



## 2019 G20 Osaka Summit Final Compliance Report

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“The University of Toronto ... produced a detailed analysis to the extent of which each G20 country has met its commitments since the last summit ... I think this is important; we come to these summits, we make these commitments, we say we are going to do these things and it is important that there is an organisation that checks up on who has done what.”

— *David Cameron, Prime Minister, United Kingdom, at the 2012 Los Cabos Summit*

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## 15. Health: Ageing Populations

“We will promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.”

*G20 Osaka Leaders’ Declaration*

### Assessment

|                | No Compliance | Partial Compliance | Full Compliance |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Argentina      |               |                    | +1              |
| Australia      |               |                    | +1              |
| Brazil         | -1            |                    |                 |
| Canada         |               |                    | +1              |
| China          |               |                    | +1              |
| France         |               |                    | +1              |
| Germany        |               | 0                  |                 |
| India          |               | 0                  |                 |
| Indonesia      | -1            |                    |                 |
| Italy          | -1            |                    |                 |
| Japan          |               |                    | +1              |
| Korea          |               |                    | +1              |
| Mexico         |               | 0                  |                 |
| Russia         |               | 0                  |                 |
| Saudi Arabia   | -1            |                    |                 |
| South Africa   | -1            |                    |                 |
| Turkey         | -1            |                    |                 |
| United Kingdom |               | 0                  |                 |
| United States  |               | 0                  |                 |
| European Union |               |                    | +1              |
| Average        |               | +0.10 (55%)        |                 |

### Background

G20 leaders made their first health-related commitments at the 2014 Brisbane Summit in response to the Ebola virus outbreak in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.<sup>4452</sup> They also urged the World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund to “continue their strong support for the affected countries” and explore innovative ways to globally prepare against the economic impacts of infectious diseases.<sup>4453</sup> The G20 also recommitted to fully implementing the World Health Organization’s (WHO) International Health Regulations. G20 members committed to strengthening global health systems and building the capacity to “prevent, detect, report early and respond to infectious diseases” and address anti-microbial resistance (AMR).<sup>4454</sup>

<sup>4452</sup> G20 Leaders’ Brisbane Statement on Ebola, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 November 2014. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1115-ebola.html>

<sup>4453</sup> G20 Leaders’ Brisbane Statement on Ebola, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 November 2014. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1115-ebola.html>

<sup>4454</sup> G20 Leaders’ Brisbane Statement on Ebola, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 November 2014. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1115-ebola.html>

At the 2015 Antalya Summit, G20 leaders committed to “address current opportunities and challenges brought into the labour markets through ... the ageing of populations.”<sup>4455</sup> The G20 recognized the potential of investing in domestic labour mobility, thus adopting the “G20 Principles on Silver Economy and Active Ageing.”<sup>4456</sup> The document generally focuses on enhanced support for senior citizens through reducing discriminatory employment practices and also improving the accessibility of various social services.<sup>4457</sup> While the document makes mention of healthcare investment and “coordination between studies on health, macro- and labour- economics, and innovation,”<sup>4458</sup> an explicit and binding commitment on ageing policies still remains absent from summit negotiations.

At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit, the G20 committed to align its work with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), launched by the United Nations in 2015.<sup>4459</sup> The G20 recognized that health is a key component for socioeconomic stability and sustainable development with regards to achieving SDGs 1, 3 and 5. SDG 1 is “to end poverty in all forms everywhere,” SDG 3 is to “ensure healthy lives and promote well-being” and SDG 5 is to “achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.”<sup>4460</sup>

From 19 to 20 May 2017 in Berlin, Germany, the G20 health ministers met for the first time to address health-related issues in terms of “global health crisis management,” “health systems strengthening” and “antimicrobial resistance.”<sup>4461</sup> To address strengthening health systems, the WHO, International Labour Organization, and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development jointly published “Working for Health: A Five-Year Action Plan for Health Employment and Inclusive Economic Growth (2017-2021).”<sup>4462</sup> The plan was adopted at the 70th World Health Assembly on 29 May 2017.<sup>4463</sup> At the 2017 Hamburg Summit, the G20 reaffirmed its commitments to “safeguarding against health crises,” “strengthening global health systems” and “combatting antimicrobial resistance.”<sup>4464</sup>

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<sup>4455</sup> G20 Leader’ Communiqué, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2015. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/151116-communication.html>

<sup>4456</sup> ANNEX VI: G20 Principles on Silver Economy and Active Ageing, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 to 20 November 2015. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/G20-Principles-on-Silver-Economy-and-Active-Ageing.pdf>.

<sup>4457</sup> ANNEX VI: G20 Principles on Silver Economy and Active Ageing, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 to 20 November 2015. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/G20-Principles-on-Silver-Economy-and-Active-Ageing.pdf>.

<sup>4458</sup> ANNEX VI: G20 Principles on Silver Economy and Active Ageing, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 10 to 20 November 2015. Access Date: 15 April 2020. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2015/G20-Principles-on-Silver-Economy-and-Active-Ageing.pdf>.

<sup>4459</sup> G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Hangzhou. G20 Information Centre (Toronto). Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2016/g20-action-plan-on-2030-agenda.pdf>

<sup>4460</sup> Resolution Adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015, United Nations (New York) 21 October 2015. Access Date: 19 November 2019. [https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/resource-pdf/Resolution\\_A\\_RES\\_70\\_1\\_EN.pdf](https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/resource-pdf/Resolution_A_RES_70_1_EN.pdf)

<sup>4461</sup> Berlin Declaration of the G20 Health Ministers: Together Today for a Healthy Tomorrow, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 May 2017. Access Date 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/170520-health-en.html>

<sup>4462</sup> Five-Year Action Plan for Health Employment and Inclusive Economic Growth (2017-2021), World Health Organization, International Labour Organization and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) 2018. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/272941/9789241514149-eng.pdf?ua=1>

<sup>4463</sup> Human resources for health and implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations’ High-Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth, World Health Assembly (Geneva) 29 May 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2019. [http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/WHA70/A70\\_R6-en.pdf?ua=1](http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA70/A70_R6-en.pdf?ua=1)

<sup>4464</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration Hamburg, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2017/2017-G20-leaders-declaration.html>

At the 2018 Buenos Aires Summit, the G20 extended its commitments to health-related issues to include “[tackling] malnutrition, with a special focus on childhood overweight and obesity.”<sup>4465</sup> It also reaffirmed its support for strengthening health systems “to achieve better access to health care and to improve its quality and affordability to move towards Universal Health Coverage, in line with their national contexts and priorities.”<sup>4466</sup> The G20 also pledged to “ending HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.”<sup>4467</sup>

At the 2019 Osaka Summit, G20 leaders committed to strengthening global health systems through focussing on quality in terms of enhancing the health workforce and the promotion of innovation (e.g., digital and technological) in the public and private sector.<sup>4468</sup> The G20 expanded its commitment of health-related issues to include “healthy and active ageing,” which will be promoted through “policy measures to address health promotion.”<sup>4469</sup> The G20 pledged to implement policies to address dementia that aim “to improve quality of lives of people with dementia and caregivers.” G20 leaders also pledged to improve preparedness and response to health emergencies, which includes “strengthening [their] own capacities and the capacities of other countries in compliance with the World Health Organization (WHO) International Health Regulations (2005).”<sup>4470</sup> The G20 pledged to provide financial and technical support to countries affected with Ebola and reaffirmed its commitment to eradicate polio as well as end AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.<sup>4471</sup> G20 leaders also agreed to tackle AMR with the One-Health approach and through the work of Global AMR R&D Hub.<sup>4472</sup>

According to the WHO, the number of people over 60 years of age is expected to double by 2050.<sup>4473</sup> With many countries facing an increasingly ageing population due to declining fertility and increasing life expectancy, it is important not only to address the well-being of older persons but also to create age-friendly environments that encourage older people to actively participate in society. The WHO’s focus on healthy ageing between 2015 and 2030 replaces its previous policy framework on active ageing in 2002.<sup>4474</sup>

The 2020–2030 Decade of Healthy Aging, builds on the WHO’s Global Strategy and Action Plan on Ageing and Health.<sup>4475</sup> It is the second phase of the action plan and aims to address health across multiple sectors through “ten years of concerted, catalytic and collaborative action to improve the

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<sup>4465</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Summits (Argentina) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>4466</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Summits (Argentina) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>4467</sup> G20 Leaders’ Declaration: Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development, G20 Summits (Argentina) 1 December 2018. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2018/2018-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>4468</sup> G20 Osaka Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>4469</sup> G20 Osaka Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>4470</sup> G20 Osaka Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>4471</sup> G20 Osaka Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>4472</sup> G20 Osaka Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>4473</sup> Number of people over 60 years set to double by 2050; major societal changes required, World Health Organization (Geneva) 30 September 2015. Access Date: 3 March 2020.

<https://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2015/older-persons-day/en/>

<sup>4474</sup> Ageing and Life-Course: What is Healthy Ageing? World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.who.int/ageing/healthy-ageing/en/>

<sup>4475</sup> World report on ageing and health 2015, World Health Organization (Geneva) 2015. Access Date: 9 April 2020. [https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/186463/9789240694811\\_eng.pdf](https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/186463/9789240694811_eng.pdf)

lives of older people, their families, and the communities in which they live.”<sup>4476</sup> It focuses on enabling equitable access to health services and long-term care for older people; combat ageism; foster age-friendly environments that consider the varying abilities of older people; deliver integrated and primary health care that is responsive to older people; strengthen data and promote research to accelerate the implementation of data-driven health policies and action; and provide opportunities that promote intergenerational solidarity by being inclusive of the perspectives of young and old people, family members, caregivers, governments, and civil society organizations, which enable meaningful engagement in health and well-being discourse.<sup>4477</sup> The Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020–2030 is aligned with the SDGs, as it recognizes the implication of healthy ageing on preventing poverty (SDG 1) and enabling food security (SDG 2), good health and well-being (SDG 3), life-long education and learning (SDG 4), gender equality (SDG 5), job opportunities for older people (SDG 8), age-inclusive infrastructure (SDG 9), equitable access to services (SDG 10), age-friendly environments and communities (SDG 11), age-friendly institutions (SDG 16), and partnerships across various sectors, investments, and stakeholders (SDG 17).<sup>4478</sup>

The current G20 commitment reflects pledges made by G20 leaders and previous summits and highlights its new commitment to “promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.”<sup>4479</sup> This commitment focuses on quality and recognizes that progress towards universal health coverage and the achievement of the SDGs are tied to approaching health with a life course perspective that recognizes that earlier life experiences influence the way people age.

### Commitment Features

This commitment has two components: 1) healthy ageing and 2) active aging.

“Health” is understood to mean “the state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.”<sup>4480</sup> In the active ageing context, this refers to “policies and programmes that promote mental and social connections.”<sup>4481</sup>

“Promote” is understood to mean “support or renew old efforts or create new efforts in the area,” which implies that it should not have to be a brand new initiative.<sup>4482</sup> It also refers to “[contributing] to growth or prosperity of, to help bring into being.”<sup>4483</sup>

“Healthy ageing” refers to “the process of developing and maintaining functional ability that enables wellbeing in older age.”<sup>4484</sup> Wellbeing is understood in the broadest sense, which includes “happiness,

<sup>4476</sup> Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020-2030: What is the Decade of Healthy Ageing? World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 3 March 2020. <https://www.who.int/ageing/decade-of-healthy-ageing>

<sup>4477</sup> Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020-2030, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 12 April 2020. [https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/decade-of-healthy-ageing/final-decade-proposal/decade-proposal-final-apr2020-en.pdf?sfvrsn=b4b75ebc\\_3](https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/decade-of-healthy-ageing/final-decade-proposal/decade-proposal-final-apr2020-en.pdf?sfvrsn=b4b75ebc_3)

<sup>4478</sup> Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020-2030, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 12 April 2020. [https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/decade-of-healthy-ageing/final-decade-proposal/decade-proposal-final-apr2020-en.pdf?sfvrsn=b4b75ebc\\_3](https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/decade-of-healthy-ageing/final-decade-proposal/decade-proposal-final-apr2020-en.pdf?sfvrsn=b4b75ebc_3)

<sup>4479</sup> G20 Osaka Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2019/2019-g20-osaka-leaders-declaration.html>

<sup>4480</sup> Health Systems Strengthening Glossary, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 20 November 2019. [https://www.who.int/healthsystems/hss\\_glossary/en/index5.html](https://www.who.int/healthsystems/hss_glossary/en/index5.html)

<sup>4481</sup> Active Ageing: A Policy Framework (Geneva). Access Date: 10 December 2019. [https://www.who.int/ageing/publications/active\\_ageing/en/](https://www.who.int/ageing/publications/active_ageing/en/)

<sup>4482</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 2 May 2016. Access Date: 20 November 2019.

<sup>4483</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 and G20 Research Groups (Toronto) 2 May 2016. Access Date: 20 November 2019.

satisfaction and fulfilment.”<sup>4485</sup> Functional ability encompasses an individual’s “intrinsic capacity” and “environmental characteristics.”<sup>4486</sup> The intrinsic capacity of an individual is “all the mental and physical capabilities that a person can draw on and includes their ability to walk, think, see hear and remember.”<sup>4487</sup> By contrast, “environmental characteristics” encompass “the home, community and broader society, and all the factors within them such as the built environment, people and their relationships, attitudes and values, health and social policies, the systems that support them and the services that they implement.”<sup>4488</sup> There are two ways to achieve functional ability: by supporting the development and maintenance of intrinsic capacity or by enabling individuals with functional ability challenges to do things that are meaningful to them.<sup>4489</sup>

Two considerations of healthy ageing include “diversity” and “inequity.”<sup>4490</sup> There is “no typical older person” since people experience varying degrees of physical and mental incapacity, so policies should reflect the diversity in capacity of older people.<sup>4491</sup> Policies that seek to improve the functional ability of older individuals should be inclusive of the varying capabilities of older individuals. Inequity addresses how one’s family, sex, ethnicity, level of education and financial resources shape their relationship with their environments.<sup>4492</sup> Policies that promote health in terms of healthy ageing should seek to support and maintain autonomy and independence of ageing individuals, such as action on assistive devices and developing environments that support intrinsic capacity, with attention to diversity and inequity.

“Active ageing” refers to “the process of optimizing opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age,”<sup>4493</sup> which embraces a life course perspective. The term “active” is understood to mean “continuing participation in social, economic, cultural, spiritual and civic affairs, not just the ability to be physically active or to participate in the labour force.”<sup>4494</sup> The WHO outlines six determinants of active ageing, specifically health and social service systems, the physical environment, and economic, behavioural, personal, and social factors.<sup>4495</sup> Therefore, active ageing-related policy initiatives should “recognize the need to encourage and balance personal responsibility (self-care), age-friendly environments and intergenerational

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<sup>4484</sup> Ageing and Life-Course: What is Healthy Ageing? World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.who.int/ageing/healthy-ageing/en/>

<sup>4485</sup> World report on ageing and health 2015, World Health Organization (Geneva) 2015. Access Date: 9 April 2020. [https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/186463/9789240694811\\_eng.pdf?sequence=1](https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/186463/9789240694811_eng.pdf?sequence=1)

<sup>4486</sup> Ageing and Life-Course: What is Healthy Ageing? World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.who.int/ageing/healthy-ageing/en/>

<sup>4487</sup> Ageing and Life-Course: What is Healthy Ageing? World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.who.int/ageing/healthy-ageing/en/>

<sup>4488</sup> Ageing and Life-Course: What is Healthy Ageing? World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.who.int/ageing/healthy-ageing/en/>

<sup>4489</sup> World report on ageing and health 2015, World Health Organization (Geneva) 2015. Access Date: 9 April 2020. [https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/186463/9789240694811\\_eng.pdf?sequence=1](https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/186463/9789240694811_eng.pdf?sequence=1)

<sup>4490</sup> Ageing and Life-Course: What is Healthy Ageing? World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.who.int/ageing/healthy-ageing/en/>

<sup>4491</sup> Ageing and Life-Course: What is Healthy Ageing? World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.who.int/ageing/healthy-ageing/en/>

<sup>4492</sup> Ageing and Life-Course: What is Healthy Ageing? World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 December 2019. <https://www.who.int/ageing/healthy-ageing/en/>

<sup>4493</sup> Active Ageing: A Policy Framework, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 December 2019. [https://www.who.int/ageing/publications/active\\_ageing/en/](https://www.who.int/ageing/publications/active_ageing/en/)

<sup>4494</sup> Active Ageing: A Policy Framework, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 December 2019. [https://www.who.int/ageing/publications/active\\_ageing/en/](https://www.who.int/ageing/publications/active_ageing/en/)

<sup>4495</sup> <sup>4495</sup> Active Ageing: A Policy Framework, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 December 2019. [https://www.who.int/ageing/publications/active\\_ageing/en/](https://www.who.int/ageing/publications/active_ageing/en/)

solidarity.”<sup>4496</sup> Policies that promote active ageing should aim to support food and income security and encourage physical activity and social, economic, and cultural inclusion, which enable people to actively participate in their communities and improve their quality of life as they age. Active ageing policies should also aim to “reduce risk factors associated with major diseases and increase factors that protect health throughout the life course”; “develop a continuum of affordable, accessible, high-quality and age-friendly health and social services that address the needs and rights of people as they age”; and “provide training and education to caregivers.”<sup>4497</sup>

To achieve full compliance, the G20 member is required to take action to strongly promote both healthy ageing and active ageing through policy measures. Strongly promoting healthy ageing means that the G20 member has taken policy action to fully address functional ability in terms of intrinsic capacity and environmental characteristics, with consideration to both equity and diversity. It also means that the G20 member has taken policy action to fully optimize health and enhance security, quality of life, and social, political, cultural, and/or economic inclusion of older people. Partial compliance entails the G20 member taking action on strongly promoting healthy ageing or strongly promoting active ageing or some aspects of both that constitute less than strongly promoting. No compliance constitutes taking no action on healthy ageing nor active ageing.

