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The G7 Research Group presents the

## 2022 G7 Elmau Summit Final Compliance Report

28 June 2022 to 17 April 2023

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“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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## 8. Health: Pandemic Preparedness

“[In order to avoid devastating consequences of future pandemics, regain lost ground and attain universal health coverage (UHC) per the 2030 Agenda, we reaffirm our commitment to] ... step up our efforts in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response under the One Health approach.”

*Elmau G7 Summit Communiqué*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average		+0.50 (75%)	

### Background

The unremitting presence of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has propelled countries to implement measures to prevent future pandemics and protect the health and safety of all countries. The importance of health and safety has been a pertinent topic in G7 summits, dating back to the response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic at the 1987 conference in Venice.<sup>2250</sup> The primary objective during this summit was to prevent the spread of AIDS by “strengthening existing organizations by giving them full political support and by providing them with the necessary financial, personnel and administrative resources.”<sup>2251</sup> The G7 sought the help of the World Health Organization (WHO), expressing that “the World Health Organization is the best forum for drawing together international efforts on a worldwide level to combat AIDS.”<sup>2252</sup> Ensuing, the G7 and the WHO have worked in tandem to establish quicker and more effective responses to emerging health threats across the globe.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the consequences of not being fully prepared for a global outbreak. As of 25 September 2022, approximately 6.5 million died worldwide from the coronavirus.<sup>2253</sup> On 27 April 2022, the WHO released a policy brief titled “Strengthening pandemic preparedness planning for respiratory pathogens.” The document outlined core elements that states are encouraged to undertake in order to be fully prepared in the event of another pandemic. These elements are to a) develop an integrated approach to respiratory pathogen pandemic preparedness planning and b) enhance national sub-national functional

<sup>2250</sup> Chairman’s statement on AIDS, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/aids.html>

<sup>2251</sup> Chairman’s statement on AIDS, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/aids.html>

<sup>2252</sup> Chairman’s statement on AIDS, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 June 1987. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/1987venice/aids.html>

<sup>2253</sup> Coronavirus death toll, Worldometer (Dover) 26 September 2022. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

capacities for preparedness.<sup>2254</sup> The policy brief also details actions that states should undertake as they initiate or update their national and sub-national pandemic preparedness planning processes.<sup>2255</sup>

From 1980 to 2009, the G8 concentrated its health-related decision-making on the following core issues: HIV/AIDS, multiple diseases, medicine, polio, diseases in general, malaria, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and research.<sup>2256</sup> Of its 206 health commitments made from 1983 to 2006, the G8 has complied with its health governance pledge with an overall level of +53 per cent.<sup>2257</sup> Compliance has been led by the above-average performance of the European Union at +80 per cent, Canada at +75 per cent, the United States at +73 per cent, Britain at +67 per cent and France at 53 per cent.<sup>2258</sup>

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 possibility of human transmission and the eventuality of a pandemic.<sup>2259</sup> The summit focused on least developed countries, specifically in Africa, where there is limited access to healthcare resources, information, and a workforce trained to fight against an outbreak. The G8 leaders committed to strengthening the Global Network for Surveillance and Monitoring of Infectious Diseases as well as increasing global preparedness for the possibility of a human pandemic.

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 leaders committed to taking “concrete actions for advancing global health.”<sup>2260</sup> In response to the emerging health crises of the Ebola and Zika viruses, G7 leaders agreed to improve the prevention of, detection of and response to public health emergencies. This commitment involved recognition of the WHO playing a key role in leading and coordinating emergency health plans in the event of an outbreak.

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, G7 leaders committed to “strengthening health systems, preparedness for, and a prompt, effective and coordinated response to public health emergencies and long-term challenges.”<sup>2261</sup>

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, G7 leaders committed to “supporting strong, sustainable health systems that promote access to quality and affordable healthcare for all.”<sup>2262</sup> Further, G7 leaders recognized the role of the WHO in health emergencies, as well as the need for sustainable financing through the Contingency Fund for Emergencies and the World Bank’s Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility.

At the 2020 USA Virtual Summit, G7 leaders pledged “to protect the health and safety of everyone in our countries,” a promise that came after the coronavirus pandemic.<sup>2263</sup> Their pledge included enhancing efforts to

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<sup>2254</sup> Strengthening pandemic preparedness planning for respiratory pathogens: policy brief, World Health Organization (Geneva) 27 April 2022. Access Date: 25 September 2022. [https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Policy\\_brief-pandemic\\_preparedness-2022.1](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Policy_brief-pandemic_preparedness-2022.1)

<sup>2255</sup> Strengthening pandemic preparedness planning for respiratory pathogens: policy brief, World Health Organization (Geneva) 27 April 2022. Access Date: 25 September 2022. [https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Policy\\_brief-pandemic\\_preparedness-2022.1](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Policy_brief-pandemic_preparedness-2022.1)

<sup>2256</sup> Health: Accountability: The G8’s Compliance record from 1975 to 2009, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 28 December 2009. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton-guebert-health-091228.pdf>

<sup>2257</sup> Compliance with Health Commitments: The G8 Record, 1975-2007, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 28 December 2009. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/compliance-health-080620.pdf>

<sup>2258</sup> Compliance with Health Commitments: The G8 Record, 1975-2007, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 28 December 2009. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/compliance-health-080620.pdf>

<sup>2259</sup> Fight Against Infectious Disease, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 July 2006. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2006stpetersburg/infdis.html>

<sup>2260</sup> Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <https://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html>

<sup>2261</sup> G7 Taormina Leaders’ Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 27 May 2017. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2021taormina/communique.html>

<sup>2262</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>2263</sup> G7 Leaders’ Statement, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 March 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2020usa/covid-200316.html>

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.”

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, G7 leaders committed to take action on disease prevention by stating, “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.”<sup>2264</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

At the 2022 Elmau summit, leaders committed to “step up [their] efforts in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response under the One Health approach.”<sup>2265</sup>

“Reaffirm” is understood to mean “‘affirm again’ whereby affirm is to assert strongly, state as fact, confirm or ratify a judgment.”<sup>2266</sup>

“Step up” should be interpreted “to mean progression or movement forward. It does not include past or previous performance.”<sup>2267</sup> Past measures should not be of central importance but can be included if further or additional attention is applied.

The term “prevent” is understood to mean “to keep from happening or existing; to hold or to keep back.”<sup>2268</sup> Specifically, this refers to the causes (origins) and escalation (worsening) of disease. “Disease” is understood to mean “a condition of the living animal or plant body or of one of its parts that impairs normal functioning and is typically manifested by distinguishing signs and symptoms.”<sup>2269</sup> In this commitment, this refers exclusively to communicable diseases. Communicable diseases include infectious diseases of pathogenic origins (i.e. SARS-CoV-2, hepatitis, HIV, tuberculosis, et cetera).<sup>2270</sup> 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.”<sup>2271</sup>

“Pandemic preparedness” is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as “a continuous process of planning, exercising, revising and translating into action national and sub-national pandemic preparedness and response plans.”<sup>2272</sup>

The “One Health approach” is an “integrated, unifying approach to balance and optimize the health of people, animals and the environment.”<sup>2273</sup> COVID-19 is just one example of a disease caused by viruses that have

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<sup>2264</sup> Health: Disease Prevention, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 23 June 2022. Access Date: 25 September 2022.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2021compliance-final/03-2021-G7-final-compliance-disease-prevention.pdf>

<sup>2265</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué, 2022 Elmau Summit (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 24 September 2022.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communication.html>

<sup>2266</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2267</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\\_Coding\\_Manual\\_2020.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf)

<sup>2268</sup> Prevent-verb, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2021. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/prevent>

<sup>2269</sup> Disease, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 8 October 2022.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/disease>

<sup>2270</sup> Communicable diseases, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 25 September 2022.

<https://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/communicable-diseases>

<sup>2271</sup> 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>

<sup>2272</sup> Pandemic Preparedness, World Health Organization (Geneva) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2022.

<https://www.who.int/europe/news-room/fact-sheets/item/pandemic-preparedness>

<sup>2273</sup> One Health, World Health Organization (Geneva) 21 September 2017. Access Date: 24 September 2022.

