response systems.”



UHC HLM at the 78th UNGA, September 2023



- A comprehensive review on the implementation of the present declaration to identify gaps and solutions to accelerate progress towards the achievement of universal health coverage by 2030.
- A concise, action-oriented political declaration, agreed in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations.

FORMAT

- Opening segment
- Plenary segment for general discussion
- Two multi-stakeholder panels
- Closing segment

PARTICIPANTS

- Member States
- Observers of the General Assembly
- UN system, Interparliamentary Union, NGOs

PREPARATION

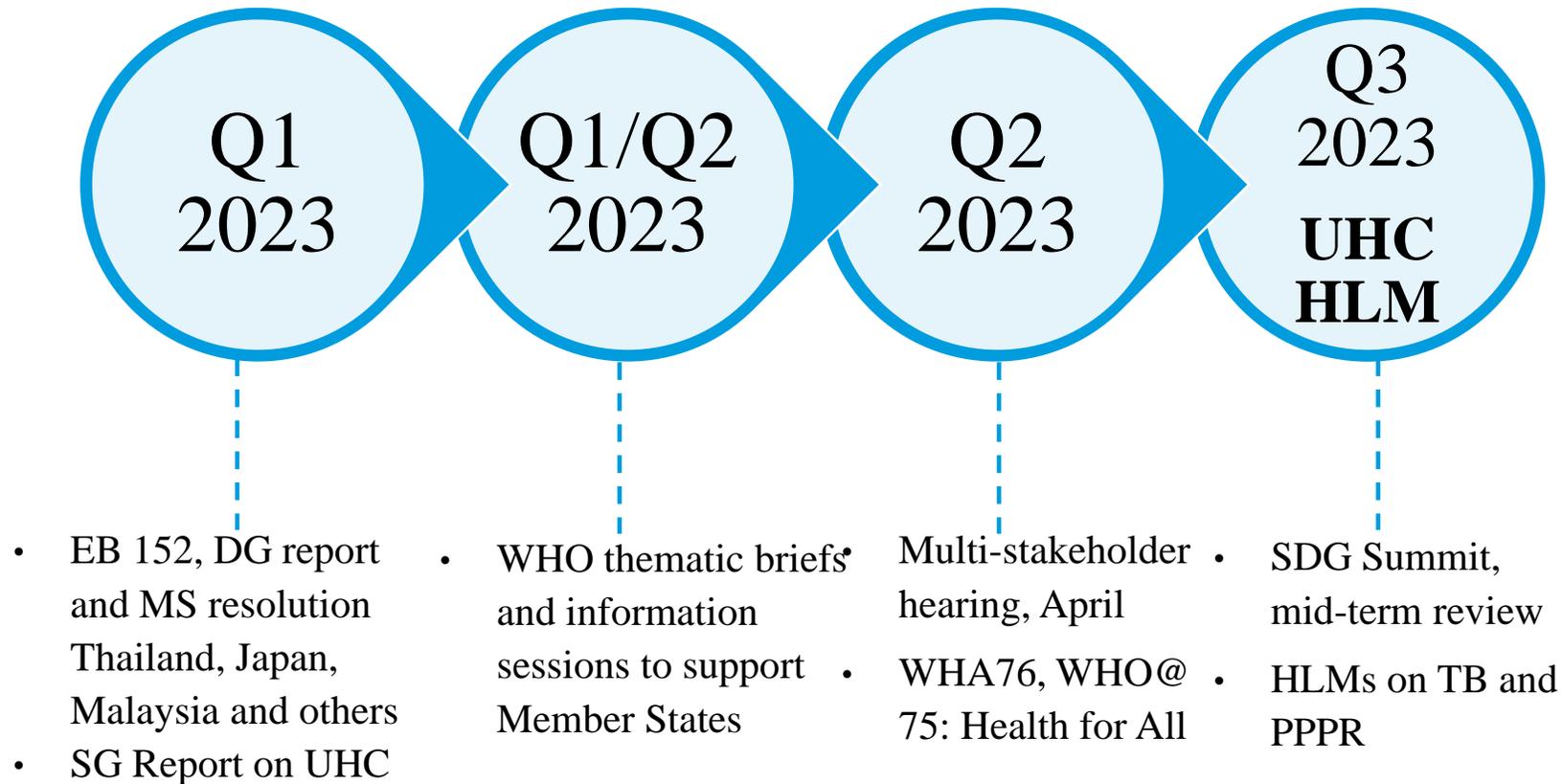
- Coordinated by the President, 77th UNGA, in consultation with Member States and supported by WHO:
- Accrediting and registering non-governmental entities.
 - Organizing a multi-stakeholder hearing before the end of June 2023
 - Determining thematic focus of two multi-stakeholder panels, appointing co-chairs from among the Heads of State or Government, and inviting participants for the panels
 - Identifying a high-level UHC champion to participate in the opening segment
 - Appointing co-facilitators to lead inter-governmental negotiations on the political declaration, agreed in advance by consensus and submitted by the PGA for adoption by the Assembly

[A/RES/75/315](#)

UHC global roadmap to HLM 2023: Key Milestones

Towards a concise, action-oriented political declaration

WHO @ 75 Health for All



Member States' and multistakeholder leadership and action is needed for a successful UHC HLM, the progressive realization of UHC and Health for All.