This assessment covers G20 members’ actions taken between 30 June 2019 and 10 October 2020.

### Scoring Guidelines

|    |   |
|----|---|
| -1 | G20 member has taken no policy action to promote healthy ageing OR to promote active ageing.  |
| 0  | G20 member has taken policy action to strongly promote healthy ageing OR to strongly promote active ageing OR some of aspects of both that constitute less than strongly promoting. |
| +1 | G20 member has taken policy action to promote healthy ageing AND to promote active ageing.  |

*Compliance Director: Susba Guan  
Lead Analyst: Yiyao (Wenny) Jin*

### Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

In early March, Programa de Atención Médica Integral (PAMI), a public health service for senior citizens, introduced measures to protect elderly persons living in long-term care residences COVID-19.<sup>4498</sup> Through the measures, PAMI created the Care Residences Program to promote a community of care and monitor the status of long-term care residences during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4499</sup> According to the Care Residences Program Action Plan, PAMI:

<sup>4496</sup> Active Ageing: A Policy Framework, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 10 December 2019. [https://www.who.int/ageing/publications/active\\_ageing/en/](https://www.who.int/ageing/publications/active_ageing/en/)

<sup>4497</sup> Active Ageing: A Policy Framework, World Health Organization (Geneva). Access Date: 12 April 2020. [https://www.who.int/ageing/publications/active\\_ageing/en/](https://www.who.int/ageing/publications/active_ageing/en/)

<sup>4498</sup> Strengthening a Community of Care, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 26 May 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/960>; PAMI - National Institute of Social Services for Retirees and Pensioners, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires), no available date of publication. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/pami>

<sup>4499</sup> Strengthening a Community of Care, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 26 May 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/960>



- Established an expert committee called the “Contingency Committee for the Treatment of Coronavirus” to supervise the work of the medical and psychosocial teams in care residences.<sup>4500</sup>
- Shared sanitary protocols with care residences that the Committee developed in line with the guidelines published by the Ministry of Health to provide healthcare and preserve the life of the elderly during the pandemic.<sup>4501</sup>
- Created the Institutional and Community Monitoring Council aimed at providing accurate information to relatives of the elderly on the status of PAMI’s COVID-19 initiatives.<sup>4502</sup>
- Created a Territorial Technical Team focused on “coordination and implementation of the response actions offered by each of the Local Management Units (UGL) throughout the country to verify the security, hygiene, sanitation and conditions of the prevention elements in care residences.”<sup>4503</sup>
- Created a Psychosocial and Family Accompaniment Team.<sup>4504</sup>
- Agreed to make available to provincial and/or municipal governments “all the necessary resources for prevention, referral and isolation as well as for comprehensive cleaning, hygiene and disinfection of the establishment.”<sup>4505</sup>
- Increased the budget of the program by lending care residences USD400 million, corresponding to a payment of 4 per cent per member, with USD84 million allocated to purchase personal protection equipment.<sup>4506</sup>

On 7 March 2020, PAMI published health protocols for long-term care residences in Argentina.<sup>4507</sup> The protocols call for restrictions on visitors and ensuring the hygiene, care and containment of personnel to preserve the life of the elderly, in line with guidelines published by the Ministry of Health.<sup>4508</sup> The protocols included an affidavit that all care residences must sign to guarantee their compliance with the protocols.<sup>4509</sup>

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<sup>4500</sup> Strengthening a Community of Care, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 26 May 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020.

<https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/960>; Care Residences Program, PAMI (Buenos Aires), no available date of publication. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/residencias-cuidadas>

<sup>4501</sup> Strengthening a Community of Care, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 26 May 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020.

<https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/960>

<sup>4502</sup> Care Residences Program - Action Plan, PAMI (Buenos Aires), no date of publication. Access Date: 5 July 2020.

<https://www.pami.org.ar/residencias-cuidadas/plan-de-accion>

<sup>4503</sup> Care Residences Program - Action Plan, PAMI (Buenos Aires), no date of publication. Access Date: 5 July 2020.

<https://www.pami.org.ar/residencias-cuidadas/plan-de-accion>

<sup>4504</sup> Care Residences Program - Action Plan, PAMI (Buenos Aires), no date of publication. Access Date: 5 July 2020.

<https://www.pami.org.ar/residencias-cuidadas/plan-de-accion>

<sup>4505</sup> Care Residences Program - Action Plan, PAMI (Buenos Aires), no available date of publication. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/residencias-cuidadas/plan-de-accion>

<sup>4506</sup> Care Residences Program - Action Plan, PAMI (Buenos Aires), no available date of publication. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/residencias-cuidadas/plan-de-accion>

<sup>4507</sup> Care Residences Program, PAMI (Buenos Aires), no available date of publication. Access Date: 5 July 2020.

<https://www.pami.org.ar/residencias-cuidadas>

<sup>4508</sup> Care Residences Program, PAMI (Buenos Aires), no available date of publication. Access Date: 5 July 2020.

<https://www.pami.org.ar/residencias-cuidadas>

<sup>4509</sup> Care Residences Program, PAMI (Buenos Aires), no available date of publication. Access Date: 5 July 2020.

<https://www.pami.org.ar/residencias-cuidadas>

On 10 March 2020, President of Argentina Alberto Fernández and PAMI Executive Director Luana Volnovich presented a list of 170 free essential medicines for elderly and retirees that are part of the “Live Better” program.<sup>4510</sup> The free medicines “aim [to guarantee] the right to health of retirees” and would be allocated to the 5 million members of PAMI.<sup>4511</sup> PAMI agreed to finance the initiative with ARS30,000 million through a combination of its own resources and the Country Tax, a government levy applied to foreign expenses and the purchase of foreign currency.<sup>4512</sup> Known as the “Nuevo Vademecum PAMI”, the 170 free medicines were selected in accordance with World Health Organization (WHO) guidance and following a review of scientific evidence gathered by PAMI.<sup>4513</sup> The PAMI Vademecum has the permanent supervision of an interdisciplinary commission of experts that evaluates criteria for the use and effectiveness of the medicines as well as the overall impact of the program.<sup>4514</sup>

On 19 March 2020, the Government published Legislative Decree 297/2020, imposing mandatory isolation and social distancing measures due to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4515</sup> Under Article 6, the Government permitted exceptions from the social, preventive and compulsory isolation regime for essential workers, including caregivers for the elderly.<sup>4516</sup>

On 22 March 2020, the Ministry of Social Development published Resolution 133/2020, mandating that caregivers of individuals aged 60 or older must fill out an affidavit in order to certify compliance with the government’s framework of the isolation measures published in Decree 297/2020.<sup>4517</sup> The Resolution specified that “those responsible for such care and/or assistance must carry out everything in their power to collaborate with them in the realization of the basic and instrumental activities of daily life” and directed PAMI and the General Directorate of Legal Affairs of the Ministry of Social Development to implement the policy.<sup>4518</sup>

On 24 March 2020, the Ministry of Health published guidelines on providing assistance to the elderly during the COVID-19 pandemic, which allow caregivers to continue performing support tasks.<sup>4519</sup>

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<sup>4510</sup> President Alberto Fernández presented the list of free medicines for retirees, House of Government (Buenos Aires), 10 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.casarosada.gob.ar/slider-principal/46760-el-presidente-alberto-fernandez-presento-el-listado-de-medicamentos-gratuitos-para-jubilados>

<sup>4511</sup> President Alberto Fernández presented the list of free medicines for retirees, House of Government (Buenos Aires), 10 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.casarosada.gob.ar/slider-principal/46760-el-presidente-alberto-fernandez-presento-el-listado-de-medicamentos-gratuitos-para-jubilados>

<sup>4512</sup> President Alberto Fernández presented the list of free medicines for retirees, House of Government (Buenos Aires), 10 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.casarosada.gob.ar/slider-principal/46760-el-presidente-alberto-fernandez-presento-el-listado-de-medicamentos-gratuitos-para-jubilados>

<sup>4513</sup> President Alberto Fernández presented the list of free medicines for retirees, House of Government (Buenos Aires), 10 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.casarosada.gob.ar/slider-principal/46760-el-presidente-alberto-fernandez-presento-el-listado-de-medicamentos-gratuitos-para-jubilados>

<sup>4514</sup> New Vademecum PAMI, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 11 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/957>

<sup>4515</sup> Preventive and Mandatory Social Isolation, Decree 297/2020, Official Gazette (Buenos Aires), 19 March 2020. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/227042/20200320>

<sup>4516</sup> Preventive and Mandatory Social Isolation, Decree 297/2020, Official Gazette (Buenos Aires), 19 March 2020. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/227042/20200320>

<sup>4517</sup> Resolution 133/2020 - RESOL-2020-133-APN-MDS, Ministry of Social Development (Buenos Aires), 22 March 2020. Accessed 5 July 2020. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/227105/20200323>

<sup>4518</sup> Resolution 133/2020 - RESOL-2020-133-APN-MDS, Ministry of Social Development (Buenos Aires), 22 March 2020. Accessed 5 July 2020. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/227105/20200323>

<sup>4519</sup> Assistance for the elderly during quarantine, National Agency for Disability (Buenos Aires), 24 March 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/asistencia-de-personas-mayores-durante-la-cuarentena>

The information intended to “guarantee the right to care and to be cared for in this circumstance, while continuing to comply with preventive isolation measures.”<sup>4520</sup>

On 30 March 2020, the Ministry of Health published recommendations for the elderly during the COVID-19 virus, which aimed to balance elderly wellbeing against the Government’s preventative and compulsory isolation order.<sup>4521</sup> Miriam Rozenek, a specialist in elderly care, explained, “in older adults, isolation is very complicated, so we must speak of physical and not social isolation. We must attend to physical distance, but without neglecting older adults.”<sup>4522</sup> Rozenek also recommended the use of “technology to make phone calls, videoconferences and contact on social networks” to reduce isolation.<sup>4523</sup>

On 2 April 2020, the Ministry of Health announced that it distributed more than 4 million of the 11.7 million doses of the influenza vaccine to carry out a “timely and staged” vaccination of individuals over 65 years old.<sup>4524</sup> The ministry underscored that regional provinces should prioritize the vaccination of health personnel and those over the age of 65 to ensure influenza immunization during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4525</sup>

On 3 April 2020, the Secretariat of Media and Public Content and PAMI agreed to create the online portal “PAMI Community” to support the elderly population during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4526</sup> A special section of the PAMI Community will provide public and free audiovisual content through CONTAR, a state media platform, with cultural programs dedicated specifically to older age groups.<sup>4527</sup>

On 14 April 2020, the Secretary of Media and Public Communication within the Head of the Cabinet of Ministers announced the #MoveteArgentina program to provide exercise routines and training tips through a public sports channel for people to practice in isolation.<sup>4528</sup> The press release

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<sup>4520</sup> Assistance for the elderly during quarantine, National Agency for Disability (Buenos Aires), 24 March 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/asistencia-de-personas-mayores-durante-la-cuarentena>

<sup>4521</sup> Assistance for the elderly during quarantine, National Agency for Disability (Buenos Aires), 24 March 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/asistencia-de-personas-mayores-durante-la-cuarentena>

<sup>4522</sup> Assistance for the elderly during quarantine, National Agency for Disability (Buenos Aires), 24 March 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/asistencia-de-personas-mayores-durante-la-cuarentena>

<sup>4523</sup> COVID-19: Recommendations for health care in older adults, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires), 30 March 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/covid-19-recomendaciones-para-el-cuidado-de-la-salud-en-adultos-mayores>

<sup>4524</sup> Health has already distributed more than 4 million of the 11 million doses of the flu vaccine to the country, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires), 2 April 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-ya-distribuyo-todo-el-pais-mas-de-4000000-de-las-11740000-dosis-de-la-vacuna>

<sup>4525</sup> Health has already distributed more than 4 million of the 11 million doses of the flu vaccine to the country, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires), 2 April 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/salud-ya-distribuyo-todo-el-pais-mas-de-4000000-de-las-11740000-dosis-de-la-vacuna>

<sup>4526</sup> PAMI Community, a section of audiovisual content for older adults of the Contar platform, Secretary of Media and Public Communication (Buenos Aires), 3 April 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comunidad-pami-una-seccion-de-contenidos-audiovisuales-para-adultos-mayores-de-la>

<sup>4527</sup> PAMI Community, a section of audiovisual content for older adults of the Contar platform, Secretary of Media and Public Communication (Buenos Aires), 3 April 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/comunidad-pami-una-seccion-de-contenidos-audiovisuales-para-adultos-mayores-de-la>

<sup>4528</sup> #MoveteArgentina, the new program of DEPORTV, Secretary of Media and Public Communication (Buenos Aires), 14 April 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/moveteargentina-el-nuevo-programa-de-deportv>

highlighted that a segment of the program is dedicated to elderly adults and features exercise advice by specialists and kinesiologists.<sup>4529</sup>

On 27 April 2020, National Deputy Graciela Ocaña proposed the creation of a Multisectoral Crisis Committee, with a focus on caring for the elderly in line with the government's COVID-19 response.<sup>4530</sup> The proposed committee would sit in the Ministry of Social Development and comprise of National Deputies and Senators from the Social Action, Population and Human Development and Health committees and PAMI.<sup>4531</sup> The proposed Committee would aim to issue recommendations regarding protocols for care, containment and assistance to the elderly in health centers and long-term care establishments, as well as regarding measures to meet the elderly's social and economic needs and any other issue that the Enforcement Authority considers important and that aims to protect the elderly during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4532</sup>

On 1 May 2020, the Ministry of Social Development published Resolution 258/2020, in which it reaffirmed its responsibility for all matters inherent to social policy during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4533</sup> The ministry mentioned assistance, promotion, care and social inclusion, human development, food security, housing, poverty reduction, and development of equal opportunities for the most vulnerable sectors, including the elderly population, as areas of its competence in line with all treaties and multinational agreements.<sup>4534</sup>

On 14 May 2020, Minister of Social Development Daniel Arroyo and Minister of Health Ginés González García published recommendations on preventing the spread of COVID-19 amongst the elderly.<sup>4535</sup> The recommendations underscored the need for a “community approach” in which municipalities link efforts with religious institutions, social organizations, neighbourhood clubs, schools and primary care centres, local emergency committees and the organization in each neighborhood of Points of Community Integration (PIC).<sup>4536</sup> Minister Arroyo and Minister García also discussed the importance of conducting surveys to detect, locate and register people with greater health and social vulnerability, implement risk-based care actions, establish a support,

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<sup>4529</sup> #MoveteArgentina, the new program of DEPORTV, Secretary of Media and Public Communication (Buenos Aires), 14 April 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/moveteArgentina-el-nuevo-programa-de-deportv>

<sup>4530</sup> They promote the creation of a Crisis Committee specialized in older adults, *Parlamentario.com* (Buenos Aires) 27 April 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.parlamentario.com/2020/04/27/impulsan-la-creacion-de-un-comite-de-crisis-especializado-en-adultos-mayores/>

<sup>4531</sup> They promote the creation of a Crisis Committee specialized in older adults, *Parlamentario.com* (Buenos Aires) 27 April 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.parlamentario.com/2020/04/27/impulsan-la-creacion-de-un-comite-de-crisis-especializado-en-adultos-mayores/>

<sup>4532</sup> They promote the creation of a Crisis Committee specialized in older adults, *Parlamentario.com* (Buenos Aires) 27 April 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.parlamentario.com/2020/04/27/impulsan-la-creacion-de-un-comite-de-crisis-especializado-en-adultos-mayores/>

<sup>4533</sup> Resolution 258/2020, Ministry of Social Development (Buenos Aires), 1 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/228718/20200506>

<sup>4534</sup> Resolution 258/2020, Ministry of Social Development (Buenos Aires), 1 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/228718/20200506>

<sup>4535</sup> Guide of recommendations to avoid the spread in popular neighborhoods and the care of the elderly, Ministry of Social Development (Buenos Aires), 14 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/guia-de-recomendaciones-para-evitar-la-propagacion-en-barrios-populares-y-el-cuidado-de>

<sup>4536</sup> Joint signature resolution number RESFC-2020-2-APN-MS, Argentine Republic - National Executive Power (Buenos Aires), 17 April 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. [https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/rs-2020-26433879-apn-ms\\_1\\_0.pdf](https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/rs-2020-26433879-apn-ms_1_0.pdf)

accompaniment and containment network, and ensure the provision of hygiene supplies and food for elderly in need.<sup>4537</sup>

On 26 May 2020, PAMI announced that the Ministry of Education donated 12,000 protection masks to its employees and doctors caring for the elderly.<sup>4538</sup> Executive Director Volnovich, together with the Minister of Education, Nicolás Trotta, toured the factory producing the protection masks and received the first delivery of 5,000 units for care personnel.<sup>4539</sup>

