

Germany's G8 Health Performance

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January 29, 2012

Health has been a subject of G8 summit deliberation since 1979, with a generally increasing if not constant place in G8 governance across its deliberative, decision-making and delivery dimensions of performance. The G8 made its first health commitment at the 1980 Italian-hosted summit. From then until 2011, G8 summits have made a total of 262 health commitments. The 54 commitments that have been assessed suggest that G8 members have complied with their G8 health commitments at an average level of +0.51 (on a scale of -1.00 to + 1.00), or about 75%.

How has Germany, as a G8 co-founder in 1975 and as the third most powerful member of the G8 club ever since, contributed to this G8 health performance?

Deliberation in Communiqué Conclusions

Since 1975, health as a subject has received an average of 6.8% of the annual summit's overall deliberations, as measured by the number of words in the communiqués issued at the summits in the leaders' names (see Appendix A). Until 2007, at the summits it hosted Germany performed under the evolving summit average, even though hosting bestows greater ability to set the agenda and craft the communiqué. Health became a subject of G8 attention only in 1978, the year after Germany first hosted. At Helmut Kohl's 1985 Bonn Summit, health commanded only 0.45% of the communiqué, well below the average of the previous seven summits. At Gerhard Schröder's 1999 Cologne Summit, health took 5.8% of the total, less than the previous two summits and far less than the four summits that followed. Only at Angela Merkel's 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, where health took 16.4% of the communiqué — the fifth highest in G8 history — did Germany as host become a health pioneer.

Decision Making through Commitments

The same general pattern is evident in the decisional commitments made on health at German-hosted G8 summits, with a later start (see Appendix B). The first three German-hosted summits, in 1978, 1985 and 1992, made no health commitments. The fourth, in 1999 made three health commitments: one on HIV/AIDS and two on multiple diseases.

The fifth German-hosted summit, in Heiligendamm in 2007, made 43 health commitments. This is the second highest number in G8 history, following only the 2006 Russian-hosted St. Petersburg Summit, where 61 health commitments were made. In 2007 the issues that garnered the most commitments were HIV/AIDS (10), malaria (4), medicines (4), and funding (4).

This slow start was a symptom of the G7/8 as a group. From 1980 to 1999, the G7/8 averaged 1.3 health commitments per year. After the 2000 Okinawa Summit, the number of health commitments started to increase, peaking in 2006 and 2007. The summits from

2006 to 2009 account for more than 50% of the total health commitments made by the G8.

Delivery through Compliance

In its delivery of these decisions, measured by the 54 health commitments assessed for compliance, the same general pattern is even, although here Germany started later and from a much lower base.

Overall, G8 members have complied with those 54 health commitments, out of a total of 262 made from 1983 to 2011, at an overall level of +0.51. The overall score is three quarters of the way up a scientific scale ranging from -1.00 to +1.00 (-1.00 represents no compliance or action opposite to that commanded by the commitment, 0 represents partial or "in progress" compliance, and +1.00 represents full compliance). This score translates to a solid B level of 76% on the more traditionally used 100-point scale. (see Appendix C). The G8 together has done best on HIV/AIDS (+0.65), tuberculosis (+0.62) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (+0.58).

Germany achieved an overall compliance score of +0.40, below the overall G8 average. In contrast the leaders in G8 health compliance are Canada at +0.80, the United States at +0.74, the United Kingdom at +0.68, the European Union at +0.54 and France at +0.52. Germany is in the bottom four with Japan +0.43, Russia at +0.19 and Italy at +0.14.

Germany's slow beginning from a low base is evident in its performance as summit host. In 1999 its compliance of -0.50 with the two assessed health commitments was well below the summit average of +0.32. At Heiligendamm in 2007, Germany's compliance with the six health commitments assessed soared to +0.67, but the summit overall achieved a score still slightly above that at +0.72.

Compliance has varied across the different areas of the health commitments. Germany has performed above the G8 average in commitments on aging (+1.00) and maternal and infant health (+0.67), polio (+0.80), health systems (+1.00), development (+1.00) and tropical diseases (+0.00) (see Appendix D).

Germany has performed below the G8 average in the areas of HIV/AIDS (+0.27), multiple diseases (+0.00), tuberculosis (+0.33), the Global Fund (+0.33), medicine (0.00), children (0.00), health workers (+0.25) and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) (0.00).

Conclusion

Germany's performance in governing health via G8 commitments has varied over the years. After a slow start, however, at Angela Merkel's 2007 Heiligendamm Summit, Germany became one of the G8 leaders in global health. The high number of health commitments made at Heiligendamm was coupled with Germany's relatively high compliance score with its 2007 commitments, as well as the high score of the summit members as a whole. Nonetheless, much room for improvement remains.

