

New Delhi, 19th May 2023

To,  
Shri Narendra Modi,  
Hon'ble Prime Minister  
Government of India  
New Delhi - 110001

Subject: Inputs for G20 Health Agenda

Dear & Respected Prime Minister  
J Samadhi

Health Parliament's G20 Roundtable was planned for restrengthening the ongoing G20 Health Working Group deliberations during India's presidency to highlight the issues and challenges faced by the world, especially Global South. We held G2L (Global to Local) and L2G (Local to Global) priority-setting consultations on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at Shangri-La Eros, New Delhi.

The main theme of the G20 Health Agenda Roundtable was 1) **Global common health priority setting, especially Global South**, and 2) **Local development of such solutions for global use**.

After extensive consultation with civil society experts representing all stakeholders of the health sector, the following issues and challenges are priority recommendations to further G20 Health Working Group recommendations:

**One Health:** Major global disease outbreaks over the past two decades have not come from humans themselves but from animals, the environment, etc. These aspects will be a key reason for significant health challenges in the coming decades. "One Health" is WHO recommended global solution to this persisting problem. Therefore, G20 Health Agenda Roundtable recommended that priority should be given to 'One Health' in the G20 Health Agenda. Without One Health, there cannot be any health response preparedness.

"One Health" needs to focus on **3S- Scientific Research, Surveillance, and Supply chains**, as well as **Universal Health Preparedness Review (UHDR)** system as an essential solution, which demands global south cooperation for One Health to be successful.

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The G-20 also needs to focus on developing a Global Network of High-risk Pathogen laboratories (for humans and wildlife) for efficient surveillance, supply chain management, and control of such pathogens. Also, need attention to work on evidence-based linkages between climate change and the emergence of new pathogens with the potential to cause a pandemic. A Global South Framework should be created for the L2G/G2L One Health policy, governance, and advocacy for future scale & universalization by partnership, alliance, and cooperation with various governments, institutions, and other inter-country mechanisms. We must remember, "Outbreaks are inevitable, but pandemics are a choice, and no one is safe till everyone is safe".

**Mental Health:** WHO globally prioritized mental health as one of the major global issues. Health Parliament conducted a research study amongst students in India that showed 99% students had negative mental well-being. UNICEF's State of World's Children 2021 reported that 20% of children have mild mental health impairments. Global survey established that 9 out of 10 mental illnesses could be managed by counseling only. As the world moves ahead with generative digital health, AI/ML, and automation, it can **Detect, Halt & Reverse** 90% of Mental health problems, which otherwise will increase with time.

Therefore, addressing mental well-being should be a focus topic of G-20.

**Children's Health:** For children's health, especially Global South is already late. If we don't address the issues of children's health now, we are inviting an irreversible health disaster; Only 5 out of 11 countries in the South-East Asia region could achieve the Neonatal Mortality Rate target as per WHO. We need to focus on the '**pre-emptive care model**' to pre-empt the occurrence of diseases, starting with the widespread adoption of Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC), Digital Domiciliary Care, expanded immunization, School health screening, and health promotion intervention.

Investment in children's health has a disproportionately high financial return in terms of productivity and enhanced wages for adults. The world needs to acknowledge its importance and move the needle towards child health. Children's health needs to be added to the G-20 agenda.

**Primary Care & Digital Health:** 45 years ago, at Alma Ata, healthcare leaders worldwide promised 'Primary care for all by 2000', and we are far from achieving it. In 2028, when we celebrate 50 years of Alma Ata, what do we tell the world – that we failed to deliver even primary care to all? WHO's ASTANA Declaration 2019 strongly recommended technology and digital health inclusion at the

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highest possible level in primary care to achieve this goal. It is time that we at least pledge to provide 'Digital Health for All by 2028'.

India already has a National Digital Health Mission and can lead the world as to how to achieve it with its innovation, technology, platforms, and Point-of-Care in primary care- a ready prototype for Global South to adopt.