On 26 May 2020, PAMI published an overview of the PAMI Food Program, through which it took measures to guarantee the food security and nutrition of elderly persons during the COVID-19 crisis.<sup>4540</sup> For elderly in need, PAMI pledged to provide a basket of food products selected by nutritionists to complement their daily diet.<sup>4541</sup> For the 540,000 people in the PAMI Food Program, PAMI also added a direct sum of ARS1,600 to monthly pension payments to guarantee food and nutritional security.<sup>4542</sup> PAMI added a solidarity support subsidy to the provision of emergency food support for the network of Retiree and Pensioner Centers across the country.<sup>4543</sup>

On 15 June 2020, PAMI, the Dirección Nacional Para Adultos Mayores (DINAPAM), Secretaría Nacional de la Niñez, Adolescencia y Familia (SENAF) and the Ministry of Social Development announced Argentina's ninth national campaign to promote actions that respect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the elderly people across the country.<sup>4544</sup> Called "New Ways to Accompany Us, the Same Need to be Close", the campaign's message focuses on the need to reinvent care for older people and avoid emotional isolation related to the measures imposed to prevent the spread of COVID-19.<sup>4545</sup> The campaign also seeks to promote actions aimed at guaranteeing the rights of the elderly, to showcase the different ways of ageing, to strengthen social ties, to value the role of the elderly within the community, contribute to a positive image of old age and ensure compliance with the principles established in the Inter-American Convention on the Protection of the Human Rights of the Elderly through the policies of the Government.<sup>4546</sup>

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<sup>4537</sup> Guide of recommendations to avoid the spread in popular neighborhoods and the care of the elderly, Ministry of Social Development (Buenos Aires), 14 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/guia-de-recomendaciones-para-evitar-la-propagacion-en-barrios-populares-y-el-cuidado-de>

<sup>4538</sup> The Ministry of Education donated 12 Thousand Protective Masks, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 26 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/958>

<sup>4539</sup> The Ministry of Education donated 12 Thousand Protective Masks, PAMI (Benos Aires), 26 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/958>

<sup>4540</sup> PAMI Food Program, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 26 May 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/959>

<sup>4541</sup> PAMI Food Program, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 26 May 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/959>

<sup>4542</sup> PAMI Food Program, PAMI (Buenos Aires), no available date of publication. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/programa-alimentario>

<sup>4543</sup> PAMI Food Program, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 26 May 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/959>

<sup>4544</sup> World Day of Awareness of Abuse and Maltreatment in Old Age, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 15 June 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/962>

<sup>4545</sup> World Day of Awareness of Abuse and Maltreatment in Old Age, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 15 June 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/962>

<sup>4546</sup> World Day of Awareness of Abuse and Maltreatment in Old Age, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 15 June 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/962>

On 17 July 2020, the Ministry of Defense sponsored a training program to educate the public on preventing violence against the elderly.<sup>4547</sup> The training sessions, which took place online, commemorated the annual Day of Awareness against Abuse and Mistreatment of the Elderly and were delivered by professionals from the Intrafamily Violence Department of the General Directorate of Health within the Ministry of Defense.<sup>4548</sup>

On 27 July 2020, the Argentine government published a report aimed at developing the “care economy” for at-risk populations, including the elderly.<sup>4549</sup> Titled “Let’s Talk about Care,” the report defines “care” as “meeting the needs of people who require attention due to their age or their conditions/capacities.”<sup>4550</sup> The report states, “this is a historic event, since it is the first time that the National Government addresses the issue [of care] in a unified way as a state policy.”<sup>4551</sup> The report was published under the Inter-ministerial Roundtable of Care Policies, coordinated by the Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security, the Ministry of the Economy and the Ministry of Education.<sup>4552</sup>

On 11 August 2020, PAMI announced the extension of a drug price freeze for retirees and pensioners until 31 October 2020.<sup>4553</sup> PAMI agreed to the price freeze in partnership with the Argentine Chamber of Medical Specialties, the Business Chamber of Pharmaceutical Laboratories and the Industrial Chamber of Pharmaceutical Laboratories due to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4554</sup>

On 13 August 2020, Claudia Jaroslavsky, a policy official in the Directorate of Adults and Elderly People within the Ministry of Health, called on Argentina to reduce the stigmatization of the elderly during the pandemic.<sup>4555</sup> Ms. Jaroslavsky stated, “[t]his is an opportunity to banish myths and

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<sup>4547</sup> Online training in prevention of violence against older adults, Ministry of Defense (Buenos Aires), 29 July 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/capitacion-online-en-prevencion-de-la-violencia-contra-adultos-mayores>

<sup>4548</sup> Online training in prevention of violence against older adults, Ministry of Defense (Buenos Aires), 29 July 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/capitacion-online-en-prevencion-de-la-violencia-contra-adultos-mayores>

<sup>4549</sup> We present the first document prepared by the Interministerial Table of Care Policies, Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity (Buenos Aires), 27 July 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/presentamos-el-primer-documento-elaborado-por-la-mesa-interministerial-de-politicas-de>

<sup>4550</sup> We present the first document prepared by the Interministerial Table of Care Policies, Ministry of Women, Gender and Diversity (Buenos Aires), 27 July 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/presentamos-el-primer-documento-elaborado-por-la-mesa-interministerial-de-politicas-de>

<sup>4551</sup> Let’s Talk about Care, Inter-ministerial Roundtable of Care Policies (Buenos Aires) July 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/mesa-interministerial-de-politicas-de-cuidado.pdf>

<sup>4552</sup> Let’s Talk about Care, Inter-ministerial Roundtable of Care Policies (Buenos Aires) July 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/mesa-interministerial-de-politicas-de-cuidado.pdf>

<sup>4553</sup> PAMI has frozen the price of medicines until 31 October, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 13 August 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/969>; PAMI freezes drug prices until 31 October 2020, Pagina12.com.ar (Buenos Aires), 11 August 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020.

<sup>4554</sup> PAMI has frozen the price of medicines until 31 October, PAMI (Buenos Aires), 13 August 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020. <https://www.pami.org.ar/novedades/novedad/969>; PAMI freezes drug prices until 31 October 2020, Pagina12.com.ar (Buenos Aires), 11 August 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020. <https://www.pagina12.com.ar/284519-pami-congela-los-precios-de-los-medicamentos-hasta-el-31-de>

<sup>4555</sup> Until a vaccine is available, it is necessary to maintain COVID-19 prevention measures, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires), 13 August 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/hasta-no-contar-con-una-vacuna-es-necesario-mantener-las-medidas-de-prevencion-de-covid-19>

prejudices and to be able to carry a positive image of old age. Ageing is not synonymous with disease; we must denaturalize discriminatory practices and work to have age-friendly cities and communities.”<sup>4556</sup>

On 28 August 2020, the Ministry of Social Development and PAMI signed an agreement to create a new rate regime in electricity and gas services for retirement centres.<sup>4557</sup> The rate regime guaranteed a “social tariff for electricity and gas” in order to “help [retirement centres] better navigate the current situation of the pandemic,” according to the Executive Director Volnovich.<sup>4558</sup>

On 21 September 2020, the Secretary for Access to Health, Carla Vizzotti, called for intergenerational solidarity in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4559</sup> Secretary Vizzotti asked younger Argentines to act responsibly in order to “interrupt chains of transmission and contagion” and protect the elderly and other at-risk populations from indirect contagion.<sup>4560</sup>

Argentina implemented policy measures in line with its commitment to promote healthy and active aging. The government’s health policies generally focus on functional ability with consideration to equity and diversity as well as intrinsic capacity and environmental characteristics of elderly individuals. Certain policy measures also target the health, participation and security of the elderly, including the support of the elderly through measures to ensure the safety of caregivers during the COVID-19 pandemic and to promote intergenerational solidarity.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Ian Stansbury and Miles Harrison*

#### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 1 July 2019, the Australian government reformed its residential aged care standards with the implementation of Aged Care Quality Standards to improve the quality and safety of care for senior Australians in government-funded aged care under the Commonwealth Home Support Programme.<sup>4561</sup>

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<sup>4556</sup> Until a vaccine is available, it is necessary to maintain COVID-19 prevention measures, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires), 13 August 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/hasta-no-contar-con-una-vacuna-es-necesario-mantener-las-medidas-de-prevencion-de-covid-19>

<sup>4557</sup> We signed an agreement with PAMI so that retirement centers have access to a differential rate for electricity and gas, Ministry of Social Development (Buenos Aires), 28 August 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/firmamos-convenio-con-pami-para-que-centros-de-jubilados-tengan-acceso-tarifa-diferencial-0>

<sup>4558</sup> We signed an agreement with PAMI so that retirement centers have access to a differential rate for electricity and gas, Ministry of Social Development (Buenos Aires), 28 August 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/firmamos-convenio-con-pami-para-que-centros-de-jubilados-tengan-acceso-tarifa-diferencial-0>

<sup>4559</sup> On Student Day, Health calls for intergenerational solidarity to prevent COVID-19, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires), 21 September 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/en-el-dia-del-estudiante-salud-llama-la-solidaridad-intergeneracional-para-prevenir-covid>

<sup>4560</sup> On Student Day, Health calls for intergenerational solidarity to prevent COVID-19, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires), 21 September 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/en-el-dia-del-estudiante-salud-llama-la-solidaridad-intergeneracional-para-prevenir-covid>

<sup>4561</sup> Delivering safety and quality in Australia’s aged care system, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 1 July 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/delivering-safety-and-quality-in-australias-aged-care-system>

In addition to these reforms, “a new basic daily fee will be set based on the customers home care package level, reducing fees by up to AUD400 for those on lower packages.”<sup>4562</sup>

On 1 July 2019, the Australian government introduced a new Charter of Aged Care Rights that “enshrines 14 rights for senior Australians in care” in a format that is easy to read and replaces the former charters of care recipients’ rights and responsibilities for residential care, home care and short-term restorative care.<sup>4563</sup> The new charter is designed to “[make] it easier for aged care consumers (people receiving aged care services), families and carers to understand what they can expect from an aged care service provider.”<sup>4564</sup>

On 8 July 2019, Minister for Indigenous Australians Ken Wyatt and Minister for Health Greg Hunt announced an investment of “more than AUD5.6 million in medical research focusing on healthy ageing for Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander peoples.”<sup>4565</sup> Through a culturally-sensitive approach to research, the National Health and Medical Research Council aims to “improve the health and experience of ageing of older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.”<sup>4566</sup>

On 8 July 2019, Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians Richard Colbeck and Senator for the Northern Territory Sam McMahon pledged AUD20 million to establish the Nhulunbuy Flexible Aged Care Service, which is a new aged care service implemented through the collaborative effort of the Commonwealth and Australian Regional and Remote Community Services, for Nhulunbuy in East Arnhem Land.<sup>4567</sup> The initiative aims to increase the capacity for culturally-sensitive aged care, enhance the quality of service and care and improve the accessibility of care for Indigenous Australians.<sup>4568</sup>

On 31 July 2019, the Australian government granted AUD1.8 million to the Walking Football One Million+ program, which was created through the partnership between Football Federation Australia and Active Ageing Australia.<sup>4569</sup> The initiative aims to promote social inclusion and improve the

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<sup>4562</sup> Delivering safety and quality in Australia’s aged care system, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 1 July 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/delivering-safety-and-quality-in-australias-aged-care-system>

<sup>4563</sup> Delivering safety and quality in Australia’s aged care system, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 1 July 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/delivering-safety-and-quality-in-australias-aged-care-system>

<sup>4564</sup> Charter of Aged Care Rights, Older Persons Advocacy Network (Sydney) 1 July 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://opan.com.au/charter/>

<sup>4565</sup> New research projects to focus on healthy ageing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, Australian Government Department of Health (Canberra) 8 July 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/new-research-projects-to-focus-on-healthy-ageing-of-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples>

<sup>4566</sup> \$5.6 million for research into healthy ageing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 8 July 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/56-million-for-research-into-healthy-ageing-of-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples>

<sup>4567</sup> Delivering new aged care service for Nhulunbuy, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 8 July 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/delivering-new-aged-care-service-for-nhulunbuy>

<sup>4568</sup> Delivering new aged care service for Nhulunbuy, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 8 July 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/delivering-new-aged-care-service-for-nhulunbuy>

<sup>4569</sup> Walking Football to deliver one million active hours for seniors, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 31 July 2019. Access Date 29 February 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/walking-football-to-deliver-one-million-active-hours-for-seniors>



physical activity and mental health of senior Australians by “[delivering] an additional one million active hours over the next two years” for older persons.<sup>4570</sup>

On 17 September 2019, Minister Colbeck pledged AUD150 million over three years to increase the access to entry-level home support of senior Australians.<sup>4571</sup> Home support services will be delivered under the Common Home Support Programme, which is a program that provides entry-level home support for frail older persons.<sup>4572</sup>

On 29 October 2019, Minister Hunt announced the new mobile Medicare x-ray services available at residential aged care facilities beginning 1 November 2019.<sup>4573</sup> According to Minister Colbeck, the initiative will improve the accessibility of medical treatment for senior Australians and save on costs.<sup>4574</sup>

On 15 November 2019, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare released a first-time report entitled “Interfaces between the aged care and health systems in Australia — first results,” which examined the use of health services by older people using different types of aged care.<sup>4575</sup> The report illustrated how data-based evidence can contribute to the development of social policy and strengthen the understanding of health and aged care, which can serve to enhance health services for older persons.<sup>4576</sup>

On 25 November 2019, as a response to the Interim Report of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety released on 31 October 2019, the Australian government announced an investment of AUD537 million into creating “10,000 home care packages”; “improv[ing] medication management and dementia training”; and reducing the number of younger people with disabilities entering residential aged care.<sup>4577</sup>

On 5 December 2019, the government successfully secured the passage of the Aged Care Legislation Amendment (New Commissioner Functions) Bill 2019, which expands the Aged Care Quality and Safety

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<sup>4570</sup> Walking Football to deliver one million active hours for seniors, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 31 July 2019. Access Date 29 February 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/walking-football-to-deliver-one-million-active-hours-for-seniors>

<sup>4571</sup> Supporting Australians to live independently for longer, Australian Government Department of Health (Canberra) 17 September 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/supporting-more-australians-to-live-independently-for-longer>

<sup>4572</sup> Delivering on our commitment to support more senior Australians to live independently for longer, Australian Government Department of Health (Canberra) 17 September 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/delivering-on-our-commitment-to-support-more-senior-australians-to-live-independently-for-longer>

<sup>4573</sup> New Medicare support for older Australians, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/new-medicare-support-for-older-australians>

<sup>4574</sup> New Medicare support for older Australians, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/new-medicare-support-for-older-australians>

<sup>4575</sup> Exploring how older Australians in aged care use health services, Australian Government Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (Canberra) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.aihw.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/2019/november-1/exploring-how-older-australians-in-aged-care-use-h>

<sup>4576</sup> Exploring how older Australians in aged care use health services, Australian Government Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (Canberra) 15 November 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.aihw.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/2019/november-1/exploring-how-older-australians-in-aged-care-use-h>

<sup>4577</sup> Response to Aged Care Royal Commission Interim Report, Prime Ministers of Australia (Canberra) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2020. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/response-aged-care-royal-commission-interim-report>

Commission effective 1 January 2020.<sup>4578</sup> The bill expands the role of the Commissioner to include “approving all residential and home care providers; aged care compliance and enforcement actions; and the administration of the responsibilities of approved providers to report assaults.”<sup>4579</sup> The expanded regulatory functions and additional powers of the Commissioner will ensure greater safety and quality.<sup>4580</sup>

On 11 December 2019, Acting Minister of Health Alan Tudge and Minister Colbeck, announced an investment of AUD22 million in research to improve aged care and health outcomes of older Australians.<sup>4581</sup> Actions funded by this investment include research into intervention strategies for age-related disease and care for frail older persons.<sup>4582</sup>

On 16 December 2019, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission released a report, entitled “Consumers’ experience of residential aged care, Australia 2017-19,” which revealed the result of an independent analysis on residential consumer experience reports data. The report enables a better understanding of the experiences of older Australians living in residential aged care.<sup>4583</sup>

On 18 December 2019, Minister Colbeck announced the “availability of new government subsidised aged care places released as part of the 2020 Aged Care Approvals Round.”<sup>4584</sup> Minister Colbeck also announced an investment of AUD60 million to help residential aged care providers with infrastructure and building costs.<sup>4585</sup>

On 1 January 2020, Minister Colbeck announced a further investment of AUD623.9 million in the year of 2019-2020 in a “series of targeted measures” that aim to ensure quality of care.<sup>4586</sup>

On 17 January 2020, the Dementia, Ageing and Aged Care Mission released the draft Dementia, Ageing and Aged Care Mission Roadmap for public consultation.<sup>4587</sup> The consultation grants the

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<sup>4578</sup> Strengthening independent oversight of aged care, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/strengthening-independent-oversight-of-aged-care>

<sup>4579</sup> Strengthening independent oversight of aged care, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/strengthening-independent-oversight-of-aged-care>

<sup>4580</sup> Strengthening independent oversight of aged care, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 5 December 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/strengthening-independent-oversight-of-aged-care>

<sup>4581</sup> \$22 million funding for ageing and aged care research, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/22-million-funding-for-ageing-and-aged-care-research>

<sup>4582</sup> \$22 million funding for ageing and aged care research, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/22-million-funding-for-ageing-and-aged-care-research>

<sup>4583</sup> Consumer experience of residential aged care explored in new report, Australian Government Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (Canberra) 16 December 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.aihw.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/2019/december/consumer-experience-of-residential-aged-care-explo>

<sup>4584</sup> Meeting future demand for residential aged care places, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/meeting-future-demand-for-residential-aged-care-places>

<sup>4585</sup> Meeting future demand for residential aged care places, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 18 December 2019. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/meeting-future-demand-for-residential-aged-care-places>

<sup>4586</sup> Important changes to improve the quality of aged care start today, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 1 January 2020. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/important-changes-to-improve-the-quality-of-aged-care-start-today>

Australian public the opportunity to evaluate the current strategy and assist the government in its planning for the prioritization of funding for critical dementia and aged care research.<sup>4588</sup>

On 31 January 2020, Minister Colbeck pledged AUD50 million towards a “targeted aged care Business Improvement Fund,” which will “[support] facilities and [improve] business operations.”<sup>4589</sup> Funds will be used to implement new business strategies, maintain services during transfer of residence between providers and ensure the maintenance care standards during home closure.<sup>4590</sup>

On 6 February 2020, Minister Hunt announced the investment of AUD5.5 million in ten groundbreaking medical research projects aimed at “improving outcomes in mental health, dementia, aged care, cerebral palsy, diabetes and many more life-changing conditions.”<sup>4591</sup> Additionally, AUD2.7 million will be provided to four international research projects aimed towards investigating and improving personalized medicine and clinical trials to improve dementia diagnosis and treatment.<sup>4592</sup>

On 9 March 2020, Minister Colbeck and Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer Brendan Murphy convened the Aged Care COVID-19 Preparedness Forum to help ensure the “continued delivery of safe, quality care to senior Australians.”<sup>4593</sup> Strategies of approach for aged care providers and the government were discussed and consolidated to protect those living in residences.