Progress on UHC

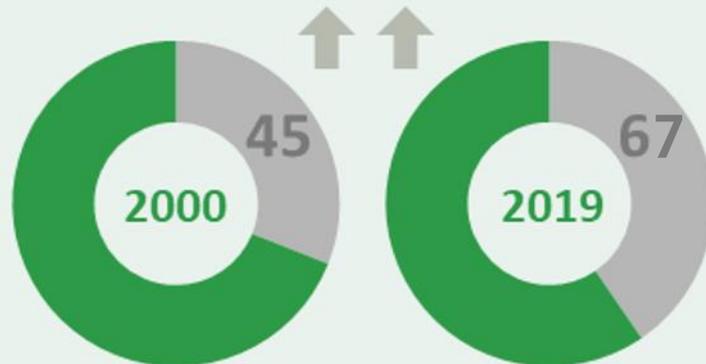
Making good on commitments

UHC SERVICE COVERAGE INDEX

IMPROVED

FROM 45 IN 2000

TO 67 IN 2019



THE GLOBAL AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH

INCREASED



FASTEST GROWTH

IN THE AFRICA REGION

Health systems improvements were foundational to significant progress in all countries on improved health outcomes across most health programme areas.

- Between 2013 and 2020, the number of health workers globally increased by 29%
- Significant progress in expanding access to medicines and other essential health products and strengthening regulation.
- WHO's Special Programme for Primary Health Care, with the UHC Partnership, supports 120 countries with in-country policy advisors: 95% of these countries increased service coverage.

Sources: WHO GHO [Life expectancy](#), [Tracking universal health coverage: 2021 global monitoring report](#), [UN SDG 3 progress report](#)

Challenges for UHC – falling short of targets



- Although the majority of countries recognize universal health coverage as a goal, a lack of concrete operational steps coupled with inadequate public financing for health are pushing progress further off track ([UHC2030](#)).
- Out-of-pocket spending on health as a share of total household expenditure (indicator 3.8.2) increased continuously between 2000 and 2017, with the total population facing catastrophic or impoverishing health spending estimated to be between 1.4 and 1.9 billion people in 2017 ([WHO, WB UHC Global Monitoring Report 2021](#)).
- 800–840 million people away from achieving the WHO GPW target of 1 billion more people benefiting from UHC ([WHO Triple Billion dashboard](#)).
- Many other health-related SDG targets are also off course:
 - An estimated 5 million under-5 children died in [2020](#). The number of ‘zero-dose’ children increased by 5 million in [2021](#) compared with 2019, going up to 18 million.
 - Global MMR is estimated at 211 maternal deaths per 100 000 live births ([2017](#)), against the SDG global target of less than 70 maternal deaths per 100 000 live births.
 - Globally we are [off course for SDG targets](#) on communicable diseases (lagging by 40% for malaria, only half the global target for TB treatment, HIV incidence declined by 39% against the target of 75%), and non-communicable diseases (including heart diseases, diabetes, cancer and chronic respiratory diseases and their risk factors; mental health; substance abuse; road traffic accidents; sexual and reproductive health and gender equality with a “shadow pandemic of gender-based violence”; and social and environmental determinants of health).

Current challenges: COVID-19, Climate change, Conflicts



In the wake of the global economic shocks from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate-related crises, conflicts, rising interest payments on public debt and other challenges, all countries' capacities to invest in health are at risk. Without immediate action, many low- and lower middle-income countries will be unable to make the necessary investments to strengthen public health preparedness and response capabilities and will be left behind on the path to health and economic recovery. ([World Bank, From Double Shock to Double Recovery – Old Scars, New Wounds: Technical Update #2, September 2022](#))

Essential health services

92% (117 of 127) countries reported some extent of disruptions in at least one essential health service



5 biggest barriers countries faced:

- Health workforce challenges
- Insufficient funding
- Supply and equipment shortages
- Demand-side challenges (acceptability, affordability for communities)
- Inadequate data/information