<https://www.who.int/news-room/questions-and-answers/item/one-health>

jumped from animal hosts into the human population. Hence, the One Health initiative “recognizes [that] the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider environment (including ecosystems) are closely linked and interdependent,” being necessary to unite experts from multiple disciplines to deliver outcomes that better prepare states as well as international organizations to prevent, predict, detect, and respond to global health threats.<sup>2274</sup>

This commitment requires G7 members to take action concerning pandemic prevention, preparedness, surveillance and response in all three spheres of the One Health approach: 1) human health, 2) animal health, and 3) environmental health.<sup>2275</sup> Strong actions include, but are not restricted to, supporting the Quadripartite One Health Alliance is a collaboration between the WHO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); providing further technical, political or financial support to healthcare and pandemic workforce; monitoring the emergence of zoonotic diseases; reducing Antimicrobial resistance (AMR); developing climate-resilient health systems and incorporating health considerations when developing climate policies; reducing the unsustainable footprint healthcare systems can have; as well as improving food safety and security.<sup>2276</sup>

Full compliance, or a score of +1, is awarded to G7 members that demonstrate strong national or international action in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response under all three spheres of the One Health approach (human health, animal health and environmental health).

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, is awarded to G7 members that demonstrate strong national or international action in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response in at least one of the three spheres of the One Health approach (human health, animal health and environmental health) or who demonstrate weak action in all three spheres. Weak actions are defined as less substantial initiatives, such as verbal reaffirmations of existing commitments, with no efforts to further improve or develop the existing commitments. Examples of weaker compliance would be reaffirming prior commitments without taking new actions, attending meetings about the topic, verbal affirmations of support for improvement within healthcare systems without any concrete plans initiated and supporting international legislation without committing to specific actions.

Non-compliance, or a score of –1, will be assigned to G7 members that fail to meet the aforementioned criteria.

### Scoring Guidelines

–1	The G7 member has NOT taken strong action in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response under ANY spheres of the One Health approach (human health, animal health and environmental health).
0	The G7 member has taken strong action in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response in at least ONE sphere of the One Health approach (pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response), OR the G7 member has taken weak action in ALL three spheres.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response under ALL spheres of the One Health approach (human health, animal health and environmental health).

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<sup>2274</sup> ‘One health’ approach critical to tackle health inequality and emerging disease, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) 6 April 2021. Access Date: 9 October 2022.

<https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/one-health-approach-critical-tackle-health-inequality-and-emerging-diseases>

<sup>2275</sup> ‘One health’ approach critical to tackle health inequality and emerging disease, United Nations Environment Programme (Nairobi) 6 April 2021. Access Date: 9 October 2022.

<https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/one-health-approach-critical-tackle-health-inequality-and-emerging-diseases>

<sup>2276</sup> G7 Health Ministers’ Communiqué, G7 Germany (Berlin) 20 May 2022. Access Date: 9 October 2022.

<https://www.g7germany.de/resource/blob/974430/2042058/5651daa321517b089cdccaffd1e37a1/2022-05-20-g7-health-ministers-communiqué-data.pdf>

## Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to step up their pandemic preparedness and response under the One Health Approach.

On 1 August 2022, Minister of Health Jean-Yves Duclos announced a total of CAD17.9 million for the distribution of HIV self-testing kits and other methods of HIV testing that will improve access for populations most affected by HIV across the country, including people living in northern, remote or isolated communities.<sup>2277</sup> The provision of self-testing kits removes the barriers that prevent people from seeking testing and treatment, hence limits the spread of HIV.

On 8 August 2022, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Marie-Claude Bibeau announced an investment of up to nearly CAD3 million to three national organizations to enhance animal welfare and tracking in the country.<sup>2278</sup> This funding allows organizations to improve animal health by drawing on new research to update industry standards for the care and handling of animals and evaluating technology to more efficiently trace farm animals in the production system in the event of a disease outbreak.

On 26 August 2022, Minister Bibeau announced an investment of up to CAD45.3 million to enhance efforts to prevent African swine fever (ASF) from entering Canada and prepare for a potential outbreak.<sup>2279</sup> The funding will be critical in reducing the risk of introduction and spread of ASF in Canada. This prevents and controls the spread of foreign animal diseases into and within the country, thus solidifying the One Health Approach.

On 8 September 2022, Canada hosted a six-week international virtual symposium focused on COVID-19 emerging science to connect experts from around the world that have the skills and safety measures in place to work with the most serious and deadly human and animal diseases.<sup>2280</sup> With more than 1,000 registrants at the symposium, Canadian and international scientific experts from academia, government and the private sector, shared scientific knowledge about COVID-19, each contributing towards the common goal of understanding this evolving pandemic.

On 21 September 2022, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced a CAD1.21 billion contribution to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis, and Malaria.<sup>2281</sup> This funding will help to mitigate the devastating impact of COVID-19 on efforts to combat the three diseases; save 20 million lives by 2025; and get health systems back on track to eradicate AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria by 2030.

On 29 September 2022, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Francis Drouin, announced an investment of up to CAD1.4 million to support Redcliff Cypress Regional Waste Management

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<sup>2277</sup> Government of Canada is making HIV testing more accessible across Canada, Public Health Agency of Canada (Montreal) 1 August 2022. Access Date: 28 October 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2022/08/government-of-canada-is-making-hiv-testing-more-accessible-across-canada.html>

<sup>2278</sup> Government of Canada invests in improving animal welfare, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Ottawa) 8 August 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2022/08/government-of-canada-invests-in-improving-animal-welfare.html>

<sup>2279</sup> Government of Canada announces up to \$45.3 million to enhance African swine fever prevention and preparedness, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Quebec) 26 August 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2022/08/government-of-canada-announces-up-to-453-million-to-enhance-african-swine-fever-prevention-and-preparedness.html>

<sup>2280</sup> 2022 BSL4ZNet International Conference, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (Ottawa) 18 October 2022. Access Date: 28 October 2022. <https://inspection.canada.ca/science-and-research/science-collaborations/biosafety-level-4-zoonotic-laboratory-network/2022-bsl4znet-international-conference/eng/1620997638094/1620997884945>

<sup>2281</sup> Canada announces a \$1.21-billion contribution to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria and additional support to mitigate the impact of COVID-19, Global Affairs Canada (New York City) 21 September 2022. Access Date: 28 October 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/09/canada-announces-a-121-billion-contribution-to-fight-hiv-aids-tuberculosis-and-malaria-and-additional-support-to-mitigate-the-impact-of-covid-19.html>

Authority and CAD10 million to support PurEnergy Inc.'s waste emissions reduction initiatives.<sup>2282</sup> These investments will aid these facilities in reducing carbon dioxide and methane emissions by diverting organic waste from a landfill with the help of a compost treatment facility. Furthermore, the funds will construct a waste diversion facility to divert organic waste from a landfill and process it using anaerobic digestion to produce biogas and fertilizer.<sup>2283</sup>

On 7 October 2022, Health Canada authorized a second bivalent COVID-19 vaccine booster.<sup>2284</sup> This is an updated version of the Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine, targeting the Omicron BA.4 and BA.5 subvariants and is authorized for use as a booster dose in individuals 12 years of age and older. Vaccination is effective at preventing severe illness, hospitalization and death from COVID-19.

On 14 October 2022, Minister of International Development Harjit S. Sajjan announced an investment of over CAD11.1 million through the Regional Innovation Ecosystem program for two projects at the University of British Columbia, which will focus on advancing the delivery and efficacy of mRNA vaccine technology.<sup>2285</sup>

On 21 October 2022, Minister of Labour Seamus O'Regan Jr announced an investment of up to CAD37,000 from the Low Carbon Economy Fund to support Sea-Force Hyperbaric Inc. with a fuel-switching project to reduce emissions by replacing three oil furnaces with air-to-water heat pumps at the Sea-Force Hyperbaric Inc. Reception Facility.<sup>2286</sup>

On 16 November 2022, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada launched the African Swine Fever prevention and preparedness program which allows eligible organizations to apply for funding under the Government of Canada's African Swine Fever Industry Preparedness Program (ASFIPP).<sup>2287</sup> The program was put in place to aid Canada's pork industry prepare for the possible transmission of African swine fever within the country.