On 11 March 2020, the Australian government pledged AUD2.4 billion towards a health plan to fight COVID-19. The COVID-19 National Health Plan aims “to protect all Australians, including vulnerable groups such as the elderly, those with chronic conditions and Indigenous communities, from the coronavirus (COVID-19)”<sup>4594</sup> and support “primary care, aged care, hospitals, research and the national medical stockpile.”<sup>4595</sup> AUD101.2million of the AUD2.4 billion will go towards aged care as part of the front-line defense measures to “protect [aged care] residents, staff, and their families

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<sup>4587</sup> Dementia, Ageing and Aged Care Mission Roadmap released for public consultation, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/dementia-ageing-and-aged-care-mission-roadmap-released-for-public-consultation>

<sup>4588</sup> Dementia, Ageing and Aged Care Mission Roadmap released for public consultation, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 17 January 2020. Access Date: 30 January 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/dementia-ageing-and-aged-care-mission-roadmap-released-for-public-consultation>

<sup>4589</sup> Targeted support to improve residential aged care services, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/targeted-support-to-improve-residential-age-care-services>

<sup>4590</sup> Targeted support to improve residential aged care services, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/targeted-support-to-improve-residential-age-care-services>

<sup>4591</sup> \$5.5 million for international research collaborations in human health, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/55-million-for-international-research-collaborations-in-human-health>

<sup>4592</sup> \$5.5 million for international research collaborations in human health, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 6 February 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/55-million-for-international-research-collaborations-in-human-health>

<sup>4593</sup> Statement from the Aged Care COVID-19, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/statement-from-the-aged-care-covid-19-preparedness-forum>

<sup>4594</sup> \$2.4 Billion Health Plan to Fight COVID-19, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 29 March 2020. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/24-billion-health-plan-fight-covid-19>

<sup>4595</sup> 2.4 Billion Health Plan to Fight COVID-19, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 29 March 2020. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/24-billion-health-plan-fight-covid-19>

across the country.”<sup>4596</sup> Additionally, the government is investing in national medical stockpile, which includes personal protective equipment for staff and a AUD30 million National Communications Campaign to inform citizens of the best practices for virus containment.<sup>4597</sup>

On 12 March 2020, Minister Colbeck announced the opening of a new residential care facility at Wamuran in Queensland’s Southeast.<sup>4598</sup> The facility is part of a new development, Beaumont care, and also has a “secure memory support unit equipped to provide specialized care for those living with dementia” as one of its four interconnected homes.<sup>4599</sup>

On 18 March 2020, Minister Colbeck and Acting Minister Tudge jointly announced the relaxation of regulations regarding the hours that international students are allowed to work in the aged care sector.<sup>4600</sup> This is to maintain the quality of care and protection afforded to senior Australians despite staff shortages due to COVID-19.

On 18 March 2020, Minister Colbeck announced additional aged care visitation restrictions to protect residents from COVID-19, including the specification of protocol, locations for visitation and persons allowed to visit.<sup>4601</sup> Additionally, facilities are encouraged to ensure the availability of alternative methods of visitation (e.g. video calls), to conduct screening of all visitors and to provide handwashing facilities and alcohol-based rubs at all entrances.<sup>4602</sup>

On 20 March 2020, Minister Colbeck announced AUD444.6 million to strengthen support for the aged care workforce, which will include “a COVID-19 ‘retention bonus’”<sup>4603</sup> to support aged care providers, residential care support, and funding for the “Residential and Home Care Viability Supplements and the Homeless Supplement,”<sup>4604</sup> including “equivalent viability funding increases for

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<sup>4596</sup> Funding boost for aged care set to strengthen defence against COVID-19, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/statement-from-the-aged-care-covid-19-preparedness-forum>

<sup>4597</sup> Funding boost for aged care set to strengthen defence against COVID-19, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/statement-from-the-aged-care-covid-19-preparedness-forum>

<sup>4598</sup> New residential aged care facility marks new era for Wamuran, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/new-residential-aged-care-facility-marks-new-era-for-wamuran>

<sup>4599</sup> New residential aged care facility marks new era for Wamuran, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 12 March 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/new-residential-aged-care-facility-marks-new-era-for-wamuran>

<sup>4600</sup> International students ready to fill critical staff shortages in aged care, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/international-students-ready-to-fill-critical-staff-shortages-in-aged-care>

<sup>4601</sup> International students ready to fill critical staff shortages in aged care, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/international-students-ready-to-fill-critical-staff-shortages-in-aged-care>

<sup>4602</sup> Strengthened guidelines to protect aged care residents, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 18 March 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/strengthened-guidelines-to-protect-aged-care-residents>

<sup>4603</sup> Measures to support Senior Australians and those who care for them, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/measures-to-support-senior-australians-and-those-who-care-for-them>

<sup>4604</sup> Measures to support Senior Australians and those who care for them, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/measures-to-support-senior-australians-and-those-who-care-for-them>

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program providers, Multi-Purpose Services and homeless providers.”<sup>4605</sup>

On 22 March 2020, the Department of Health published an information sheet specifically dedicated to informing “older Australians, their family and friends about how to protect older Australians from the spread of coronavirus.”<sup>4606</sup> The periodically updated sheet included instructions on how to get medical services, getting help, and treating suspicious messages about COVID-19. This initiative supports self-care of older Australians in terms of maintaining involvement in their own healthcare and encourages community and intergenerational solidarity between family and friends with regards to preventing the spread of COVID-19.

On 25 March 2020, Minister Colbeck announced that several measures will be postponed for at least six months, including the “Australian National Aged Care Classification (AN-ACC) assessment trial, the 2020 Aged Care Approval Round and the implementation of the home care payment alignment project”<sup>4607</sup> as the government deals with the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4608</sup>

On 29 March 2020, Minister Colbeck announced a AUD1.1 billion funding package for senior Australians and young people, which will help them “stay healthy and connected”<sup>4609</sup> to their community to family, friends, and support services.<sup>4610</sup> It includes AUD10 million towards a Community Visitors Scheme, which aims to prevent social isolation of senior Australians due to visitor restrictions.<sup>4611</sup>

On 31 March 2020, Minister Hunt pledged AUD59.3 million towards funding for the Meals on Wheels initiative and similar meal delivery services for senior Australians, as they are urged to remain home in response to COVID-19.<sup>4612</sup> The funding aims to provide “prepared meals, food staples and essential daily items,”<sup>4613</sup> which will be delivered to seniors.<sup>4614</sup>

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<sup>4605</sup> Measures to support Senior Australians and those who care for them, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 20 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/measures-to-support-senior-australians-and-those-who-care-for-them>

<sup>4606</sup> Coronavirus (COVID-19) information for older Australians, Australian Government Department of Health (Canberra) 22 March 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-older-australians>

<sup>4607</sup> Aged care activities pause due to COVID-19, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/aged-care-activities-pause-due-to-covid-19>

<sup>4608</sup> Aged care activities pause due to COVID-19, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/aged-care-activities-pause-due-to-covid-19>

<sup>4609</sup> Support to keep people active and healthy as COVID-19 restrictions continue, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/support-to-keep-people-active-and-healthy-as-covid-19-restrictions-continue>

<sup>4610</sup> Support to keep people active and healthy as COVID-19 restrictions continue, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/support-to-keep-people-active-and-healthy-as-covid-19-restrictions-continue>

<sup>4611</sup> Support to keep people active and healthy as COVID-19 restrictions continue, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 30 March 2020. Access Date: 9 October 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/support-to-keep-people-active-and-healthy-as-covid-19-restrictions-continue>

<sup>4612</sup> Meals On Wheels programs reinforced to help senior Australians at home, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/meals-on-wheels-programs-reinforced-to-help-senior-australians-at-home>

<sup>4613</sup> Meals On Wheels programs reinforced to help senior Australians at home, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/meals-on-wheels-programs-reinforced-to-help-senior-australians-at-home>

On 1 April 2020, Minister Hunt announced that the Australian government has invested over AUD80 million in 2020 towards the National Immunization Program, which provides free flu vaccines, including the quadrivalent vaccine Flud Quad<sup>4615</sup> for people who are 65 years of age or older.<sup>4616</sup>

On 2 April 2020, Aged Care Quality and Safety Commissioner Janet Anderson detailed the actions taken by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission to protect older people in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4617</sup> Regulatory focuses include management of complaints, site visits and enforcing compliance to standards and requirements while implementing new provisions with compassion and care.<sup>4618</sup>

On 3 April 2020, Minister Colbeck urged aged care workers to get their flu vaccination in order to protect Senior Australians from influenza by the target date of 1 May 2020.<sup>4619</sup>

On 8 April 2020, Minister Colbeck announced that welfare checks in the form of phone calls will be conducted on Senior Australians who have deferred aged care home services in light of the pandemic.<sup>4620</sup> The program aims to ensure that Senior Australians can continue to receive care without having to risk infection from a health worker's visit.

On 9 April 2020, the Department of Health published a fact sheet containing information about "assistance with food and meals for older Australians impacted by COVID-19."<sup>4621</sup> The fact sheet included information about collaboration with grocery suppliers in order to provide priority access to online and telephone shopping services as well as urgent referrals to food and prepared meal providers.<sup>4622</sup>

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<sup>4614</sup> Meals On Wheels programs reinforced to help senior Australians at home, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/meals-on-wheels-programs-reinforced-to-help-senior-australians-at-home>

<sup>4615</sup> Flu vaccination more important than ever during the month of April, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 1 April 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/flu-vaccination-more-important-than-ever-during-the-month-of-april>

<sup>4616</sup> Flu vaccination more important than ever during the month of April, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 1 April 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/flu-vaccination-more-important-than-ever-during-the-month-of-april>

<sup>4617</sup> ACQSC Regulatory Response to COVID-19 Statement from Ms Janet Anderson PSM, Aged Care Quality and Safety Commissioner, Australian Government Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (Canberra) 02 April 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.agedcarequality.gov.au/acqsc-regulatory-response-covid-19-statement-ms-janet-anderson-psm-aged-care-quality-and-safety-commissioner>

<sup>4618</sup> ACQSC Regulatory Response to COVID-19 Statement from Ms Janet Anderson PSM, Aged Care Quality and Safety Commissioner, Australian Government Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (Canberra) 02 April 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.agedcarequality.gov.au/acqsc-regulatory-response-covid-19-statement-ms-janet-anderson-psm-aged-care-quality-and-safety-commissioner>

<sup>4619</sup> Aged care workers must get flu vaccination, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 3 April 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/aged-care-workers-must-get-flu-vaccination>

<sup>4620</sup> Welfare checks to ensure the wellbeing of Senior Australians, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 8 April 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/welfare-checks-to-ensure-the-wellbeing-of-senior-australians>

<sup>4621</sup> FACT SHEET: ASSISTANCE WITH FOOD AND MEALS FOR OLDER AUSTRALIANS IMPACTED BY COVID-19, Australian Government Department of Health (Canberra) 09 April 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2020/04/assistance-with-food-and-meals-for-older-australians-impacted-by-covid-19.pdf>

<sup>4622</sup> FACT SHEET: ASSISTANCE WITH FOOD AND MEALS FOR OLDER AUSTRALIANS IMPACTED BY COVID-19, Australian Government Department of Health (Canberra) 09 April 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2020/04/assistance-with-food-and-meals-for-older-australians-impacted-by-covid-19.pdf>

On 13 April 2020, Minister Colbeck announced the launching of a joint strategy by the federal government aimed at “strengthening the workforce to ensure staffing gaps are filled.”<sup>4623</sup> Emergency contingency measures include new emergency response teams, remote locums to support aged care providers and access to a surge workforce to ensure continuity of aged care to those in need.

On 16 April 2020, the Australia Institute of Health and Welfare produced a report titled “Patterns of health service use by people with dementia in their last year of life.”<sup>4624</sup> The study is one of the first of its kind and examined health service use in New South Wales and Victoria in order to provide deeper insights into dementia in Australia and its impact on Australia’s health and aged care system.

On 22 April 2020, the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee published a statement containing advice for residential aged care facilities about minimising the impact of COVID-19 on residents.<sup>4625</sup> The article included recommendations about hygiene measures, managing illness in visitors and staff and restriction of entry into aged care facilities. The statement was updated on 19 June 2020 to include more information about external excursions.<sup>4626</sup>

On 1 May 2020, Minister Colbeck announced a new COVID-19 specific support package totalling AUD205 million across several targeted measures. The funds were intended to “[ensure that] aged care providers can offer reinforced levels of safety and care” through additional staffing, supporting visitations and PPE.<sup>4627</sup> Payments were made on a per-resident basis and differ for homes in different areas.<sup>4628</sup>

On 12 May 2020, Minister Colbeck announced the implementation of the Aged Care Visitor Access Code that “sets out a nationally consistent, principles-based approach to maintaining residents’ visitation and communication.”<sup>4629</sup> The guidelines were intended to “[strike] the important balance of

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<sup>4623</sup> Contingency measures to ensure continuity of aged care during COVID-19, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/contingency-measures-to-ensure-continuity-of-aged-care-during-covid-19>

<sup>4624</sup> Understanding how people with dementia use health services in their last year of life, Australian Government Australia Institute of Health and Welfare (Canberra) 16 April 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.aihw.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/2020/april/understanding-how-people-with-dementia-use-health>

<sup>4625</sup> Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) advice on residential aged care facilities, Australian Government Department of Health (Canberra) 22 April 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/australian-health-protection-principal-committee-ahppc-advice-on-residential-aged-care-facilities>

<sup>4626</sup> Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) update to residential aged care facilities about minimising the impact of COVID-19, Australian Government Department of Health (Canberra) 19 June 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/news/australian-health-protection-principal-committee-ahppc-update-to-residential-aged-care-facilities-about-minimising-the-impact-of-covid-19>

<sup>4627</sup> New COVID-19 payment to keep senior Australians in residential aged care safe, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 1 May 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/new-covid-19-payment-to-keep-senior-australians-in-residential-aged-care-safe>

<sup>4628</sup> New COVID-19 payment to keep senior Australians in residential aged care safe, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 1 May 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/new-covid-19-payment-to-keep-senior-australians-in-residential-aged-care-safe>

<sup>4629</sup> Visitor Access Code offers clarity for residential aged care, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 12 May 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/visitor-access-code-offers-clarity-for-residential-aged-care>

ensuring the health and wellbeing of aged care residents and retaining important social connections during the COVID-19 pandemic.”<sup>4630</sup>

On 14 May 2020, Minister Colbeck announced an amendment of the Aged Care Act that “[gives] aged care residents the option of taking additional leave during an emergency” in view of COVID-19.<sup>4631</sup> The initiative is intended to allow permanent aged care residents and their families to make decisions about their safety without worrying about financial risk.<sup>4632</sup>

On 25 May 2020, Minister Colbeck announced an investment of AUD57.2 by the Australian government into improving palliative care in aged care facilities across Australia.<sup>4633</sup> The funds were intended to “reduce the physical and emotional distress for individuals who require palliative care and their families” while recognising its importance in supporting “a person’s physical, emotional, spiritual and social needs.”<sup>4634</sup>

On 28 May 2020, the Australian government pledged AUD6 million towards a communications package, which aims to prevent isolation and loneliness of older Australians.<sup>4635</sup> About AUD5 million will go towards “[expanding] Friend Line, a national telephone support service for older Australians, to answer 60,000 calls a year”<sup>4636</sup> AUD1 million in grants will go towards “215 local community organization to provide at-risk seniors with digital devices such as mobile phones and laptops.”<sup>4637</sup> This initiative recognizes the importance of staying socially connected and aims to alleviate social isolation and loneliness of seniors.

