



2021 G7 Cornwall Summit Final Compliance Report

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Prepared by
Matthew Kieffer and Gabrielle Regimbal
and the G7 Research Group

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www.g7.utoronto.ca
g7@utoronto.ca
[@g7_rg](https://twitter.com/g7_rg)

“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,
in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit

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3. Health: Disease Prevention

“We pledge to lead the way in building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease, and to detect emerging health threats quickly.”

G7 Carbis Bay Health Declaration

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+1.00 (100%)	

Background

The continuous challenge of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has increased the necessity for health systems that can effectively respond to large scale pandemics. The importance of health systems and the prevention of emerging infectious diseases has been a consistent subject at the G7 Summits. The earliest health commitment on a Summit agenda was the response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic at the 1987 Venice Summit.⁴⁸⁸ The priority of this Summit was to prevent further escalation of the disease by “strengthening existing organizations by giving them full political support and by providing them with the necessary financial, personnel and administrative resources.” The G7 also looked to the World Health Organization (WHO), stating that “the World Health Organization (WHO) is the best forum for drawing together international efforts on a worldwide level to combat AIDS.” Since then, the WHO has worked with the G7 to establish quicker and more effective responses to emerging health threats.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the discrepancies in treatment and healthcare among different socioeconomic groups, with the United Nations declaring that “while the impact of the pandemic will vary from country to country, it will most likely increase poverty and inequalities at a global scale.”⁴⁸⁹ This has required more emphasis from the G7 to commit to facilitating a more inclusive and diversified health system as “attention will need to be placed on populations for whom this emergency compounds pre-existing marginalization, inequalities and vulnerabilities.”⁴⁹⁰ Accomplishing this will require learning from the current pandemic to better handle future infectious diseases in terms of being able to identify them and respond to them appropriately.

At the 2003 Evian summit, G8 leaders emphasized the importance of strengthening health systems as a framework for increasing access of the neediest populations of developing countries to health care, drugs and

⁴⁸⁸ Chairman’s Statement on AIDS, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/aids.html>

⁴⁸⁹ Introduction, A UN Framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19, United Nations (New York) April 2020. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-04/UN-framework-for-the-immediate-socio-economic-response-to-COVID-19.pdf>

⁴⁹⁰ The People We Must Reach, A UN Framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19, United Nations (New York) April 2020. Access Date: 21 September 2021. <https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-04/UN-framework-for-the-immediate-socio-economic-response-to-COVID-19.pdf>

treatments.⁴⁹¹ The G8 leaders committed to supporting and financing health care, stating that “these efforts are essential to improving access and quality of health care in poor countries.”

At the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, G8 leaders formed a response to the threat of infectious diseases due to the emergence of highly pathogenic avian influenza, with the accompanying possibility of a human pandemic.⁴⁹² The Summit also focused on least developed countries, particularly in Africa where there is limited access to healthcare resources, information, and workforce, as well as basic needs such as food, water, and sanitation. The G8 leaders thus committed to strengthening the Global Network for Surveillance and Monitoring of Infectious Diseases as well as increasing global preparedness for a human pandemic.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 leaders committed to take “concrete actions for advancing global health.”⁴⁹³ In response to the emerging Ebola and Zika viruses, the G7 leaders agreed to improve prevention of, detection of and response to public health emergencies. This involved recognizing that the WHO should play a key leading and coordinating role in the event of an outbreak, for prompt detection, containment and control of public health emergencies particularly in the early stage.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, the G7 leaders committed to “strengthening health systems, preparedness for, and a prompt, effective and coordinated response to public health emergencies and long-term challenges.”⁴⁹⁴ They called for Health Ministers to follow up on these issues during the 2017 G7 Health Ministers’ meeting in November.

Following the G7 Taormina Summit, the G7 Health Ministers met in Milan to better prepare health systems to respond collectively to present and future threats.⁴⁹⁵ This included “encouraging health service delivery systems to be diversity-, gender- and age-sensitive,” as well as taking into consideration “cultural background without discrimination.” G7 Health Ministers aimed to “reduce global inequalities and to improve the health of all individuals throughout their life course through inclusive health services.”

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders committed to “supporting strong, sustainable health systems that promote access to quality and affordable healthcare.”⁴⁹⁶ G7 leaders also recognized the role of the WHO in health emergencies, as well as the need for further development and sustainable financing through the Contingency Fund for Emergencies and the World Bank’s Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility.

At the 2020 US Virtual Summit, G7 leaders met virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic and pledged “to protect the health and safety of everyone in our countries.”⁴⁹⁷ This included enhancing efforts to strengthen health systems globally as well as supporting the WHO’s global mandate to “lead on disease outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, leaving no geographical vacuum, and encouraging all countries, international organizations, and the private sector to assist global efforts such as the Global Preparedness and Response Plan.”

⁴⁹¹ Health: A G8 Action Plan, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Access Date: 20 September 2021.

http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/health_en.html

⁴⁹² Fight Against Infectious Disease, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 20 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/infdis.html>

⁴⁹³ G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 20 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html>

⁴⁹⁴ G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 20 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2017taormina/communique.html>

⁴⁹⁵ United towards Global Health: Common Strategies for Common Challenges, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 November 2017. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/healthmins/2017-milan.html>

⁴⁹⁶ The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 20 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

⁴⁹⁷ G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 21 September 2021.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>

Commitment Features

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, the G7 leaders committed to take action on disease prevention. This commitment can be broken down into three parts and to receive full compliance, G7 members must take action in all aspects of the commitment. These parts are: 1) “building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system,” 2) this global health system needs to be “prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease,” and 3) this system must “detect emerging health threats quickly.”

The WHO suggests that “global health systems” should be based upon the core principles of primary health care as defined at the International Conference on Primary Health Care- Alma-Ata in 1978.⁴⁹⁸ These principles include: “universal access and coverage on the basis of need; health equity as part of development oriented to social justice; community participation in defining and implementing health agendas; and intersectoral approaches to health.” Issues and topics related to global health systems are: financing of the healthcare system, the global health workforce, providing adequate health information, and implementing pro-equity health policies. The benefits of such a system would be so all people have access to needed health services, when and where they need them, without financial hardship, thus ensuring better health outcomes for all members of society.⁴⁹⁹ Furthermore, research undertaken by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and McKinsey & Company have shown that global health systems produce synergistic benefits for countries including attracting attention and funding for diseases, improving policy planning for the future, and strengthening program monitoring and accountability.⁵⁰⁰

The term “building” is defined as: “to form by ordering and uniting materials by gradual means into a composite whole” and “to develop according to a systematic plan, by a definite process, or on a particular base.”⁵⁰¹ In reference to building global health systems, we understand this to mean putting into place actions which will improve and/or reshape existing healthcare systems, both domestically and internationally. Building these global healthcare systems can be achieved by: “stronger prevention, public health, and pandemic preparedness capabilities; and addressing health disparities and the systemic inequalities that underlie them.”⁵⁰²

The term “resilient” is understood to mean “able to become strong, healthy, or successful again after something bad happens” and “able to return to an original shape.”⁵⁰³ The term “integrated” as it refers to healthcare is defined by the WHO as “management and delivery of health services so that clients receive a continuum of preventive and curative services, according to their needs over time and across different levels of the health system.”⁵⁰⁴ Finally, the term “inclusive” is understood to mean “including everyone, especially allowing and accommodating people who have historically been excluded (as because of their race, gender, sexuality, or ability).”⁵⁰⁵ The segments in society, in this context, will comprise the general populace and vulnerable groups namely women, children or youth, the elderly, people with disabilities, low-income peoples

⁴⁹⁸ Chapter 7- Health Systems: Principled Integrated Care, The World Health Report, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 16 September 2021. <https://www.who.int/whr/2003/en/Chapter7.pdf>

⁴⁹⁹ Universal Health Coverage, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. https://www.who.int/health-topics/universal-health-coverage#tab=tab_1

⁵⁰⁰ Global Health Partnerships: Assessing Country Consequences, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.who.int/healthsystems/gf16.pdf>

⁵⁰¹ Build-verb, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/build>

⁵⁰² Building A Better Health Care System Post-Covid-19: Steps for Reducing Low-Value and Wasteful Care, New England Journal of Medicine Catalyst (Boston) 21 August 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://catalyst.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/cat.20.0368>

⁵⁰³ Resilient-adjective, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/resilient>

⁵⁰⁴ Integrated Health Services- What and Why?, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. https://www.who.int/healthsystems/service_delivery_techbrief1.pdf

⁵⁰⁵ Inclusive-adjective, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/resilient>

or homeless, migrants, refugees or undocumented peoples and those who have been discriminated against including Indigenous peoples, prison populations, LGBTQ2+, BIPOC, etc.⁵⁰⁶

Examples of strong compliance for “building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system” can include increases in funding to the healthcare system, specifically for the vulnerable groups listed above. The funding should specifically be targeted to improve access to preventative healthcare, community-based care, and health education. Another strong example of compliance would be expanding or initiating healthcare programs which operate under the principle of universal care and access, as described above. Thirdly, funding and programs that are aimed at diversifying and expanding the healthcare workforce will also be considered strong compliance. This can include doctors, nurses, physician assistants, physiotherapists, pharmacists, researchers, and hospital administrators. Examples of compliance can be actions taken both at the domestic and international level (can be in collaboration with other international organizations or countries).

Examples of weaker compliance would be pledges of financial support for the initiatives listed above, verbal affirmations of support for increasing diversity and equity within healthcare without any concrete plans initiated or supporting international legislation without committing to specific actions.

The term “prevent” is understood to mean “to keep from happening or existing; to hold or to keep back.”⁵⁰⁷ Specifically, this refers to the causes (origins) and escalation (worsening) of disease. “Disease” is understood to mean “an illness that affects a person: a condition that prevents the body or mind from working normally.”⁵⁰⁸ This includes both communicable and non-communicable diseases. Communicable diseases include infectious diseases of pathogenic origins (ie. SARS-CoV-2, hepatitis, HIV, tuberculosis etc.).⁵⁰⁹ Non-communicable diseases include “heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes and chronic lung disease, as well as mental health disorders.”⁵¹⁰

Examples of strong compliance for the second aspect of this commitment concerning global health systems which are “prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease” would be actions which address and investigate the causes and escalation of both communicable and non-communicable diseases. To do so, G7 members can invest in global programs for data sharing or assemble investigative teams when/if new communicable diseases emerge. Furthermore, investment in domestic and international programs to prevent the increase in incidence of non-communicable diseases would constitute strong compliance. Finally, investment in strengthening existing preventative programs such as immunization and screening programs to alleviate the burden on the healthcare system, as well taking actions to prepare for future pandemics such as building up stockpiles of necessary healthcare resources (masks, ventilators, medications, etc.). Compliance would be for domestic and international actions.

Examples of weaker compliance actions include G7 members taking actions listed above in ways that address either communicable OR non-communicable diseases rather than both. Additionally, as before, if G7 members only make announcements or sign declarations, but do not take direct action, then they will only receive partial compliance.

⁵⁰⁶ Vulnerable Populations. Who are they? American Journal of Managed Care (Cranbury) n.d. Access Date: 25 October 2021. <https://www.ajmc.com/view/nov06-2390ps348-s352>

⁵⁰⁷ Prevent-verb, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/prevent>

⁵⁰⁸ Disease-noun, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/disease>

⁵⁰⁹ Communicable diseases, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/communicable-diseases>

⁵¹⁰ Non-communicable diseases, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2021. https://www.who.int/health-topics/noncommunicable-diseases#tab=tab_1

The term to “detect” is defined as “to discover or determine the existence, presence, or fact of” and it is relevant in the context of emerging health threats in this commitment.⁵¹¹ The concept of “emerging health threats” are understood to mean communicable and non-communicable diseases which pose a risk to the general population and the healthcare system. More specifically, emerging infectious diseases which fall under the umbrella of communicable diseases are defined as: “infections that newly appear in a population, or have existed but are [rapidly] increasing in incidence or geographic range.”⁵¹² The increase in incidence of non-communicable diseases such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes and chronic lung disease, particularly in low and middle-income countries are also considered emerging health threats.

Examples of strong compliance for this third part of the commitment: systems which “detect emerging health threats quickly,” would include investing and expanding research initiatives to study emerging health threats, entering into research and data sharing partnerships with other countries, or contributing to developing a global surveillance mechanism which can identify when a particular communicable pathogen may pose a global threat. Compliance actions can be aimed at detecting emerging threats that are both communicable and non-communicable in nature, but it is anticipated given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, that most efforts will surround communicable diseases.

In order to be in full compliance, the G7 member must take action to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system, to be prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to be able to detect emerging health threats quickly. The absence of action in one or two of these three categories constitutes partial compliance. Examples of strong compliance are provided throughout these interpretive guidelines but are not an exhaustive list given the scope of this commitment. Non-compliance would mean that the G7 member did not take any action in any of the three parameters which make up this commitment.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has NOT taken ANY action to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system OR is prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease OR has taken action to be able to detect emerging health threats quickly.
0	The G7 member has taken action in at least ONE of three areas: to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system OR is prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease OR has taken action to be able to detect emerging health threats quickly.
+1	The G7 member has taken action in ALL three areas: to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system AND is prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease AND has taken action to be able to detect emerging health threats quickly.

*Compliance Director: Dorota Borovský
Lead Analyst: Eisha Khan*

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

On 14 July 2021, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland announced a CAD5 billion payment to provinces and territories, split evenly per population, to finance immunization efforts in

⁵¹¹ Detect-verb, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/detect>

⁵¹² Emerging Health Issues, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (Bangkok) 5 March 2013. Access Date: 25 September 2021. <https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/TS4-4.pdf>

order to ensure that Canadian healthcare systems remain strong and responsive to the needs of Canadians.⁵¹³ The Government of Canada is allocating CAD4 billion in a one-time top up to the Canada Health Transfer. This money will go toward helping provinces and territories deal with urgent health-care demands, including clearing a backlog of medical operations, patient care, and primary-care access that has been halted due to the pandemic. Furthermore, the Canadian government is committing CAD1 billion to fund vaccine rollout efforts across the country, ensuring that Canadians receive their first and second doses as soon as possible. The funding supports a variety of vaccine-related costs, including recruiting and training immunizers, establishing herd immunity clinics, establishing mobile immune units, engaging Indigenous communities to promote vaccine adoption and reaching vulnerable populations through community-based immunization efforts.

On 16 July 2021, Minister of Health Patty Hajdu announced an investment of CAD7.5 million for 13 projects to support the health of substance users across Canada.⁵¹⁴ The programmes will improve the number of qualified health and social professionals available to assist drug users. They will give peer-to-peer training, as well as produce and disseminate information and resources on harm reduction and treatment for people working in the health profession. These initiatives will work together to ensure that Canadians who use drugs have access to appropriate, timely and effective treatment during and after the pandemic.

On 28 July 2021, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry François-Philippe Champagne and Minister Hajdu announced the launch of the Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy.⁵¹⁵ The strategy will invest CAD2.2 billion over seven years from the 2021 Budget to ensure that Canada continues to build a robust and competitive sector, as well as ensuring that Canada is prepared for future pandemics. The strategy is motivated by two goals: building a robust, competitive domestic life sciences industry with cutting-edge biomanufacturing capabilities, while providing decent opportunities for Canadians, and ensuring that Canada is prepared for future pandemics and other health emergencies. This involves developing local ability to manufacture life-saving vaccines and treatments through investments and collaborations.