Across the SDGs

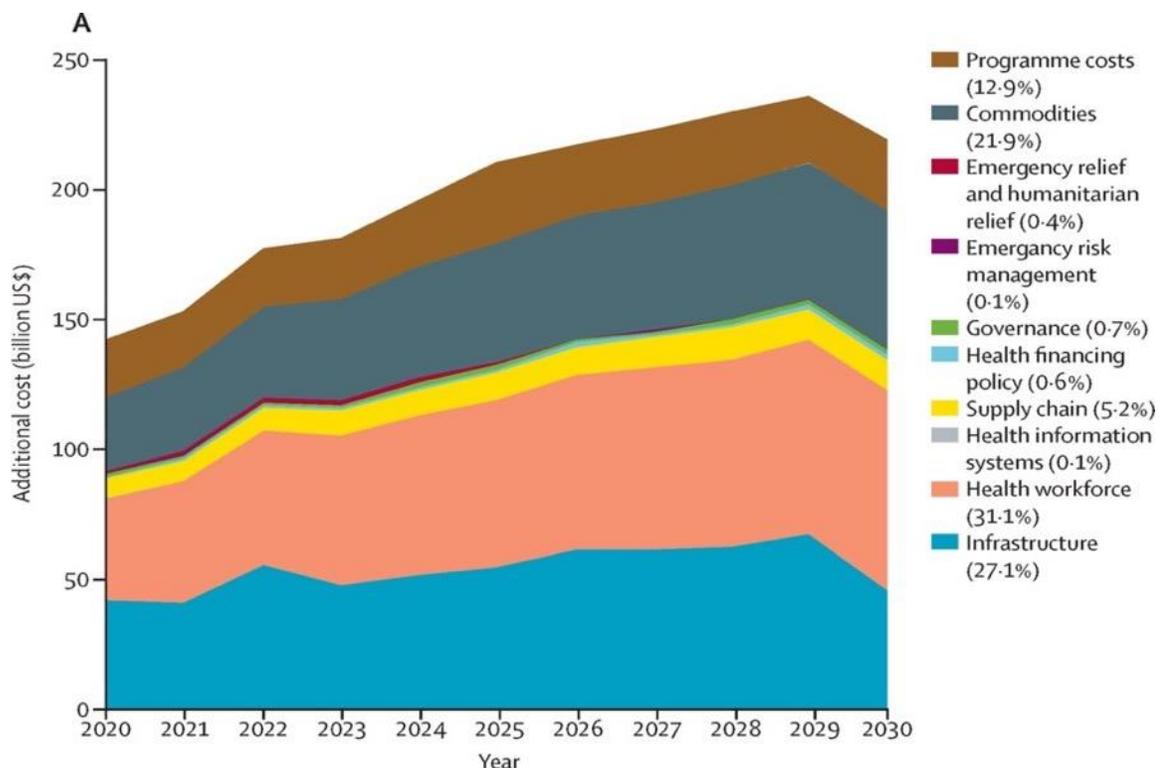
- **Extreme poverty** continues to increase, with close to 100 million people affected.
- Exacerbated **gender-based violence**, affecting 243 million women and girls, a ‘shadow pandemic’ noted by [UN WOMEN](#).
- **Global education crisis**: 147 million children missed more than half of their in-class instruction over the past two years.
- 25 million **children under 5 years missing out on vaccinations**, 6 million more under vaccinated than in 2019.
- **COVID-19 vaccine inequities**: 63% of the total population across the WHO Member States have completed their primary vaccination, while only 18% of people in lower-income countries have ([Aug. 2022](#))

WHO EB UHC report 152/5, four priority areas for action



1. One national plan with government financing for universal health coverage
2. One national health system oriented to primary health care as a foundation for universal health coverage and health security
3. Leaving no-one behind: equity-oriented research, data and information systems
4. Opportunities for multisectoral, multilateral action by all relevant stakeholders

High returns on PHC investments



Based on 67 countries, an additional US\$200–328 billion per year of PHC investment is needed (2020-2030).

[Stenberg, Hanssen, Bertram et al. Guide posts for investment in PHC. Lancet Global Health, 2019.](#)

- Equity, Effectiveness, Efficiency
- Founded on rights and social justice for equity and reaching those furthest left behind
- 75% of the projected health gains from the SDGs could be achieved through PHC.
 - Saving over 60 million lives and increasing average life expectancy by 3.7 years by 2030
 - Reducing the burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases and improving health through the life course
- 90% of essential UHC interventions can be delivered through PHC; Integrative approach enabling cross-programmatic efficiencies.

Global solidarity for the world we want

- Foster people's participation and trust in global and government agendas and action
- Invest in social sectors with financial protection: health, nutrition, education and others
- Resolve and prevent wars and conflict
- Urgently address the climate crisis
- Boost economic recovery and resilience, with debt relief measures, anti-austerity pacts.
- Mitigate inequities and ensure gender equality
- Respect, protect and fulfil universal rights.

“Humanity faces a stark and urgent choice: **breakdown or breakthrough.”**

United Nations Secretary-General
António Guterres

10 September 2021



Thank you

WHO secretariat task team for the UHC HLM 2023, across technical divisions and regions.

More information on preparation for the UHC HLM can be found on the following websites:

- [WHO, Preparing for the UN High-level meeting 2023 and achieving Health for All](#)
- [UHC2030](#)

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