On 29 May 2020, Minister Colbeck announced the upcoming registration scheme for aged care workers in order to “[ensure] all staff are suitable to work with senior and vulnerable Australians.”<sup>4638</sup> The objective of the process is to ensure that all workers have suitable “skills and character.”<sup>4639</sup>

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<sup>4630</sup> Visitor Access Code offers clarity for residential aged care, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 12 May 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/visitor-access-code-offers-clarity-for-residential-aged-care>

<sup>4631</sup> New emergency leave provision for aged care residents, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 14 May 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/new-emergency-leave-provision-for-aged-care-residents>

<sup>4632</sup> New emergency leave provision for aged care residents, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 14 May 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/new-emergency-leave-provision-for-aged-care-residents>

<sup>4633</sup> Government invests \$57 million to improve palliative care, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 25 May 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/government-invests-57-million-to-improve-palliative-care>

<sup>4634</sup> Government invests \$57 million to improve palliative care, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 25 May 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/government-invests-57-million-to-improve-palliative-care>

<sup>4635</sup> Supporting isolated senior Australians to stay connected, Ministers of the Department of Social Services (Canberra) 28 May 2020. Access Date: 9 October 2020. <https://ministers.dss.gov.au/media-releases/5846>

<sup>4636</sup> Supporting isolated senior Australians to stay connected, Ministers of the Department of Social Services (Canberra) 28 May 2020. Access Date: 9 October 2020. <https://ministers.dss.gov.au/media-releases/5846>

<sup>4637</sup> Supporting isolated senior Australians to stay connected, Ministers of the Department of Social Services (Canberra) 28 May 2020. Access Date: 9 October 2020. <https://ministers.dss.gov.au/media-releases/5846>

<sup>4638</sup> Register for aged care workers a step closer, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 29 May 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/register-for-aged-care-workers-a-step-closer>

<sup>4639</sup> Register for aged care workers a step closer, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 29 May 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/register-for-aged-care-workers-a-step-closer>



On 17 June 2020, Minister Colbeck announced the upcoming “free sign language interpreting service will soon be available for senior Australians who are deaf, deafblind or hard of hearing.”<sup>4640</sup> Provided through Auslan Connections, the service is intended to ensure that all senior Australians can “participate in the assessment, planning and review of their care.”<sup>4641</sup> There were further plans to translate key aged care documents and information into formats suitable for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.<sup>4642</sup>

On 7 July 2020, Minister Colbeck published a media release urging senior Australians to “remain vigilant” while returning to work and recreation activity.<sup>4643</sup> The media release included guidelines and instructions for remaining safe during the opening process such as social distancing, practising good hygiene and downloading the COVIDSafe app.<sup>4644</sup>

On 16 July 2020, Minister Colbeck announced the deployment of five new COVID-19 testing teams to residential aged care services located across metropolitan Melbourne and the Mitchell Shire.<sup>4645</sup> The action is designed to give “health authorities the chance to identify people with COVID-19 who are living and working in aged care, even before they appear unwell.”<sup>4646</sup>

On 17 July 2020, Minister Hunt announced the release of 1 million face masks from the National Medical Stockpile for use among aged care workers following the mandating of masks across Victoria.<sup>4647</sup> This requirement applies to both residential care and home support care workers and is aimed at providing extra confidence that senior citizens are protected.<sup>4648</sup>

On 19 July 2020, the Australian and Victorian governments, in collaboration with representatives from the aged care sector jointly announced “additional measures to ensure aged care providers are

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<sup>4640</sup> National sign language interpreting service for aged care, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 17 June 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/national-sign-language-interpreting-service-for-aged-care>

<sup>4641</sup> National sign language interpreting service for aged care, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 17 June 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/national-sign-language-interpreting-service-for-aged-care>

<sup>4642</sup> National sign language interpreting service for aged care, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 17 June 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/national-sign-language-interpreting-service-for-aged-care>

<sup>4643</sup> COVID-19: Senior Australians urged to stay vigilant, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/covid-19-senior-australians-urged-to-stay-vigilant>

<sup>4644</sup> COVID-19: Senior Australians urged to stay vigilant, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 7 July 2020. Access Date: 10 July 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/covid-19-senior-australians-urged-to-stay-vigilant>

<sup>4645</sup> Additional testing support for Victorian residential aged care services, Minister Department of Health (Canberra) 16 July 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/additional-testing-support-for-victorian-residential-aged-care-services>

<sup>4646</sup> Additional testing support for Victorian residential aged care services, Minister Department of Health (Canberra) 16 July 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/additional-testing-support-for-victorian-residential-aged-care-services>

<sup>4647</sup> Two million more face masks for Victorian aged care and disability workers, Minister Department of Health (Canberra) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/two-million-more-face-masks-for-victorian-aged-care-and-disability-workers>

<sup>4648</sup> Two million more face masks for Victorian aged care and disability workers, Minister Department of Health (Canberra) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/two-million-more-face-masks-for-victorian-aged-care-and-disability-workers>

equipped to minimise the spread of COVID-19 and can continue providing quality care.”<sup>4649</sup> These include measures such as workforce funding support, the provision of financial support to Victorian workers in self-isolation or quarantine, programs to reduce workforce sharing across sites and increased infection control training.<sup>4650</sup>

On 25 July 2020, Minister Colbeck announced the establishment of a Victorian Aged Care Response Centre to “co-ordinate and expand resources to tackle the challenge of COVID-19 in age care services.”<sup>4651</sup> This action is to bring together and coordinate the efforts of Commonwealth and State government agencies to manage the impact of the pandemic.<sup>4652</sup> The Response Centre will be staffed with members from Department of Health, Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission, Department of Health and Human Services, Emergency Management Australia, Emergency Management Victoria and Defence and have stakeholder liaison arrangements with organisations such as Older Persons Advisory Network, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation and the Australian Medical Association.<sup>4653</sup>

On 28 July 2020, Minister for Health Greg Hunt announced the strengthening of protection from COVID-19 for aged care staff and residents through the supply of “500,000 reusable face shields to all residential aged care services across Victoria for use by staff” and the “release a further five million face masks from the National Medical Stockpile for Victorian aged care providers.”<sup>4654</sup>

On 18 August 2020, Aged Care Quality and Safety Commissioner Janet Anderson announced the taking of “regulatory action in relation to a number of approved providers of residential aged care services experiencing a COVID-19 outbreak” through the “Notice of Requirement to Agree to Certain Matters.”<sup>4655</sup> The notice contains terms determined by the Commission that the approved provider must immediately implement and notify residents and families.<sup>4656</sup> Regulatory actions also

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<sup>4649</sup> Support for aged care residents and aged care workers across Victoria, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 19 July 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/support-for-aged-care-residents-and-aged-care-workers-across-victoria>

<sup>4650</sup> Support for aged care residents and aged care workers across Victoria, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 19 July 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/support-for-aged-care-residents-and-aged-care-workers-across-victoria>

<sup>4651</sup> Victorian Aged Care Response Centre, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 25 July 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/victorian-aged-care-response-centre>

<sup>4652</sup> Victorian Aged Care Response Centre, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 25 July 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/victorian-aged-care-response-centre>

<sup>4653</sup> Victorian Aged Care Response Centre, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 25 July 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/victorian-aged-care-response-centre>

<sup>4654</sup> Greater virus protection for aged care workers, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 28 July 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/greater-virus-protection-for-aged-care-workers>

<sup>4655</sup> Statement from Ms Janet Anderson PSM - Regulatory actions to support Victorian aged care homes during COVID-19, Australian Government Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (Canberra) 21 August 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.agedcarequality.gov.au/news/media-centre/statement-ms-janet-anderson-psm-regulatory-actions-support-victorian-aged-care-homes-during-covid-19>

<sup>4656</sup> Statement from Ms Janet Anderson PSM - Regulatory actions to support Victorian aged care homes during COVID-19, Australian Government Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (Canberra) 21 August 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.agedcarequality.gov.au/news/media-centre/statement-ms-janet-anderson-psm-regulatory-actions-support-victorian-aged-care-homes-during-covid-19>

include temporary staff deployment to aged care homes to “provide leadership or clinical support for the operation of the service.”<sup>4657</sup>

On 21 August 2020, the Australian government announced more support towards Australia’s aged care sector with an additional AUD171.5 million in funding “to boost a new COVID-19 response plan agreed by all states and territories at the National Cabinet.”<sup>4658</sup> This initiative aims to increase the aged care workforce, support more quality checks on aged care providers and increase grief and trauma support services for residents and their families.<sup>4659</sup>

On 31 August 2020, Minister Greg announced the provision of an additional AUD563.3 million in support of the aged care sector’s response to COVID-19 to “fund and support enhanced infection control capability, including through an on-site clinical lead.”<sup>4660</sup> Providers will receive “around [AUD975] per resident in major metropolitan areas and around [AUD1,435] per resident in all other areas” to be provided through Services Australia by early October.<sup>4661</sup>

On 1 September 2020, Aged Anderson released a statement about significant increases in regulatory activities carried out by the commission relating to aged care in the context of COVID-19.<sup>4662</sup> Specific measures include telephone assessment contacts, self-assessment surveys, unannounced and short-notice visits to aged care services and unannounced spot checks.<sup>4663</sup> These actions are designed to enforce compliance and provide more feedback in real time in order to identify areas of improvement.<sup>4664</sup>

On 23 September 2020, Minister Colbeck pledged AUD13 million toward access to sign language services for senior Australians who are deaf or hard of hearing.<sup>4665</sup> This initiative considers equity and

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<sup>4657</sup> Statement from Ms Janet Anderson PSM - Regulatory actions to support Victorian aged care homes during COVID-19, Australian Government Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (Canberra) 21 August 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.agedcarequality.gov.au/news/media-centre/statement-ms-janet-anderson-psm-regulatory-actions-support-victorian-aged-care-homes-during-covid-19>

<sup>4658</sup> Reinforcement of Australia's aged care sector, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 21 August 2020. Access Date: 9 October 2020. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/reinforcement-australias-aged-care-sector>

<sup>4659</sup> Reinforcement of Australia's aged care sector, Prime Minister of Australia (Canberra) 21 August 2020. Access Date: 9 October 2020. <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/reinforcement-australias-aged-care-sector>

<sup>4660</sup> Additional Funding to Reinforce Australia's Aged Care Sector, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 31 August 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/additional-funding-to-reinforce-australias-aged-care-sector>

<sup>4661</sup> Additional Funding to Reinforce Australia's Aged Care Sector, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 31 August 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/additional-funding-to-reinforce-australias-aged-care-sector>

<sup>4662</sup> Statement from Ms Janet Anderson PSM - Significant growth in regulatory activities relating to aged care in the context of COVID-19, Australian Government Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (Canberra) 1 September 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.agedcarequality.gov.au/news/media-centre/statement-ms-janet-anderson-psm-significant-growth-regulatory-activities-relating-aged-care-context-covid-19>

<sup>4663</sup> Statement from Ms Janet Anderson PSM - Significant growth in regulatory activities relating to aged care in the context of COVID-19, Australian Government Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (Canberra) 1 September 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.agedcarequality.gov.au/news/media-centre/statement-ms-janet-anderson-psm-significant-growth-regulatory-activities-relating-aged-care-context-covid-19>

<sup>4664</sup> Statement from Ms Janet Anderson PSM - Significant growth in regulatory activities relating to aged care in the context of COVID-19, Australian Government Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (Canberra) 1 September 2020. Access Date: 18 September 2020. <https://www.agedcarequality.gov.au/news/media-centre/statement-ms-janet-anderson-psm-significant-growth-regulatory-activities-relating-aged-care-context-covid-19>

<sup>4665</sup> Sign language milestone for Senior Australians, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 27 September 2020. Access Date: 9 October 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/sign-language-milestone-for-senior-australians>

is a step towards “[removing] barriers so senior Australians can live healthy, active and socially connected lives.”<sup>4666</sup>

On 30 September 2020, Minister Hunt announced that the Australian government “is extending testing and bolstering supply of PPE in residential aged care facilities across Melbourne and the Mitchell Shire to further suppress COVID-19 infection rates.”<sup>4667</sup> This initiative aims to ensure the safety of residents and staff in aged care facilities and “detect areas of community transmission before outbreaks occur.”<sup>4668</sup>

On 6 October 2020, the Australian government pledged AUD408.5 million in the 2020-21 Budget towards the care and quality of aged care sector.<sup>4669</sup> This funding aims to support initiatives such as training and support for dementia, the implementation of a strategy towards the aged care workforce, support for the Royal Commission, support for older Australians with disabilities, amongst others.<sup>4670</sup>

On 9 October 2020, the Australian government awarded Flinders University with a contract of AUD34 million to develop stage one of the new Aged Care Centre for Growth and Translation Research.<sup>4671</sup> The Australian government will continue to fund this initiative through to 30 June 2024.<sup>4672</sup> This initiative is one of the actions from “Australia’s Aged Care Workforce Strategy – A Matter of Care” and aims to improve the aged care practice, aged care workforce, and technology used in aged care.<sup>4673</sup> As well, the centre’s priorities will be based on the findings from the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety and lessons learned through the COVID-19 pandemic.”<sup>4674</sup>

Through pledges of funding, consistent and strong support of initiatives supporting the expansion of the accessibility of aged care, promotion of physical activity and social inclusion of older persons,

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<sup>4666</sup> Sign language milestone for Senior Australians, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 27 September 2020. Access Date: 9 October 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/sign-language-milestone-for-senior-australians>

<sup>4667</sup> Additional protection for Victorian aged care services, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 30 September 2020. Access Date: 9 October 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/additional-protection-for-victorian-aged-care-services-0>

<sup>4668</sup> Additional protection for Victorian aged care services, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 30 September 2020. Access Date: 9 October 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/additional-protection-for-victorian-aged-care-services-0>

<sup>4669</sup> Budget 2020-21: Record health and aged care investment under Australia’s COVID-19 pandemic plan, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 6 October 2020. Access Date: 8 October 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/the-hon-greg-hunt-mp/media/budget-2020-21-record-health-and-aged-care-investment-under-australias-covid-19-pandemic-plan>

<sup>4670</sup> A stronger aged care system with a focus on quality care, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 8 October 2020. Access Date: 9 October 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/a-stronger-aged-care-system-with-a-focus-on-quality-care>

<sup>4671</sup> Aged care research centre to draw on world’s best practice, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 9 October 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/aged-care-research-centre-to-draw-on-worlds-best-practice>

<sup>4672</sup> Aged care research centre to draw on world’s best practice, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 9 October 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/aged-care-research-centre-to-draw-on-worlds-best-practice>

<sup>4673</sup> Aged care research centre to draw on world’s best practice, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 9 October 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/aged-care-research-centre-to-draw-on-worlds-best-practice>

<sup>4674</sup> Aged care research centre to draw on world’s best practice, Ministers Department of Health (Canberra) 9 October 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.health.gov.au/ministers/senator-the-hon-richard-colbeck/media/aged-care-research-centre-to-draw-on-worlds-best-practice>

improvements towards the experiences of both caretaker and care receiver, with attention to equity and diversity, Australia has fully complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Daisy Liu*

### **Brazil: -1**

Brazil has not complied with its commitment to promote healthy aging and active aging through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 6 November 2019, the Ministry of Citizenship initiated the Healthy Living program in the Brazil Friendly to the Elderly Strategy.<sup>4675</sup> This initiative aims to reach up to 460 municipalities and promote “physical, cultural, and leisure activities” to the elderly population and improve their quality of life.<sup>4676</sup>

Through its Friendly to the Elderly Strategy, Brazil took action in promoting active ageing as it encourages physical activity and social and cultural inclusion. However, Brazil has not implemented active ageing policies that support income, economic and food security. Moreover, Brazil has not taken action to promote healthy ageing.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Fatima Chohan*

### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 23 August 2019, Health Canada launched a three-year, micro-grant fund worth CAD300,000 to address the social and psychological aspects of palliative care.<sup>4677</sup> The grant would foster compassionate community-based initiatives that help members of the official language minority communities live in comfort and with dignity as well as provide “support before, during and following the death of a loved one.”<sup>4678</sup>

On 21 January 2020, Minister of Seniors Deb Schulte and the Minister of Northern Affairs Dan Vandal pledged to invest CAD1.5 million to support approximately 100 projects in Manitoba, which

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<sup>4675</sup> Government launches “Healthy Living Program” aimed at the elderly, Portal do Careiro (Careiro) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.portaldocareiro.com.br/governo-lanca-programa-vida-saudavel-voltado-a-pessoas-idosas/>

<sup>4676</sup> Government launches “Healthy Living Program” aimed at the elderly, Portal do Careiro (Careiro) 6 November 2019. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.portaldocareiro.com.br/governo-lanca-programa-vida-saudavel-voltado-a-pessoas-idosas/>

<sup>4677</sup> Health Canada announces micro grant fund for official language minority communities, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 23 August 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/08/health-canada-announces-micro-grant-fund-for-official-language-minority-communities.html>

<sup>4678</sup> Health Canada announces micro grant fund for official language minority communities, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 23 August 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/08/health-canada-announces-micro-grant-fund-for-official-language-minority-communities.html>

aim to enhance the quality of the life older persons and promote social inclusion.<sup>4679</sup> The “New Horizons for Seniors Program community-based stream” provides the funding for the projects.<sup>4680</sup>