On 24 November 2021, Minister of International Development Harjit Sajjan announced a CAD325 million investment towards 11 initiatives involving Canadian health partners.⁵¹⁶ With a focus on Sub-Saharan Africa, this investment will assist important partners enhance access to basic services, promote gender equality and alter decision-making institutions that reinforce and perpetuate inequality over the course of five to seven years. Moreover, the policy prioritises women and girls in its development initiatives, including ensuring that health systems are equipped to fulfil their needs by promoting comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Women, adolescents, and children will benefit from the funded initiatives, which will focus on SRHR and enhancing the quality of and access to integrated health care.

⁵¹³ Federal government delivers \$5 billion in pandemic support to provinces and territories for vaccines and health care, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 14 July 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2021/07/federal-government-delivers-5-billion-in-pandemic-support-to-provinces-and-territories-for-vaccines-and-health-care.html>

⁵¹⁴ Government of Canada is investing nearly \$7.5 million to support the health of people who use substances across Canada, Health Canada (Ottawa) 16 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2021/07/government-of-canada-is-investing-nearly-75-million-to-support-the-health-of-people-who-use-substances-across-canada.html>

⁵¹⁵ The Government of Canada announces biomanufacturing and life sciences strategy, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (Vancouver) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/07/the-government-of-canada-announces-biomanufacturing-and-life-sciences-strategy.html>

⁵¹⁶ Canada announces support aimed at improving the health and rights of women and girls, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/11/canada-announces-support-aimed-at-improving-the-health-and-rights-of-women-and-girls.html>

On 16 December 2021, Minister of Health Jean-Yves Ducloux announced a Canada-Québec agreement for virtual health care services with a focus on the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.⁵¹⁷ Quebec will receive more than CAD28 million as part of this deal to enhance its virtual health care services. Quebec will use the federal funds to fund two projects: a virtual ophthalmology solution that uses artificial intelligence to diagnose and treat diabetic retinopathy in type 2 diabetes patients, and a virtual care and services platform that will administrate and integrate requests for all types of teleconsultations in Quebec.

On 14 January 2022, Minister Ducloux announced the establishment of the Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies, which will get an annual funding of CAD18.5 million.⁵¹⁸ Other federal ministries and organizations, as well as domestic and foreign stakeholders, will work with the Research Centre, which will be situated under the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR). It will concentrate on strengthening Canada's research and knowledge mobilization capabilities in order to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from current and future pandemics and public health catastrophes.

On 19 January 2022, Minister Ducloux announced a CAD10 million investment to strengthen Canada's public health research capabilities.⁵¹⁹ This funding includes CAD8 million for seven new applied public health chairs to do research in areas including infectious illnesses, urban and environmental health and disease prevention. It also contains CAD2 million for a research funding opportunity to support initiatives aligned with the goals set forth in the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada's annual report for 2021. This research investment will help Canada better prepare for public health emergencies and improve the health of all Canadians. A collaboration between the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Public Health Agency of Canada is funding these research projects.

On 8 February 2022, the Government of Canada presented legislation to help low-income seniors who were recipients of pandemic assistance.⁵²⁰ For one-time payments, the government will grant up to CAD742.4 million. These reimbursements will help seniors who qualified for and received the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) and Canada Recovery Benefits (CRB) in 2020, but later discovered that they were recognised as income and impaired their Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) or Allowance benefits. This one-time, automated payment will assist people who have experienced a loss of GIS or Allowance by paying them for the whole yearly loss amount.

On 11 February 2022, the Government of Canada presented CAD15 million in funding for 76 LGBTQ2 Community-led projects across Canada through the LGBTQ2 Community Capacity Fund.⁵²¹ The Government of Canada recognizes that the work of these organizations is critical for improving social, health, and economic outcomes in LGBTQ2 communities, and that it merits targeted investments to ensure the

⁵¹⁷ Government of Canada invests more than \$28 million to support the funding of virtual health care services in Quebec, Health Canada (Ottawa) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2021/12/government-of-canada-invests-more-than-28-million-to-support-the-funding-of-virtual-health-care-services-in-quebec.html>

⁵¹⁸ Government of Canada creates Centre for Research on Pandemic Preparedness and Health Emergencies, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Ottawa) 14 January 2022. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2022/01/government-of-canada-creates-centre-for-research-on-pandemic-preparedness-and-health-emergencies.html>

⁵¹⁹ Government of Canada makes significant investment in research to transform public health for Canadians, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 19 January 2022. Access Date: 21 March 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/institutes-health-research/news/2022/01/government-of-canada-makes-significant-investment-in-research-to-transform-public-health-for-canadians.html>

⁵²⁰ Government of Canada introduces legislation to support low-income seniors who received pandemic benefits, Government of Canada (Quebec) 8 February 2022. Access Date: 21 March 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2022/02/oas-leg-news-release.html>

⁵²¹ Government of Canada Announces Funding for 76 LGBTQ2 Community-Led Projects Across Canada Through the LGBTQ2 Community Capacity Fund, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 11 February 2022. Access Date: 21 March 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/news/2021/02/government-of-canada-announces-funding-for-76-lgbtq2-community-led-projects-across-canada-through-the-lgbtq2-community-capacity-fund.html>

sector's renewal and sustainability, especially in these difficult times, through the LGBTQ2 Community Capacity Fund.

On 24 March 2022, Minister Sajjan announced a CAD11 million contribution to the Stop TB Partnership's TB REACH initiative.⁵²² The work of this organization is aimed to increase the capacity to detect and treat tuberculosis especially in vulnerable population including women and girls, those living with HIV/AIDS, and socio-economically disadvantaged individuals including migrant workers.

On 25 March 2022, the Government of Canada presented Bill C-17 in the House of Commons, which would offer a one-time CAD2 billion top-up to provinces and territories, split evenly per capita.⁵²³ This money, in addition to the CAD4.5 billion Canada Health Transfer (CHT) top-up granted since the pandemic's inception, will assist provinces and territories in addressing acute pandemic-related health care system constraints, including surgical, medical, and diagnostic delays. It would provide physicians, nurses, and other health-care workers the resources they need to guarantee Canadians get the treatment they deserve. Provinces and territories would be allowed to utilize these funds to address their own specific needs, such as boosting the health staff.

On 8 April 2022, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau pledged to spend CAD220 million in financing to assist COVID-19 immunization requirements in low-income nations.⁵²⁴ This extra aid builds on the more than CAD2.7 billion in foreign assistance granted by Canada in response to COVID-19. It will eliminate barriers to COVID-19 vaccine access and strengthen lower-income nations' capacity to distribute vaccines by ensuring that countries receive the fiscal, logistical, and technical assistance they need to get individuals vaccinated.

On 9 April 2022, Prime Minister Trudeau co-convened the Stand Up for Ukraine pledging event and announced an additional CAD100 million in funding to provide emergency health services during the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Ukraine and surrounding countries including trauma care, protection and essentials like food, clothing and shelter.⁵²⁵

On 22 April 2022, Minister Sajjan announced CAD40 million in additional funding to the Global Financing Facility's "Reclaim the Gains" campaign, which aims to provide access to essential health services to all women, adolescents and children in after the COVID-19 pandemic, especially reinforcing sexual and reproductive health and rights and nutrition as core components of health care services.⁵²⁶

On 12 May 2022, Prime Minister Trudeau attended the second Global COVID-19 summit, hosted by Belize, Indonesia, Germany and Senegal and announced a CAD732 million donation to the ACT-A funding

⁵²² Canada announces support for worldwide efforts to end the global TB epidemic, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 24 March 2022. Access Date: 11 May 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/03/canada-announces-support-for-worldwide-efforts-to-end-the-global-tb-epidemic.html>

⁵²³ Canada commits \$2 billion in additional health care funding to clear backlogs and support hundreds of thousands of additional surgeries, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 25 March 2022. Access Date: 21 April 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2022/03/canada-commits-2-billion-in-additional-health-care-funding-to-clear-surgery-and-diagnostics-backlogs.html>

⁵²⁴ Prime Minister announces additional funding for COVID-19 vaccination in lower-income countries, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 8 April 2022. Access Date: 22 April 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2022/04/08/prime-minister-announces-additional-funding-covid-19-vaccination>

⁵²⁵ Prime Minister co-convenes the Stand Up for Ukraine pledging event, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 9 April 2022. Access Date: 10 May 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2022/04/09/prime-minister-co-convenes-stand-up-ukraine-pledging-event>

⁵²⁶ Minister Sajjan announces a \$40-million contribution to ensure all women, adolescents and children can access essential health services today and in a post-pandemic world, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 22 April 2022. Access Date: 10 May 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/04/minister-sajjan-announces-a-40-million-contribution-to-ensure-all-women-adolescents-and-children-can-access-essential-health-services-today-and-in-.html>

mechanism, to help overcome inequities in the COVID-19 response in lower and middle-income countries.⁵²⁷ The funding will be used to cover the cost of COVID-19 test kits, vaccines, treatments, and personal protective equipment.

Canada has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system by investing in pandemic preparedness programs, supporting investment into research for other non-communicable diseases and addressing the needs of vulnerable populations such as women. Additionally, Canada is prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and has taken action to be able to detect emerging health threats quickly by strengthening health care systems and investing in future health threat research.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sarah Rashid

France: +1

France has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

On 15 June 2021, the Ministry of Solidarity and Health announced the reimbursement of rapid angina (tonsillitis) tests taking place in community pharmacies starting on 1 July 2021.⁵²⁸ The goal of this initiative is to reduce the use of antibiotics to treat viral infections for which antibiotics do not work, thereby reducing the development of antibiotic resistance.

On 18 June 2021, France and Mexico signed a bilateral cooperation agreement that allowed for the creation of an international joint laboratory called “El Dorado,” made up of researchers from the National Autonomous University of Mexico and from the French Institute of Development Research.⁵²⁹ France launched the agreement under President Macron’s Preventing Zoonotic Diseases Emergence (PREZODE) initiative, and the agreement seeks to research and innovate on the risk of pathogens in the region and increase the capacity to respond to pandemics.

On 21 June 2021, President Emmanuel Macron, South Africa’s President Cyril Ramaphosa and Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus announced plans for Africa’s first mRNA technology transfer hub, which aims to scale up production and access to COVID-19 vaccines for the developing world.⁵³⁰

On 9 July 2021, France confirmed its investment of EUR1.8 million through the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) for the Manufacturing in Africa for Disease Immunization and Building Autonomy (MADIBA) project at the Institut Pasteur in Dakar, Senegal.⁵³¹ The European Commission, the European

⁵²⁷ Prime Minister attends second Global COVID-19 Summit to contribute to a global solution, Office of the Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 12 May 2022. Access Date: 8 June 2022. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2022/05/12/prime-minister-attends-second-global-covid-19-summit-contribute>

⁵²⁸ The Ministry of Solidarity and Health announces the reimbursement of rapid angina tests carried out in community pharmacies, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (Paris) 15 June 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/le-ministere-annonce-la-prise-en-charge-des-trod-angine-en-pharmacie>

⁵²⁹ Mexico: First country to join PREZODE initiative, PREZODE Initiative (Paris) 18 June 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://prezode.org/News/Mexico-First-country-to-join-PREZODE-initiative>

⁵³⁰ WHO supporting South African consortium to establish first COVID mRNA vaccine technology transfer hub, World Health Organization (Geneva) 21 June 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.who.int/news/item/21-06-2021-who-supporting-south-african-consortium-to-establish-first-covid-mrna-vaccine-technology-transfer-hub>

⁵³¹ Republic of Senegal and Team Europe agree to build a manufacturing plant to produce vaccines against COVID-19 and other endemic diseases, European Commission (Brussels) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3562

Investment Bank and other European Union Member States similarly confirmed investments and signed grant agreements at this event.

On 30 July 2021, France announced that an initial batch of 750 oxygen concentrators out of a promised 3,000 units and 1.1 million surgical masks were sent to health care professions in the prior week to help Algeria deal with its recent COVID-19 outbreaks.⁵³²

On 9 August 2021, France announced a two-year, EUR24 million call for proposals for “participatory” health centres, in an effort to increase access to care for marginalized populations.⁵³³ The “participatory” health model attempts to increase access by reaching out to users, setting up spaces for discussion and initiating personalized care. The goal is for 60 such centres to be created by 2023/24, to provide “prevented and adaptive response” to access to care issues for marginalized people and increase their participation in the healthcare system which is often restricted due to financial consideration.

On 22 September 2021, President Macron’s PREZODE initiative and the International Atomic Energy Agency’s (IAEA) Zoonotic Disease Integrated Action (ZODIAC) initiative formally agreed to collaborate on tackling zoonotic diseases.⁵³⁴ Planned joint actions include capacity building, building a platform for sharing knowledge, a resource centre available for the One Health High-Level Expert Panel to produce recommendations for decision makers and a scientific framework to coordinate research projects. ZODIAC deploys nuclear-related techniques for the rapid detection of pathogens and will establish an information-sharing global network of national laboratories to help monitor, detect, and control animal and zoonotic diseases like COVID-19, Ebola, avian influenza and Zika virus.

On 26 September 2021, President Macron announced that France would double its COVID-19 vaccine sharing pledge to COVAX, for a grand total of 120 million doses by the end of the second quarter in 2022.⁵³⁵

On 29 October 2021, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Yves Le Drian announced that France had successfully donated 67 million doses to 45 countries (30 of which are African countries).⁵³⁶

On 30 October 2021, France announced a new partnership with the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) facility, through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to increase immunization capacity in Africa, by tackling hesitancy and mobilizing domestic and international civil society organizations.⁵³⁷ The six-month pilot phase begins as early as November 2021, whereby the partners select two African countries with low vaccine uptake rates.

⁵³² Algeria - Q&A from the press briefing, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 5 August 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/algeria/news/article/algeria-q-a-from-the-press-briefing-5-aug-2021>

⁵³³ Facilitate access to city care in disadvantaged areas: launch of a call for projects for the establishment of "participatory" health centers and homes, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (Paris) 9 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/faciliter-l-acces-aux-soins-de-ville-dans-les-territoires-defavorises-lancement>

⁵³⁴ IAEA and PREZODE Pave the Way for Future Cooperation to Prevent Zoonotic Diseases, PREZODE Initiative (Paris) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://prezode.org/News/ZODIAC>

⁵³⁵ France to double Covid vaccine doses for poorer countries, France24 (Paris) 26 September 2021. Access Date: 21 December 2021. <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20210925-france-to-double-covid-vaccine-doses-for-poorer-countries>

⁵³⁶ COVID-19 - France donates 67 million vaccine doses - Communiqué issued by M. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 29 October 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2021/article/covid-19-france-donates-67-million-vaccine-doses-communique-issued-by-m-jean>

⁵³⁷ To support vaccination against COVID-19, France joins forces with COVAX to launch “From vaccines delivery to vaccination against COVID-19” project, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 30 October 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2021/article/to-support-vaccination-against-covid-19-france-joins-forces-with-covax-to>

On 18 November 2021, France verbally affirmed its support for World Antimicrobial Awareness Week, organized by the WHO from 18 November 2021 to 24 November 2021, and committed to promoting essential interministerial positions on controlling antimicrobial resistance at European and international levels.⁵³⁸

On 1 December 2021, France announced its support for the WHO's decision by consensus to launch negotiations on a new treaty to prevent and respond to future pandemics, which would seek to improve fair access to tools combating epidemics and strengthen the WHO's inter-agency health cooperation roles.⁵³⁹ France also announced that it supported instruments designed to more effectively financially mobilize the international community to prepare for pandemics.

On 1 December 2021, the Ministry of Solidarity and Health presented its second sexual health roadmap 2021-2024 for the implementation of the 2017 National Sexual Health Strategy.⁵⁴⁰ The second roadmap deepens the commitments made for 30 priority targets and 7 versions adapted to overseas departments, including diversifying access to screening and prevention tools for sexually transmitted infections and human immunodeficiency virus and by promoting sexual health training in all settings.

