

# The 12<sup>th</sup> Asia Partnership Conference of Pharmaceutical Associations



aUHC Session:

"Toward the achievement of true UHC in Asia by focusing Financing"

## **Soft Governance and Stable Financing: A Key Factor in Achieving Universal Health Coverage**

Tuesday, April 18, 2023

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# Human security and universal health coverage: Japan's vision for the G7 Hiroshima Summit

## Comment

### Human security and universal health coverage: Japan's vision for the G7 Hiroshima Summit



The COVID-19 pandemic has made an unprecedented impact on the international community and exposed the vulnerabilities of the present global health architecture. Better governance and finance measures are urgently needed to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response (PPR) for global health threats and to create more resilient and sustainable health systems that lead to universal health coverage (UHC).

The international community, including Japan, is now discussing the way forward for global health architecture to ensure better health and living standards for all people—with a sense of urgency. I firmly believe that global health should be based on a human-centred approach in line with human security. The concept of human security in the Anthropocene, which focuses on the importance of global solidarity, can help guide efforts to address this planetary challenge.<sup>1</sup>

I believe that human security remains critical to strengthen the global capacity to prevent, prepare for, and respond to public health emergencies and contribute to achieving UHC. Realising and sustaining UHC is crucial to improve people's health and provide the safety net that contributes to inclusive growth and the creation of peaceful and stable societies. This commitment to UHC is how Japan has achieved one of the healthiest societies in the world.<sup>2</sup> Embracing these ideas, the Japanese Government launched its Global Health Strategy in May, 2022.<sup>3</sup> The strategy reflects the concept of human security as a core principle of Japan's diplomacy and reiterates the Japanese Government's commitment to global health.

In May, 2023, Japan will host the G7 Summit Meeting in Hiroshima and the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting in Nagasaki—in the Cities of Peace. At these meetings, building on the discussions and outcomes of previous G7 meetings, I intend to highlight the strategic importance of undertaking efforts on human security and UHC as central to the Japanese Government's vision for the Summit. To this end, I emphasise three important areas in support of this vision.

First is the need to strengthen the global health architecture to prepare for public health emergencies.

Based on the lessons learned from gaps and vulnerabilities exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic,<sup>4</sup> the international community needs to further work on policies, governance, and financing to enhance the global health framework with a focus on PPR for health emergencies.

More specifically, an integrated and holistic approach is needed to improve international governance and ensure sustainable financing to rebuild PPR within the global health architecture. This approach requires coordinated actions and effective financial mobilisation. Enhanced collaboration between finance and health policy makers is crucial for these efforts and was an underlying rationale of hosting the first G20 Joint Finance and Health Ministers' Meeting in 2019 under the Japanese Presidency. As the international community looks towards the post-COVID-19 era, we need to build up this political momentum to strengthen and institutionalise finance and health collaboration, as well as operationalise the Pandemic Fund<sup>5</sup> which Japan has supported since its creation. These actions should also foster whole-of-government and multisectoral approaches based on the coordinated engagement of heads of state and government.

It is also vital to reinforce international norms and regulations in tackling pandemics. For this reason, the Japanese Government attaches importance to the development of a WHO convention, agreement, or other international instrument on PPR (WHO CA+), together with amendments to the International Health Regulations.<sup>6</sup> I trust that the discussions among G7 members will help us identify a direction on important elements regarding these international norms and regulations.

The second important issue is the advancement of UHC towards the post-COVID-19 era. Japan is a long-standing and dedicated promoter of global advancement of UHC.<sup>7</sup> Health systems must be able to effectively respond to and overcome health challenges to meet the Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>8</sup> These challenges include infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and neglected tropical diseases. Non-communicable diseases, including mental health conditions, a life-course approach that encompasses

1. Strengthening the global health architecture for public health emergencies
2. Promoting UHC in the post-COVID era;
3. Promoting health innovation and digital technology

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# Promote global solidarity to advance health-system resilience: proposals for the G7 meetings in Japan

In 2023, Japan will host the G7 Summit in Hiroshima, the “City of Peace.” Ahead of the Summit, JCIE has established the **Hiroshima G7 Global Health Task Force** under the **Executive Committee on Global Health and Human Security** (**Chairman: Keizo Takemi, Member of the House of Councillors**; Executive Director: Akio Okawara, President and CEO, JCIE) to make recommendations to the Japanese government on the G7 agenda and concrete measures to be promoted for global health in the context of the rapidly changing global health architecture.