On 6 December 2022, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault alongside Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy for the Province of British Columbia, announced an investment of up to CAD600,000 from the Low Carbon Economy Fund to help the Kwadacha and Heiltsuk Nations create and expand their organic processing capacity.<sup>2288</sup> This project will help in reducing emissions by composting

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<sup>2282</sup> Government of Canada invests \$11.4 million in climate action projects to reduce emissions from wood waste, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Gatineau) 29 September 2022. Access Date: 31 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2022/09/government-of-canada-invests-114million-in-climate-action-projects-to-reduce-emissions-from-food-waste.html>

<sup>2283</sup> Government of Canada invests \$11.4 million in climate action projects to reduce emissions from wood waste, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Gatineau) 29 September 2022. Access Date: 31 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2022/09/government-of-canada-invests-114million-in-climate-action-projects-to-reduce-emissions-from-food-waste.html>

<sup>2284</sup> Health Canada authorizes COVID-19 vaccine booster targeting the Omicron BA.4/BA.5 subvariants, Health Canada (Ottawa) 7 October 2022. Access Date: 28 October 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2022/10/health-canada-authorizes-covid-19-vaccine-booster-targeting-the-omicron-ba4ba5-subvariants.html>

<sup>2285</sup> Backgrounder: Government of Canada announces funding for advancements in mRNA vaccine technology at the University of British Columbia, Pacific Economic Development Canada (Ottawa) 14 October 2022. Access Date: 28 October 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/pacific-economic-development/news/2022/09/backgrounder-government-of-canada-announces-funding-for-advancements-in-mrna-vaccine-technology-at-the-university-of-british-columbia.html>

<sup>2286</sup> Canada and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador invest in heat pumps with Sea-Force Hyperbaric Inc., Environment and Climate Change Canada (St. John's) 21 October 2022. Access Date: 31 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2022/10/canada-and-the-government-of-newfoundland-and-labrador-invest-in-heat-pumps-with-sea-force-hyperbaric-inc.html>

<sup>2287</sup> Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada launches African Swine Fever prevention and preparedness program, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Ottawa) 16 November 2022. Access Date: 31 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2022/11/agriculture-and-agri-food-canada-launches-african-swine-fever-prevention-and-preparedness-program.html>

<sup>2288</sup> Canada and British Columbia invest in climate action projects in two First Nations communities, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Victoria) 6 December 2022. Access Date: 31 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2022/12/canada-and-british-columbia-invest-in-climate-action-projects-in-two-first-nations-communities.html>



organic waste within the communities, reducing the amount of waste that needs to be transported from these communities to landfills, as well as lead to fewer greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>2289</sup>

On 7 February 2023, the Government of Canada announced an investment of CAD196.1 billion over ten years, including CAD46.2 billion in new funding, for provinces and territories to improve health care services for Canadians.<sup>2290</sup> This funding will be distributed partly through the Canada Health Transfer (CHT) and partly through tailor-made bilateral agreements with provinces and territories that allow for flexibility for jurisdictional health care system needs.

On 9 February 2023, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault announced an investment of CAD2.1 million over three years to support projects to improve our knowledge and management of issues related to wildlife diseases.<sup>2291</sup> These projects include the development of new tools to track wildlife health and the risks of emerging infectious diseases. Work is also planned for identifying and predicting the impacts of climate change on wildlife health and will include avenues for action. In addition, education and outreach programs will be provided to non-governmental organizations, Indigenous groups, the provinces and territories, and Canadians, to encourage their participation in wildlife health surveillance.

On 23 February 2023, the Government of Canada announced an agreement to invest CAD73.97 billion in federal funding, including CAD8.413 billion for a new bilateral agreement focusing on the four shared health care priorities and CAD776 million through the immediate, one-time CHT top-up to address urgent needs, especially in pediatric hospitals and emergency rooms, and long wait times for surgeries.<sup>2292</sup> This will further help provide improvements in health care, which includes access to high-quality family health services when they need them, including in rural and remote areas, and for underserved communities; a resilient and supported health workforce that provides them high-quality, effective, and safe health care services; access to timely, equitable, and quality mental health, substance use and addictions services; and access to their own electronic health information that is shared between the health professionals they consult.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to step up their pandemic preparedness and response under the One Health Approach. Canada has greatly invested in the research and development of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, funded the health systems to enhance public health, improved animal health and improved the access of self-testing services across the country.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Czarina Leung*

### **France: 0**

France has partially complied with its commitment to step up their pandemic preparedness and response under the One Health approach.

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<sup>2289</sup> Canada and British Columbia invest in climate action projects in two First Nations communities, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Victoria) 6 December 2022. Access Date: 31 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2022/12/canada-and-british-columbia-invest-in-climate-action-projects-in-two-first-nations-communities.html>

<sup>2290</sup> Working together to improve health care for Canadians, Health Canada (Ottawa) 7 February 2023. Access Date: 7 March 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2023/02/working-together-to-improve-health-care-for-canadians.html>

<sup>2291</sup> The Government of Canada to invest over \$2.1 million in wildlife disease surveillance across the country, Environment and Climate Change Canada (Gatineau) 9 February 2023. Access Date: 7 March 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2023/02/the-government-of-canada-to-invest-over-21-million-in-wildlife-disease-surveillance-across-the-country.html>

<sup>2292</sup> The Government of Canada and Ontario Reach Agreement in Principle to Improve Health Services for Canadians, Health Canada (Ottawa) 23 February 2023. Access Date: 7 March 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2023/02/the-government-of-canada-and-ontario-reach-agreement-in-principle-to-improve-health-services-for-canadians.html>

On 31 July 2022, Minister of Higher Education and Research Sylvie Retailleau and Minister of Health and Prevention François Braun, created a Health Risk Monitoring and Anticipation Committee (COVARS).<sup>2293</sup> COVARS is a committee of scientists, doctors and professors using their collective knowledge to work together in order to prepare for, anticipate and respond to pandemics and other global health and security threats. COVARS' mandate conforms with the One Health approach as the committee is working to promote health and disease prevention in humans as well as animals and the environment.

On 29 August 2022, Minister of State for Development Francophonie and International Partnerships Chrysoula Zacharopoulou met with health civil society organizations and the Ambassador of World Health, Stephanie Sedoux and asserted France's belief that health is a global public good.<sup>2294</sup> Minister Zacharopoulou highlighted France's commitment to continuing to strengthen healthcare systems globally.

On 3 October 2022, France introduced the fall vaccination campaign which offers bivalent mRNA COVID-19 boosters for vulnerable populations in France.<sup>2295</sup> This effort demonstrates France's commitment to stopping the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic domestically by protecting those most at risk through vaccination.

On 16 October 2022, Minister Braun attended the three-day World Health Summit in Berlin and asserted France's support for the amendment of the International Health Regulations to better respond to future pandemics and allow for the creation of a new international agreement on pandemics.<sup>2296</sup> These initiatives will bolster internationally unified pandemic preparedness and response strategies.

On 18 October 2022, Christophe Béchu, Minister for Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion, expressed support for the combined "call for projects" of two French research platforms, the Green Data for Health platform, and the Health Data Hub.<sup>2297</sup> Under the auspices of the Ministry for Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion, these two platforms are calling for projects that will make environmental health data easier to find and more complete, ultimately enabling more fulsome research in the study of environmental health. Researching the intersection between health and the environment is critical to protecting and promoting global health under the One Health approach.

On 27 December 2022, the Ministry of Health and Prevention reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening global health systems under the One Health Approach, emphasizing "the interdependence between human health, animal health and that of ecosystems" in an update on the Ministry of Health and Prevention website

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<sup>2293</sup> Installation du Comité de veille et d'anticipation des risques sanitaires (COVARS), Ministère de la Santé et de la Prévention (Paris) 29 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-depresse/article/installation-du-comite-de-veille-et-d-anticipation-des-risques-sanitaires>

<sup>2294</sup> Santé mondiale – Rencontre de Chrysoula Zacharopoulou avec les organisations de la société civile en santé (29 août 2022), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 29 August 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022.