On 31 January 2020, Minister of Health Patty Hajdu announced an investment of more than CAD4.6 million for various projects across Canada, which aim to improve the lives of those who live with dementia, their families, and their caregivers.<sup>4681</sup>

On 10 February 2020, Minister Schulte announced an investment of more than CAD3.4 million to help increase social inclusion of seniors in Nova Scotia.<sup>4682</sup> The project will be led by the Dalhousie University College of Continuing Education.<sup>4683</sup>

On 14 February 2020, Minister Schulte announced an investment of CAD3 million for a project led by Schlegel-UW Research Institute for Aging.<sup>4684</sup> The project is based in Waterloo, Ontario, and aims to foster intergenerational partnerships between seniors living with mild to moderate dementia and their caregivers.<sup>4685</sup>

On 2 March 2020, Minister Schulte announced an investment of CAD9.3 million in seniors in British Columbia through the New Horizons for Seniors Program.<sup>4686</sup> CAD4 million of the funding will go

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<sup>4679</sup> Minister Schulte announces 1.5 million for Manitoba seniors including upgrades to Southdale Community Centre, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/01/minister-schulte-announces-15-million-for-manitoba-seniors-including-upgrades-to-southdale-community-centre.html>

<sup>4680</sup> Minister Schulte announces 1.5 million for Manitoba seniors including upgrades to Southdale Community Centre, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/01/minister-schulte-announces-15-million-for-manitoba-seniors-including-upgrades-to-southdale-community-centre.html>

<sup>4681</sup> Government of Canada invests in projects to help Canadians living with Dementia and caregivers, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 21 January 2020. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2020/01/government-of-canada-invests-in-projects-to-help-canadians-living-with-dementia-and-caregivers.html>

<sup>4682</sup> Minister Schulte announces investment in project aiming to connect seniors and youth in Nova Scotia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/02/minister-schulte-announces-investment-in-project-aiming-to-connect-seniors-and-youth-in-nova-scotia.html>

<sup>4683</sup> Minister Schulte announces investment in project aiming to connect seniors and youth in Nova Scotia, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 10 February 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/02/minister-schulte-announces-investment-in-project-aiming-to-connect-seniors-and-youth-in-nova-scotia.html>

<sup>4684</sup> Minister Schulte announces investment to support older adults living with dementia in the Waterloo region, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 February 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/02/minister-schulte-announces-investment-to-support-older-adults-living-with-dementia-in-the-waterloo-region.html>

<sup>4685</sup> Minister Schulte announces investment to support older adults living with dementia in the Waterloo region, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 14 February 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/02/minister-schulte-announces-investment-to-support-older-adults-living-with-dementia-in-the-waterloo-region.html>

<sup>4686</sup> Minister Schulte announces a \$9.3 million investment in British Columbia seniors through New Horizons for Seniors, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/02/minister-schulte-announces-investments-of-over-9-million-for-seniors-across-british-columbia-at-pics.html>

to Progressive Intercultural Community Services for a project which aims to increase social inclusion amongst multicultural seniors.<sup>4687</sup>

On 29 March 2020, the Government of Canada pledged CAD9 million to help Canadian seniors affected by COVID-19 through the New Horizons for Seniors Program at United Way Canada, which will provide essential services, such as delivering groceries, medications, or essential items, or connecting seniors to relevant community supports.<sup>4688</sup>

On 6 April 2020, Minister Schulte announced organizations under the New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP) can use funding they previously received through the community-based stream to provide essential services for seniors impacted by COVID-19.<sup>4689</sup> Services mentioned are assisting seniors with essential activities and helping seniors stay connected to their community and family virtually.<sup>4690</sup>

On 12 May 2020, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced an investment of CAD20 million under the New Horizons for Seniors Program. This investment will go to supporting community-based projects that reduce isolation and improve the quality of life of seniors.<sup>4691</sup>

On 4 June 2020, Prime Minister Trudeau stated that seniors eligible for the Old Age Security pension and the Guaranteed Income Supplement “will receive their one-time, tax-free payment during the week of July 6.”<sup>4692</sup> Through this initiative and others, the government is providing about CAD900 more for single seniors and CAD1,500 for senior couples to help seniors with financial security in response to the pandemic.<sup>4693</sup>

Canada has taken actions to promote both healthy and active ageing through initiatives that promote equity and diversity, programs which enhance the living environments for seniors, including the family, their caregivers and the larger community, fostering social inclusion and improving their quality of life.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Shafna Kallil*

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<sup>4687</sup> Minister Schulte announces a \$9.3 million investment in British Columbia seniors through New Horizons for Seniors, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/02/minister-schulte-announces-investments-of-over-9-million-for-seniors-across-british-columbia-at-pics.html>

<sup>4688</sup> Prime Minister announces support for vulnerable Canadians affected by COVID-19, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 29 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/03/29/prime-minister-announces-support-vulnerable-canadians-affected-covid>

<sup>4689</sup> New Horizons for Seniors Program projects can now be used for COVID-19 support, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 6 April 2020. Access Date: 20 July 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/04/new-horizons-for-seniors-program-projects-can-now-be-used-for-covid-19-support.html>

<sup>4690</sup> New Horizons for Seniors Program projects can now be used for COVID-19 support, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 6 April 2020. Access Date: 20 July 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/04/new-horizons-for-seniors-program-projects-can-now-be-used-for-covid-19-support.html>

<sup>4691</sup> Prime Minister announces additional support for Canadian seniors, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 12 May 2020. Access Date: 20 July 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/05/12/prime-minister-announces-additional-support-canadian-senior>

<sup>4692</sup> Canadian seniors to receive special payment in early July, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 4 June 2020. Access Date: 9 October 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/06/04/canadian-seniors-receive-special-payment-early-july>

<sup>4693</sup> Canadian seniors to receive special payment in early July, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 4 June 2020. Access Date: 9 October 2020. <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/06/04/canadian-seniors-receive-special-payment-early-july>

## China: +1

China has fully complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 15 July 2019, the State Council of China issued the official guideline regarding the implementation of the Healthy China Initiative.<sup>4694</sup> With an emphasis on disease prevention, chronic disease management and health promotion and education, the new guideline consists of 15 campaigns to directly target health-influencing factors and improve national health awareness.<sup>4695</sup> The State Council also formed a committee, dedicated to the proper promotion, implementation, supervision and assessment of the Healthy China Initiative, which will conduct annual research to monitor the project and propose policy adjustments along the way.<sup>4696</sup>

On 21 August 2019, the State Council announced the scheduled establishment of a long-term elderly care mechanism composed of improved training for elderly care workers, increased social benefits and insurance and increased subsidies for elderly citizens faced with economic difficulties.<sup>4697</sup> The government aims to tackle the extreme deficit of workers in the aged care industry in addition to expanding care services to more effectively meet seniors' physiological, safety and social belonging needs.<sup>4698</sup>

On 27 August 2019, the National Health Commission issued two guidelines to urge medical and nursing services to more effectively evaluate the demands of elderly citizens and strengthen training programs for workers for aged care.<sup>4699</sup> National Health Commission official Jiao Yahui stated that such guidelines were issued to meet the need for quality medical products and aged care services required among debilitated senior citizens.<sup>4700</sup>

On 19 September 2019, the National Health Commission alongside other relevant authorities announced their plan to issue a guideline to further the integration of medical institutions and nursing homes.<sup>4701</sup> The new guideline will differentiate between medical and caregiving costs, however, it is expected to make health insurance reimbursement easier.<sup>4702</sup> The government plans to incentivize the integration process through the provision of benefits and tax breaks for hybrid facilities.<sup>4703</sup>

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<sup>4694</sup> Healthy China Initiative to Transform Industry, China Daily (Beijing) 24 July 2019. Access Date: 5 February 2020. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201907/24/WS5d37b165a310d83056400aa7.html>

<sup>4695</sup> Healthy China Initiative to Transform Industry, China Daily (Beijing) 24 July 2019. Access Date: 5 February 2020. <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201907/24/WS5d37b165a310d83056400aa7.html>

<sup>4696</sup> State Council forms committee for healthcare initiative, The State Council (Beijing) 15 July 2019. Access Date: 5 February 2020. <http://www.amgen.cn/en/media/amgen-aging.html>

[http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/latestreleases/201907/15/content\\_WS5d3968c1c6d08408f5022868.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/latestreleases/201907/15/content_WS5d3968c1c6d08408f5022868.html)

<sup>4697</sup> Elderly care services to be expanded, The State Council (Beijing) 27 August 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201908/27/WS5d648bb7a310cf3e35568083\\_2.html](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201908/27/WS5d648bb7a310cf3e35568083_2.html)

<sup>4698</sup> Elderly care services to be expanded, The State Council (Beijing) 27 August 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201908/27/WS5d648bb7a310cf3e35568083\\_2.html](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201908/27/WS5d648bb7a310cf3e35568083_2.html)

<sup>4699</sup> China promotes nursing services for debilitated senior citizens, China Daily (Beijing) 27 August 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201908/27/WS5d6539e1a310cf3e355682f0.html>

<sup>4700</sup> China promotes nursing services for debilitated senior citizens, China Daily (Beijing) 27 August 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201908/27/WS5d6539e1a310cf3e355682f0.html>

<sup>4701</sup> Efforts to improve senior care renewed, National health Commission of the PRC (Beijing) 19 September 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2019-09/19/c\\_75697.htm](http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2019-09/19/c_75697.htm)

<sup>4702</sup> Efforts to improve senior care renewed, National health Commission of the PRC (Beijing) 19 September 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2019-09/19/c\\_75697.htm](http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2019-09/19/c_75697.htm)

<sup>4703</sup> Efforts to improve senior care renewed, National health Commission of the PRC (Beijing) 19 September 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2019-09/19/c\\_75697.htm](http://en.nhc.gov.cn/2019-09/19/c_75697.htm)



On 26 September 2019, Minister of Health Ma Xiaowei announced that health authorities across China will further concentrate their efforts in improving the quality and accessibility of rural healthcare services.<sup>4704</sup> By the end of 2020, another 1,000 county level hospitals will have been upgraded to tertiary hospitals, eliminating the need for patients in these counties with serious illnesses to travel long distances for treatment.<sup>4705</sup> China's investment in the development of healthcare services in rural areas is essential to a more even distribution in medical resources and thus a more equitable and accessible healthcare system.<sup>4706</sup>

On 9 October 2019, the National Health Commission stated that China has taken action in decreasing patients' expenses in treating high blood pressure and diabetes.<sup>4707</sup> Patients suffering from these two chronic illnesses will have 50 per cent of their spending on medicine reimbursed.<sup>4708</sup> These measures were also made with the intention to improve the health of the elderly population, as over 180 million elderly citizens in China suffer from such chronic illnesses.<sup>4709</sup>

On 11 October 2019, the National Health Commission announced the expansion of a pilot terminal care program into an additional 71 cities and municipal districts with the goal of advancing healthcare for the elderly.<sup>4710</sup> More specifically, this program aims to ensure that senior citizens who are dying and/or suffering from terminal illnesses will have their "physical and mental needs better taken care of so that they can pass away with comfort and dignity."<sup>4711</sup>

On 11 October 2019, the National Health Commission announced that China will ramp up its efforts in building more accessible and elderly-friendly medical facilities.<sup>4712</sup> It encourages all medical institutions to implement changes to provide seniors with more convenient and tailored medical services.<sup>4713</sup>

On 18 October 2019, the National Health Commission officially launched an information system for the registration of the treatment of rare diseases in an effort to improve the quality of their diagnoses and treatment.<sup>4714</sup> Over 300 hospitals will come together in a collaborative network for rare diseases and will

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<sup>4704</sup> Chinese health authorities to prioritize rural development, China Daily (Beijing) 29 September 2019. Access Date: 5 February 2020. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201909/26/WS5d8cb75aa310cf3e3556db2d.html>

<sup>4705</sup> Chinese health authorities to prioritize rural development, China Daily (Beijing) 29 September 2019. Access Date: 5 February 2020. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201909/26/WS5d8cb75aa310cf3e3556db2d.html>

<sup>4706</sup> Chinese health authorities to prioritize rural development, China Daily (Beijing) 29 September 2019. Access Date: 5 February 2020. <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201909/26/WS5d8cb75aa310cf3e3556db2d.html>

<sup>4707</sup> China to ease burden of patients with high blood pressure, diabetes, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 5 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/09/c\\_138457397.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/09/c_138457397.htm)

<sup>4708</sup> China to ease burden of patients with high blood pressure, diabetes, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 5 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/09/c\\_138457397.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/09/c_138457397.htm)

<sup>4709</sup> China to ease burden of patients with high blood pressure, diabetes, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 5 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/09/c\\_138457397.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/09/c_138457397.htm)

<sup>4710</sup> China expands pilot terminal care program, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 11 October 2019. Access Date: 7 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/11/c\\_138464379.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/11/c_138464379.htm)

<sup>4711</sup> China expands pilot terminal care program, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 11 October 2019. Access Date: 7 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/11/c\\_138464379.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/11/c_138464379.htm)

<sup>4712</sup> China to make medical institutions elderly-friendly, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 11 October 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/11/c\\_138464358.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/11/c_138464358.htm)

<sup>4713</sup> China to make medical institutions elderly-friendly, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 11 October 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/11/c\\_138464358.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/11/c_138464358.htm)

<sup>4714</sup> China to register treatment of rare diseases, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/18/c\\_138483128.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/18/c_138483128.htm)

be required to register all information on patients with rare diseases effective 1 November 2019 and to complete the registration of all patients treated with rare diseases since 2015 by the end of 2019.<sup>4715</sup>

On 8 November 2019, Minister of Health Ma Xiaowei met with Italy's Minister of Health Roberto Speranza to sign the Implementation Programme of the Plan of Action for the years 2019 to 2021, which aims to establish healthcare cooperation between Italy and China to sectors such as oncology, cardiology and primary care.<sup>4716</sup>

On 21 November 2019, the Communist Party of China and the State Council announced that the basic institutional framework for a proactive response to population ageing will be established by 2022.<sup>4717</sup> The plan aims to combat population ageing through five main aspects: establishing a more sustainable and equitable social security system, establishing a high-quality and comprehensive health service system, promoting the “development of assistive technologies for senior citizens,”<sup>4718</sup> “[improving] the legal system to protect the lawful rights and interests of senior citizens,”<sup>4719</sup> and “improving the effective supply of labour in an ageing society”<sup>4720</sup> through the implementation of a “lifelong learning system for senior citizens.”<sup>4721</sup>

On 22 November 2019, China National Health Development Research Center signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Amgen to launch the “Program of Building of High-Quality and Efficient Health Service System and Empirical Study in the Context of Ageing,” a three year program, which aims to improve the health outcomes and quality of care through the establishment of “an integrated, high-quality ageing service system.”<sup>4722</sup>

China has taken multiple policy actions to promote healthy and active, with attention to equity and diversity, through improving quality of care for older persons, enhancing healthcare frameworks, intervening in age-related diseases, and creating age-friendly environments that address the functional ability of debilitated old people. China has also addressed political inclusion of older people through a plan, which will be established in 2022, that aims to improve legal rights of senior citizens.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Daisy Zhou*

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<sup>4715</sup> China to register treatment of rare diseases, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/18/c\\_138483128.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/18/c_138483128.htm)

<sup>4716</sup> Italia-Cina, incontro tra i ministri della Salute Roberto Speranza e Ma Xiaowei, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 8 November 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2020.