## MAIN THEMES

- 1. 100 Days Mission and Access & Delivery (100 Days Mission PLUS)
- 2. Resilient, Equitable, and Sustainable UHC
- 3. Global Health Architecture Development

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- KAYO TAKUMA, Professor, Faculty of Law, Tokyo Metropolitan University (Chair, Global Health Architecture Group)

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- JOE CERRELL, Managing Director for Europe, the Middle East, and East Asia (EMEEA), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
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- **THOMAS B. CUENI**, Director General, International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Association (IFPMA)
- ALAN DONNELLY, Conenor, G20 Health & Development Partnership
- **VICTOR DZAU**, President, National Academy of Medicine (NAM), USA
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- **RICHARD HATCHETT**, CEO, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)
- **RICHARD HORTON**, Editor-in-Chief, the Lancet
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- **WALAIORN PATCHARANARUMOL**, Director, Global Health Division, Ministry of Public Health; Secretary General, IHPP Foundation

# Promote global solidarity to advance health-system resilience: proposals for the G7 meetings in Japan

Comment

## Promote global solidarity to advance health-system resilience: proposals for the G7 meetings in Japan

The world is facing challenges emerging from multiple crises, including pandemics, wars and conflicts, and climate change. Against this backdrop, the Government of Japan hosts the Group of Seven (G7) Summit in Hiroshima and the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting in Nagasaki, Japan, in May, 2023. Japan's foreign policy prioritises the security of individuals and communities by adopting a human security approach as a complement to national security. This approach protects people from public health and security threats, develops their capacity to cope with challenging situations, and guides efforts to address structural inequities. In January, 2023, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida set out his vision of human security and universal health coverage (UHC) as core principles for discussion at the G7 Summit. UHC is essential for human security because it safeguards the health of all individuals, irrespective of socioeconomic status.<sup>1</sup>

The Hiroshima G7 Global Health Task Force, a multi-stakeholder, cross-disciplinary group convened to guide G7 Summit talks on the global health agenda and organised by the Japan Center for International Exchange, identified two global health challenges that G7 leaders must urgently address. The first is to advance the resilience of health systems so they can flexibly tackle public health emergencies and multiple threats to health. The second is to enhance global solidarity by transforming and strengthening the global health architecture in the context of geopolitical tensions and shifts. As the Hiroshima G7 Global Health Task Force, we offer the following key recommendations for G7 action to address these two challenges through a human security approach and a transformation of global health architecture.

Our first recommendation is to enhance resilience to public health emergencies by boosting country-led efforts to achieve UHC. We recommend the G7 support the efforts of low-income and middle-income countries (LMICs) to integrate pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response (PPPR), including efforts to address antimicrobial resistance (AMR), with their national UHC strategies. Front-line health worker capacity, community networks, disease surveillance, health, and laboratory

infrastructure, water, sanitation, and hygiene, and supply chains should be strengthened to detect early signs of disease outbreaks and respond promptly to increased demands for services. The focus should be on primary health care, with a gender transformative approach,<sup>2</sup> as a common foundation for UHC and health security.<sup>3</sup> Addressing non-communicable diseases (NCDs) that interact with infectious diseases in the context of steep inequalities is a crucial prerequisite for PPPR. The G7 must confront not only the increasing burden of NCDs, but also structural inequities in society through rights-based approaches<sup>4</sup> to make the health systems more resilient.

Progress in country-led efforts to achieve UHC in LMICs requires that G7 members and global health agencies coordinate their external assistance to ensure its efficiency. This coordination must be guided by common principles such as financial sustainability, given increasing pressure on LMICs' fiscal space due to inflation and growing debt burdens. This persistent problem can be addressed by the development of a roadmap to promote the harmonisation of evaluation processes, including monitoring by aid agencies, and the creation of accountability mechanisms to track progress. To support country-led efforts collectively, we recommend the G7 explore the possibility of creating a global knowledge hub on sustainable and efficient UHC financing, including domestic resource mobilisation.