<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/politique-etrangere-de-la-france/developpement/priorites-sectorielles/la-sante/actualites-etevenements-lies-a-la-sante/article/sante-mondiale-rencontre-de-chrysoula-zacharopoulou-avec-les-organisations-de>

<sup>2295</sup> Covid-19 : Lancement de la campagne de vaccination automnale pour les publics fragiles, Ministère de la Santé et de la Prévention (Paris) 29 September 2022. Access Date: 22 October 2022. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/covid-19-lancement-de-la-campagne-de-vaccination-automnale-pour-les-publics>

<sup>2296</sup> Retour sur le Sommet mondial de la Santé : « Faire le choix de la santé », à l'échelle mondiale et au-delà des crises (16 – 18 octobre, Berlin), Ministère de la Santé et de la Prévention (Paris) 18 October 2022. Access Date: 22 October 2022.

<https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/ministere/europe-et-international/actualites-europeennes-et-internationales/article/retour-sur-le-sommet-mondial-de-la-sante-faire-le-choix-de-la-sante-a-l-echelle>

<sup>2297</sup> Lancement de l'appel à projets "La donnée pour la recherche et l'innovation en santé environnement" du Health Data Hub et du Green Data for Health, Ministère de la Transition écologique et de la Cohésion des territoires (Paris) 18 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/lancement-lappel-projets-donnee-recherche-et-linnovation-en-santeenvironnement-du-health-data-hub>

for World Pandemic Preparedness Day.<sup>2298</sup> France highlighted their continued commitment to global health partnerships, including the Preventing Zoonotic Disease Emergence Initiative and the World Health Organization's Pandemic Fund, European health partnerships, including the European Commission's Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority, and domestic health security and pandemic preparedness.

On 17 January 2023, the French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety and the National Agency for Veterinary Medicine met with several organizations in the poultry sector, veterinary professionals, and academics for the first committee meeting of the vaccination action plan for avian influenza.<sup>2299</sup> In 2021-2022 over 21 million animals infected by avian influenza were slaughtered in France, making this virus a significant challenge to biosecurity and animal health. The vaccination action plan committee is working to develop and implement effective vaccination against avian influenza in France by September 2023, promoting animal health and wellbeing as outlined in the One Health Approach.

On 22 January 2023, Francois Braun, the French Minister of Health, and Karl Lauterbach, the German Minister of Health, reinforced their health partnership at the Franco-German Council of Ministers, identifying several key areas where they will work together to achieve better health outcomes.<sup>2300</sup> They highlighted that France and Germany will collaborate to implement three healthcare projects: achieving better healthcare outcomes in the shared region through cross-border agreements, bilaterally promoting public health in accordance with the One Health Approach, and working together to advance health data.

On 30 January 2023, Minister Braun restated his commitment to restructuring the French ministry of health to include a branch focused on preparation and intervention for health crises.<sup>2301</sup> Minister Braun acknowledged the likelihood of future global health crises and asserted that the creation of an autonomous crisis management branch of the ministry of health will conform with the objectives laid out under the One Health Approach.

On 20 February 2023, Minister of State for Development Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, Francophonie and International Partnerships, visited the Institut Pasteur, a French center for biomedical research, to discuss the future of pandemic preparedness and highlight the importance of "international cooperation on health and research."<sup>2302</sup> During this visit, she reaffirmed France's commitment to their public health partnership with Africa, especially in the area of African vaccine production. This affirmation of France's support for global health demonstrates the member state's commitment to universal health and pandemic prevention and preparedness under the One Health Approach.

On 3 March 2023, Minister for Agriculture and Food Sovereignty Marc Fesneau, Minister for Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion Christophe Béchu, and Minister Delegate to the Minister of Health and Prevention in charge of Territorial Organization and Health Professions Agnès Firmin le Bodo, declared the

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<sup>2298</sup> Journée mondiale de préparation aux pandémies, 27.12.2022 : le point sur la mobilisation de la France, Ministère de la Santé et de la Prévention (Paris) 27 December 2022. Access Date: 29 December 2022. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/ministere/europe-et-international/actualites-europeennes-et-internationales/article/journee-mondiale-de-preparation-aux-pandemies-27-12-2022-le-point-sur-la>

<sup>2299</sup> Avian influenza: kick off for work on the "Vaccination" Action Plan, Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la Souveraineté Alimentaire (Paris) 24 February 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 07 March 2023. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/influenza-aviaire-top-depart-pour-les-travaux-du-plan-daction-vaccination>

<sup>2300</sup> Communiqué conjoint des ministres franco-allemand de la santé, Ministère de la Santé et de la Prévention (Paris) 23 January 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 08 March 2023. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/communiqué-conjoint-des-ministres-franco-allemand-de-la-sante>

<sup>2301</sup> Vœux aux forces vives de François Braun, ministre de la Santé et de la Prévention, Ministère de la Santé et de la Prévention (Paris) 30 January 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: March 11, 2023. <https://sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/discours/article/voeux-aux-forces-vives-de-francois-braun-ministre-de-la-sante-et-de-la>

<sup>2302</sup> Chrysoula Zacharopoulou's visit to the Institut Pasteur (20 February 2023), Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 20 February 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 08 March 2023. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/priority-sectors/health/news/article/global-health-chrysoula-zacharopoulou-s-visit-to-the-institut-pasteur-20-feb>

creation of France’s “One Health Institute” at the International Agriculture Show.<sup>2303</sup> The ‘One Health Institute’ will act as France’s expert body of knowledge on the One Health approach, helping both the public and private sectors to incorporate the One Health Approach into their mandates and business-plans. The creation of the “One Health Institute” seeks to address gaps in knowledge about the One Health approach, educating on the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health, to ultimately prevent future crises like the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 23 March 2023, France’s Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs pledged to provide financial support to the World Health Organization to help control the spread of cholera in Malawi.<sup>2304</sup> This announcement came as part of an emergency relief initiative to help rebuild Mozambique and Malawi following the devastation of Tropical Hurricane Freddy. Helping to stop the spread of diseases in the international community is critical to France’s commitment to the One Health Approach and achieving universal healthcare.

France has partially complied with its commitment to step up their pandemic preparedness and response under the One Health approach. France has reiterated the importance of strengthening global healthcare partnerships to prepare for future health crises. It has demonstrated this commitment through a cross-border health partnership with Germany, as well as continued partnership with Africa, specifically support of African vaccine production. France is a world leader in medical research. It continues to advance knowledge and share expertise on the One Health Approach through its “One Health Institute.” France’s vaccination plan for avian influenza illustrates its efforts to improve biosecurity, animal health and welfare. However, France has not made any new financial commitments to step up its pandemic preparedness and response internationally. Moreover, it lacks initiatives to protect environmental health, which is integral to pandemic preparedness as well as the protection of human and animal health.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Tegan Hore-Kelman*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to step up their efforts in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response under the One Health approach.

On 8 July 2022, the German government passed an amendment to its energy policy which affected five laws.<sup>2305</sup> The Renewable Energy Act, Offshore Wind Act, Onshore Wind Act, Energy Industry Act and Federal Nature Conservation Act were made to increase their individual capacities and efficiency. The Offshore Wind Act increased its tender volumes which speeds up the construction of offshore wind farms and the Federal Nature Conservation Act which simplified its verification measures to allow for the more rapid implementation of “wind energy projects.” These measures will ensure that Germany expands its use of renewable energies.

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<sup>2303</sup> Creation of an institute to train public and private decision-makers in the “one health” approach, Ministère de l’Agriculture et de la Souveraineté Alimentaire (Paris) 03 March 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 09 March 2023. <https://agriculture.gouv.fr/sia2023-creation-dun-institut-pour-former-les-decideurs-publics-et-privés-lapproche-une-seule-sante>

<sup>2304</sup> Malawi - Madagascar – Mozambique – French emergency relief for Mozambique and Malawi in the wake of Tropical Cyclone Freddy, Ministère de l’Europe et des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 23 March 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 15 April 2023. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/malawi/events/article/malawi-madagascar-mozambique-french-emergency-relief-for-mozambique-and-malawi>

<sup>2305</sup> Germany remains committed to its existing climate and power sector decarbonisation targets, Energiepartnerschaft (Beijing) 8 July 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://www.energypartnership.cn/home/current-changes-in-germanys-energyand-climate-policy/>

On 18 July 2022, at the 13th annual Petersberg Climate Dialogue, Chancellor Olaf Scholz affirmed the significance of international climate protection and pledged to reduce German carbon dioxide emissions and become one of the first climate-neutral industrial countries by 2045.<sup>2306</sup>

On 8 September 2022, the Development Minister Svenja Schulze announced that Germany will contribute EUR1.3 billion between 2023 and 2025 to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.<sup>2307</sup> The funding was allocated towards ending AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria as public health threats by 2030. In addition, funding will be used to build more resilient healthcare systems to handle future pandemics.