On 7 December 2021, Minister Le Drian set out France's commitments on combating malnutrition for 2024 at the "Nutrition for Growth" summit, organized by Japan.⁵⁴¹ These commitments included an allocation of 15 per cent of AFD's funding towards water, hygiene and sanitation to eight priority countries in Africa, particularly in the Sahel region. Also, France dedicated 25 per cent of the French Muskoka Fund to nutrition which operates in Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Senegal, and Togo.

On 8 December 2021, France announced 10 million doses had been successfully delivered to at least 38 African Union member-states, including recent shipments to Ghana, Botswana, Egypt, Tunisia, and Lesotho.⁵⁴²

On 14 December 2021, France and Cuba signed agreements to fund two new public health projects worth EUR6.1 million, during the Sixth Session of the France-Cuba Economic and Commercial Commission and the Sixth Meeting of the Strategic Orientation Committee that manages the French-Cuban Counterpart Fund.⁵⁴³

On 16 December 2021, France committed EUR20 million to the Medicines Patent Pool (MPP), which will help the MPP expand its regular work of technology transfers and pursuing voluntary licensing agreements,

⁵³⁸ World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (18-24 November 2021), Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/world-antimicrobial-awareness-week-18-24-november-2021>

⁵³⁹ WHO – France welcomes the launch of negotiations on a new treaty to prevent pandemics, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/united-nations/news-and-events/news/news-2021/article/who-france-welcomes-the-launch-of-negotiations-on-a-new-treaty-to-prevent>

⁵⁴⁰ The Ministry of Solidarity and Health presents the second sexual health roadmap 2021-2024 for the implementation of the National Sexual Health Strategy, Ministry of Solidarity and Health (1 December 2021). Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/le-ministere-des-solidarites-et-de-la-sante-presente-la-deuxieme-feuille-de>

⁵⁴¹ France combating malnutrition at the "Nutrition for Growth" Summit, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/news/2021/article/france-combating-malnutrition-at-the-nutrition-for-growth-summit-7-december>

⁵⁴² Covid-19 - France delivers 10 million vaccine doses to the African Union, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 20 December 2021. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/covid-19-france-delivers-10-million-vaccine-doses-to-the-african-union-dec-8>

⁵⁴³ Cuba – Participation of Franck Riester in the 6th Session of the France-Cuba Economic and Commercial Commission and the 6th Meeting of the Strategic Orientation Committee that manages the French-Cuban Counterpart Fund, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/cuba/news/article/cuba-participation-of-franck-riester-in-the-6th-session-of-the-france-cuba>

towards COVID-19 treatments, diagnostics, and vaccines.⁵⁴⁴ The initial five-year project aims to address global inequities and the lack of secure supply as it pertains to COVID-19 technologies. The MPP is an UN-backed public health organization seeking to facilitate the development of life-saving medicines for developing countries.

On 23 December 2021, France enacted the Social Security Financing Act of 2022, which among other items, includes investments to reimburse contraception for all women under age 25, reimbursement of medical telemonitoring and access to free HIV screening tests without a prescription in laboratories.⁵⁴⁵

On 12 January 2022, France's PREZODE initiative announced that it will use its first budget of EUR10 million, financed by the AFD, in part to support its first operational program of preventing the emergence and spread of zoonotic diseases while ensuring food security and livelihoods in Cambodia, Cameroon, Guinea, Madagascar and Senegal.⁵⁴⁶

On 2 February 2022, France became the first country in the European Union to approve use of the Pfizer COVID-19 antiviral drug treatment: Paxlovid.⁵⁴⁷

On 9 February 2022, France and the WHO signed a new EUR50 million contribution agreement to reinforce health systems to combat COVID-19. The aim of the agreement is to speed up equitable access to testing, treatments and vaccines against the novel virus and to help countries overcome health system bottlenecks in their response to the virus.⁵⁴⁸

On 15 February 2022, France, alongside Belgium, Germany, the European Medicines Agency, the European Commission, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, announced a EUR100 million investment over the next five years into the recently established African Medicines Agency and other regional medicines regulatory initiatives.⁵⁴⁹ The agency would help expand the local manufacturing of vaccines, medicines, and health tools.

On 18 February 2022, France announced the first beneficiaries of the technology transfer center for mRNA vaccines.⁵⁵⁰ The first six nations which will receive technology needed to start producing their own mRNA vaccines will be Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and Tunisia.⁵⁵¹ Currently, the goal of this

⁵⁴⁴ France to fund MPP for its expansion into COVID-19 health technologies, Medicines Patent Pool (Geneva) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://medicinespatentpool.org/news-publications-post/france-to-fund-mpp-for-its-expansion-into-covid-19>

⁵⁴⁵ Law of 23 December 2021 on financing social security for 2022, Department of Legal Administration and Information (Paris) 23 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://www.vie-publique.fr/loi/281799-loi-de-financement-la-securite-sociale-2022-plfss-budget-secu>

⁵⁴⁶ PREZODE celebrates its first anniversary, PREZODE Initiative (Paris) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 21 January 2022. <https://prezode.org/News/PREZODE-celebrates-its-first-anniversary>

⁵⁴⁷ France to start using Pfizer's COVID-19 drug, first in EU, CTV News (Toronto) 2 February 2022. Access Date: 20 March 2022. <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/france-to-start-using-pfizer-s-covid-19-drug-first-in-eu-1.5764759>

⁵⁴⁸ France and WHO sign new agreement to reinforce health systems to combat COVID-19, World Health Organization (Lyon) 9 February 2022. Access Date: 20 March 2022. <https://www.who.int/news/item/09-02-2022-france-who-sign-new-agreement-to-reinforce-health-systems-to-combat-covid-19>

⁵⁴⁹ Ahead of EU-AU Summit, African medicines regulators receive boost of more than 100 million euros from Team Europe and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, European Commission (Brussels) 15 February 2022. Access Date: 21 March 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_993

⁵⁵⁰ Announcement of the first beneficiaries of the technology transfer center for messenger-RNA vaccines, Office of the President of France (Paris) 18 February 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 21 March 2022. <https://www.elysee.fr/emmanuel-macron/2022/02/18/annonce-des-premiers-beneficiaires-du-centre-de-transfert-de-technologie-pour-les-vaccins-a-arn-messenger>

⁵⁵¹ WHO announces first technology recipients of mRNA vaccine hub with strong support from African and European partners, World Health Organization (Geneva) 18 February 2022. Access Date: 29 March 2022. <https://www.who.int/news/item/18-02-2022-who-announces-first-technology-recipients-of-mrna-vaccine-hub-with-strong-support-from-african-and-european-partners>

technology transfer hub is to empower the African continent to produce their own vaccines, diagnostics, and medicines, beginning with the production of mRNA vaccines. In the future, the goal is local production of other medications to treat diabetes, cancer and, potentially, vaccines for other priority diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis and HIV.

On 1 March 2022, France launched a new colon cancer testing system for those over 50 years old.⁵⁵² Aimed towards French citizens aged 50-74, colon cancer tests can be ordered online and delivered by post at no cost and conducted in the privacy of their own home in hopes of boosting testing numbers

On 11 March 2022, France and the WHO met to work together for an effective, united and inclusive global health governance strategy.⁵⁵³ They discussed how to strengthen global health architecture, accelerating equitable access to health technologies, health emergency preparedness, universal health coverage, non-communicable diseases and mental health challenges.

On 12 May 2022, France announced a EUR220 million donation at the second Global COVID-19 summit.⁵⁵⁴ EUR100 million will be allocated to the COVAX initiative, EUR50 million to the WHO and EUR70 million to strengthen vaccine production in Rwanda, Senegal and South Africa.

France has fully complied with its commitment to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease, and to detect emerging health threats quickly. France helped build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system by, inter alia, investing in participatory health care centres and funding health projects in other countries such as Cuba and Senegal. France has helped prepare to prevent the causes and escalation of disease by, inter alia, increasing access to contraceptives to women under 25, donating vaccine supplies through COVAX and bilateral arrangements, and funding technology transfers through MPP. Finally, France has taken action to detect emerging health threats quickly by, inter alia, investing and expanding its PREZODE initiative and supporting efforts for legal instruments to prevent future pandemics.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Ashton Mathias and Malek Izouine

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

On 1 September 2021, Germany and the World Health Organization (WHO) established the Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin.⁵⁵⁵ This Hub will use extensive data and research to identify risk-inducing events and forecast potential threats, increasing global preparedness to deal with fast-spreading

⁵⁵² France launches new colon-cancer testing system for over 50s, The Local (Paris) 1 March 2022. Access Date: 20 March 2022. <https://www.thelocal.fr/20220304/france-launches-new-colon-cancer-testing-system-for-over-50s/>

⁵⁵³ France and WHO: Working together for effective, united and inclusive global health governance, World Health Organization (Geneva) 17 March 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2022. <https://www.who.int/news/item/17-03-2022-france-and-who-working-together-for-effective-united-and-inclusive-global-health-governance>

⁵⁵⁴ 2nd Global COVID-19 Summit Commitments, The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 May 2022. Access Date: 8 June 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/05/12/2nd-global-covid-19-summit-commitments/>

⁵⁵⁵ WHO, Germany open Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin, World Health Organization (Berlin) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.who.int/news/item/01-09-2021-who-germany-open-hub-for-pandemic-and-epidemic-intelligence-in-berlin>

diseases. Aside from hosting the institute, Germany has provided initial funding of USD100 million to allow the hub to acquire the relevant analytic tools to forecast super spreader events.⁵⁵⁶

On 8 September 2021, Germany delivered the first of 1.3 million vaccine doses set for developing countries to Mauritania, which received 213,600 doses.⁵⁵⁷ These were followed by shipments to Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Sudan and Ethiopia in the following days. These donations were part of Germany's pledge to donate 100 million vaccine doses that year.

On 26 October 2021, Germany delivered 163,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Somalia.⁵⁵⁸ At the time of the donation, only 1.85 per cent of Somalis were fully vaccinated against the virus, but the effort to protect Somalia against the virus has been aided by Germany's donation, a move to help lower income countries achieve immunity and contribute to the strength of the global system.

On 5 November 2021, Federal Minister of Health Jens Spahn agreed with regional health leaders that German citizens should receive a booster shot at least six months after their previous injections.⁵⁵⁹ As Germany deals with a steep uptick in cases stemming from the fourth wave, the country decided to administer booster shots to prevent the overwhelming health system and further spread of the COVID-19 disease.

On 7 December 2021, Germany pledged to donate EUR120 million in humanitarian aid to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for 2022.⁵⁶⁰ The UNHCR provides humanitarian assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons, which includes services such as the provision of clean water, adequate housing and basic healthcare.

On 28 December 2021, Germany's constitutional court established that disabled patients must still be protected by legally binding guidelines in the case that hospitals resort to triage systems due to the overwhelming of the healthcare system.⁵⁶¹ The ruling is an impactful step in ensuring Germany continues to develop its inclusive healthcare system and orders legislators to create legal frameworks to prevent disabled people from unfair treatment.

On 29 December 2021, Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze pledged to donate 75 million vaccine doses to various low-income and middle-income countries in 2022, in addition to the 100 million doses Germany committed in 2021.⁵⁶² At the time of this announcement, Germany was preparing 53 million doses for shipment. These actions have been taken by Germany without the undermining of their own vaccination program.

⁵⁵⁶ WHO, Germany open Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin, World Health Organization (Berlin) 1 September 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.who.int/news/item/01-09-2021-who-germany-open-hub-for-pandemic-and-epidemic-intelligence-in-berlin>

⁵⁵⁷ First delivery of German-donated Covid vaccines to COVAX land in Mauritania, with more donations to follow, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 8 September 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/first-delivery-german-donated-covid-vaccines-covax-land-mauritania-other-deliveries>

⁵⁵⁸ In fight against COVID-19, Germany donates 163,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses to Somalia through COVAX facility, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Mogadishu) 26 October 2021. Access Date: 15 January 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/somalia/press-releases/fight-against-covid-19-germany-donates-163000-covid-19-vaccine-doses-somalia-through>

⁵⁵⁹ With fourth wave raging, Germany agrees booster shots for all, Reuters (London) 5 November 2021. Access Date: January 16, 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/action-needed-now-avoid-lockdown-say-german-state-leaders-2021-11-05/>

⁵⁶⁰ New funding for the protection of refugees: 120 million Euro for 2022, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussepolitik/themen/migration/germany-unhcr-funding/2423226>

⁵⁶¹ German court rules disabled people must be protected in Covid triage cases, The Guardian (Berlin) 28 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/dec/28/german-court-disabled-people-covid-triage>

⁵⁶² Germany to donate 75M Covid-19 vaccines to other countries, Anadolu Agency (Berlin) 29 December 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2021. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/germany-to-donate-75m-covid-19-vaccines-to-other-countries/2460421>

On 29 January 2022, the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) joined the Kigali declaration, which aims to fight Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD).⁵⁶³ These illnesses are estimated to affect up to EUR1.7 billion people worldwide, particularly in developing countries. In conjunction with their commitment to the declaration, Germany has pledged EUR18 million to help various Central African countries combat five NTDs. On top of that, the Federal Ministry has been supporting the WHO in their fight against rabies in Namibia and Cameroon with EUR10 million in funding.

On 15 February 2022, Germany, alongside Belgium, France, the European Medicines Agency, the European Commission and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, announced a EUR100 million investment over the next five years into the recently established African Medicines Agency and other regional medicines regulatory initiatives.⁵⁶⁴ The agency would help expand the local manufacturing of vaccines, medicines, and health tools.

On 1 March 2022, Germany became the first country to meet its “fair share” of the 2021-2022 ACT-Accelerator budget, a program backed by the WHO which aims to provide important medical equipment to developing countries.⁵⁶⁵ Germany has pledged USD1.2 billion for the entire year. This also includes USD253 million for the domestic delivery process and turning vaccines into vaccinations. This came in addition to the USD2.5 billion Germany pledged in the 2020-21 budget cycle, which already exceeded the “fair share” specified by the WHO.

On 8 March 2022, Germany pledged USD87 million to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) at the Global Pandemic Preparedness Summit co-hosted by the UK.⁵⁶⁶

On 16 March 2022, the German Development Bank (KfW) and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), with support from the BMZ, rehabilitated the Al-Sabeen maternity hospital in Sana'a, Yemen, and successfully handed control back to the hospital management.⁵⁶⁷ The hospital is one of 19 health facilities and 21 isolation units that are being rehabilitated as part of the “Strengthening Resilience through enhancing Health Service Facilities in Yemen” project.

On 9 April 2022, Germany committed to donating EUR400 million to COVAX’s initiatives in 92 countries around the world at the Break COVID Now Summit.⁵⁶⁸ Germany was a co-host of the Break COVID Now Summit, along with Gavi, Ghana, Indonesia and Senegal.