Second, to strengthen resilience to public health threats, we recommend a comprehensive approach to advance timely and equitable access to life-saving medical countermeasures as common goods.<sup>5</sup> As part of PPPR, long-term investments in research and development (R&D) must be scaled up to address existing health threats, including AMR. These efforts need to focus on vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics<sup>6</sup> across the entire value chain. To guarantee timely access to countermeasures, global coordination among public and non-profit R&D funders for global priority pathogens<sup>7</sup> should be enhanced. Collaboration among regulatory authorities and global platforms for clinical trials should also be strengthened through regulatory alignment and global R&D harmonisation. Concretely, the G7 can call on its members' R&D funders and



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- The Hiroshima G7 Global Health Task Force has identified two global health challenges for G7 leaders to address: advancing resilience of health systems to tackle public health emergencies and enhancing global solidarity by transforming and strengthening the global health architecture.
- The task force has recommended that the G7 enhance resilience to public health emergencies by boosting country-led efforts to achieve universal health coverage and a comprehensive approach to advance timely and equitable access to life-saving medical countermeasures as common goods.
- Finally, the task force recommends the G7 promote a multilayered approach to global health governance that facilitates effective collaboration among state and non-state actors beyond the health sector at global and regional levels.

# Global Value Chain

GHIT Fund  
Global Health Innovative Technology Fund



World Health Organization



CEPI

ICMRA  
INTERNATIONAL COALITION OF MEDICINES REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

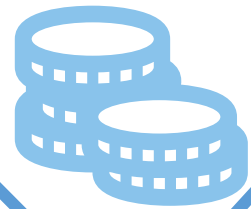
Pmda JAPAN

FDA  
U.S. Food and Drug Administration

สำนักงานคณะกรรมการอาหารและยา  
Food and Drug Administration



## Health Financing



## From Regulatory Harmonization to NCDs Clinical Trial



In September 2020, the National Cancer Center Hospital launched the “Asian Clinical Trials Network for Cancers (ATLAS) Project”. This project aims to establish a system for implementing cancer genomic medicine across Asia, and build the largest clinical research and trials network in the region.

### Objectives

- 1 Establish a platform for international clinical trials in Asia  
Harmonize regulations across Asia
- 3 Promote genomic medicine in Asia
- 4 Improve drug access in Asian countries

**Why Asia?**

- Population growth
- Economic growth
- Asian common cancer types
- Aging population
- Cost effectiveness

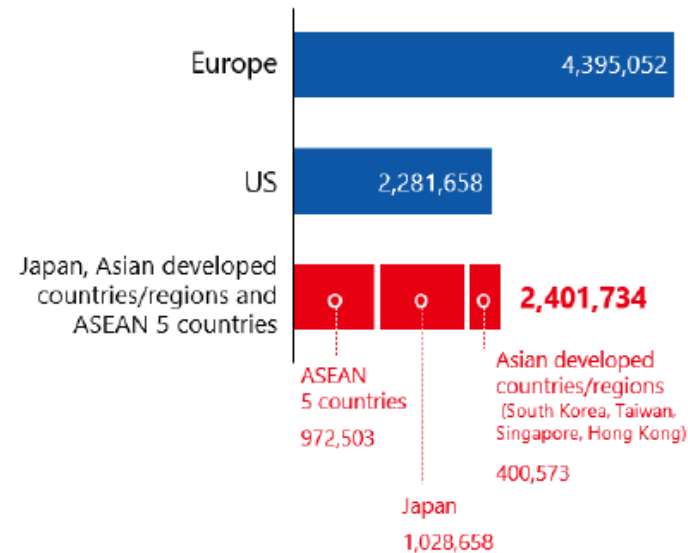
### Participating countries/regions

Existing network of developed countries/regions

- South Korea
- Taiwan
- Singapore
- Hong Kong

Expand the network to booming ASEAN countries through collaboration with top-class facilities in the region

Number of new cancer cases in different countries/regions (Most recent year)



From RH to **Infectious Disease** Clinical Trial

**VISION**

ARISE contributes to enhancing health and reducing illness and disability by promoting a network of AROs in the Asian region.