On 12 October 2022, Germany's cabinet agreed to adopt the Act on Animal Husbandry Labelling.<sup>2308</sup> This bill would eventually force all food producers to disclose information on the treatment of animals used. Germany is the first country in the EU with mandatory labels, ranging from free-range, to organic production.

On 18 October 2022, Minister Schulze stated that Germany will contribute EUR3.5 million to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.<sup>2309</sup> The initiative aims to eradicate polio through vaccinating “370 million children annually over the next five years and continue disease surveillance across 50 countries.” In addition to the aforementioned effects of their contributions, Germany predicts that national healthcare systems will strengthen and this will lead to “healthier societies.”

On 30 January 2023, Minister Schulze announced that Germany plans to donate EUR200 million to the Amazon Fund.<sup>2310</sup> The funding will be used to “go beyond the mechanism aimed at conserving forests and mitigating climate change.” Additionally, it will be used towards Indigenous social gap issues which are also interconnected with environmental concerns.

On 3 February 2023, the Federal Ministry of Health announced a donation of EUR130 million to the World Health Organization (WHO) for 2023.<sup>2311</sup> This funding will go towards “antimicrobial resistance, health emergencies, health-systems strengthening and WHO reforms.” In particular, the funds will be allocated towards the advancements of the following programs: “the WHO-BMG collaborative programme, WHO's COVID-19 response and the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence in Berlin.”

On 10 February 2023, the German missions in South Africa, Lesotho und Eswatini announced an application-based initiative to encourage and support “projects in the areas of climate change mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity.”<sup>2312</sup> The main objective is to find projects to fund that “contribute to awareness raising for climate change and biodiversity loss, encourage a transfer of information regarding climate and biodiversity politics and diplomacy, and stimulate action oriented implementation at subnational and community level; motivate and involve all relevant actors and stakeholders.”

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<sup>2306</sup> Foundation for a carbon-neutral economy, The Federal Government/Bergmann (Berlin) 18 July 2022. Access Date: 31 December 2022. <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/petersberg-climate-dialogue-2022-2063148>

<sup>2307</sup> Global Fund Commends Germany's Outstanding Leadership in Global Health, The Global Fund (Geneva) 8 September 2022. Access Date: 26 October 2022. <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news/2022/2022-09-08-global-fund-commends-germanyoutstanding-leadership-in-global-health/>

<sup>2308</sup> Cabinet Adopted Draft Act on Animal Husbandry Labelling, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Berlin) 12 October 2022. Access Date: 25 January 2023. <https://www.bmel.de/EN/topics/animals/animal-welfare/state-run-animal-welfare-label-pigs.html>

<sup>2309</sup> Global leaders commit US\$ 2.6 billion at World Health Summit to end polio, World Health Organization (Berlin) 18 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.who.int/news/item/18-10-2022-global-leaders-commit-usd-2.6-billion-atworld-health-summit-to-end-polio>

<sup>2310</sup> Germany Plans to Donate 200 million EUR for the First 100 Days of Lula's Government, Folha de S. Paulo (São Paulo) 30 January 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www1.folha.uol.com.br/internacional/en/scienceandhealth/2023/01/germany-plans-to-donate-200-million-eur-for-the-first-100-days-of-lulas-government.shtml>

<sup>2311</sup> Global health leader Germany reaffirms strong support to WHO for 2023, World Health Organization (Geneva) 2 March 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.who.int/news/item/03-02-2023-global-health-leader-germany-reaffirms-strong-support-to-who-for-2023>

<sup>2312</sup> Climate Fund: Call for Project Proposals 2023, German Missions in South Africa, Lesotho und Eswatini (Berlin) 10 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. [https://southafrica.diplo.de/sa-en/04\\_News/-/2519006](https://southafrica.diplo.de/sa-en/04_News/-/2519006)

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to step up efforts in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response under the One Health approach. Germany has taken actions to further the health of the environment and humans. However, the same efforts have not been taken with respect to animal health.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Roya Aboosaidi*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to step up their pandemic preparedness and response under the One Health Approach.

On 7 July 2022, the National Institute for Health, Migration, and Poverty (INMP) in collaboration with the World Health Organization Center on Health and Migration Evidence and Capacity Building launched an online tool to support countries in reducing health inequities. The Repository of health equity public health interventions (Repertorio degli interventi di Sanità Pubblica orientati all'Equità nella Salute (ReSPES)) is a free and accessible catalogue of public health interventions evaluated by a group of independent experts to aid in reducing future health inequalities and to better inform decision-making in relation to community health.<sup>2313</sup>

On 11 July 2022, the government of Italy approved the statute of the Foundation “Fondazione Biotecnopolo di Siena.” The Foundation is a non-profit, private legal entity, whose founding members include the Ministry of University and Research, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, and the Ministry of Economic Development. The Foundation performs the function of “National Pandemic Hub” through the “Centro nazionale anti pandemico-CNAP” (National Pandemic Center), which will contribute to the research, development and production of vaccines and monoclonal antibodies and will interact with centers involved in the development of vaccines according to the One Health model. The CNAP will be financed with up to EUR340 million until 2026 through the National Recovery and Resilience Plan.<sup>2314</sup>

On 8 August 2022, Italy began a vaccination campaign against monkeypox for “gay, bisexual men and transgender people who have recently had sex with multiple partners, recently had a sexually transmitted infection or use chemical drugs when having sex” in addition to healthcare workers that work in contact with monkeypox cases.<sup>2315</sup>

On 7 November 2022, at the meeting of the 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Egypt, President Meloni assured that despite complex international conditions, Italy remains in full compliance with the goals of the 2015 Paris Agreement to keep global temperatures from rising by over 1.5°C. Additionally, Meloni discussed that Italy will be pursuing an energy diversification strategy and has been reducing reliance on Russian gas.<sup>2316</sup>

On 7 November 2022, at the COP27 meeting in Egypt, President Meloni announced that Italy has almost tripled its financial commitment to climate finance to USD1.4 billion for the next five years, including EUR840

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<sup>2313</sup> Italy launches online tool to support countries to reduce health inequities, World Health Organization (Copenhagen) 7 July 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://www.who.int/europe/news/item/07-07-2022-italy-launches-online-tool-to-support-countries-to-reduce-health-inequities>.

<sup>2314</sup> Fondazione Biotecnopolo di Siena, National Pandemic Centre (Siena) n.d. Access Date: 18 February 2023. <https://www.biotecnopolo.it/en/national-pandemic-center-cnape/>

<sup>2315</sup> Italy kicks off vaccination campaign against monkeypox, Reuters (Rome) 8 August 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/italy-kicks-off-vaccination-campaign-against-monkeypox-2022-08-08/>.

<sup>2316</sup> Meloni says Italy will stick to Paris climate targets, Reuters (Egypt). 7 November 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/meloni-says-italy-remains-committed-decarbonisation-2022-11-07/>.

million in the new Italian Climate Fund. This investment is dedicated towards creating and deploying clean technology to assist in climate change in developing countries.<sup>2317</sup>

On 5 December 2022, President Meloni gave a speech at the Italy of Regions event promoting personalizing healthcare services to the needs of local areas. She also specified an increase in the National Health Fund to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic. This would allow each region to be able to enact reforms and create infrastructure to improve the quality of healthcare given.<sup>2318</sup>

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to step up pandemic preparedness and response under the One Health Approach. Italy has demonstrated its commitment to increasing public health measures to make the healthcare system more accessible and personalized based on need, as well as supporting the health of marginalized groups. Additionally, Italy has worked towards improving environmental health and slowing the growth of climate change. However, Italy has not illustrated their commitment to pandemic prevention in the future, and has yet to make any financial investments towards the future and global health.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Maya Javier*

### **Japan: 0**

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to step up pandemic preparedness and response under the One Health Approach.