On 24 April 2022, Germany pledged USD26 million to support the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) efforts in Iraq.⁵⁶⁹ This funding will ensure that poorer Iraqi communities continue

⁵⁶³ Germany joins the Kigali declaration, Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 29 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 March 2022. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/deutschland-tritt-kigali-deklaration-bei-103544>

⁵⁶⁴ Ahead of EU–AU Summit, African medicines regulators receive boost of more than 100 million euros from Team Europe and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, European Commission (Brussels) 15 February 2022. Access Date: 21 March 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_993

⁵⁶⁵ ACT-Accelerator welcomes Germany’s generous ‘fair share’ commitment, World Health Organization (Geneva) 1 March 2022. Access Date: 27 March 2022. <https://www.who.int/news/item/01-03-2022-act-accelerator-welcomes-germany-s-generous-fair-share-commitment>

⁵⁶⁶ Global community comes together in support of 100 Days Mission and pledges over \$1.5 billion for CEPI’s pandemic-busting plan, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (Oslo) 8 March 2022. Access Date: 1 April 2022. https://cepi.net/news_cepi/global-community-comes-together-in-support-of-100-days-mission-and-pledges-over-1-5-billion-for-cepis-pandemic-busting-plan/

⁵⁶⁷ Handover of a rehabilitated maternity hospital in Sana’a, KfW Development Bank (Frankfurt) 16 March 2022. Access Date: 15 May 2022. https://www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de/About-us/News/News-Details_698560.html

⁵⁶⁸ World leaders commit US\$ 4.8 billion to help Break COVID Now, Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 8 April 2022. Access Date: 7 May 2022. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/world-leaders-commit-us-48-billion-help-break-covid-now>

⁵⁶⁹ UNICEF receives US\$26 Million from the Government of Germany to support the provision of basic services and the COVID-19 response in Iraq, United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (Baghdad) 24 April 2022. Access Date: 1 May 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/iraq/press-releases/unicef-receives-us26-million-government-germany-support-provision-basic-services-and>

to receive access to basic services and goods, such as education, water and sanitation. Hygienic equipment will be distributed to 20,000 healthcare workers and an additional 200,000 residents. This contribution comes in addition to the USD200 million Germany has provided UNICEF in Iraq since 2015. This funding and its ramifications are expected to improve the lives of over 1 million Iraqi children and adolescents.

On 26 April 2022, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research announced the creation of the new Helmholtz Institute for One Health.⁵⁷⁰ The work of this research institute will focus on zoonotic causes of disease, antimicrobial resistance and pathogen evolution.

On 29 April 2022, Germany committed EUR370 million in humanitarian support funding to assist Ukraine as well as those made refugees by the war there.⁵⁷¹ The funding will be used to guarantee the access of Ukrainians and refugees to food, medicine, drinking water, electricity and physical and mental healthcare. The Federal Government of Germany has emphasized that the assistance dedicated to Ukraine will not have any bearing on their current humanitarian efforts in other war zones, such as Yemen and Afghanistan.

On 12 May 2022, Germany announced it will contribute USD50 million to the World Bank's new pandemic preparedness and global health security financial intermediary fund.⁵⁷²

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease, and to detect emerging health threats quickly. Within the compliance period discussed, Germany has made great financial and material contributions in ensuring that developing countries and vulnerable groups are taken care of by the global health system. Within its own borders, Germany is working to guarantee that its healthcare system is truly universal and prepared to deal with the consequences of infectious diseases. Germany also takes a leading role in researching pandemics and epidemics to enhance the detection of future threats.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mohammad Rasoul Kailani

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

On 22 June 2021, Italy's National Institute for Health, Migration and Poverty and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) signed an agreement to boost the "safeguarding of the health of minors, women and families from the migrant community."⁵⁷³ The goal of the agreement is to strengthen the two organization's actions aimed at training social and healthcare professionals on issues such as immigration, violence, gender-based violence, poverty and social exclusion. The agreement is intended to promote better health education with respect to the differing needs of different migrants based on age, gender, culture and country of origin.

⁵⁷⁰ People, animals and the environment – healthy together, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Bonn) 26 April 2022. Access Date: 10 May 2022. <https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/kurzmeldungen/de/2022/04/einweihung-helmholtz-one-health.html>

⁵⁷¹ Ukraine: For Solidarity and Humanity, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 29 April 2022. Access Date: 8 May 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/ukraine-node/huhi-ukraine/2520374>

⁵⁷² 2nd Global COVID-19 Summit Commitments, The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 May 2022. Access Date: 8 June 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/05/12/2nd-global-covid-19-summit-commitments/>

⁵⁷³ A joint initiative launched in Italy to safeguard migrant health, InfoMigrants (Rome) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/33119/a-joint-initiative-launched-in-italy-to-safeguard-migrant-health>

On 24 August 2021, Prime Minister Mario Draghi announced during a G7 video conference that Italy would redirect resources to humanitarian aid that were originally for Afghan military forces.⁵⁷⁴ Prime Minister Draghi also asked the other member states to join in that effort for a successful outcome.

On 22 September 2021, Prime Minister Draghi stated at the Global COVID-19 Summit, organised by the 76th General Assembly of the UN, that Italy stood by the pledges it had previously made to various vaccine programmes and that it was ready to make “more generous ones.”⁵⁷⁵ Italy also offered “adequate logistical support to ensure that vaccines reach those who need them the most” and tripled its efforts in vaccine donation by 30 million additional doses by the end of 2021, reaching 45 million vaccine doses in total.

On 8 October 2021, the Ministry of Health announced that Italy had given the green light for the COVID-19 vaccine booster (third dose), after at least six months after the second dose, for those over age 60 and anyone considered to be immunocompromised.⁵⁷⁶

On 1 December 2021, Italy approved COVID-19 vaccinations for children aged five to eleven.⁵⁷⁷ Italian health authorities consider vaccination of children and teenagers to be an important step in responding to the COVID-19 global pandemic and in disease prevention.

On 6 December 2021, Italy tightened restrictions on the unvaccinated population with a new COVID-19 super green pass.⁵⁷⁸ Italy’s previous basic green health pass could be used by anyone who was vaccinated or recovered to access concerts, theaters, indoor restaurants, and major sporting events. The new COVID-19 green health pass is now needed to also access public transport.

On 14 December 2021, Italy extended its January 2020 COVID-19 state of emergency until 31 March 2022.⁵⁷⁹ The country now also requires a pre-departure COVID-19 swab test to be taken by European Union visitors from 16 December 2021 to 31 January 2022. Additionally, the Health Ministry has imposed a requirement that anyone who has not been vaccinated must quarantine for five days on arrival.

On 15 December 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation announced that medical equipment were sent to Libya’s Health Ministry to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.⁵⁸⁰ On 14 December 2021, more than 10 tons of medical equipment including ventilators, surgical masks and personal protective garments arrived in Libya.

On 25 January 2022, the Government of Italy approved the 2022 Finance Act (Law number 234 of 30 December 2021), which increased the national health funding by EUR2 billion every year for the next three

⁵⁷⁴ Afghanistan, President Draghi participates in the extraordinary meeting of the G7, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 24 August 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/afghanistan-il-presidente-draghi-partecipa-al-g7-del-24-agosto/17720>

⁵⁷⁵ UNGA, Prime Minister Draghi’s remarks to Global Covid-19 Summit, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 22 September 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/onu-intervento-del-presidente-draghi-al-global-covid-19-summit/18012>

⁵⁷⁶ Covid-19 vaccines, green light for the third dose (booster) for over 60 and frail, Ministry of Health (Rome) 8 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 7 January 2022. https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5835

⁵⁷⁷ Italy approves COVID-19 vaccination for 5-11 year olds, Reuters (Milan) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/italy-approves-covid-19-vaccination-5-11-year-olds-2021-12-01/>

⁵⁷⁸ Italy tightens restrictions on the unvaccinated with new COVID pass, Euronews (Lyon) 6 December 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.euronews.com/2021/12/06/italy-tightens-restrictions-on-the-unvaccinated-with-new-covid-pass>

⁵⁷⁹ Italy extends COVID-19 state of emergency, imposes swab for EU visitors, Reuters (Rome) 14 December 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/italy-extends-covid-19-state-emergency-end-march-2021-12-14/>

⁵⁸⁰ The Farnesina Announces: Italy is supplying medical equipment to Libya to aid in fighting COVID-19, Italian Government (Rome) 15 December 2021. Access Date: 7 January 2022. https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stamp/archivionotizie/comunicati/2021/12/nota-farnesina-libia-fornitura-di-materiale-sanitario-per-il-contrasto-al-covid-19/

years.⁵⁸¹ The additional funding will be allocated towards recruiting additional healthcare professionals, increasing pharmaceutical spending ceilings and the implementation of new technological standards such as telemedicine, IT tools and artificial intelligence to improve patient outcomes.

On 18 February 2022, the Supreme Court of Cassation ruled that migrants in reception centres should be allowed the same anti-coronavirus measures as other Italian citizens, without discrimination.⁵⁸² This ruling supports the healthcare rights of a marginalized population in Italy.

On 20 February 2022, the Ministry of Health recommended a fourth COVID-19 vaccine dose for those who have a severely compromised immune system.⁵⁸³ The Ministry noted that this recommendation has come as a result of the ongoing circulation of the virus and the vaccines' effectiveness with preventing COVID-related deaths.

On 8 March 2022, Italy pledged USD22 million to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), at the Global Pandemic Preparedness Summit co-hosted by the United Kingdom.⁵⁸⁴

On 31 March 2022, the Joint Committee for Development Cooperation approved a EUR180 million intervention which includes EUR24 million to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, EUR54 million to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, and EUR4 million to CEPI.⁵⁸⁵

On 12 May 2022, Italy announced it will donate an additional 31 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX initiative and also pledged an additional EUR200 million to the ACT-A to strengthen pandemic preparedness.⁵⁸⁶

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly. Italy has taken various measures to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system, by investing in domestic and international initiatives, with a particular emphasis on vulnerable populations. Italy has also initiated efforts to detect emerging health threats by cooperating with the global community.

Thus, Italy has received a score of +1.

Analysts: Miranda Bocci and Dorota Borovskya

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

On 1 July 2021, Japan delivered 1 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Malaysia.⁵⁸⁷

⁵⁸¹ 2022 Finance Act increases State investment in Italian national health system, Lexology (London) 25 January 2022. Access Date: 11 May 2022. <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=55457cb7-d5d3-4286-a9cd-66d37ec0b188>

⁵⁸² Italy: Migrant centers must implement COVID protections, highest court rules, InfoMigrants (Rome) 18 February 2022. Access Date: 4 April 2022. <https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/38607/italy-migrant-centers-must-implement-covid-protections-highest-court-rules>

⁵⁸³ Italy recommends fourth COVID vaccine dose for immunocompromised, Reuters (Milan) 20 February 2022. Access Date: 22 March 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/italy-recommends-fourth-covid-vaccine-dose-immunocompromised-2022-02-20/>

⁵⁸⁴ Global community comes together in support of 100 Days Mission and pledges over \$1.5 billion for CEPI's pandemic-busting plan, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (Oslo) 8 March 2022. Access Date: 1 April 2022. https://cepi.net/news_cepi/global-community-comes-together-in-support-of-100-days-mission-and-pledges-over-1-5-billion-for-cepis-pandemic-busting-plan/

⁵⁸⁵ Development Cooperation, Sereni chairs the Joint Committee, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome) 31 March 2022. Access Date: 7 May 2022. https://www.esteri.it/it/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/03/cooperazione-allo-sviluppo-sereni-presiede-comitato-congiunto/

⁵⁸⁶ 2nd Global COVID-19 Summit Commitments, The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 May 2022. Access Date: 8 June 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/05/12/2nd-global-covid-19-summit-commitments/>

On 23 July 2021, Japan delivered 330,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to Cambodia through the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) program, as part of Japan's pledged 1 million vaccine doses.⁵⁸⁸

On 24 July 2021, the Japan International Cooperation Agency signed a grant agreement with the Government of Senegal to provide grant aid up to JPY514 million to establish an effective and safe vaccination system in Senegal, including the provision of cold chain and medical equipment.⁵⁸⁹

On 11 August 2021, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry committed JPY150 million to companies specializing in women's health products, allowing them to develop products to alleviate medical issues specific to their gender, such as menstruation, pregnancy, infertility treatment and menopause.⁵⁹⁰ This is a step forward in building a more inclusive health system in general and one that serves the needs of women in particular.

On 25 August 2021, Japan committed a USD2.75 million grant to set up a grassroots project in Vietnam.⁵⁹¹ It is dedicated to strengthening Vietnam's preparedness, threat detection and response capacities to potential outbreaks including the current COVID-19 pandemic. The three-year project will be implemented in three provinces and will reach 270,000 people, including 3,500 vulnerable people. Included in the latter group are elderly people in urban areas, ethnic minorities, informal workers, people living with HIV/AIDS, drug users, and female sex workers. Japan's impactful initiative to expand the healthcare capabilities of another country is an action that covers all aspects of the commitment.

On 6 October 2021, Japan donated 23 Viral Ribonucleic Acid Test Kits valued at USD43,411, which are expected to conduct around 5,750 tests, to the Caribbean Public Health Agency.⁵⁹² Additionally, Japan also donated USD267,274 to the Association for Promotion of International Cooperation so that Jamaica, Suriname and Guyana can purchase test kits to conduct around 72,090 tests.

On 13 October 2021, the Japan announced a JPY500 billion economic package aimed at firms developing vaccines and new drugs for infectious diseases.⁵⁹³ It was the first fund announced by Prime Minister Fumio Kishida's government. The "university fund" was also expanded to JPY600 billion, as Japan aims to be a lead contributor in medical research and strengthen its domestic health sector.

On 24 December 2021, Japan extended an Emergency Aid Grant of USD28.95 million to refugees and internally displaced people in Syria and neighboring countries.⁵⁹⁴ The assistance will be delivered through

⁵⁸⁷ Malaysia to receive vaccines donated by Japan, U.S. this week, Reuters (Kuala Lumpur) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/malaysia-receive-vaccines-donated-by-japan-us-this-week-2021-06-30/>

⁵⁸⁸ First of 1 million new doses of COVID-19 vaccine manufactured in Japan arrived in Cambodia through COVAX, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Phnom Penh) 23 July 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022.

⁵⁸⁹ Signing of Grant Agreement with the Republic of Senegal: Contributing to establishment of the effective and safe vaccination system against COVID-19 through providing cold chain and medical equipment, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 24 August 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20210824_en_21.html

⁵⁹⁰ Japan Joins Efforts to Back Women's Tech Business, BNN Bloomberg (Toronto) 11 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2021. <https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/japan-joins-efforts-to-back-women-s-health-tech-businesses-1.1639272>

⁵⁹¹ World Bank, Japan Support Strengthening Pandemic Preparedness at Grassroots Level in Vietnam, World Bank (Hanoi) 25 August 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2021/08/25/world-bank-japan-support-strengthening-pandemic-preparedness-at-grassroots-level-in-vietnam>

⁵⁹² CARPHA Strengthens Its COVID-19 Testing Capacity with Japan Donation, Caribbean Public Health Agency (Port of Spain), 6 October 2021. Access Date: 16 December 2021. <https://carpha.org/More/Media/Articles/ArticleID/519/CARPHA-Strengthens-Its-COVID-19-Testing-Capacity-with-Japan-Donation>

⁵⁹³ Japan to set up \$4.4 billion 'vaccine fund' under economic package, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 13 October 2021. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2021/10/e98df38f9572-japan-to-set-up-44-billion-vaccine-fund-under-economic-package.html>

⁵⁹⁴ Emergency Grant Aid in Response to Crisis in Syria and neighboring countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo), 24 December 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000298.html

services provided by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. The expected outcomes of the aid include the provision of food to 320,000 people, provision of health services to 190,000 people, and the provision of medical services to 600,000 people.

On 31 January 2022, Japan announced grant assistance to strengthen the vaccine cold chain system in Nepal with collaboration UNICEF.⁵⁹⁵ This grant includes nine walk-in coolers, 38 vaccine refrigerators, 1,109 long-range vaccine carriers and 53 cold boxes to ensure effective vaccine rollout in Nepal.

On 1 March 2022, Japan committed USD9.26 million to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) with the goal of improving women's health in 13 countries in Asia and Africa.⁵⁹⁶ Initiatives backed by Japan will work to prevent gender-based violence and the spread of infectious disease, whilst improving the state of sexual and reproductive health.