Appendix A: G8 Summit Conclusions on Health, 1975–2011

Year	# of Words	% of Total Words	# of Paragraphs	% of Totals Paragraphs	# of Documents	% of Total Documents	# of Dedicated Documents
1975	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1976	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1977	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1978	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1979	15	0.7	1	2.6	1	50	0
1980	116	2.9	2	4.1	1	20	0
1981	59	1.8	1	1.9	1	33.3	0
1982	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1983	21	.97	1	2.7	1	50	0
1984	12	.36	1	2	1	20	0
1985	59	1.8	2	4.7	2	100	0
1986	74	2	2	6.2	1	25	0
1987	719	14	7	9.5	3	42.8	0
1988	195	4	3	4.6	2	66.6	0
1989	272	3.8	7	5.8	1	9	0
1990	146	1.9	10	8.1	1	25	0
1991	300	3.7	6	10.7	1	20	0
1992	34	.45	1	.59	1	25	0
1993	62	1.8	1	2.3	1	50	0
1994	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1995	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1996	825	5.3	16	7	2	50	0
1997	1,400	10.7	16	11.4	2	40	0
1998	404	6.6	3	4.6	1	25	0
1999	589	5.8	8	9.3	2	66.6	0
2000	1,996	14.6	26	17.9	2	40	0
2001	1,520	24.4	15	20.5	2	28.5	0
2002	1,482	12.3	19	13.1	2	25	0
2003	3,753	22.2	58	34.7	3	23	2
2004	1,507	3.9	22	6.5	3	14.2	2
2005	2,197	9.8	31	14.6	4	20	0
2006	7,072	23	94	38.3	7	41.1	1
2007	4,263	16.4	36	12.9	4	33.3	0
2008	2,008	11.9	16	9.1	3	27.2	1
2009	2,338	14	20	6	6	46.1	0
2010	2,772	26.1	29	29.5	1	33.3	0
2011	756	5	12	6.5	2	66.6	0
Average	999.08	6.81	12.59	8.32	1.73	30.17	0.16

Notes:

Bold indicates the years that Germany hosted the G8 summit.

Data are drawn from all official English-language documents released by the G8 leaders as a group. Charts are excluded.

"# of Words" is the number of health-related subjects for the year specified, excluding document titles and references. Words are calculated by paragraph because the paragraph is the unit of analysis.

"% of Total Words" refers to the total number of words in all documents for the year specified.

"# of Paragraphs" is the number of paragraphs containing references to health for the year specified. Each point is recorded as a separate paragraph.

"% of Total Paragraphs" refers to the total number of paragraphs in all documents for the year specified.

"# of Documents" is the number of documents that contain health-related subjects and excludes dedicated documents.

"% of Total Documents" refers to the total number of documents for the year specified.

"# of Dedicated Documents" is the number of documents for the year that contain a health-related subject in the title.

Appendix B: Health Commitments by Issue, 1980–2011

Year	Compliance	Total	Health and Safety	Research	Development	HIV/AIDS	Medicine	Narcotics	Children	Diseases	World Health Organization	Ageing	Malaria	Multiple Disease	Tuberculosis	General Health	Awareness	Partnership	Strategy	Biotech	Global Fund	IPP	Polio	Technology	Workers	Mother-Infant	Services	SARS	Education	Health Systems	Avian Influenza	Natural Disasters	Information Exchange	Financial Instruments	Antiretroviral Therapy	Measles	Funds	Public Health	Management	Reproductive Issues	Tropical Diseases				
1980	NA	1	1																																										
1981	NA	1	1																																										
1983	1.00 (1)	1		1																																									
1991	NA	1			1																																								
1996	NA	6		1	1	1	1	2																																					
1997	0.36 (2)	7			1	2			1	1	1	1																																	
1998	0.22 (2)	4				2					1		1																																
1999	0.31 (2)	3				1								2																															
2000	0.83 (5)	15		1		2	2					1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1																									
2001	0.88 (2)	5			1									1							2	1																							
2002	0.41 (8)	19		1		5	1		1					1					1		2		2	2	1	1	1																		
2003	0.80 (6)	16		2		1	4			1	1	1		1						3		1						1																	
2004	0.50 (2)	10				4																	5																						
2005	0.41 (6)	13				2							1	1	1	1				1	1		1		2																				
2006	0.37 (5)	61		2		8	2			7	1		5	6	1					1	2	1	3		1				2	1	8	3	2	1	1	3									
2007	0.72 (6)	43		2		10	4		1	1	1		4	1				1		2		1	1	2	2			2	2																
2008	0.11 (2)	19				1			2	2			1	1		3			2				1		2																	1	1		
2009	0.39 (2)	9				2			1	1				1										1		1																			
2010	-0.08 (3)	12				2			1											1		1		1		3															1			1	
2011	NA	7																	1		1		2				3																		
Total/ Ave.	0.51 (54)	262	2	10	4	43	14	2	7	13	5	3	13	17	3	5	1	4	3	3	3	2	17	3	10	9	1	1	6	8	8	3	4	1	1	3	4	1	2	1	2				