On 3 October 2022, the government announced that it will invest JPY226.5 billion into 17 projects led by companies and universities to support the manufacturing of vaccines for future pandemics. This investment illustrates Japan's commitment to future pandemic prevention.<sup>2319</sup>

On 22 November 2022, the health ministry granted fast-track approval to Shionogi & Co. for its COVID-19 tablet Xocova, the country's first domestically produced oral medicine against COVID-19. This medication will help reduce coronavirus in the body, aiding in slowing down the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>2320</sup>

On 22 December 2022, Japan approved one of the world's first blood tests to detect signs of Alzheimer's disease. The test will make it more accessible for individuals to get tested for the disease in a non-invasive and inexpensive way which will allow for a faster diagnosis and ability to seek treatment sooner.<sup>2321</sup>

On 26 January 2023, Japan launched its electronic prescription service, which will allow prescriptions by doctors to be shared online with pharmacies. This will make it easier for individuals in Japan to access their

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<sup>2317</sup> Speech by President Meloni at the COP27 Summit of Heads of State and Government, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 7 November 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/intervento-del-presidente-meloni-al-vertice-dei-capi-di-stato-e-di-governo-cop27/20927>.

<sup>2318</sup> President Meloni's speech at the 'Italy of Regions' event, Italian Government Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Rome) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://www.governo.it/en/articolo/president-meloni-s-speech-italy-regions-event/21242>.

<sup>2319</sup> Japan gov't selects 17 projects to support vaccine manufacturing, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 3 October 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2022/10/13cb2ddfdebc-japan-govt-selects-17-projects-to-support-vaccine-manufacturing.html>.

<sup>2320</sup> Japan gives emergency approval to Shionogi's oral COVID-19 drug, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 22 November 2022. Access Date: 26 December 2022. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2022/11/b4a2f123ab14-breaking-news-shionogis-oral-covid-drug-given-emergency-approval-in-japan.html>

<sup>2321</sup> Japan approves blood test to detect Alzheimer's, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 22 December 2022. Access Date: 4 March 2023. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2022/12/22/national/science-health/alzheimers-blood-test/>

prescriptions, as well as seek access to medical care from home which will aid in the accessibility of medical services across the country.<sup>2322</sup>

On 28 February 2023, the health ministry granted approval for Pfizer's bivalent COVID-19 booster shot to be administered to children in the age group of 5 to 11. This booster shot will help prevent the growth of new strains of COVID-19, helping to slow the progression of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, an expert panel has endorsed a nasal influenza vaccine for children aged 2 to 18, which will be the first-ever approval of a vaccine in the form of a nasal spray in Japan. This illustrates Japan's commitment to slowing down the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as preventing future illnesses in children.<sup>2323</sup>

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to step up pandemic preparedness and response under the One Health Approach. Japan has demonstrated its commitment to preventing future pandemics and fighting the current COVID-19 pandemic, as well as disease monitoring and prevention. However, since the Elmau G7 Summit in June 2022, Japan has not illustrated their commitment under the One Health approach such as that of animal health, or environmental health and climate change.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Maya Javier*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to step up pandemic preparedness and response under the One Health Approach.

On 30 June 2022, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Sajid Javid and the United Kingdom government's Global Antimicrobial Resistance Innovation Fund invested GBP4.5 million in the Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership.<sup>2324</sup> This investment brings the United Kingdom's total investment in the Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership to GBP19 million. The Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership is working to find treatments to drug resistant infections, a global health security issue that killed as many as 1.3 million people in 2019. The United Kingdom's investment in research and development of antimicrobial resistant infections is critical to the global effort to prepare for future pandemics and respond to ongoing infectious disease outbreaks.

On 20 July 2022, the United Kingdom, in partnership with the United States, launched a challenge for innovators to develop privacy enhancing technologies that can "forecast an individual's risk of infection" to disease, ultimately allowing faster pandemic detection and response globally.<sup>2325</sup> Successful innovators will be offered compensation from a prize pool, incentivizing participation of innovators in this pandemic preparedness initiative.

On 12 August 2022, a letter correspondence from a Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Vaccines and Public Health, Maggie Throup, to Chief Executive at the United Kingdom Health Security Agency, Professor

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<sup>2322</sup> Japan launches electronic prescriptions nationwide, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 26 January 2023. Access Date: 4 March 2023.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2023/01/26/national/science-health/electronic-prescription>

<sup>2323</sup> Japan health ministry panel endorses nasal flu vaccine for children, The Japan Times (Tokyo). 28 February 2023. Access Date:

4 March 2023. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2023/02/28/national/science-health/flu-nasal-spray-vaccine-panel/>

<sup>2324</sup> Press Release: New Treatments to Tackle Pandemic of Drug Resistant Infections, UK Government (London) 30 June 2022. Access Date: 21 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-treatments-to-tackle-pandemic-of-drug-resistant-infections>

<sup>2325</sup> Press release UK and US launch innovation prize challenges in privacy-enhancing technologies to tackle financial crime and public health emergencies, UK Government (London) 20 July 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-us-launch-innovation-prize-challenges-in-privacy-enhancing-technologies-to-tackle-financial-crime-and-public-health-emergencies>



Jenny Harries, outlined the 2022-2023 United Kingdom Health and Security Agency's priorities.<sup>2326</sup> One of these priorities was to prepare for future pandemics through the creation of a Centre for Pandemic Preparedness. The United Kingdom Health Security Agency's Centre for Pandemic Preparedness will use advanced technology such as genomic surveillance to "prevent, detect, track and respond to public health threats rapidly." The Centre for Pandemic Preparedness will also work alongside the United Kingdom's Department of Health and Social Care with developing pandemic preparedness policies and enforcing pre-existing policies.

On 21 September 2022, Minister of State for Development Vicky Ford gave a statement at the United Nations General Assembly that the United Kingdom will continue to work with the Global Fund to prepare for and respond to pandemics and improve healthcare systems worldwide.<sup>2327</sup> The Global Fund has played an instrumental role in strengthening healthcare systems globally and stopping the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On 25 September 2022, the British Embassy in Honduras donated 123,000 Personal Protective Equipment to Honduras.<sup>2328</sup> This donation consists of 48,600 Type IIR Masks, 7,800 Gowns, 3,600 Visors and 63,000 Aprons. This contribution aims to aid Honduras in its response to the COVID-19 Pandemic by enabling healthcare workers to safely treat COVID-19 cases.

On 17 October 2022, the Chief Veterinary offices in England, Wales and Scotland announced an "Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ), designed to stop the Avian flu outbreak in Great Britain's captive bird and poultry populations.<sup>2329</sup> The AIPZ will enforce strict biosecurity rules that bird owners must follow in order to improve the sanitation and hygiene of their poultry or captive birds. These measures are critical to protecting the health of birds in the United Kingdom, and demonstrate the United Kingdom's commitment to promoting animal health as outlined under the One Health approach.

On 24 October 2022, the United Kingdom Covid Commemoration Commission opened itself up to suggestions from the public on how to best commemorate the COVID-19 pandemic and pay tribute to lives lost.<sup>2330</sup> The Commission's work will help future generations understand the COVID-19 pandemic and the important developments in public health and safety that it necessitated. This knowledge will encourage future generations to prepare for pandemics and aid them in this preparation by informing them of the health and safety measures taken to combat COVID-19. Opening up the process of commemorating COVID-19 to the public will ensure an accurate depiction of the effects of COVID-19 on various groups in the United Kingdom.

On 23 November 2022, Minister of Health Steve Barclay and South Africa's Minister of Health Joe Phaahla signed a health partnership between the United Kingdom and South Africa.<sup>2331</sup> They announced nine new combined research projects aimed at developing health systems and protecting these systems from the threats presented by climate change. Under this partnership, the United Kingdom aims to strengthen global health

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<sup>2326</sup> Correspondence: Letter from Maggie Throup to Professor Dame Jenny Harries, UKHSA chief executive, UK Government Department of Health and Social Care (London) 12 August 2022. Access Date: 22 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ukhsapriorities-in-2022-to-2023/letter-from-maggie-throup-to-professor-dame-jenny-harries-ukhsa-chief-executive>

<sup>2327</sup> Working with the Global Fund to make the world a safe place for everyone: Minister Ford's statement, UK Government (London) 22 September 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/working-with-the-global-fund-to-make-the-world-a-safe-place-for-everyone>

<sup>2328</sup> British Embassy Donates PPE to Honduras, UK Government (London) 17 October 2022. Access Date: 22 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-embassy-donates-ppe-to-honduras>

<sup>2329</sup> Avian influenza: Prevention Zone declared across Great Britain, UK Government (London) 17 October 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/avian-influenza-prevention-zone-declared-across-great-britain>

<sup>2330</sup> Public asked to help shape UK's Covid-19 commemoration plans, UK Government (London) 24 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/public-asked-to-help-shape-uks-covid-19-commemoration-plans>

<sup>2331</sup> UK and South Africa to work more closely on tackling pandemics and climate change, UK Government (London) 23 November 2022. Access Date: 29 December 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-south-africa-to-work-more-closely-ontackling-pandemics-and-climate-change>

systems by providing 18 African countries with increased funding for pandemic preparedness and increasing vaccine manufacturing in South Africa.