On 8 March 2022, Japan pledged USD300 million to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) at the Global Pandemic Preparedness Summit co-hosted by the UK.⁵⁹⁷

On 10 March 2022, Japan donated USD3 million to UNICEF's projects in Afghanistan.⁵⁹⁸ This funding will help the organization reach 69,000 people, including internally displaced persons affected by Afghanistan's complex humanitarian emergency. Individuals in need will be given access to lifesaving services via mobile healthcare teams and 4,500 malnourished Afghan children will be given access to treatment.

On 10 March 2022, Japan provided USD3.8 million in a grant to Zimbabwe in order to enhance the medical equipment of 12 central and provincial hospitals around Zimbabwe.⁵⁹⁹ Japan's Ambassador Satoshi Tanaka stated that the goal of the funding was to ensure that Zimbabwe's most vulnerable citizens can withstand future crises, demonstrating efforts to increase the inclusivity and resiliency of the global health system.

On 22 March 2022, Japan contributed USD89,168 to build a Child Rehabilitation Centre in Ampara District, Sri Lanka.⁶⁰⁰ The district consists of isolated villages and there is currently no primary health care center there, forcing villagers to travel long distances to receive medical services. This initiative will make accessing healthcare easier for the district's residents, thereby contributing to an inclusive global health system.

⁵⁹⁵ Japan and UNICEF Join Hands to Strengthen Vaccine Cold Chain in Nepal, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Kathmandu) 31 January 2022. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/nepal/press-releases/japan-and-unicef-join-hands-strengthen-vaccine-cold-chain-nepal>

⁵⁹⁶ Japanese government decree supplementary budget for the third year, decided to support about 9.26 million US dollars through UNFPA, United Nations Population Fund Office in Japan (Tokyo) 10 March 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 27 March 2022. <https://tokyo.unfpa.org/ja/news/68258>

⁵⁹⁷ Global community comes together in support of 100 Days Mission and pledges over \$1.5 billion for CEPI's pandemic-busting plan, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (Oslo) 8 March 2022. Access Date: 1 April 2022. https://cepi.net/news_cepi/global-community-comes-together-in-support-of-100-days-mission-and-pledges-over-1-5-billion-for-cepis-pandemic-busting-plan/

⁵⁹⁸ Government of Japan provides crucial support to UNICEF health, nutrition and protection interventions in Afghanistan, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Kabul) 10 March 2022. Access Date: 27 March 2022. <https://www.unicef.org/afghanistan/press-releases/government-japan-provides-crucial-support-unicef-health-nutrition-and-protection>

⁵⁹⁹ Japan supports Zimbabwe's COVID-19 response through maternal health equipment and cold chain equipment, Embassy of Japan in Zimbabwe (Harare) 10 March 2022. Access Date: 27 March 2022. <https://www.zw.emb-japan.go.jp/files/100314198.pdf>

⁶⁰⁰ Japan to support construction of a health center in Ampara, Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka (Colombo) 22 March 2022. Access Date: 27 March 2022. https://www.lk.emb-japan.go.jp/itprtop_en/11_000001_00042.html

On 23 March 2022, the Government of Japan donated USD1.4 million to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to support refugees and asylum seekers in Algeria.⁶⁰¹ The funding will allow refugees to access various health services, including those that specialize in HIV, reproductive health and post-natal care, as well as supporting midwifery and nursing schools.⁶⁰² Furthermore, this contribution will make hygienic materials available, as well as provide safe and clean cooking gas, while strengthening the prevention and response to reduce COVID-19 morbidity and mortality rates.

On 25 March 2022, the Government of Japan signed a deal with pharmaceutical company Shionogi and Co to receive and distribute an oral drug that treats COVID-19.⁶⁰³ One million doses will be provided once the drug receives regulatory approval.

On 31 March 2022, Japan's Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT) announced a USD6.4 million investment in malaria treatments.⁶⁰⁴ This investment was broken up into three components. These were USD4.7 million for the development of monoclonal antibodies for malaria prevention, USD604,000 for the development of next-generation multistage/multispecies malaria vaccines, and USD1.1 million for the identification of lead compound series with antimalarial activity. The fund's function is to improve the ability of low-income countries to fight infectious diseases and to create partnerships between them to do so, thereby increasing the inclusivity and resilience of the global health system.

On 3 April 2022, the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development established the Strategic Center of Biomedical Advanced Vaccine Research and Development for Preparedness and Response.⁶⁰⁵ The institute is responsible for delivering vaccines safely and effectively during public health emergencies. The Government of Japan will kickstart the project with JPY51.5 billion for development sites and JPY150.4 billion for vaccine research and development.

On 7 April 2022, the JICA signed a loan agreement worth USD200 million with the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank).⁶⁰⁶ The latter institution consists of 51 member states, who support African countries throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The loans given out result in greater vaccine production and distribution capabilities. The funding will be used to develop manufacturing lines, supply bases and medical and health facilities.

On 8 April 2022, Japan pledged USD500 million to the COVAX program at the Break Covid Now summit. The funding's purpose is to ease vaccine procurement for low-income countries.⁶⁰⁷ A portion of the funding will also be committed to a standby supply of vaccines in the event of more severe or contagious COVID-19 variants emerging. It is worth noting that Japan committed the highest amount of any donor.

⁶⁰¹ The Japanese Ambassador received Mr. Agostino MULAS, UNHCR Representative in Algeria, Japanese Embassy in Algeria (Algiers) 23 March 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 May 2022. https://www.dz.emb-japan.go.jp/bi.html?fbclid=IwAR3ypQOFi8BVWC_aF9nz5Za7pOtskVzQ4qjIGVHWFOkSW7ZssypsNxNSpMI#144.1

⁶⁰² Japan ramps up Support for Refugees and Asylum-Seekers in Algeria, United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (New York City) 23 March 2022. Access Date: 24 March 2022. <https://reliefweb.int/report/algeria/japan-ramps-support-refugees-and-asylum-seekers-algeria>

⁶⁰³ Japan's Shionogi signs government supply pact for pill to fight COVID, Reuters (Tokyo) 25 March 2022. Access Date: 27 March 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/japans-shionogi-signs-govt-supply-pact-oral-covid-drug-2022-03-25/>

⁶⁰⁴ GHIT Fund Announces New Investments: A Total of 740 million Yen for Malaria Drugs and Vaccine, Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (Tokyo) 31 March 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2022. <https://www.ghitfund.org/newsroom/press/detail/350/>

⁶⁰⁵ Japan looks to accelerate vaccine research and development with new government body, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 3 April 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2022. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2022/04/03/national/science-health/japan-vaccine-development-agency/>

⁶⁰⁶ Signing of a loan agreement to support COVID-19 responses in Africa (Private Sector Investment and Finance), Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 7 April 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2022. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2022/20220407_10e.html

⁶⁰⁷ World leaders commit US\$ 4.8 billion to help Break COVID Now, Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 8 April 2022. Access Date: 8 April 2022. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/world-leaders-commit-us-48-billion-help-break-covid-now>

On 20 April 2022, Japan contributed USD20.2 million to support the United Nations Reliefs and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.⁶⁰⁸ Of these, USD1.6 million goes towards the provision of “core services” like healthcare and education, while USD15 million will fund vital services (fuel, gas, hot or cold water etc.). Additionally, Japan has donated USD3.3 million for essential food and healthcare operations in Gaza amidst the blockade induced economic crisis there.

On 26 April 2022, Japan donated USD370,000 for public healthcare to displaced persons in Zimbabwe.⁶⁰⁹ 14,000 refugees in the Tongogara camp are expected to benefit from this funding. The contribution will be distributed by UNHCR and will improve access to basic and sanitary healthcare in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mental, sexual and reproductive healthcare will also be further enhanced.

On 12 May 2022, the Government of Japan announced that it will donate an additional USD500 million to COVAX and it will expand its Last One Mile support program by USD30 million to help lower and middle income countries in Latin America, Africa, and the Caribbean.⁶¹⁰ Additionally, Japan will donate USD300 million to CEPI for future pandemic preparedness programs and USD200 million to enhance vaccine and pharmaceutical production in Africa through the JICA.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly. Japan has done so through leading initiatives aimed at constructing a global health system, contributing important resources and technology to different countries to fight COVID-19 and funding relevant research to detect future threats.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Mohammad Rasoul Kailani

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

On 27 June 2021, the Department of Health and Social Care announced an additional GBP250 million for people in care homes or people cared for at home.⁶¹¹ The fund consists of GBP142.5 million in infection control funding and GBP108.8 million in testing. This fund will protect British citizens in adult social care by continuing to cover the cost of stringent infection prevention and control measures as societal restrictions ease, and by supporting regular rapid testing of staff to reduce COVID-19 transmission.

On 17 July 2021, the Department of Health and Social Care and the National Health Service (NHS) launched preparations to give enhanced flu vaccinations, as well as any COVID-19 vaccine boosters, as part of a larger

⁶⁰⁸ Japan contributes US\$ 20.2 Million to support UNRWA efforts to assist for Palestine refugees, UN Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (Amman) 20 April 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2022.

<https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/japan-contributes-us-202-million-support-unrwa-efforts-assist-palestine>
⁶⁰⁹Japan donates US\$370k towards public health access for refugees, asylum-seekers, Newsday (Harare) 26 April 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2022. <https://www.newsday.co.zw/2022/04/japan-donates-us370k-towards-public-health-access-for-refugees-asylum-seekers/>

⁶¹⁰ 2nd Global COVID-19 Summit Commitments, The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 May 2022. Access Date: 8 June 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/05/12/2nd-global-covid-19-summit-commitments/>

⁶¹¹ Adult social care given over £250 million extra to continue coronavirus (COVID-19) protections, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 27 June 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/adult-social-care-given-over-250-million-extra-to-continue-coronavirus-covid-19-protections>

fall and winter plan centered on saving as many lives as possible.⁶¹² Flu vaccinations will be offered to over 35 million individuals starting in September 2021, including all secondary school kids up to year 11 for the first time. Additionally, the Government of the United Kingdom is planning a COVID-19 vaccine booster program, and the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunization (JCVI) has issued interim guidance on who should be given priority for the possible third shot starting in September 2021. The JCVI's final advice will focus on ensuring that millions of people most vulnerable to COVID-19 will continue to have the protection they need ahead of the winter and against new variants.

On 28 July 2021, Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab announced that to combat the epidemic, the UK will begin shipping 9 million COVID-19 vaccinations throughout the world this week, including to Indonesia, Jamaica, and Kenya.⁶¹³ The UK will donate 5 million doses directly to the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) facility. COVAX will distribute them to low-income nations as soon as possible, using an equitable allocation method that prioritizes giving vaccines to those who need them the most. Another 4 million doses will be sent directly to developing nations. Indonesia will receive 600,000 doses, Jamaica will receive 300,000 doses, and Kenya will receive 817,000 doses, among other nations.

On 6 September 2021, Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Health Secretary Sajid Javid announced that the NHS would receive an extra GBP5.4 billion over the next six months to boost its response to COVID-19 and help reduce waiting lists.⁶¹⁴ This includes GBP1 billion to deal with the COVID-19 backlog, GBP2.8 billion to cover related expenditures including improved infection control measures to keep staff and patients safe from the virus, and GBP478 million to maintain the hospital discharge programme, which frees up beds.

On 7 September 2021, Prime Minister Johnson announced a GBP36 billion investment to reform the NHS and the adult social care system.⁶¹⁵ Over the next three years, the money will go toward clearing backlogs created by the COVID-19 pandemic, reforming adult social care, and bringing the health and social care systems closer together in the long run. Patients will benefit from the NHS's largest catch-up initiative in history, ensuring that they do not have to wait long for treatment and offering more appointments, treatments and operations.

On 30 September 2021, Secretary Javid announced an extra funding of GBP388.3 million to combat infection in social care settings, including GBP25 million to help care staff get COVID-19 and flu vaccinations over the winter months.⁶¹⁶ This will guarantee that social care workers who need to travel to get their COVID-19 or flu vaccines are paid their regular salaries and are reimbursed for travel expenses.

On 8 December 2021, Secretary Javid announced that thousands of the UK's most vulnerable patients would be among the first in the world to get life-saving, cutting-edge antiviral and antibody treatments.⁶¹⁷ People who are immunocompromised, cancer patients, or those with Down's syndrome who test positive for the COVID-19 virus will be able to obtain molnupiravir or the new monoclonal antibody Ronapreve outside of

⁶¹² Biggest flu programme in history to roll out for winter 2021, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 17 July 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/biggest-flu-programme-in-history-to-roll-out-for-winter-2021>

⁶¹³ UK begins donating millions of COVID-19 vaccines overseas, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 28 July 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-begins-donating-millions-of-covid-19-vaccines-overseas>

⁶¹⁴ Additional £5.4 billion for NHS COVID-19 response over next 6 months, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 6 September 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/additional-54-billion-for-nhs-covid-19-response-over-next-six-months>

⁶¹⁵ Record £36 billion investment to reform NHS and Social Care, Prime Minister's Office 10 Downing Street (London) 7 September 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/record-36-billion-investment-to-reform-nhs-and-social-care>

⁶¹⁶ Additional funding to help adult social care this winter, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 30 September 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/additional-funding-to-help-adult-social-care-this-winter>

⁶¹⁷ UK's most vulnerable people to receive life-saving COVID-19 treatments in the community, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-most-vulnerable-people-to-receive-life-saving-covid-19-treatments-in-the-community>

the study starting on 16 December 2021. This will guarantee that the treatments can help protect those who are most vulnerable to the virus during the winter months, reducing the number of hospitalizations and thus, pressures on the NHS. This is particularly important for people with weakened immune systems, for whom immunizations may be less effective.

On 9 December 2021, the Department of Health and Social Care announced the Workforce Recruiting and Retention Fund, which will help local governments manage adult social care workforce capacity issues in their region through recruitment and retention activities.⁶¹⁸ This is a GBP162.5 million grant that will be given to local governments in two installments. The first installment, worth GBP97.5 million (60 per cent), will be processed as quickly as possible and paid out in November 2021. The second installment, costing GBP65 million (40 per cent), will be paid in January 2022, subject to local governments submitting a report to the Department of Health and Social Care by 14 January 2022.

On 29 December 2021, the UK Government announced an extra GBP60 million top-up to local authorities to benefit the adult social care sector in 2022.⁶¹⁹ This is on top of the GBP388 million funding already being provided to prevent infections and provide testing. The additional GBP60 million will help protect both those who receive care, the family and friends who support those receiving care as well as the adult social care workforce. Additionally, local authorities can use the funding to support the sector and protect people from COVID-19 infections. This includes investing in improved ventilation, increasing the use of direct payments, which are offered to people with eligible social care needs so they have choice and control over their care and support arrangements or paying for COVID-19 sickness and self-isolation pay for staff.

On 30 December 2021, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss announced a UK emergency aid grant of up to GBP105 million to help vulnerable countries to combat the Omicron COVID-19 variant, with a special focus on African countries.⁶²⁰ The funding will help the world's poorest nations combat Omicron and other COVID-19 variations, benefiting millions of people by supporting steps to decrease transmission, scale up testing and increase oxygen supply.

On 13 January 2022, the UK Government extended the provision of free personal protective equipment (PPE) for another year for England's frontline health and social care workers.⁶²¹ The UK Government is also working on a new platform for procuring personal protective equipment that would be faster and easier to use. Health and social care providers have been asked to try out the new platform and contribute to the creation of a service that is tailored to their needs. Quick ordering options and status updates will be possible thanks to the new and upgraded features.