Appendix C: G8 Health Compliance, 1983–2010

	Commitment	Canada	France	Germany	Italy	Japan	Russia	UK	US	EU	Average
		0.8	0.52	0.4	0.14	0.43	0.19	0.68	0.74	0.54	0.51
1	1983-23	1			1				1		1.00
	1983 Average	1.00			1.00				1.00		1.00
2	1997-26	1	1					1	1		1.00
3	1997-55	-1	-1	1	-1	0		1	1		0.00
	1997 Average	0.00	0.00	1.00	-1.00	0.00		1.00	1.00		0.50
4	1998-23	1	1	0	-1	0	-1	1	1	1	0.33
5	1998-24	1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1	1	1	1	0.11
	1998 Average	1.00	1.00	-0.50	-1.00	-0.50	-1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.22
6	1999-38	1	1	-1	1	1	0	1	1		0.63
7	1999-39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0.00
	1999	0.50	0.50	-0.50	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.50	0.50		0.32
8	2000-36	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1.00
9	2000-23	1		0	0	1	0		0	1	0.43
10	2000-37	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1.00
11	2000-38	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1.00
12	2000-76	1	1	1	0	1	-1	1	1	1	0.67
	2000 Average	1.00	1.00	0.80	0.60	1.00	-0.50	1.00	0.80	1.00	0.82
13	2001-26	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0		0.75
14	2001-28	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
	2001 Average	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.50	1.00	1.00	0.50	1.00	0.88
15	2002-11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0.00
16	2002-109	1	1						1		1.00
17	2002-110	0		0		0		0	0	0	0.00
18	2002-116	1	1	1	1	1	-1	-1	1		0.50
19	2002-117	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0		0.38
20	2002-118	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
21	2002-119	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0		0.25
22	2002-124	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	1	1	0.33
	2002 Average	0.75	0.43	0.29	0.33	0.43	0.00	0.29	0.50	0.67	0.43
23	2003-xx	1	1	1	1	1		1	1		1.00
24	2003-3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
25	2003-10	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.89
26	2003-13	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
27	2003-14	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0.78
28	2003-115	1	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0.13
	2003 Average	1.00	0.83	0.50	0.83	0.83	0.75	0.83	0.83	0.80	0.80
29	2004-(b)1	1	1	1	1	-1	-1	1	1	1	0.56
30	2004-(c)3	1	-1	1	-1	0	1	1	1	1	0.44
	2004 Average	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	-0.50	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.50
31	2005-5	-1				1	1		0		0.25
32	2005-38	0	1	0		1		-1	0	1	0.29
33	2005-40	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
34	2005-42	0	0	0	-1	1	1	0	1	1	0.33
35	2005-44	1	-1	1	-1	-1	-1	1	1	1	0.11
36	2005-46	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0.67
	2005 Average	0.33	0.20	0.40	-0.25	0.67	0.60	0.40	0.67	1.00	0.44
37	2006-27	1	1	-1	1	-1	1	1	1		0.50
38	2006-31	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0.56
39	2006-36	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.22
40	2006-43	1	0	1	-1	0	1	1	1	0	0.44
41	2006-247	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		0.13
	2006 Average	0.80	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60	0.60	0.80	0.00	0.37

	Commitment	Canada	France	Germany	Italy	Japan	Russia	UK	US	EU	Average
42	2007-227	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0.67
43	2007-229	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
44	2007-233	1	1	0	-1	0	-1	1	1	1	0.33
45	2007-244	1	1	0	0	1		1	1	0	0.63
46	2007-246	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00
47	2007-264	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0.67
	2007	1.00	1.00	0.67	0.17	0.67	0.40	1.00	1.00	0.50	0.72
48	2008-118	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	-1	0.56
49	2008-127	0	-1	-1	-1	0	-1	1	1	-1	-0.33
	2008 Average	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.50	1.00	1.00	-1.00	0.12
50	2009-147	1	1	0	-1	1	0	1	1	1	0.56
51	2009-151	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	-1	0.22
	2009 Average	1.00	0.50	0.00	-0.50	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.50	0.00	0.39
52	2010-11	1	-1	1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-0.56
53	2010-14	1	0	0	-1	1	0	-1	1	1	0.22
54	2010-18	1	0	1	-1	-1	0	1	1	-1	0.11
	2010 Average	1.00	-0.33	0.67	-1.00	-0.33	-0.33	-0.33	0.33	-0.33	-0.08
	Country	0.8	0.52	0.40	0.14	0.43	0.19	0.68	0.74	0.54	0.51

Notes: Bold indicates summit hosted by Germany. Full list of commitments is available at the G8 Information Centre website at <www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html#commitments>.