On 19 December 2022, Oliver Dowden, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and the Cabinet Office announced the publishing of the United Kingdom's new "Resilience Framework."<sup>2332</sup> Incorporating all levels of government, and both the public and private sectors, the Resilience Framework aims to build an emergency plan that will allow the country to effectively prepare for, and respond to "risks and hazards- such as extreme weather, terrorism and pandemics." The multisectoral and collaborative approach to risk management promoted by the Resilience Framework aligns with the One Health Approach, preparing the United Kingdom, and the world for future health security threats.<sup>2333</sup>

On 9 January 2023, Lord Benyon, Minister of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Forestry Commission, and the Scottish and Welsh Governments announced a five-year vision and action plan for plant biosecurity and health.<sup>2334</sup> The objective of the action plan is to "secure national biosecurity," protect native plant species against pests, invasive species, and diseases, and drive economic growth. Plant health is a key element of the One Health Approach, as it is critical to protecting food security and mitigating the effects of climate change.

On 10 January 2023, Will Quince, the Minister of State for Health, announced that free Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be extended until the end of March 2024 for all frontline workers.<sup>2335</sup> This is a means of preventing the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and protecting frontline workers from other infectious diseases that threaten human health as outlined under the One Health Approach.

On 19 January 2023, Nick Markham, the United Kingdom's Health Minister and Anutin Charnvirakul, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand and Minister for Public Health, signed a joint memorandum to share expertise in genomics, the study of genes, in order to better prepare for and respond to health crises.<sup>2336</sup> Pooling expertise in genomics research, data handling, education and training will allow the development of new genomics based treatments for rare and undiagnosed diseases, improving health outcomes in both countries.

On 8 February 2023, Trudy Harrison, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, allocated over GBP14 million towards an initiative to plant trees in United Kingdom communities.<sup>2337</sup> This project will improve human, animal, and environmental health. It will improve the United Kingdom's biodiversity, moderate temperatures, alleviate pollution and improve overall quality of life for humans and animals.

On 21 February 2023, Minister of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and the Rural Payments Agency Mark Spencer, introduced GBP168 million in grants for farmers to utilize new farming

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<sup>2332</sup> Government to strengthen national resilience, UK Government (London) 19 December 2022. Access Date: 29 December 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-strengthen-national-resilience>

<sup>2333</sup> NIH Continues Investment in HIV Prevention, Therapy and Cure with \$34 Million Award, National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases (Maryland) 22 August 2022. Access Date: 20 October 2022. <https://www.niaid.nih.gov/news-events/34-million-funding-hiv-prevention-therapy-and-cure>

<sup>2334</sup> New Great Britain-wide strategy sets out five-year vision for plant health and biosecurity, UK Government (London) 9 January 2023. Access Date: 6 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-biosecurity-strategy-to-protect-food-security-trade-and-plant-health>

<sup>2335</sup> Free PPE to health and social care sectors extended, UK Government (London) 10 January 2023. Access Date: 12 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/free-ppe-to-health-and-social-care-sectors-extended>

<sup>2336</sup> UK landmark genomics partnership with Thailand to unite against health threats, UK Government (London) 20 January 2023. Access Date: 6 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-landmark-genomic-partnership-with-thailand-to-unite-against-health-threats>

<sup>2337</sup> Thousands of trees to be planted in communities in boost to nature, health and wellbeing, UK Government (London) 8 February 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/thousands-of-trees-to-be-planted-in-communities-in-boost-to-nature-health-and-wellbeing>

technology to improve animal and environmental health and productivity in the farming industry.<sup>2338</sup> This technology includes robotic technology to support harvesting, handling equipment and cow mattresses to help prevent lameness in dairy cattle and sensors on tractors to measure the levels of nutrients in soils. This funding is instrumental in protecting animal, human and environmental health through greener and safer farming technology.

On 3 March 2023, Secretary Barclay and the National Health Service declared that nine prominent new AI health diagnosis and testing technologies will receive government funding of GBP16 million.<sup>2339</sup> AI diagnostic testing allows for quicker diagnosis for many medical conditions, including rare diseases and cancer. As a result, this technology can take pressure off healthcare workers, speed up hospital wait times, and free up hospital beds. The member state's allocation of resources to AI technology is in line with the One Health approach as this technology could detect diseases faster, better preparing the world for future health crises.

On 17 March 2023, the United Kingdom Mission to the World Trade Organization, United Nations, and other International Organizations, delivered a statement at the 52nd United Nations Human Rights Council, which highlighted the United Kingdom's continued commitment to COVID-19 vaccine equity.<sup>2340</sup> The member state described how multilateral coordination and cooperation enable effective regional vaccine manufacturing capacity, ultimately building more resilient global healthcare systems and promoting universal health coverage.

On 2 April 2023, Minister of Science George Freeman, Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology Michelle Donelan and Minister Quince committed to providing GBP50 million in funding to 90 different medical research charities in the United Kingdom.<sup>2341</sup> It is estimated that over 1200 of the researchers who will receive funding are early career researchers, working on new innovative ways of combating diseases such as cancer, dementia and motor neurone disease. This financial commitment demonstrates the member state's commitment to protecting human health through research and development.

On 6 April 2023, Secretary Barclay announced that at risk children between the ages of 6 months to 4 years are now eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccinations, with parental consent.<sup>2342</sup> This new development in COVID-19 prevention will help protect children with underlying health conditions making them especially vulnerable to the effects of COVID-19.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to step up pandemic preparedness and response under the One Health Approach. It has made consistent financial commitments to health research and development that will allow them to be prepared to combat future health crises. It has meaningful health partnerships around the globe, and they have several action plans to improve both animal and environmental health.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1

*Analyst: Tegan Hore-Kelman*

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<sup>2338</sup> Increased government funding to boost farming productivity, UK Government (London) 21 February 2023. Access Date: 7 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/increased-government-funding-to-boost-farming-productivity>

<sup>2339</sup> Thousands of patients to benefit from quicker diagnosis and more accurate tests from ground-breaking AI research, UK Government (London) 3 March 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/thousands-of-patients-to-benefit-from-quicker-diagnosis-more-accurate-tests-from-ground-breaking-ai-research>

<sup>2340</sup> UN HRC52: Statement on access to COVID-19 vaccines, UK Government (London) 17 March 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/un-hrc52-statement-on-access-to-covid-19-vaccines>

<sup>2341</sup> UK's next generation of medical researchers given funding boost, UK Government (London) 2 April 2023. Access Date: 15 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uks-next-generation-of-medical-researchers-given-funding-boost>

<sup>2342</sup> Health and Social Care Secretary statement on vaccination of at-risk children aged 6 months to 4 years, UK Government (London) 6 April 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/health-and-social-care-secretary-statement-on-vaccination-of-at-risk-children-aged-6-months-to-4-years>

**United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to step up efforts in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response under the One Health approach.

On 22 August 2022, the National Institutes of Health contributed USD34 million as part of a five-year plan to fund “six independent Centers for HIV Structural Biology.”<sup>2343</sup> The funding was allocated towards HIV research and preventative strategies to aid in the ongoing HIV/AIDS public health concern. The research aims to find the different make-ups of HIV and analyze how they may be manifested differently into the body in order to develop “HIV therapies and preventative vaccines.”

On 20 September 2022, the American Rescue Plan contributed USD90 million to “support current and future genomic surveillance.”<sup>2344</sup> This funding will be particularly used for supporting the Pathogen Genomics Centers of Excellence network over five years. This network will work to “improve innovation and technical capacity in pathogen genomics, molecular epidemiology, and bioinformatics to better prevent, control, and respond to microbial threats of public health importance.”