On 9 February 2022, the UK announced plans to improve links between the NHS provided healthcare and social care. This has been done in part because of over complexities within both systems that tends to create a

⁶¹⁸ Workforce Recruitment and Retention Fund for adult social care, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/workforce-recruitment-and-retention-fund-for-adult-social-care/workforce-recruitment-and-retention-fund-for-adult-social-care>

⁶¹⁹ An extra £60 million for adult social care over January 2022, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 29 December 2021. Access Date: 16 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/an-extra-60-million-for-adult-social-care-over-january-2022>

⁶²⁰ New support to help vulnerable countries tackle Omicron, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 9 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-support-to-help-vulnerable-countries-tackle-omicron>

⁶²¹ Free PPE for frontline extended for another year, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 13 January 2022. Access Date: 17 January 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/free-ppe-for-frontline-extended-for-another-year>

gap into which patients are falling.⁶²² The program will increase transparency and choices in health and social care, provide more personalized care and allow for earlier interventions.

On 16 February 2022, the National Institute for Health and Care Research tested the Omicron-specific Moderna COVID-19 vaccine on volunteers in clinical studies.⁶²³ This action is being taken to ensure that the UK continues to be prepared to tackle emerging variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

On 16 February 2022, the Health and Social Care Secretary Sajid Javid, opened two new GBP15 million accident and emergency clinics.⁶²⁴ These clinics in the North West and West Midlands were visited by the Secretary in hopes of fulfilling their commitments to leveling up healthcare across the country and investing in modern facilities.

On 8 March 2022, the UK pledged GBP160 million to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), at the Global Pandemic Preparedness Summit co-hosted by the UK.⁶²⁵

On 18 March 2022, the UK Government committed to an action plan made for improving outcomes for patients through better genomic testing and access to clinical trials.⁶²⁶ This announcement builds on top of work that already began in 2020 to create the world's most advanced genomic healthcare system, to deliver healthcare at a lower cost, to improve cancer diagnosis and treatment, to better early detection of disease and to encourage new and innovative industry partnerships.

On 19 March 2022, the UK Government donated GBP2 million medical items to Ukraine, such as essential medication, intensive care equipment, and wound packs.⁶²⁷ This is in response to the recent invasion of Ukraine by Russian troops and made to be a humanitarian effort from the UK.

On 11 March 2022, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, the Health Research Authority, the National Institute for Health Research and other major funders, regulators and research organizations in the UK came together to sign a new commitment that entails working with the public in order to strengthen public involvement in UK health and social care research.⁶²⁸

⁶²² Sajid Javid announced plan to further integrate NHS and social care announced 'to stop people falling into gaps,' The Independent (London) 9 February 2022. Access Date: 20 March 2022. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/health/nhs-social-care-white-paper-javid-b2010738.html>

⁶²³ UK volunteers to receive Moderna Omicron COVID-19 booster vaccine in clinical study, National Institute for Health Research (Leeds) 16 February 2022. Access Date: 20 March 2022. <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/news/uk-volunteers-to-receive-moderna-omicron-covid-19-booster-vaccine-in-clinical-study/29913>

⁶²⁴ Health and Social Care Secretary Sajid Javid opens new A&E, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 16 February 2022. Access Date: 20 March 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-and-social-care-secretary-sajid-javid-opens-new-ae>

⁶²⁵ Global community comes together in support of 100 Days Mission and pledges over \$1.5 billion for CEPI's pandemic-busting plan, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (Oslo) 8 March 2022. Access Date: 1 April 2022. https://cepi.net/news_cepi/global-community-comes-together-in-support-of-100-days-mission-and-pledges-over-1-5-billion-for-cepis-pandemic-busting-plan/

⁶²⁶ New 'Shared Commitments' set out priority actions across the UK to improve healthcare through genomics, News-Medical (Manchester) 18 March 2022. Access Date: 20 March 2022. <https://www.news-medical.net/news/20220318/New-Shared-Commitments-set-out-priority-actions-across-the-UK-to-improve-healthcare-through-genomics.aspx>

⁶²⁷ UK donates two million medical items to Ukraine, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 19 March 2022. Access Date: 20 March 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-donates-two-million-medical-items-to-ukraine>

⁶²⁸ Health and social care leaders unite to improve public involvement in research, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (London) 11 March 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-and-social-care-leaders-unite-to-improve-public-involvement-in-research>

On 22 April 2022, the Minister of State for Asia and the Middle East Amanda Milling committed an additional GBP15 million to support the Global Financing Facility, which aims to provide support for women and adolescent health.⁶²⁹

On 28 April 2022, the UK opened a consultation on mental health and well-being looking for public opinions on how they can help improve the mental health and general wellbeing outcomes in the UK.⁶³⁰ This call for evidence will assist the UK Government in shaping its 10-year plan to address unequal outcomes in the UK and reassess the governmental strategy for suicide prevention.

On 13 May 2022, the Department of Health and Social Care announced that it will fund projects with grants valued between GBP200,000 and GBP600,000 to support women experiencing reproductive health issues like menopause, fertility issues, miscarriage or pregnancy loss, menstrual health and gynecological conditions to remain in and return to the workplace.⁶³¹ The goal of these projects will be to help women feel supported in the workplace, break down taboos surrounding these topics, and help employers to support women manage their health needs in the workplace.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system by funding healthcare systems and resources for vulnerable populations and frontline workers. Additionally, the United Kingdom is prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease by investing in pandemic preparedness and disease prevention through boosting vaccinations and medical equipment domestically and internationally. Finally, the United Kingdom has taken action to detect emerging health threats quickly by supporting organizations such as CEPI.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sarah Rashid and Malek Izouine

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

On 3 September 2021, President Joe Biden released a plan for transforming the United States' capabilities to prepare for and respond rapidly and effectively to future pandemics and other high consequence biological threats.⁶³² This plan, titled "American Pandemic Preparedness: Transforming our Capabilities," is a core element of the larger strategy to bolster and resource pandemic readiness and biodefense. In addition, President Biden reaffirmed the need to strengthen the American public health system, reinvigorate the public health workforce and prevent the public health inequities exposed by COVID-19 pandemic.

⁶²⁹ Leaders respond as multiple crises threaten women and children's health in world's poorest countries – and warn further investment needed, Global Financing Facility (Washington D.C.) 22 April 2022. Access Date: 10 May 2022.

<https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/leaders-respond-multiple-crises-threaten-women-and-children%E2%80%99s-health-world%E2%80%99s-poorest-countries-%E2%80%93-and>

⁶³⁰ UK Government opens consultation on mental health and wellbeing, Dentons (London) 28 April 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2022. <https://www.dentons.com/en/insights/articles/2022/april/28/uk-government-opens-consultation-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing>

⁶³¹ VCSE Health and Wellbeing Fund 2022 to 2025: women's reproductive wellbeing in the workplace, Department of Health and Social Care (London) 13 May 2022. Access Date: 10 June 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vcse-health-and-wellbeing-fund-2022-to-2025-womens-reproductive-wellbeing-in-the-workplace/vcse-health-and-wellbeing-fund-2022-to-2025-womens-reproductive-wellbeing-in-the-workplace>

⁶³² Fact Sheet: Biden Administration to Transform Capabilities for Pandemic Preparedness, The White House (Washington D.C.) 3 September 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/09/03/fact-sheet-biden-administration-to-transform-capabilities-for-pandemic-preparedness/>

On 13 September 2021, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued an additional USD25.5 billion for COVID-19 relief funding.⁶³³ This relief funding includes USD8.5 billion for rural providers from the American Rescue Plan. The remaining USD17 billion goes to providers who can prove revenue losses associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 20 September 2021, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) awarded USD15 million in planning grants to 20 states to aid expansions of community-based mobile crisis intervention services for Medicaid beneficiaries.⁶³⁴ Grant funds can be used to support states' assessments of their current services; strengthen capacity and information systems; ensure that services can be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week; provide behavioral health care training for multi-disciplinary teams; or seek technical assistance to develop State Plan Amendments, demonstration applications and waiver program requests under the Medicaid program.

On 5 October 2021, United States Agency for International Development launched a new project working with partner countries and the international community to build better preparedness for global health threats in the future.⁶³⁵ The five-year USD125 million project, called the Discovery & Exploration of Emerging Pathogens - Viral Zoonoses (DEEP VZN) project, is expected to strengthen the current global capacity to better withstand another pandemic by helping to identify unknown viral threats.

On 21 October 2021, the House of Representatives passed the Strengthening America's Strategic National Stockpile Act of 2021 (H.R. 3635), which alters how the Strategic National Stockpile is administered and managed.⁶³⁶ This bill temporarily authorizes the HHS to transfer supplies from the national stockpile to any federal department or agency, until 30 September 2024. The HHS must also keep track and maintain domestic reserves of certain supplies by entering into cooperative agreements or partnerships with producers of such supplies. The HHS may also temporarily award grants to states to maintain stockpiles of certain medical equipment for use during any public health emergency.

On 19 November 2021, the Food and Drug Administration amended emergency use authorizations for the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines.⁶³⁷ Booster doses of both vaccines are now authorized for use for individuals aged 18 and older, at least six months after completion of the primary vaccination series of the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine or Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, or at least two months after completion of primary vaccination with the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 Vaccine.

On 30 November 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) asked labs around the United States to start tracking the Omicron variant of the COVID-19 virus.⁶³⁸ Various labs in the country have

⁶³³ HHS issues \$25.5B in COVID-19 relief funding aimed at rural, small providers, Healthcare Finance (Washington D.C.) 13 September 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.healthcarefinancenews.com/news/hhs-issues-255b-covid-19-relief-funding-aimed-rural-small-providers>

⁶³⁴ Biden-Harris Administration Awards \$15 Million to 20 States for Mobile Crisis Intervention, United States Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (Baltimore) 20 September 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/biden-harris-administration-awards-15-million-20-states-mobile-crisis-intervention>

⁶³⁵ USAID Announces New \$125 Million Project to Detect Unknown Viruses with Pandemic Potential, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 5 October 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-5-2021-usaid-announces-new-125-million-project-detect-unknown-viruses>

⁶³⁶ H.R. 3635: Strengthening America's Strategic National Stockpile Act of 2021, GovTrack (Washington D.C.) 20 October 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2022. <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/117/hr3635/summary>

⁶³⁷ Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: FDA Expands Eligibility for COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters, Food and Drug Administration (Silver Spring) 19 November 2021. Access Date: 14 December 2021. <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-expands-eligibility-covid-19-vaccine-boosters>

⁶³⁸ U.S. races to detect and track omicron, hampered by an unwieldy surveillance system, National Public Radio (Washington D.C.) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 15 December 2021. <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2021/11/30/1059917469/omicron-variant-us-detect-track>

ramped up their efforts in genetic sequencing to better track the variant, as well as potential breakthrough infections.

On 7 December 2021, the HHS announced that it was “taking steps to improve maternal health and support the delivery of equitable, high-quality care for pregnancy and postpartum care” through the CMS.⁶³⁹ The CMS is also encouraging states to take advantage of the American Rescue Plan’s option to provide 12 months postpartum coverage to pregnant individuals who are enrolled in Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program. These two programmes are designed to address ongoing disparities that exist in pregnancy-related morbidity and mortality.

On 7 December 2021, the CDC awarded a total of USD22 million to 27 organizations around the world to combat antimicrobial resistance and other healthcare threats through the launch of two new networks: the Global Action in Healthcare Network and the Global AR Laboratory and Response Network.⁶⁴⁰ These two networks will collaborate to tackle threats identified in the CDC’s Antibiotic Resistance Threats in the United States 2019 Report and other healthcare-related infections. The organizations that will be receiving funding include: American Society for Microbiology; American Type Culture Collection; American University of Beirut; Association of Public Health Laboratories); Columbia University; Duke University; Family Health International; FIOTEC; Global Scientific Solutions for Health; Health Security Partners; Johns Hopkins University; Koperasi Jasa Institut Riset Eijkman; Northwestern University; Pakistan National Institute of Health; Pan American Health Organization; The Ohio State University; U.S. Civilian Research & Development Foundation; Universidad de Desarrollo; University of Campinas; University of Cantabria; University of Nairobi; University of Oxford; University of Pennsylvania; Vanderbilt University; Washington State University; Washington University in St. Louis; and World Health Organization.

On 20 December 2021, the HHS announced USD282 million in investments for suicide prevention and crisis care services, through its Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.⁶⁴¹ This funding is for assisting the transition of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline exit disclaimer icon from its current 10-digit number to a three-digit dialing code: 988. Around USD105 million of this funding will be used to increase staffing across states’ local crisis call centres.

On 20 December 2021, the HHS announced that 15 digital health startups are joining the 2022 PandemicX Accelerator cohort, specifically to address health inequities and send resources to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.⁶⁴² The HHS advised that “throughout the program, champions in government, mentors, judges, and other stakeholders will listen and offer public information for startups as they develop targeted action plans to address each challenge statement” and put plans into action.

⁶³⁹ HHS Announces Efforts to Help Expand Nationwide Access and Coverage for High-quality Maternal Health Services, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington D.C.) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/12/07/hhs-announces-efforts-help-expand-nationwide-access-coverage-high-quality-maternal-health-services.html>

⁶⁴⁰ CDC Launches Two Global Networks, Awards \$22 Million to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance and Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Atlanta) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/p1207-global-action-healthcare-network.html>

⁶⁴¹ HHS Announces Critical Investments to Implement Upcoming 988 Dialing Code for National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (Rockville) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/202112201100>

⁶⁴² HHS Announces PandemicX Accelerator with Health IT Cohort to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington D.C.) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/12/20/hhs-announces-pandemicx-accelerator-with-health-it-cohort-address-covid-19-health-disparities.html>

On 28 December 2021, the HHS announced that it was working with states to encourage access to Medicaid services for people with mental health and substance use disorder crises.⁶⁴³ This commitment was part of the Biden-Harris Administration’s priorities to make major investments in behavioral health and crisis care services.

On 28 December 2021, the HHS announced that the Biden-Harris Administration would make health coverage more accessible and affordable for millions of Americans in 2023 through the Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters 2023 Proposed Rule.⁶⁴⁴ The commitment was part of the Administration’s “ongoing efforts to ensure an equitable health care system” by helping to improve access to healthcare for low-income and medically underserved consumers, particularly through essential community providers.

On 2 February 2022, the US Government renewed its commitment to health systems and institutions, to advancing global health security, addressing infectious disease burden of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis and accelerating efforts toward the Sustainable Development Agenda.⁶⁴⁵ The US Government announced that in the coming year it will “continue to advance global health priorities” and continue supporting the World Health Organization’s (WHO) activities.⁶⁴⁶

On 16 February 2022, the White House announced that it was issuing a formal Request for Information from the COVID-19 testing industry aimed at improving testing capacity and manufacturing in the coming year.⁶⁴⁷ The information will be used to prepare for future testing needs and for developing a long-term disease testing strategy.

On 1 March 2022, the White House announced that it was planning on investing in programs that would bring providers into behavioural health, promote the wellbeing of frontline health professionals and others that were intended to generally strengthen mental health in local communities.⁶⁴⁸ The Fiscal Year 2023 budget will allocate USD700 million into programs which provide training, scholarships and loan repayment to individuals who pursue mental health and substance abuse disorder clinical training, and bring their knowledge to rural communities. The White House also announced that the HHS will dispense USD225 million in training programs to increase the number of healthcare providers for behavioural health support.