Appendix D: Compliance with Health Commitments by Issue, 1983–2010

Commitment	Average	US	Japan	Germany	UK	France	Italy	Canada	Russia	EU
AVERAGE	0.51	0.74	0.43	0.40	0.68	0.52	0.14	0.80	0.19	0.54
Research (1)	1.00	1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.00	1.00	NA	NA
1983-23	1	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	1	NA	NA
Development (1)	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA
1997-55	0	1	0	1	1	-1	-1	-1	NA	NA
HIV/AIDS (13)	0.65	1.00	0.36	0.27	0.67	0.92	0.45	1.00	0.00	1.00
1997-26	1	1	NA	NA	1	1	NA	1	NA	NA
1998-23	0.33	1	0	0	1	1	-1	1	-1	1
1998-24	0.11	1	-1	-1	1	1	-1	1	-1	1
1999-38	0.63	1	1	-1	1	1	1	1	0	NA
2000-36	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	NA	1
2002-109	1	1	NA	NA	NA	1	NA	1	NA	NA
2002-116	0.5	1	1	1	-1	1	1	1	-1	NA
2004-(b)1	0.56	1	-1	1	1	1	1	1	-1	1
2005-40	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2006-27	0.5	1	-1	-1	1	1	1	1	1	NA
2007-229	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2007-246	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2010-14	0.22	1	1	0	-1	0	-1	1	0	1
Multiple Diseases (3)	0.21	0.00	0.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	1.00
1999-39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA
2000-23	0.43	0	1	0	NA	NA	0	1	0	1
2005-5	0.25	0	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1	1	NA
Ageing (2)	0.83	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.50	1.00	0.00	1.00
2000-76	0.67	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	-1	1
2003-3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Malaria (1)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	NA	1.00
2000-38	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	NA	1
Tuberculosis (3)	0.62	1.00	0.67	0.33	0.67	0.33	0.33	1.00	0.50	0.67
2000-37	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	NA	1
2005-46	0.67	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1
2006-36	0.22	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (6)	0.58	0.67	0.67	0.33	0.50	0.67	0.33	0.83	0.67	0.50
2001-26	0.75	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	NA
2002-119	0.25	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	NA
2003-10	0.89	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
2005-42	0.33	1	1	0	0	0	-1	0	1	1
2006-31	0.56	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
2007-227	0.67	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0

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Commitment	Average	US	Japan	Germany	UK	France	Italy	Canada	Russia	EU
IPP (2)	0.59	0.50	0.50	0.50	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	1.00
2001-28	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2006-247	0.13	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	NA
Medicine (3)	0.38	0.33	0.67	0.00	0.67	0.33	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
2002-117	0.38	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	NA
2003-115	0.13	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	NA	0
2007-244	0.63	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	NA	0
Children (1)	0.33	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	-1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00
2002-124	0.33	1	0	0	1	0	-1	1	0	1
General Disease (1)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	NA	NA
2003-xx	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	NA	NA
Polio (5)	0.41	0.80	0.00	0.80	0.80	-0.20	-0.40	0.80	0.40	0.75
2002-11	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA
2003-13	1.00	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2004-(c)3	0.44	1	0	1	1	-1	-1	1	1	1
2005-44	0.11	1	-1	1	1	-1	-1	1	-1	1
2006-43	0.44	1	0	1	1	0	-1	1	1	0
Maternal-Infant (3)	0.22	0.00	0.33	0.67	0.33	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	-0.33
2002-118	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2009-151	0.22	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	-1
2010-11	-0.56	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	-1	1	-1	-1
Workers (4)	0.42	0.50	0.50	0.25	0.25	1.00	-0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
2002-110	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	0	NA	0
2005-38	0.29	0	1	0	-1	1	NA	0	NA	1
2007-264	0.67	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0
2009-147	0.56	1	1	0	1	1	-1	1	0	1
SARS (1)	0.78	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00
2003-14	0.78	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1
Education (1)	0.33	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	-1.00	1.00	-1.00	1.00
2007-233	0.33	1	0	0	1	1	-1	1	-1	1
Health Systems and Infectious Disease (1)	0.56	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	-1.00
2008-118	0.56	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	-1
Tropical Diseases (2)	-0.11	1.00	-0.50	0.00	1.00	-0.50	-1.00	0.50	-0.50	-1.00
2008-127	-0.33	1	0	-1	1	-1	-1	0	-1	-1
2010-18	0.11	1	-1	1	1	0	-1	1	0	-1

Notes: For detailed reports on each of these scores go to <www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance>.