On 29 September 2022, the United States Department of Education sent a letter to district recipients of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act to continue using their funding through the rest of 2022.<sup>2345</sup> It gives individual schools the autonomy over implementing “effective, evidence-based strategies to [use to] operate schools safely, accelerate academic achievement, support students’ mental health needs, and strengthen our educator workforce.” As the American Public Health Association mentioned, “environmental health is a key part of public health ... [and] is especially important for the protection of children.”<sup>2346</sup>

On 18 October 2022, the Biden-Harris Administration revised the National Biodefense Strategy to entail “the 100 Day Mission goal – developing vaccines for new pandemics within 100 days.”<sup>2347</sup> In addition, “increasing vaccine uptake rates to over 85 percent, ... developing and deploying pathogen-specific tests within 30 days; producing rapid, low-cost, ... diagnostics within 90 days ... and maintaining clinical trial infrastructure so that new trials can be launched within 14 days of medical countermeasure identification.” Additional goals were included to prepare the nation for future biomedical health issues.

On 8 March 2023, the Environmental Protection Agency announced the availability of USD16 million dollars to shift businesses towards anti-pollution measures. They announced that this additional funding will be useful to “advance environmental justice in underserved communities.” This has been made possible through the Biden Administration’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, including the Pollution Prevention Grant: Environmental Justice in Communities, and the Pollution Prevention Grant: Environmental Justice Through Safer and More Sustainable Products programs.

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to step up efforts in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response under the One Health approach. Although the US has taken action to fund the human health and environmental aspects of the One Health approach, the animal health sector has lacked new

<sup>2343</sup> CARES ESSER and GEER Liquidation Extension Request Letter, National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases (Maryland) 29 September 2022. Access Date: 20 October 2022. <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2022/09/CARES-ESSER-and-GEERLiquidation-Extension-Request-Letter-9.29.22.pdf>

<sup>2344</sup> CDC announces \$90M funding to support Pathogen Genomics Centers of Excellence (PGCoE) network, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Washington), 20 September 2022. Access date: 25 April 2022. <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2022/p0920-PGCoE-network.html>

<sup>2345</sup> Protecting the Health of Children, American Public Health Association (Washington D.C.) 2019. Access Date: 20 October 2022. [https://www.apha.org/-/media/Files/PDF/topics/environment/Protecting\\_the\\_Health\\_of\\_Children.ashx](https://www.apha.org/-/media/Files/PDF/topics/environment/Protecting_the_Health_of_Children.ashx)

<sup>2346</sup> The 2022 National Biodefense Strategy builds upon administration S&T priorities for pandemic preparedness, The White House (Washington D.C.) 18 October 2022. Access Date: 6 November 2022. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/newsupdates/2022/10/18/the-2022-national-biodefense-strategy-builds-upon-administration-st-priorities-for-pandemic-preparedness>

<sup>2347</sup> Stopping the Spread of African Swine Fever, Animal Health Institute (Maryland) 29 September 2022. Access Date: 20 October 2022. <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2022/09/CARES-ESSER-and-GEER-Liquidation-Extension-Request-Letter-9.29.22.pdf>

initiatives and support since 28 June 2022. Rather, for the animal health sector, the initiatives that have been created in the past are maintained rather than innovative initiatives.

Therefore, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Roya Aboosaidi*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to step up pandemic preparedness and response under the One Health Approach.

On 28 June 2022, the European Council extended the regulation establishing the EU Digital Covid Certificate.<sup>2348</sup> The extension of the regulation will ensure that EU travelers as well as those from third countries connected to the system can continue to use their EU digital COVID certificate for travel within the Union in member states where these certificates are required. This certificate has facilitated the safe movement of travelers within the European Union during the pandemic.<sup>2349</sup>

On 26 July 2022, the European Commission presented a list of headline indicators for monitoring progress towards the European Union's environment and climate goals to 2030, as well as the 2050 long-term vision to "live well, within planetary boundaries."<sup>2350</sup> This fosters transparency and informs Europeans about the impact of EU climate and environmental policy, hence promoting environmental health.

On 24 October 2022, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) has been strengthened in the areas of surveillance, early warning, preparedness and response.<sup>2351</sup> An EU Health Task Force was created to assist local responses to the outbreak of diseases, the provision of expertise to EU member states and the European Commission, for instance in the development, examination and updating of preparedness plans. The ECDC will also be tasked with the development of digital platforms for epidemiological surveillance.

On 24 October 2022, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Health of Czechia Vlastimil Válek adopted a new EU law which facilitates the timely purchase of and access to medicines, vaccines and raw materials, activates emergency funding and enables the monitoring of production facilities when another health crisis hits.<sup>2352</sup> This new rule ensures that a future pandemic can be swiftly controlled.

On 26 October 2022, the European Investment Bank approved a EUR11.2 billion of new financing to accelerate business investment, clean energy and climate action, health, education and sustainable transport

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<sup>2348</sup> COVID-19: Council extends the regulation establishing the EU digital COVID certificate, Council of the European Union (Strasbourg) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 29 October 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/06/28/covid-19-council-extends-the-regulation-establishing-the-eu-digital-covid-certificate/>

<sup>2349</sup> EU digital COVID certificate: how it works, Council of the European Union (Strasbourg) 1 July 2022. Access Date: 29 October 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/coronavirus/eu-digital-covid-certificate/>

<sup>2350</sup> 8th Environment Action Programme: EU sets out to measure progress on Green Deal environment and climate goals, The European Commission (Brussels) 26 July 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_22\\_4667](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_4667)

<sup>2351</sup> Council adds new building blocks to European Health Union, The Council of the European Union (Strasbourg) 24 October 2022. Access Date: 29 October 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/10/24/council-adds-new-building-blocks-to-european-health-union/>

<sup>2352</sup> Council adopts law on the emergency framework regarding medical countermeasures, The Council of the European Union (Strasbourg) 24 October 2022. Access Date: 29 October 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/10/24/council-adopts-law-on-the-emergency-framework-regarding-medical-countermeasures/>

across Europe and around the world.<sup>2353</sup> This funding facilitates green investment and education, thus alleviating environmental damages.

On 30 November 2022, the European Commission and the World Health Organization (WHO) agreed on reinforcing a decade-long collaboration to accelerate the achievement of universal health coverage.<sup>2354</sup> The letter of intent foresees an additional contribution from the European Union of EUR125 million for the continuation of WHO's assistance to its member states over the next five years, implemented through the Universal Health Coverage Partnership. This will focus on strengthening health systems to make them more resilient and responsive to natural, climate or human-made disasters.

On 30 November 2022, the European Commission published the "EU Global Health Strategy: Better Health for All in a Changing World."<sup>2355</sup> In the document, the commission outlined twenty guiding principles to shape global health until 2030 and identified three priority areas, including: improving health across the life course, strengthening health systems and preventing and combating health threats (e.g. pandemics) through a One Health approach. As part of the strategy, the commission stresses the importance of humanitarian assistance and civil protection operations in emergency and crisis settings pertaining to global health.

The European Union has fully complied with their commitment to step up their pandemic preparedness and response under the One Health Approach. It has facilitated the movement of people during the pandemic, strengthened the disease monitoring systems, promoted environmental health and adopted laws to implement medical countermeasures.

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

*Analyst: Czarina Leung*

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<sup>2353</sup> EIB approves €11.2 billion for clean energy, business, climate action, sustainable transport, health, education and urban investment, The European Investment Bank (Luxembourg) 26 October 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2022-418-eib-approves-eur-11-2-billion-for-clean-energy-business-climate-action-sustainable-transport-health-education-and-urban-investment>

<sup>2354</sup> WHO and the EU renew partnership for Universal Health Coverage (Brussels) 1 December 2022. Access Date: 7 March 2023. <https://www.who.int/news/item/01-12-2022-who-and-the-eu-renew-partnership-for-universal-health-coverage>

<sup>2355</sup> EU Global Health Strategy: Better Health for All in a Changing World, European Commission (Luxembourg) 30 November 2022. Access Date: 18 February 2023. [https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/eu-global-health-strategy-better-health-allchanging-world\\_en](https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/eu-global-health-strategy-better-health-allchanging-world_en)