On 2 March 2022, the White House announced an overview of President Biden’s National COVID-19 Preparedness Plan.⁶⁴⁹ The President’s plan includes protecting against and treating COVID-19, preparing for

⁶⁴³ New Medicaid Option Promotes Enhanced Mental Health, Substance Use Crisis Care, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington D.C.) 28 December 2021. Access Date: 9 January 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/12/28/new-medicaid-option-promotes-enhanced-mental-health-substance-use-crisis-care.html>

⁶⁴⁴ HHS to Make Coverage More Accessible and Affordable for Millions of Americans in 2023, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington, D.C.) 28 December 2021. Access Date: 8 January 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2021/12/28/hhs-to-make-coverage-more-accessible-and-affordable-for-millions-of-americans-in-2023.html>

⁶⁴⁵ Fact Sheet: The Biden Administration’s Commitment to Global Health, The White House (Washington D.C.) 2 February 2022. Access Date: 22 March 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/02/02/fact-sheet-the-biden-administrations-commitment-to-global-health/>

⁶⁴⁶ Fact Sheet: The Biden Administration’s Commitment to Global Health, The White House (Washington D.C.) 2 February 2022. Access Date: 22 March 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/02/02/fact-sheet-the-biden-administrations-commitment-to-global-health/>

⁶⁴⁷ Press Briefing by White House COVID-19 Response Team and Public Health Officials, The White House (Washington D.C.) 16 February 2022. Access Date: 22 March 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/press-briefings/2022/02/16/press-briefing-by-white-house-covid-19-response-team-and-public-health-officials-83/>

⁶⁴⁸ Fact Sheet: President Biden to Announce Strategy to Address Our National Mental Health Crisis, As Part of Unity Agenda in his First State of the Union, The White House (Washington D.C.) 1 March 2022. Access Date: 22 March 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/03/01/fact-sheet-president-biden-to-announce-strategy-to-address-our-national-mental-health-crisis-as-part-of-unity-agenda-in-his-first-state-of-the-union/>

⁶⁴⁹ Press Briefing by White House and HHS Public Health Officials, March 2, 2022, The White House (Washington D.C.) 2 March 2022. Access Date: 22 March 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/press-briefings/2022/03/02/press-briefing-by-white-house-and-hhs-public-health-officials-march-2-2022/>

any potential new variants, preventing economic and school shutdowns and vaccinating as many people as possible around the world to save lives. An additional goal of President Biden's plan is to address the "long-term impacts of COVID, including Long COVID and mental health." A nationwide tour to advocate for mental health and offer their expertise to behavioral services was planned to also be launched during the week.

On 8 March 2022, the US announced a USD150 million donation over three years to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) for the development of strategies to prevent future pandemics.⁶⁵⁰

On 11 March 2022, the US renewed its commitment to strengthening global health systems by signing an updated Memorandum of Cooperation with the African Union (AU).⁶⁵¹ Together, the US and the AU plan to continue their efforts to meet the objectives of the Sustainable Development Agenda.

On 12 March 2022, the White House submitted a formal request to Congress for USD22.5 billion, to increase the funding for President Biden's National COVID-19 Preparedness Plan.⁶⁵² In his State of the Union speech, President Biden called for extra financing, which he articulated in a 96-page plan. In addition, the White House staff has made over two dozen calls and discussions with members of Congress regarding this emergency financing request. The funding is crucial for vaccines, treatments, tests and other humanitarian aid worldwide.

On 18 March 2022, HHS introduced three funding opportunities to strengthen mental health and substance use services for those at risk of or living with HIV/AIDS through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).⁶⁵³ As part of HHS's revised Overdose Prevention Strategy, the funding possibilities total USD43.7 million dollars and demonstrate the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to delivering accessible, evidence-based, culturally appropriate drug use prevention, treatment, and recovery services to all. The funding will be distributed this Fall 2022.

On 22 March 2022, HHS and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announced an additional USD413 million in Provider Relief Fund (PRF) payments to over 3,600 healthcare providers across the country.⁶⁵⁴ Since November 2021, almost USD12 billion in PRF Phase Four payments have been given to more than 82,000 providers throughout all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and five territories. This comes on top of HRSA's disbursement of American Rescue Plan Rural payments totalling almost USD7.5 billion to more than 44,000 providers across the country over the last four months.

⁶⁵⁰ USAID announces \$150 million to stimulate and accelerate the development of vaccines and other countermeasures against biological threats, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 8 March 2022. Access Date: 9 May 2022. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/mar-8-2022-usaid-announces-150-million-stimulate-and-accelerate-development>

⁶⁵¹ Fact Sheet: United States Partnership with the African Union – Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, The White House (Washington D.C.) 11 March 2022. Access Date: 22 March 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/03/11/fact-sheet-united-states-partnership-with-the-african-union-africa-centres-for-disease-control-and-prevention/>

⁶⁵² Background Press Call by Senior Administration Officials on COVID Response and Funding Needs, The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 March 2022. Access Date: 22 April 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/press-briefings/2022/03/15/background-press-call-by-senior-administration-officials-on-covid-response-and-funding-needs/>

⁶⁵³ HHS Announces Nearly \$44 Million to Strengthen Mental Health and Substance Use Services for Populations at Risk for or Living with HIV/AIDS, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington D.C.) 18 March 2022. Access Date: 22 April 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/03/18/hhs-announces-nearly-44-million-strengthen-mental-health-substance-use-services-populations-risk-living-hiv-aids.html>

⁶⁵⁴ HHS Distributing an Additional \$413 Million in Provider Relief Fund Payments to Health Care Providers Impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington D.C.) 22 March 2022. Access Date: 22 April 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/03/22/hhs-distributing-additional-413-million-provider-relief-fund-payments-health-care-providers-impacted-by-covid-19-pandemic.html>

On 4 May 2022, the HHS, through the SAMHSA, announced USD55 million in funding for the Tribal Opioid Response grant program.⁶⁵⁵ This is in line with the HHS' plan to develop an evidence-based program to deal with the ongoing issue of opioid and stimulant misuse among American tribal communities

On 25 March 2022, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) pledged USD28 million to Zambia to support Global VAX activities such as improving the accessibility of vaccination sites, cold chain supply, logistics and solving the issues of vaccine confidence and demand.⁶⁵⁶

On 31 March 2022, the CMS announced a USD110 million grant to enhance access to home and community-based services under Medicaid's Money Follows the Person (MFP) programme.⁶⁵⁷ MFP, which was first approved in 2005, has provided states nearly USD4.06 billion to help people transition out of facilities and back into their homes and communities. Individual awards of up to USD5 million are available under the new Notice of Funding Opportunity for more than 20 states and territories that are not already participating in MFP. This funding will assist early planning and execution to get state/territory programmes up and running, ensuring that more Medicaid recipients may access high-quality, cost-effective and person-centered services in the setting of their choice.

On 13 April 2022, HHS awarded almost USD16 million to improve Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Programs through HRSA.⁶⁵⁸ Through seven contracts supporting eight states, these awards will fund data and technology innovations that promote better mother and child health outcomes in states and communities, with an emphasis on reducing health disparities.

On 15 April 2022, HHS announced the availability of USD226.5 million in American Rescue Plan money to begin the Community Health Worker Training Program under HRSA.⁶⁵⁹ This new initiative will boost the number of community health workers, who play a vital role in linking individuals to care, such as COVID care, mental health and drug use problem prevention, treatment, and recovery programmes, chronic disease treatment and other key health services.

On 21 April 2022, HHS and HRSA announced nearly USD90 million in American Rescue Plan funding to support new data-driven efforts to identify and reduce health disparities for HRSA Health Center Program-supported health centres and look-alikes (HRSA-designated health centres).⁶⁶⁰ The HRSA's updated data collection and reporting project, known as Uniform Data System Patient-Level Submission, aims to gather

⁶⁵⁵ HHS Announces \$55 Million Funding Opportunity for Latest Iteration of its Tribal Opioid Response Grant Program, Department of Health and Human Services (Washington D.C.) 4 May 2022. Access Date: 11 May 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/05/04/hhs-announces-55-million-funding-opportunity-latest-iteration-its-tribal-opioid-response-grant-program.html>

⁶⁵⁶ U.S. Government's Initiative for Global Vaccine Access (Global Vax) to boost COVID-19 Vaccination, United Embassy in Zambia (Lusaka) 25 March 2022. Access Date: 1 April 2022. <https://zm.usembassy.gov/u-s-governments-initiative-for-global-vaccine-access-global-vax-to-partner-with-zambia-to-boost-covid-19-vaccination/>

⁶⁵⁷ HHS to Provide \$110 Million to Strengthen Safety Net for Seniors and People with Disabilities, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington D.C.) 31 March 2022. Access Date: 22 April 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/03/31/hhs-provide-110-million-strengthen-safety-net-for-seniors-people-with-disabilities.html>

⁶⁵⁸ HHS Awards \$16 Million to Strengthen the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, Announces \$9 Million Available to Expand State Maternal Health Innovation and Implementation Program, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington D.C.) 13 April 2022. Access Date: 20 April 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/04/13/hhs-awards-16-million-strengthen-maternal-infant-early-childhood-home-visiting-program-announces-9-million-expand-state-maternal-health-innovation-implementation-program.html>

⁶⁵⁹ HHS Announces \$226.5 Million to Launch Community Health Worker Training Program, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington D.C.) 15 April 2022. Access Date: 20 April 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/04/15/hhs-announces-226-million-launch-community-health-worker-training-program.html>

⁶⁶⁰ HHS Announces \$90 Million to Support New Data-Driven Approaches for Health Centers to Identify and Reduce Health Disparities, Department of Health & Human Services (Washington D.C.) 21 April 2022. Access Date: 21 April 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/04/21/hhs-announces-90-million-support-new-data-driven-approaches-health-centers-identify-reduce-health-disparities.html>

more and better data on socioeconomic determinants of health while simplifying and enhancing data quality reporting for health centres. This initiative will allow health centres to adjust their efforts to enhance health outcomes, advance health equity and more accurately address the needs of specific populations or patients.

On 22 April 2022, the CMS announced a proposed rule to revise Medicare enrollment and eligibility regulations, which would increase Medicare coverage and improve health equity.⁶⁶¹ This proposed regulation would give Medicare coverage in the month after enrollment, decreasing the uninsured period and expanding access through Medicare special enrollment periods. It would also allow qualified beneficiaries to get Medicare Part B coverage without being penalised for being late in enrolling. This proposed regulation would make it easier for people to sign up for Medicare and minimise coverage delays.

On 25 April 2022, the White House announced new initiatives to expand access to COVID-19 treatments and raise patient and provider awareness.⁶⁶² These efforts will assist to enhance and expand the infrastructure to guarantee that lifesaving COVID-19 medicines are rapidly supplied throughout the country, widely available, and easily accessible. At the same time, ensuring that this expansion continues, and that more and better therapies are available would necessitate greater financing from Congress.

On 28 April 2022, the HHS through the CMS announced that it will put into place new measures that will take effect in 2023 to help Americans access more affordable health insurance coverage.⁶⁶³ The actions taken aim to advance standardized plan options, implement new network adequacy requirements, increase value of coverage for consumers, increase access for consumers and remove barriers to access, expand access to essential community providers and streamline operations.

On 12 May 2022, the US announced it will donate an additional USD200 million to the new pandemic preparedness and global health security financial fund at the World Bank, bringing its total contribution to this initiative to USD450 million.⁶⁶⁴

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to build a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats. The new DEEP VZN project promises much in the global effort to develop better means of identifying unknown viral threats, which should help to prevent another pandemic. Additionally, the Biden-Harris Administration's decision to provide more affordable and accessible coverage for low-income and medically underserved Americans is another significant step in the fight against global disease and inequity. Finally, the CDC's move to award USD22 million to various health research organizations around the world will prove to be pivotal in combating healthcare threats.

Thus, the United States has received a score of +1.

Analysts: Miranda Bocci and Sarah Rashid

⁶⁶¹ CMS Proposes Updates to Reduce Barriers to Coverage, Simplify Medicare Enrollment and Expand Access, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (Baltimore) 22 April 2022. Access Date: 22 April 2022. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-proposes-updates-reduce-barriers-coverage-simplify-medicare-enrollment-and-expand-access>

⁶⁶² Background Press Call by Senior Administration Officials on New Actions to Increase Access to COVID-19 Treatments and Boost Patient and Provider Awareness, The White House (Washington D.C.) 25 April 2022. Access Date: 25 April 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/press-briefings/2022/04/25/background-press-call-by-senior-administration-officials-on-new-actions-to-increase-access-to-covid-19-treatments-and-boost-patient-and-provider-awareness/>

⁶⁶³ HHS Announces New Policy to Make Coverage More Accessible and Affordable for Millions of Americans in 2023, United States Department of Health & Human Services (Washington D.C.) 28 April 2022. Access Date: 11 May 2022. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/04/28/hhs-announces-new-policy-make-coverage-more-accessible-affordable-for-millions-americans-in-2023.html>

⁶⁶⁴ 2nd Global COVID-19 Summit Commitments, The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 May 2022. Access Date: 8 June 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/05/12/2nd-global-covid-19-summit-commitments/>

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease and to detect emerging health threats quickly.

On 15 June 2021, the European Investment Bank partnered with the Government of Barbados to provide EUR50 million for COVID-19 related emergency healthcare including treatment capacity for COVID-19 patients, lab capacity and equipment, quarantine facilities, IT equipment, vaccine storage, track and tracing, and logistics, transport and monitoring activities.⁶⁶⁵ This will ensure that vaccines are kept viable for longer and are accessible to more people, in an effort to promote greater vaccinations throughout the country.

On 22 June 2021, the European Commission endorsed the European Parliament and the Council of the EU's political agreement on the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Regulation.⁶⁶⁶ The Regulation would increase the availability of novel health technologies for patients in the European Union, such as innovative medicines and certain medical equipment, while also ensuring resource efficiency and improving HTA quality throughout the EU. Medicinal items, medical equipment, and diagnostics are examples of health technology. The Regulation will need to be formally adopted by the Council and the European Parliament before it enters into force.

On 23 June 2021, the European Commission launched the Coronavirus Global R&I Collaboration Portal, a new research and innovation site that connects scholars and research projects working on the socioeconomic elements of the COVID-19 pandemic from across the world.⁶⁶⁷ The portal reaffirms Europe's commitment to a degree of global openness that is required to foster excellence, pool resources for scientific advancement and create thriving innovation ecosystems.

On 30 June 2021, the European Commission launched the first flagship initiative executed under Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, called the Knowledge Centre on Cancer.⁶⁶⁸ The Knowledge Centre is a new online platform that collects evidence and coordinates initiatives to combat Europe's leading cause of death among people under the age of 65. It will compile the most up-to-date cancer research, offer healthcare recommendations and quality assurance schemes and track and forecast cancer incidence and death trends across the EU. It is also a platform where everyone fighting cancer can exchange best practices, communicate and organize to maximize collective knowledge and evidence-based research.

On 9 July 2021, Team Europe and Senegal launched along with other assistance measures, the Institut Pasteur in Dakar, to support large-scale vaccine manufacturing.⁶⁶⁹ The new production unit is expected to lessen Africa's 99 per cent reliance on imported vaccines and boost the continent's future pandemic resilience. The agreement is part of a major package of investment in vaccine and pharmaceuticals production in Africa announced by Team Europe in May 2021, which brings together the European Commission, EU Member States, the European Investment Bank, and other financial institutions, in accordance with the EU's Africa Strategy, the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (Africa CDC) strategy and the Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing's strategy.

⁶⁶⁵ Barbados: The EIB contributes USD 60 million to the Government of Barbados' national pandemic response, European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 15 June 2021. Access Date: 3 March 2022. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2021-199-the-european-investment-bank-contributes-usd-60-million-to-the-government-of-barbados-national-pandemic-response>

⁶⁶⁶ Commission welcomes the move towards more innovative health technologies for patients, European Commission (Brussels) 22 June 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3142

⁶⁶⁷ Coronavirus: Commission launches the Coronavirus Global R&I Collaboration Portal, European Commission (Brussels) 23 June 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021. https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/coronavirus-commission-launches-coronavirus-global-ri-collaboration-portal-2021-jun-23_en

⁶⁶⁸ Europe's Beating Cancer Plan: Commission launches Knowledge Centre to fight cancer, European Commission (Brussels) 30 June 2021. Access Date: 12 January 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3263

⁶⁶⁹ Republic of Senegal and Team Europe agree to build a manufacturing plant to produce vaccines against COVID-19 and other endemic diseases, European Commission (Brussels) 9 July 2021. Access Date: 13 January 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_3562

On 22 July 2021, the European Commission shortlisted 11 new projects worth EUR120 million from Horizon Europe, the largest European research and innovation initiative (2021-2027), for assisting and allowing critical research on the COVID-19 virus and its variations.⁶⁷⁰ This funding is part of a broad range of research and innovation efforts to combat the coronavirus, and it supports the European Commission's overall strategy to prevent, mitigate and react to the virus and its variants' impact, as outlined in the HERA Incubator, a new European bio-defense preparedness plan. 312 research teams from 40 countries are involved in the 11 short-listed projects, including 38 members from 23 countries outside the EU.