[http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_1\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3956](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3956)

<sup>4717</sup> China unveils plan for tackling population aging, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-11/21/c\\_138573146.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-11/21/c_138573146.htm)

<sup>4718</sup> China unveils plan for tackling population aging, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-11/21/c\\_138573146.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-11/21/c_138573146.htm)

<sup>4719</sup> China unveils plan for tackling population aging, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-11/21/c\\_138573146.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-11/21/c_138573146.htm)

<sup>4720</sup> China unveils plan for tackling population aging, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-11/21/c\\_138573146.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-11/21/c_138573146.htm)

<sup>4721</sup> China unveils plan for tackling population aging, Xinhua News Agency (Beijing) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-11/21/c\\_138573146.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-11/21/c_138573146.htm)

<sup>4722</sup> Program of Building of High-Quality and Efficient Health Service System and Empirical Study in the Context of Aging Kicked off in Beijing, Amgen (Beijing) 22 November 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <http://www.amgen.cn/en/media/amgen-aging.html>

**France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active aging through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 3 July 2019, Minister of Social Affairs and Health Agnès Buzyn made a speech to parliamentarians and industry experts on reforms being taken towards providing the elderly with a sense of autonomy.<sup>4723</sup> Minister Buzyn announced various plans moving forward, including the revitalization of home support services, calling for versatility, flexibility and more coordination to improve the lives of the elderly as well as reduce their loss of autonomy.<sup>4724</sup>

On 20 December 2019, Minister Buzyn met with the monitoring group of the Emergency Refoundation Pact, dedicated to revitalizing the French health system.<sup>4725</sup> At the meeting, several new measures were discussed and undertaken, including that all establishments with an emergency service must implement direct admission procedures for elderly patients, allowing them to bypass emergency room services, by the end of 2020.<sup>4726</sup>

On 16 January 2020, Minister Buzyn announced several strategies to prevent the elders' loss of autonomy and aid healthy ageing, including two projects for 2020 and 2021.<sup>4727</sup> The first project aims to reduce the number of emergency visits for 'dependent elderly people' to zero within five years.<sup>4728</sup> The second project aims to address all components of healthy ageing, with a focus on increasing accesses to glasses and hearing aids for the elderly.<sup>4729</sup>

On 14 March 2020, in its advisory function to the Minister of Health and Solidarity, the Haute Conseil de la Santé Publique (HCSP) published recommendations to protect citizens considered to be at higher risk of contracting COVID-19, including individuals aged 70 or older.<sup>4730</sup> Among the measures, the HCSP recommended the implementation of social distancing, protective procedures for caregivers in

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<sup>4723</sup> Discours de Madame Agnès BUZYN — Grand âge et autonomie, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (Paris) 3 July 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/discours/article/discours-de-madame-agnes-buzyn-grand-age-et-autonomie>

<sup>4724</sup> Discours de Madame Agnès BUZYN — Grand âge et autonomie, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (Paris) 3 July 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/discours/article/discours-de-madame-agnes-buzyn-grand-age-et-autonomie>

<sup>4725</sup> Pacte de refondation des urgences — 20 décembre 2019, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (Paris) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/pacte-de-refondation-des-urgences-20-decembre-2019>

<sup>4726</sup> Pacte de refondation des urgences — 20 décembre 2019, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (Paris) 20 December 2019. Access Date: 22 March 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/pacte-de-refondation-des-urgences-20-decembre-2019>

<sup>4727</sup> Discours d'Agnès Buzyn : Stratégie de prévention de la perte d'autonomie — 16 janvier 2020, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (Paris) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 22 March 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/discours/article/discours-d-agnes-buzyn-strategie-de-prevention-de-la-perte-d-autonomie-16>

<sup>4728</sup> Discours d'Agnès Buzyn : Stratégie de prévention de la perte d'autonomie — 16 janvier 2020, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (Paris) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 22 March 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/discours/article/discours-d-agnes-buzyn-strategie-de-prevention-de-la-perte-d-autonomie-16>

<sup>4729</sup> Discours d'Agnès Buzyn : Stratégie de prévention de la perte d'autonomie — 16 janvier 2020, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (Paris) 16 January 2020. Access Date: 22 March 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/discours/article/discours-d-agnes-buzyn-strategie-de-prevention-de-la-perte-d-autonomie-16>

<sup>4730</sup> Ref: The President, High Council of Public Health (Paris), 14 March 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. [https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/new\\_hcsp-sars-cov-2\\_patients\\_fragiles\\_v3-2.pdf](https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/new_hcsp-sars-cov-2_patients_fragiles_v3-2.pdf)

Établissements d'hébergement pour personnes âgées dépendantes (EHPADs) and enhanced training to teach those at higher risk of contracting COVID-19 how to protect themselves from infection.<sup>4731</sup>

On 21 March 2020, Minister of Health and Solidarity Olivier Véran declared that government aid would prioritize the protection of elderly caregivers and care homes during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4732</sup> For instance, in response to a request from EHPAD officials, Minister Véran guaranteed the provision of 500,000 surgical masks per day to EHPADs across France.<sup>4733</sup> The Minister added that the measures to protect caregivers were imposed to preserve hospital capacity and reduce COVID-19 deaths among the elderly population.<sup>4734</sup>

On 30 March 2020, the Ministry of Health and Solidarity published a series of online instructions, references and guidelines aimed at supporting the elderly and the disabled during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4735</sup> The resources included links to mutual aid groups, information for directors of EHPADs, recommendations for EHPADs, a kit for “neighbors in solidarity with coronavirus,” an elderly care strategy and advice for family caregivers.<sup>4736</sup>

On 4 April 2020, the Ministry of Solidary and Health authorized remote health consultations via telephone due to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4737</sup> The ministry declared that the telephone consultations would mainly help patients without to healthcare facilities or video technology, particularly individuals aged 70 and older and those with long-term illnesses.<sup>4738</sup>

On 19 April 2020, Minister Véran announced the details of the deconfinement plan during a joint press conference with Prime Minister Edouard Philippe, with a specific lifting of the ban on family

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<sup>4731</sup> Ref: The President, High Council of Public Health (Paris), 14 March 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020.

[https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/new\\_hcsp-sars-cov-2\\_patients\\_fragiles\\_v3-2.pdf](https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/new_hcsp-sars-cov-2_patients_fragiles_v3-2.pdf)

<sup>4732</sup> Speech by Olivier Véran, Press Conference of 21 March 2020, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 21 March 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/discours/article/discours-d-olivier-veran-conference-de-presse-du-21-mars-2020>

<sup>4733</sup> Speech by Olivier Véran, Press Conference of 21 March 2020, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 21 March 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/discours/article/discours-d-olivier-veran-conference-de-presse-du-21-mars-2020>

<sup>4734</sup> Speech by Olivier Véran, Press Conference of 21 March 2020, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 21 March 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/discours/article/discours-d-olivier-veran-conference-de-presse-du-21-mars-2020>

<sup>4735</sup> Accompanying the elderly and the disabled, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 30 March 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/soins-et-maladies/maladies/maladies-infectieuses/coronavirus/professionnels-du-social-et-medico-social/article/accompagnement-des-personnes-agees-et-des-personnes-handicapees>

<sup>4736</sup> Accompanying the elderly and the disabled, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 30 March 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/soins-et-maladies/maladies/maladies-infectieuses/coronavirus/professionnels-du-social-et-medico-social/article/accompagnement-des-personnes-agees-et-des-personnes-handicapees>

<sup>4737</sup> Telephone consultation by telephone, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 4 April 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/teleconsultation-par-telephone>

<sup>4738</sup> Telephone consultation by telephone, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 4 April 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/teleconsultation-par-telephone>

visits to EHPADs from 20 April 2020.<sup>4739</sup> The government suspended visits to EHPADs on 11 March 2020 in order to contain the virus.<sup>4740</sup>

On 5 May 2020, the Ministry of Health and Solidarity published a notice that highlighted the work of the 3977, a national hotline dedicated to helping elderly and disabled adults who are victims of abuse.<sup>4741</sup> The notice underscored the importance of increased vigilance in response to the heightened risks of “multiple forms of elderly abuse” during the COVID-19 pandemic and referred website visitors to 3977 campaign’s advertising and media materials.<sup>4742</sup>

On 6 May 2020, the Ministry of Health and Solidarity announced efforts to strengthen the fight against elderly isolation due to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4743</sup> The measures included a national toll-free number called “Information coronavirus” to answer questions and refer isolated and vulnerable people to the “Red Cross at Home” service, which offers listening and psychological support and a solidarity concierge service allowing the elderly to order essential items, including food, hygiene products and medicines.<sup>4744</sup> The measures also referenced the creation of a portal on the ministry’s website dedicated to identifying and highlighting initiatives and tools available to the elderly to help combat isolation.<sup>4745</sup>

On 27 May 2020, the Pour les personnes âgées website sponsored by the Ministry of Health and Solidarity and Solidary to support the elderly announced a new program to improve the lives of the elderly at home care through the financing of a new bathroom.<sup>4746</sup> Individuals aged 70 and older, as well as retirees in a situation of loss of autonomy, are eligible for individual grants up to EUR5000 for the supply and installation of a walk-in shower with non-slip floor, a sink suitable for people with reduced mobility, a raised toilet bowl and support bar as well as other renovations.<sup>4747</sup>

On 28 May 2020, the Pour les personnes âgées website sponsored by the Ministry of Health and Solidarity and Solidary to support the elderly announced that employees and retirees across France raised EUR2.9 billion on National Solidarity Day for the benefit of the elderly and people with

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<sup>4739</sup> Coronavirus: in the Ehpads or at home, the confinement of “allied” elderly people, Le Monde (Paris), 20 April 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. [https://www.lemonde.fr/societe/article/2020/04/20/coronavirus-dans-les-ehpad-ou-a-domicile-le-confinement-des-personnes-agees-allege\\_6037161\\_3224.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/societe/article/2020/04/20/coronavirus-dans-les-ehpad-ou-a-domicile-le-confinement-des-personnes-agees-allege_6037161_3224.html)

<sup>4740</sup> Coronavirus: in the Ehpads or at home, the confinement of “allied” elderly people, Le Monde (Paris), 20 April 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. [https://www.lemonde.fr/societe/article/2020/04/20/coronavirus-dans-les-ehpad-ou-a-domicile-le-confinement-des-personnes-agees-allege\\_6037161\\_3224.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/societe/article/2020/04/20/coronavirus-dans-les-ehpad-ou-a-domicile-le-confinement-des-personnes-agees-allege_6037161_3224.html)

<sup>4741</sup> The 3977, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 5 May 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/affaires-sociales/personnes-agees/maltraitance-des-personnes-vulnerables/article/le-3977>

<sup>4742</sup> The 3977, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 5 May 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/affaires-sociales/personnes-agees/maltraitance-des-personnes-vulnerables/article/le-3977>

<sup>4743</sup> The Ministry of Health and Solidarity strengthens the fight against isolation, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 6 May 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/le-ministere-des-solidarites-et-de-la-sante-renforce-la-lutte-contre-l>

<sup>4744</sup> The Ministry of Health and Solidarity strengthens the fight against isolation, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 6 May 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/le-ministere-des-solidarites-et-de-la-sante-renforce-la-lutte-contre-l>

<sup>4745</sup> The Ministry of Health and Solidarity strengthens the fight against isolation, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 6 May 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/le-ministere-des-solidarites-et-de-la-sante-renforce-la-lutte-contre-l>

<sup>4746</sup> Bathroom design: a new help. National information portal for the elderly and their families (Paris), 27 May 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020 <https://www.pour-les-personnes-agees.gouv.fr/actualites/amenagement-de-la-salle-de-bain-une-nouvelle-aide>

<sup>4747</sup> Bathroom design: a new help. National information portal for the elderly and their families (Paris), 27 May 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020 <https://www.pour-les-personnes-agees.gouv.fr/actualites/amenagement-de-la-salle-de-bain-une-nouvelle-aide>

disabilities.<sup>4748</sup> EUR2 billion out of the EUR2.9 billion will finance programs that directly support the elderly, including the operation and modernization of medico-social establishments and services, a contribution to the financing of a personalized autonomy allowance and actions to prevent loss of autonomy (e.g. group workshops on balance, sleep or memory, awareness of fall prevention and help in acquiring suitable equipment).<sup>4749</sup>

On 15 June 2020, Minister Véran stated that “at least a billion euros” would be added to the fall 2021 Social Security budget.<sup>4750</sup> The goal is to finance and alleviate the loss of autonomy for the elderly and disabled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4751</sup>

On 28 May 2020 Prime Minister Philippe specified the conditions for the second phase of COVID-19 deconfinement, effective 5 June 2020.<sup>4752</sup> In line with national developments, the Ministry of Health and Solidarity relaxed its recommendations relating to visits to EHPADs.<sup>4753</sup> The Ministry’s press release recognized the importance of people seeing their loved ones and encouraged EHPAD management to consider the input of individual EHPAD social councils in loosening the restrictions.<sup>4754</sup>

On 16 June 2020, the Ministry of Health and Solidarity released a press statement mandating EHPADs that no longer report possible cases or confirmed cases of COVID-19 to establish, by 22 June 2020, plans for a “gradual return to ‘normal’,” while consulting with care providers and doctors.<sup>4755</sup> The announcement called on EHPADs to ensure “as a priority, as quickly as possible, the resumption of visits by relatives without an appointment, as well as, in a progressive manner: the resumption of individual and group outings and social life within the establishment; the end of

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<sup>4748</sup> Solidarity Day 2020: what will the funds raised be used for? National information portal for the elderly and their families (Paris), 28 May 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020 <https://www.pour-les-personnes-agees.gouv.fr/actualites/journee-de-solidarite-2020-a-quoi-serviront-les-fonds-recoltes>

<sup>4749</sup> Solidarity Day 2020: what will the funds raised be used for? National information portal for the elderly and their families (Paris), 28 May 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020 <https://www.pour-les-personnes-agees.gouv.fr/actualites/journee-de-solidarite-2020-a-quoi-serviront-les-fonds-recoltes>

<sup>4750</sup> Social Security: Olivier Véran promises an additional billion euros to finance dependency, Elle (Paris), 16 June 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.elle.fr/Societe/News/Securite-Sociale-Olivier-Veran-promet-un-milliard-d-euros-supplementaire-pour-financer-la-dependance-3867943>

<sup>4751</sup> Social Security: Olivier Véran promises an additional billion euros to finance dependency, Elle (Paris), 16 June 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://www.elle.fr/Societe/News/Securite-Sociale-Olivier-Veran-promet-un-milliard-d-euros-supplementaire-pour-financer-la-dependance-3867943>

<sup>4752</sup> Press release | Further relaxation of visiting conditions in establishments housing the elderly, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 1 June 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/communiqué-assouplissement-supplémentaire-des-conditions-de-visite-dans-les>

<sup>4753</sup> Press release | Further relaxation of visiting conditions in establishments housing the elderly, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 1 June 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/communiqué-assouplissement-supplémentaire-des-conditions-de-visite-dans-les>

<sup>4754</sup> Press release | Further relaxation of visiting conditions in establishments housing the elderly, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 1 June 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/communiqué-assouplissement-supplémentaire-des-conditions-de-visite-dans-les>

<sup>4755</sup> Next phase of deconfinement in EHPAD and USLD, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 16 June 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/communiqué-de-presse-ehpad-16-juin-2020>

confinement in a room; the resumption of all paramedical interventions; and the resumption of admissions to permanent accommodation and day care.<sup>4756</sup>

On 16 July 2020, Jérôme Guedj, former president of the General Council of Essonne, presented to Minister Véran and Minister for Autonomy Brigitte Bourguignon the concluding report of the Mission on Improving the Isolation of the Elderly.<sup>4757</sup> The Mission comprised of health experts, representatives from the elderly community, EHPAD federations and associations, local authorities, associations intervening in the field of solidarity and the fight against isolation.<sup>4758</sup> The press release noted that the Mission's findings offer several avenues for structuring a sustainable policy to combat elderly isolation.<sup>4759</sup>

On 20 July 2020, the Pour les personnes âgées website sponsored by the Ministry of Health and Solidarity and Solidary to support the elderly published a series of new digital resources to assist the elderly population during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4760</sup> The digital tools referenced by the Ministry focus on maintaining social ties and extending access to healthcare services through teleconsultations.<sup>4761</sup>

On 21 July 2020, Minister Véran pledged EUR2.1 billion to invest in medico-social establishments, including EHPADs.<sup>4762</sup> EHPADs will receive the funds to modernize equipment, renovate facilities and accommodate residents in more comfortable, more accessible and more energy-efficient conditions.<sup>4763</sup>

On 29 July 2020, the Ministry of Health and Solidarity began the distribution of 50 million individual protective masks to the mass public.<sup>4764</sup> The ministry announced that it would work with Le Poste to

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<sup>4756</sup> Next phase of deconfinement in EHPAD and USLD, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 16 June 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/communiqué-de-presse-ehpad-16-juin-2020>

<sup>4757</sup> Mission on the isolation of the elderly during Covid-19, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 16 July 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/mission-sur-l-isolement-des-personnes-agees-en-periode-de-covid-19>

<sup>4758</sup> Mission on the isolation of the elderly during Covid-19, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 16 July 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/mission-sur-l-isolement-des-personnes-agees-en-periode-de-covid-19>

<sup>4759</sup> Mission on the isolation of the elderly during Covid-19, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 16 July 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/mission-sur-l-isolement-des-personnes-agees-en-periode-de-covid-19>

<sup>4760</sup> Covid-19: digital tools referenced by the Ministry of Health and Solidarity, National information portal for the elderly and their families (Paris), 20 July 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. <https://www.pour-les-personnes-agees.gouv.fr/actualites/covid-19-des-outils-numeriques-references-par-le-ministere-des-solidarites-et-de-la-sante>

<sup>4761</sup> Covid-19: digital tools referenced by the Ministry of Health and Solidarity, National information portal for the elderly and their families (Paris), 20 July 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. <https://www.pour-les-personnes-agees.gouv.fr/actualites/covid-19-des-outils-numeriques-references-par-le-ministere-des-solidarites-et-de-la-sante>

<sup>4762</sup> Speech by Olivier Véran - Conclusions of the Ségur de la Santé, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 21 July 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/discours/article/discours-d-olivier-veran-conference-de-presse-du-21-mars-2020>

<sup>4763</sup> Speech by Olivier Véran - Conclusions of the Ségur de la Santé, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 21 July 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/discours/article/discours-d-olivier-veran-conference-de-presse-du-21-mars-2020>

<sup>4764</sup> Mass distribution of protective masks to precarious populations by the Ministry of Health and Solidarity with the support of La Poste, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 29 July 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/distribution-massive-de-masques-publics-precaires-la-poste>

prioritize distributing the protective masks, which are free of charge, to caregivers, precarious populations and the elderly.<sup>4765</sup>

On 6 August 2020, the Ministry of Health and Solidarity activated the “Heat Wave” information telephone platform after Météo France announced a long-lasting heatwave across France. The Ministry of Health and Solidarity’s press release called for “solidarity with the most vulnerable people, in particular the elderly, disabled or isolated. Particular vigilance must be brought to people over 65, who are more vulnerable to COVID-19 and to high temperatures.”<sup>4766</sup>

On 7 August 2020, the French government passed into law two bills relating to social security and autonomy, referred to as “the organic law and the ordinary law.”<sup>4767</sup> The laws enabled a debt recovery of EUR136 billion from the social security amortization fund and confirmed the creation of a “5th branch of social security”, devoted specifically to autonomy and aging, to be managed by the National Solidarity Fund for Autonomy.<sup>4768</sup>