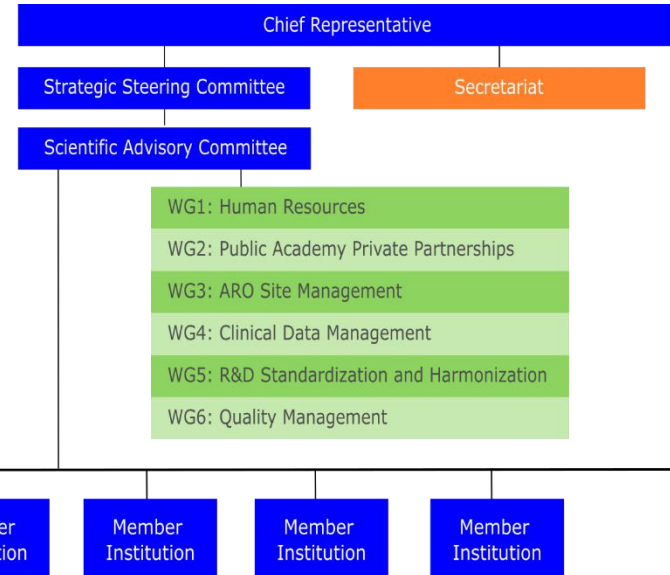
**MISSION**

ARISE will establish a network of **international joint clinical research and trials** together with **Thailand**, the **Philippines**, **Indonesia**, **Vietnam** and other countries that are actively seeking to promote clinical research and development in the Asian region in the future. Through this network, ARISE aims to **develop research and development in the Asian region** by conducting investigator-initiated clinical trials/company clinical trials to apply for regulatory approval.



Asian Well-being Initiative (AHWIN)

- Asian Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Regulatory Harmonization
  - NCDs: ATLAS Project
  - Communicable Diseases: ARISE Project**



\*ARO: Academic Research Organization

# Japan's Key Milestones: Major Global Health Meetings

日本の国際保健外交における主要な国際会議

- July 2000 G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit
- Sep 2000 UN Millennium Summit
- July 2008 G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit
- Sept 2013 68<sup>th</sup> UNGA68 Post-2015: Health and Development
- Sep 2015 UN Sustainable Development Summit 2015
- Dec 2015 UHC Conference in Tokyo
- May 2016 G7 Ise-Shima Summit
- Dec 2017 UHC Forum 2017
- Oct 2018 Global Conference on Primary Health Care
- Jun 2019 G20 Osaka Summit
  - Finance Minister and Health Minister's Meeting
- Aug 2019 TICAD7
- Sep 2019 74<sup>th</sup> UNGA UHC ULM
- Oct 2019 G20 Health Ministers' Meeting in Okayama
- Jan-Feb 2020 PMAC2020 UHC2020
- Sep 2020 Finance and Health Ministers' Symposium
  - ADB, WHO, Japan
- Jun 2021 COVAX AMC Summit
- Dec 2021 Tokyo Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit 2021
- May 2023 G7 Health Ministers' Meeting in Nagasaki
- May 2023 G7 Finance and Health Ministers' Meeting
- May 2023 G7 Hiroshima Summit
- Sep 2023 78<sup>th</sup> UNGA UHC HLM

MDGs

SDGs

- HIV/AIDS, Malaria, TB
- MDG4, 5, 6
- Health System Strengthen (HSS)
- Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
- SDG3.8: UHC
- Public Health Emergencies & UHC
- Accelerate efforts to achieve UHC

- Mobilizing domestic funds for UHC

Hosted by Japan





# UHCファイナンスに関するG20財務大臣・保健大臣合同セッション Joint Session of Finance and Health Ministers' Meeting on UHC Financing



G20 Shared Understanding on the Importance of UHC Financing in Developing Countries —Towards sustainable and inclusive growth— (June 6, 2019)

## Key considerations for finance authorities

1. Power of an early start and preparedness for the future
  2. Prioritizing domestic sources in a fair and equitable manner
  3. External funding sources to complement domestic sources
  4. Cost-effective and equitable health systems
  5. Public health emergency preparedness and response
  6. Building institutional capacity
  7. Contribution of the private sector
  8. Finance ministries' roles and collaboration with health authorities
1. 経済発展の早い段階における取組の重要性
  2. 国内資金を主な財源とした保健財政制度の設計
  3. 国内資金を補完する形での国外資金の活用
  4. 費用対効果があり、かつ公平な保健システムの構築
  5. 保健危機への事前の備え・対応
  6. 組織的なキャパシティの構築
  7. 民間セクターの活用
  8. 財務当局の役割と保健当局との連携

# Think-tank for Resilient UHC Financing

- The need for a program on Health System Strengthening and Sustainable Financing is a highly demanded global, regional, and national capacity-building program
- The program should be country-focused, non-ideological, and non-prescriptive. Its approach must be adopted and adapted by other health and development agencies, reflecting its capacity-building effectiveness

## ➔ Center for UHC Financing