G20 must push primary care from physical centers to the fingertips of the population as much as possible via the internet and mobile phones by creating Closer-to-Community (C2C) care and Digital Domiciliary Care, which proved its value world over during COVID-19 Pandemic.

India was the first country to have put a comprehensive resolution on mHealth at the WHO Executive Board in 2016, which was unanimously adopted. Now, India is a world leader in Digital Health through Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission. The world can learn from India's success story. Another important aspect that needs to be pondered upon from a global perspective is the democratization of Artificial Intelligence in healthcare. Currently, only a handful of countries have patents, databases, and access to resources and knowledge of this futuristic field. Knowledge and resource sharing amongst G20 countries should be a G20 agenda as well.

Achieving primary care for all by leveraging digital health should be a priority for the G20 Health Agenda.

With high regards

On Behalf of G20 Health Agenda Roundtable

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✓ CC: Mr. Amitabh Kant, G20 Sherpa

*Enclosed: List of Delegates, G20 Health Agenda Roundtable*

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**G20 Health Agenda Roundtable, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

**List of Delegates:**

- 1) **Dr. R. K.Srivastava**, Former Director General of Health Service, Government of India
- 2) **Shri. Bharat Lal**, Director General, National Centre for Good Governance, Government of India
- 3) **Dr. Rajendra Pratap Gupta**, Founder, Health Parliament
- 4) **Dr. Indu Bhushan**, Former CEO, NHA, Government of India
- 5) **Dr. Bindu Dey**, Former Secretary, Technology Development Board, Dept. of Science & Technology, Government of India
- 6) **Mr. Lov Verma**, Former Health Secretary, MoHFW, Government of India
- 7) **Dr. Ravinder Singh**, Scientist, Indian Council of Medical Research
- 8) **Prof. Surya Parkash**, Professor and Head, Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) and Geo-Meteorological Risks Management Division, National Institute of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India
- 9) **Dr. Anupa Vig**, Deputy Director – Technical, WISH Foundation
- 10) **Dr. Sindura Ganapathi**, Visiting PSA Fellow, Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India
- 11) **Dr. Raghavan Gopa Kumar**, Member, Global Fund India CCM
- 12) **Dr. R.K. Singh**, Project Director, One Health Support Unit, DAHD, Government of India
- 13) **Dr. Jasbir Singh Bedi**, Director, Centre for One Health, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana
- 14) **Brig Jyothi Dharamadheeran**, CEO, Brooke India
- 15) **Dr. Sudhir Gupta**, Former Additional Deputy Director General (NCD), MoHFW, Government of India
- 16) **Dr. Pradeep Haldar**, Retd. Advisor (RCH), MoHFW, Government of India
- 17) **Dr. Arun Kumar Agarwal**, Former Dean, Professor of Excellence - Maulana Azad Medical College
- 18) **Dr. Rajesh Khanna**, Medical Officer – Newborn, Child & Adolescent Health (MO-CAH), Family Health, Gender and Life Course (FGL), WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia

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- 19) **Dr. Jitendra Sharma**, MD and Founder CEO, Andhra Pradesh MedTech Zone
- 20) **Dr. Tavpritesh Sethi**, Associate Professor, IIIT-Delhi
- 21) **Dr. Dhruv Joshi**, Co-founder and CEO, Cloudphysician
- 22) **Dr. Vidur Mahajan**, CEO, CARPL.ai
- 23) **Dr. J. N. Srivastava**, Advisor – Quality & Patient Safety, NHSRC
- 24) **Colonel (Dr.) Ashvini Goel**, Founder and Former President, Telemedicine Society of India (TSI)
- 25) **Dr. Shirshendu Mukherjee**, Mission Director, Grand Challenges India -BIRAC
- 26) **Mr. Rajiv Nath**, Forum Co-ordinator, AiMeD
- 27) **Ms. Renuka Malaker**, National Joint Secretary (Hon.), Multiple Sclerosis Society of India
- 28) **Ms. Mevish P. Vaishnav**, Group COO, Digital Health Associates
- 29) **Dr. Swadeep Srivastava**, Founder and Chairman, HEAL Foundation