On 16 September 2021, the European Commission launched the European Health Emergency preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) to recognize, prevent and respond quickly to public health emergencies.⁶⁷¹ HERA will gather intelligence and establish the required reaction capabilities to predict threats and possible health emergencies. When a disaster strikes, HERA will oversee the research, manufacture and distribution of medications, vaccinations and other medical countermeasures like personal protective equipment that were frequently absent during the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 14 October 2021, the European Commission launched the gradual implementation of the new In Vitro Diagnostic (IVD) Medical Devices Regulation, to avoid disruptions in the supply of these critical healthcare devices.⁶⁷² The IVD Regulation alters the regulatory landscape for in vitro diagnostic medical devices such as human immunodeficiency virus testing, pregnancy tests and SARS-CoV-2 tests. Conformity assessment bodies or "notified bodies," will play a bigger role in the EU market, as they will independently evaluate whether IVD medical devices meet the safety and performance criteria.

On 22 October 2021, the European Commission established a portfolio of 10 possible COVID-19 medicines.⁶⁷³ The list was compiled using independent scientific advice and focuses on COVID-19 therapy options that are expected to be approved and hence available on the European market in the near future. If the European Medicines Agency (EMA) confirms their safety and effectiveness, these treatments will be available to patients across the EU as soon as feasible.

On 28 October 2021, the European Parliament and the Council of the EU reached a political agreement on the EMA's strengthened role in preparing for and responding to health crises.⁶⁷⁴ The revised EMA mandate will enable the agency to closely monitor and mitigate medicine and medical device shortages during major events and public health emergencies, as well as play a key role in facilitating the development and faster approval of medicines that could treat or prevent diseases that cause public health crises.

On 24 November 2021, the European Commission announced the allocation of Recovery Assistance for Cohesion and the Territories of Europe (REACT-EU) resources for 2022.⁶⁷⁵ All 27 EU Member States currently have around EUR11 billion available for Cohesion policy programming. These funds will be added

⁶⁷⁰ Coronavirus: Commission steps up research funding with €120 million for 11 new projects to tackle the virus and its variants, European Commission (Brussels) 22 July 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_3803

⁶⁷¹ European Health Emergency preparedness and Response Authority (HERA): Getting ready for future health emergencies, European Commission (Brussels) 16 September 2021. Access Date: 10 December 2021.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_4672

⁶⁷² Public health: Commission proposes a progressive roll-out of the new In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices Regulation, European Commission (Brussels) 14 October 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5209

⁶⁷³ European Health Union: Commission establishes portfolio of 10 most promising treatments for COVID-19, European Commission (Brussels) 22 October 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5366

⁶⁷⁴ European Health Union: Commission welcomes agreement on a stronger European Medicines Agency, European Commission (Brussels) 28 October 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_5599

⁶⁷⁵ €11 billion REACT-EU funds allocation now available for 2022, European Commission (Brussels) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6103

to the almost EUR40 billion set aside in 2021. EU Member States will be able to continue implementing recovery measures through improving healthcare, business resilience, and assistance for the most vulnerable populations, while also contributing to green and digital initiatives for a smart, sustainable, and coherent recovery. REACT-EU resources are aimed at addressing the evolving socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 30 November 2021, the European Parliament and the Council of the EU agreed on the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control's (ECDC) expanded mission mandate.⁶⁷⁶ The expanded ECDC mission will enable the agency to play a more active role in assisting the EU and its Member States in the prevention and control of communicable disease risks, as well as improving European readiness for future health issues.

On 13 December 2021, the European Commission adopted the Regulation on HTA, a deliverable of the EU Pharmaceutical Strategy.⁶⁷⁷ The new laws will make essential and novel health technologies more readily available, such as innovative medications, certain medical devices, medical equipment and preventative and treatment strategies. This Regulation will also ensure resource efficiency, improve the quality of HTA throughout the EU, prevent national HTA organizations and industry from duplicating efforts, reassure businesses and secure the long-term viability of EU HTA cooperation.

On 17 December 2021, the European Commission proposed to safeguard the long-term supply of pharmaceuticals from the United Kingdom to Northern Ireland, as well as to address ongoing supply issues in Cyprus, Ireland and Malta.⁶⁷⁸ This implies that, in the case of the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland, the same medications will be accessible in Northern Ireland at the same time as they are in the rest of the UK, but particular criteria will prevent UK-approved medicines from entering the European Single Market.

On 20 December 2021, the Council of the EU obtained a political agreement on the Regulation authorizing the HERA to activate immediate and targeted medical countermeasures during public health emergencies in the EU.⁶⁷⁹ The procurement and purchase of crisis-relevant medical countermeasures and raw materials, the activation of reserved industrial facilities for flexible vaccine and therapeutic manufacturing, the formation of a Health Crisis Board with Member States and the formation of rapid monitoring mechanisms are among these measures.

On 12 January 2022, the European Commission proposed to turn the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction into the European Union Drugs Agency in order to improve the mission of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction.⁶⁸⁰ The proposed reforms will allow the agency to play a greater role in detecting and resolving existing and future illicit drug concerns in the EU. This involves providing notifications when harmful chemicals are intentionally supplied for illegal use, monitoring the addictive use of substances taken alongside illegal narcotics and establishing EU-wide preventive efforts. The EU Drugs Agency will also take on a larger international role.

⁶⁷⁶ European Health Union: Commission welcomes agreement on a stronger European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, European Commission (Brussels) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6435

⁶⁷⁷ Health Technology Assessment: Commission welcomes the adoption of new rules to improve access to innovative technologies, European Commission (Brussels) 13 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6771

⁶⁷⁸ EU-UK relations: Commission delivers on promise to ensure continued supply of medicines to Northern Ireland, as well as Cyprus, Ireland and Malta, European Commission (Brussels) 17 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6911

⁶⁷⁹ European Health Union: An empowered HERA in future health emergencies, European Commission (Brussels) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 14 January 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_21_7024

⁶⁸⁰ Commission proposes stronger mandate for EU Drugs Agency as illicit market proliferates, European Commission (Brussels) 12 January 2022. Access Date: 17 January 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_302

On 19 January 2022, the European Commission finalized payments of about EUR385.5 million in EU Solidarity Fund (EUSF) assistance to 19 countries in response to the coronavirus health emergency.⁶⁸¹ Medical assistance, vaccine purchase and administration, personal protective equipment and medical devices, healthcare costs, laboratory analyses, population emergency support and disease prevention, monitoring and control measures are all covered by the EUSF's financial support, ensuring public health.

On 28 January 2022, the European Commission announced that the assessment and monitoring of clinical trials across the EU will be standardized, particularly through the European Medicines Agency's Clinical Trials Information System.⁶⁸² This Regulation will enhance clinical trial conduct in the EU by ensuring the highest levels of participant safety and increasing trial information availability.

On 8 February 2022, the European Commission raised another EUR5 billion in NextGenerationEU funding on behalf of the EU. The 30-year bond, which was issued as an addition to an existing EU-Bond and is due on 6 July 2051, raises the total capital obtained under the programme to EUR78.5 billion.⁶⁸³ The effective deployment of the funds will contribute to EU member states' recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 10 February 2022, the new HERA unveiled its first year work plan, with a budget of EUR1.3 billion in 2022 to prevent, prepare for and respond quickly to cross-border health catastrophes.⁶⁸⁴ HERA may now begin implementing activities to increase preparation and response capacities inside the EU, address vulnerabilities and strategic dependencies and contribute to reinforcing the global health emergency architecture, after the acceptance of the 2022 work plan by the HERA Board. The goals for HERA will be to obtain and stockpile medical countermeasures for various public health threats, fund research into new medical countermeasures and technologies against these threats and build a network of manufacturing sites which can be utilized at a moment's notice in case of an emergency.

On 15 February 2022, Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen participated in the COVID-19 Global Action Meeting with a small group of ministers to discuss an enhanced coordinated COVID-19 response.⁶⁸⁵ The goal is to assist in the coordination of actions and mobilization of resources in six priority areas related to the global COVID-19 response in order to end the pandemic by the end of 2022: vaccinating more people, bolstering supply chain resilience, addressing information gaps, supporting health care workers, ensuring availability of treatments and testing where it is most needed and strengthening the global health security architecture.

On 15 February 2022, the European Commission, alongside Belgium, France, Germany, the European Medicines Agency and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, announced a EUR100 million investment over the next five years into the recently established African Medicines Agency and other regional medicines

⁶⁸¹ EU Cohesion policy: Almost €385.5 million from the EU Solidarity Fund to 19 countries to tackle the coronavirus health emergency, European Commission (Brussels) 19 January 2022. Access Date: 18 March 2022.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_395

⁶⁸² European Health Union: new rules to improve clinical trials in the EU, European Commission (Brussels) 28 January 2022.

Access Date: 18 March 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_22_658

⁶⁸³ NextGenerationEU: European Commission raises an additional €5 billion in support for Europe's recovery, European Commission

(Brussels) 8 February 2022. Access Date: 18 March 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_845

⁶⁸⁴ European Health Union: HERA launches first work plan with €1.3 billion for preparedness and response to health emergencies in 2022, European Commission (Brussels) 10 February 2022. Access Date: 19 March 2022.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_928

⁶⁸⁵ Press release on the EU participation to the small group of foreign ministers meeting to coordinate enhanced COVID-19 response, European Union (Brussels) 15 February 2022. Access Date: 20 March 2022.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_1061

regulatory initiatives.⁶⁸⁶ The agency would help expand the local manufacturing of vaccines, medicines and health tools.

On 2 March 2022, the European Commission authorized, under EU State aid regulations, EUR687 million in Italian assistance to compensate providers of commercial long-distance rail passenger services for harm incurred between 1 July 2020 and 30 April 2021 as a result of the coronavirus pandemic and the restrictive policies that Italy was required to follow to restrict the virus's dispersion.⁶⁸⁷

On 24 March 2022, the European Commission and the World Health Organization (WHO) announced a collaboration to provide equitable access to safe, effective and high-quality vaccines, medicines and health technology in Sub-Saharan Africa.⁶⁸⁸ The EU–WHO collaboration will help the African Union meet its goal of expanding local vaccine manufacturing in and for Africa. It will also help the African Union accomplish its goals in areas such as jobs and growth, commerce and scientific collaboration. The EU budget has allocated EUR24.5 million to fund concrete projects to create resilient health systems, universal health coverage and health security in Africa.

On 6 April 2022, the European Commission established strategic reserves of response capacity through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism to increase the EU's readiness and response to public health hazards such as chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) threats.⁶⁸⁹ This includes a EUR540.5 million rescEU strategic stockpile created in partnership with HERA. This stockpile will include equipment and medications, vaccines and other treatments to treat individuals exposed to CBRN emergency agents, as well as a rescEU decontamination reserve that will supply decontamination equipment and professional reaction teams.

On 8 April 2022, the European Commission pledged EUR75 million at the 2022 Break COVID Now Summit held in Geneva.⁶⁹⁰ The donation will go towards Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and its work with the COVAX initiative to procure vaccines and assist in administration of COVID-19 vaccines in lower income countries. In addition, the EIB committed an additional EUR1 billion in front-loaded financing to support Gavi.

On 12 April 2022, the European Commission embraced the Council of the EU's swift adoption of proposals to ensure the continued long-term supply of medicines from the United Kingdom to Northern Ireland, as well as to solve outstanding supply issues in Cyprus, Ireland and Malta, which are marketplaces that have previously been provided through or by the United Kingdom.⁶⁹¹

On 27 April 2022, the European Commission proposed a set of actions to manage the next stages of the COVID-19 pandemic and prepare for future pandemics.⁶⁹² Some of the actions proposed to member states

⁶⁸⁶ Ahead of EU–AU Summit, African medicines regulators receive boost of more than 100 million euros from Team Europe and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, European Commission (Brussels) 15 February 2022. Access Date: 21 March 2022.

⁶⁸⁷ State aid: Commission approves €687 million Italian scheme to compensate commercial rail passenger operators for the damage suffered due to the coronavirus pandemic, European Commission (Brussels) 2 March 2022. Access Date: 21 April 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_1262

⁶⁸⁸ EU strengthens partnership with WHO to boost local manufacturing and access to vaccines, medicines and health technologies in Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 24 March 2022. Access Date: 21 April 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_1970

⁶⁸⁹ EU develops strategic reserves for chemical, biological and radio-nuclear emergencies, European Commission (Brussels) 6 April 2022. Access Date: 23 April 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_2218

⁶⁹⁰ World leaders commit US\$ 4.8 billion to help Break COVID Now, Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance (Geneva) 8 April 2022. Access Date: 7 May 2022. <https://www.gavi.org/news/media-room/world-leaders-commit-us-48-billion-help-break-covid-now>

⁶⁹¹ EU-UK relations: European Union ensures continued supply of medicines to Northern Ireland, as well as Cyprus, Ireland and Malta, European Commission (Brussels) 12 April 2022. Access Date: 25 April 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_2385

⁶⁹² COVID-19: Commission calls on Member States to step up preparedness for the next pandemic phase, European Commission (Brussels) 27 April 2022. Access Date: 10 May 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_2646

by the European Commission are to increase vaccination and boosting, set up integrated surveillance systems, invest in the recovery of healthcare systems especially mental health services and support the next generation of vaccine and therapeutic development.

On 12 May 2022, the European Union announced a EUR300 million donation for vaccination support at the second Global COVID-19 summit.⁶⁹³ An additional EUR100 million will be donated to the ACT-A initiative and USD450 million will be donated in collaboration with the World Bank's pandemic preparedness and global health security financial intermediary fund.

On 20 May 2022, the European Commission announced an additional EUR22 million in humanitarian aid to support the Rohingya refugees being hosted in Bangladesh, to help address their need for health services, clean water, shelter and proper nutrition.⁶⁹⁴

On 7 June 2022, the European Commission proposed its 2023 budget, among which healthcare investment featured prominently, including EUR732 million for the EU4Health program which ensures comprehensive health responses for people's needs and EUR147 million as part of the rescEU mechanism for future health crisis preparation.⁶⁹⁵

The European Union has fully complied with building a resilient, integrated and inclusive global health system and is prepared and equipped to prevent the causes and escalation of disease by investing in both domestic and international pandemic preparedness, medical and pharmaceutical programs. Additionally, the European Union has taken strong action to be able to detect emerging communicable and non-communicable health threats quickly by expanding research and investments for emergency preparedness, health technology and medical resources.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sarah Rashid

⁶⁹³ 2nd Global COVID-19 Summit Commitments, The White House (Washington D.C.) 12 May 2022. Access Date: 8 June 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/05/12/2nd-global-covid-19-summit-commitments/>

⁶⁹⁴ Humanitarian aid: EU releases additional €22 million in Bangladesh and Myanmar, European Commission (Brussels) 20 May 2022. Access Date: 10 June 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_3208

⁶⁹⁵ EU budget 2023: Empowering Europe to continue shaping a changing world, European Commission (Brussels) 7 June 2022. Access Date: 10 June 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_3473