On 7 September 2020, the Ministry of Health and Solidarity approved EUR1.2 million for 28 approved associations of health users across France.<sup>4769</sup> The funds focus on the “fight against social and territorial inequalities in health, in particular on: adapting information and modes of action to audiences who are more generally distant from it (disabled people, precarious people, foreigners, etc.) for universal accessibility to information and rights, throughout the health journey; the promotion and defense of the rights of home users as part of the ambulatory shift; and the egalitarian development of digital health services so that they benefit everyone.”<sup>4770</sup>

On 14 September 2020, Inspector General of Finance Laurent Vachey submitted the report on the creation of the “Autonomy” branch of social security to the ministers responsible for Public

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<sup>4765</sup> Mass distribution of protective masks to precarious populations by the Ministry of Health and Solidarity with the support of La Poste, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 29 July 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/distribution-massive-de-masques-publics-precaires-la-poste>

<sup>4766</sup> Heatwave episode affecting a large part of the country: special attention must be paid to vulnerable people in the context of the COVID-19 epidemic, Ministry of Health and Solidarity (Paris), 6 August 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/episode-de-canicule-affectant-une-grande-partie-du-pays-une-attention>

<sup>4767</sup> Organic law and law of August 7, 2020 relating to social debt and autonomy, Vie Publique (Paris), 22 September 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. <https://www.vie-publique.fr/loi/274394-lois-7-aout-2020-dette-sociale-et-autonomie-5e-risque-dependance>

<sup>4768</sup> Organic law and law of August 7, 2020 relating to social debt and autonomy, Vie Publique (Paris), 22 September 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. <https://www.vie-publique.fr/loi/274394-lois-7-aout-2020-dette-sociale-et-autonomie-5e-risque-dependance>

<sup>4769</sup> Support from the Ministry of Health and Solidarity and Health Insurance for democracy in health: € 1.2 million for 28 approved associations of health users, Ministry of Health and Solidarity and Solidarity (Paris), 7 September 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/soutien-ministere-solidarites-sante-assurance-maladie-democratie-sanitaire>

<sup>4770</sup> Support from the Ministry of Health and Solidarity and Health Insurance for democracy in health: € 1.2 million for 28 approved associations of health users, Ministry of Health and Solidarity and Solidarity (Paris), 7 September 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/soutien-ministere-solidarites-sante-assurance-maladie-democratie-sanitaire>



Accounts, Health and Solidarity, Autonomy and to the Secretary of Report to the Prime Minister in charge of People with disabilities.<sup>4771</sup> The four policies are as follows:

- A promise of universality, through better territorial equity in access to rights for people with loss of autonomy;
- A reinforced quality promise of the support offer;
- A promise to strengthen cross-cutting disability and old age policies; and
- A promise of democracy, with, starting this year, an annual review of the autonomy policy and the conditions for its long-term financing within the framework of social security financing laws.<sup>4772</sup>

France has taken multiple policy actions to promote healthy ageing and active ageing. Certain health policies target functional ability with a focus on equity and diversity of the intrinsic capacity and environmental characteristics of elderly individuals. Policy measures also focus on preventative health care, participatory healthcare, and security. Taking into account the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, France implemented several measures to protect the elderly from COVID-19 infection and ensure their wellbeing during the pandemic. In addition to policies intended to protect the elderly in the near-term, France also outlined proposed measures to bolster the welfare of the elderly over a longer time horizon in the form of a “fifth pillar” of social security focused on increasing funding and support for elderly dependency and loss of autonomy.<sup>4773</sup> France has also taken action on active aging in terms of policy measures that address the health, participation and security of the elderly and their caregivers, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analysts: Ian Stansbury and Miles Harrison*

### **Germany: 0**

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 1 July 2019, the Government of Germany announced that those employed in low-paying jobs, or “midijobs,” which earn EUR450 to EUR850 per month would receive full pension entitlements despite contributing to social security at a lower rate.<sup>4774</sup> The initiative is a response to population

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<sup>4771</sup> Submission to the Government of the report on the creation of the “Autonomy” branch drawn up by Mr. Laurent Vachey, Ministry of Health and Solidarity and Solidarity (Paris), 15 September 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/remise-au-gouvernement-du-rapport-relatif-a-la-creation-de-la-branche-autonomie>; Ways to finance the reform of old age and autonomy, Le Monde (Paris), 15 September 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. [https://www.lemonde.fr/societe/article/2020/09/15/les-pistes-pour-financer-la-reforme-du-grand-age-et-l-autonomie\\_6052231\\_3224.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/societe/article/2020/09/15/les-pistes-pour-financer-la-reforme-du-grand-age-et-l-autonomie_6052231_3224.html)

<sup>4772</sup> Submission to the Government of the report on the creation of the “Autonomy” branch drawn up by Mr. Laurent Vachey, Ministry of Health and Solidarity and Solidarity (Paris), 15 September 2020. Access Date: 23 September 2020. <https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/actualites/presse/communiqués-de-presse/article/remise-au-gouvernement-du-rapport-relatif-a-la-creation-de-la-branche-autonomie>

<sup>4773</sup> Exclusive dependency: what the government wants to do, Les Echos (Paris), 20 May 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <https://www.lesechos.fr/economie-france/social/exclusif-vers-une-nouvelle-branche-de-la-securite-sociale-consacree-a-la-dependance-1204500>

<sup>4774</sup> Pensions at a Glance: How does Germany compare?, OECD (Paris) 27 November 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/germany/PAG2019-DEU.pdf>

ageing, specifically the increase of the retirement age to 67 by 2031.<sup>4775</sup> It addresses the risk of old-age poverty and financial sustainability challenges to the public pension scheme and aims to increase pension coverage and promote social protection for vulnerable groups.<sup>4776</sup>

From 23 to 24 September 2019, the German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth hosted a “Peer Review on ‘Strategies for supporting social inclusion at older age,’”<sup>4777</sup> which engaged experts from “Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, France, Hungary, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands and Romania” as well as European Commission and representatives from nongovernmental organizations in discussions of national and local projects and strategies to promote social inclusion of older persons.<sup>4778</sup> The peer review identified groups at risk to social isolation and exclusion and discussed strategies, policies and practices and targeted activities that promote social inclusion, such as digital literacy to encourage digital inclusion.<sup>4779</sup>

On 29 November 2019, the Government of Germany adopted the Digital Healthcare Act, which supports government funded healthcare apps, video consultations with healthcare providers and a country-wide electronic patient medical record network.<sup>4780</sup> The Government of Germany will also promote digital health literacy education to insured persons, which would enable them to use digital healthcare programs.<sup>4781</sup>

On 1 July 2020, Germany adopted the “National Dementia Strategy,” which was developed under the leadership of the German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth and the German Federal Ministry of Health, under the co-chairmanship of the German Alzheimer Society and with the participation of over 70 relevant institutions, associations and organizations.<sup>4782</sup> This strategy’s goal is to enable social participation of people with dementia, to provide more support for family caregivers, to further improve medical and long-term care health services and to encourage more research on dementia.<sup>4783</sup>

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<sup>4775</sup> Pensions at a Glance: How does Germany compare?, OECD (Paris) 27 November 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/germany/PAG2019-DEU.pdf>

<sup>4776</sup> Pensions at a Glance: How does Germany compare?, OECD (Paris) 27 November 2019. Access Date: 4 February 2020. <https://www.oecd.org/germany/PAG2019-DEU.pdf>

<sup>4777</sup> Peer Review on “Strategies for supporting social inclusion at older age”, European Commission (Berlin), 23-24 September 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1024&furtherNews=yes&newsId=9418>

<sup>4778</sup> Peer Review on “Strategies for supporting social inclusion at older age”, European Commission (Berlin), 23-24 September 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=1024&furtherNews=yes&newsId=9418>

<sup>4779</sup> Executive Summary — Peer Review on ‘Strategies for supporting social inclusion at older age’ (Berlin), 23-24 September 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2019. <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1024&langId=en&newsId=9418&moreDocuments=yes&tableName=news>

<sup>4780</sup> Driving the digital transformation of Germany’s healthcare system for the good of patients, Federal Ministry of Health (Bonne) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 29 January 2020.

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/en/topics/digital-healthcare-act-dvg.html>

<sup>4781</sup> Driving the digital transformation of Germany’s healthcare system for the good of patients, Federal Ministry of Health (Bonne) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 29 January 2020.

<https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/en/topics/digital-healthcare-act-dvg.html>

<sup>4782</sup> Federal government adopts national dementia strategy, National Dementia Strategy Office (Berlin) 1 July 2020. Access Date: 20 July 2020. <https://www.nationale-demenzstrategie.de/aktuelles/artikel/kabinettschluss-zur-nationalen-demenzstrategie-1-1-1-1>

<sup>4783</sup> Federal government adopts national dementia strategy, National Dementia Strategy Office (Berlin) 1 July 2020. Access Date: 20 July 2020. <https://www.nationale-demenzstrategie.de/aktuelles/artikel/kabinettschluss-zur-nationalen-demenzstrategie-1-1-1-1>

On 12 August 2020, the German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth released the Eighth Age Report.<sup>4784</sup> The report detailed the development, use and importance of digitalization and technology in areas of aging, such as mobility, social participation and health.<sup>4785</sup>

On 24 September 2020, the German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth announced their support for the Malteser Relief Service project “Together for one another – contact and community in old age” to address and prevent loneliness in old age.<sup>4786</sup> The project will run until 2024 with EUR7 million in funding to increase volunteer and support services for older adults.<sup>4787</sup>

Germany has made taken some policy action to promote active ageing by improving pensions and digitalization of healthcare. However, it has not taken action to promote healthy ageing in terms of supporting functional ability.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Rachael Mannie*

### **India: 0**

India has partially complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 4 July 2019, Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman announced a prospective increase of the minimum retirement age for public sector workers while presenting the Economic Survey of 2018-19.<sup>4788</sup> The Government of India seeks to reduce dependency on state pensions owing to projections indicating an increase in the country’s population over the age of 60 to 234.9 million people by 2041.<sup>4789</sup>

On 18 July 2019, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare exchanged a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and

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<sup>4784</sup> Digitization offers great potential for older people, Federal Ministry for Family, Seniors, Women and Youth (Berlin) 12 August 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/digitalisierung-bietet-grosses-potenzial-fuer-aeltere-menschen/159744>

<sup>4785</sup> Digitization offers great potential for older people, Federal Ministry for Family, Seniors, Women and Youth (Berlin) 12 August 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/digitalisierung-bietet-grosses-potenzial-fuer-aeltere-menschen/159744>

<sup>4786</sup> Ministry supports the Maltese project against loneliness in old age, Federal Ministry for Family, Seniors, Women and Youth (Berlin) 24 September 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/ministerium-foerdert-malteser-projekt-gegen-einsamkeit-im-alter/160700>

<sup>4787</sup> Ministry supports the Maltese project against loneliness in old age, Federal Ministry for Family, Seniors, Women and Youth (Berlin) 24 September 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2020.

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/aktuelles/presse/pressemitteilungen/ministerium-foerdert-malteser-projekt-gegen-einsamkeit-im-alter/160700>

<sup>4788</sup> Economic Survey suggests increasing the retirement age could be considered given that life expectancy is likely to continue rising, Press Information Bureau of the Government of India (New Delhi) 4 July 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2020. <https://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=191197>

<sup>4789</sup> Indian govt warns of ageing population; says retirement age should rise, schools merge, Reuters (New Delhi) 4 July 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/india-economy-aging/indian-govt-warns-of-ageing-population-says-retirement-age-should-rise-schools-merge-idUSL4N2452BT>

Homoeopathy, the Ministry of Defence, and Ministry of Railways to enhance inter-ministerial cooperation towards the eradication of tuberculosis in India by 2025.<sup>4790</sup>

On 9 October 2019, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Harsh Vardhan announced the launch of “The WHO India Country Cooperation Strategy 2019–2023: A Time of Transition.”<sup>4791</sup> The Country Cooperation Strategy aims to provide a framework for the WHO to cooperate with the Government of India towards health sector objectives that improve India’s population health and the health sector. Minister Vardhan declared four areas of collaboration with the WHO, specifically, “to accelerate progress on UHC [universal health coverage]; to promote health and wellness by addressing determinants of health; to protect the population better against health emergencies; and to enhance India’s global leadership in health.”<sup>4792</sup>

On 11 December 2019, Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Thawarchand Gehlot introduced the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens (Amendment) Bill, 2019 in the House of the People.<sup>4793</sup> The bill amends the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, which mandates the care of elderly parents by adult children or the provision of financial support for the same.<sup>4794</sup> It creates administrative tribunals to resolve disputes between parents and children over maintenance amounts, increases criminal penalties for children who default on payments, establishes “senior citizen care” homes and reserves facilities for senior citizens in public hospitals.<sup>4795</sup>

On 4 February 2020, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare announced that 100,000 Sub Health Centres and Primary Health Centres will become Health and Wellness Centres across the country, which will facilitate operations and delivery of comprehensive primary health care.<sup>4796</sup> It provides preventive healthcare services and promotes health at the community level, and a continuum care approach will be implemented by December 2022.<sup>4797</sup>

On 29 February 2020, Prime Minister Narendra Modi distributed aids and assistive devices at a mega distribution camp in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh to an estimated 27,000 Divyangjan and senior

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<sup>4790</sup> Health Ministry signs MoUs with three Ministries for enhanced cooperation to end TB by 2025, Press Information Bureau of the Government of India (New Delhi) 18 July 2019. Access Date: 3 April 2020.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1605657>

<sup>4791</sup> Dr. Harsh Vardhan launches WHO IndiaCountry Cooperation Strategy 2019–2023, Press Information Bureau of the Government of India (New Delhi) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 3 April 2020.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1605657>

<sup>4792</sup> Dr. Harsh Vardhan launches WHO IndiaCountry Cooperation Strategy 2019–2023, Press Information Bureau of the Government of India (New Delhi) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 3 April 2020.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1605657>

<sup>4793</sup> The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens (Amendment) Bill, 2019, PRS Legislative Research (New Delhi) 23 December 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2020. <https://prsindia.org/billtrack/maintenance-and-welfare-parents-and-senior-citizens-amendment-bill-2019>

<sup>4794</sup> The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens (Amendment) Bill, 2019, PRS Legislative Research (New Delhi) 23 December 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2020. <https://prsindia.org/billtrack/maintenance-and-welfare-parents-and-senior-citizens-amendment-bill-2019>

<sup>4795</sup> The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens (Amendment) Bill, 2019, PRS Legislative Research (New Delhi) 23 December 2019. Access Date: 9 February 2020. <https://prsindia.org/billtrack/maintenance-and-welfare-parents-and-senior-citizens-amendment-bill-2019>

<sup>4796</sup> Opening of Wellness Centres under Ayushman Bharat Yojana, Press Information Bureau of the Government of India (New Delhi) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1605657>

<sup>4797</sup> Opening of Wellness Centres under Ayushman Bharat Yojana, Press Information Bureau of the Government of India (New Delhi) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1605657>

citizens.<sup>4798</sup> This initiative aims to support senior citizens and disabled persons under the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana and the Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchasing/Fitting of Aids/Appliances schemes.<sup>4799</sup>

On 3 March 2020, the Ministry and Health and Family announced that it is implementing the National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly at the various levels of health facilities.<sup>4800</sup> This initiative recognizes the health care needs specific to the elderly and provides facilities dedicated towards the elderly population. The program, which will be implemented in 713 districts of India, aims “to provide accessible, affordable, comprehensive and dedicated health care services.”<sup>4801</sup> For tertiary-level health care facilities, 19 regional geriatric centres and two national centres for ageing have been approved for implementation.<sup>4802</sup>

India has taken some policy actions towards the promotion of healthy ageing through programs that support preventive healthcare, the development of more Health and Wellness centres, and the distribution of assistive devices. However, India has taken no policy action towards active ageing in terms of social, political, cultural, and/or economic inclusion.

Thus, India receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Arjun Singh*

### **Indonesia: -1**

Indonesia has not complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

Indonesia has not taken any policy actions to address healthy ageing nor active ageing. No actions were found for this report after searching online news sources, government publications, ministries, and international organizations.<sup>4803</sup>

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Shafna Kallil*

### **Italy: -1**

Italy has not complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 21 October 2019, at the G20 Ministers of Health meeting in Okayama, Japan, Italian Minister of Health Roberto Speranza declared “health as a fundamental right of the individuals and an interest to

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<sup>4798</sup> PM distributes Aids & Assistive Devices to Divyangjan and Senior Citizens at a mega distribution camp (Samajik Adhikarta Shivir) in Prayagraj Uttar Pradesh, Press Information Bureau of the Government of India (New Delhi) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 29 February 2020. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1604733>

<sup>4799</sup> PM distributes Aids & Assistive Devices to Divyangjan and Senior Citizens at a mega distribution camp (Samajik Adhikarta Shivir) in Prayagraj Uttar Pradesh, Press Information Bureau of the Government of India (New Delhi) 29 February 2020. Access Date: 29 February 2020. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1604733>

<sup>4800</sup> Health Issues Related to Senior Citizens, Press Information Bureau of the Government of India (New Delhi) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1605657>

<sup>4801</sup> Health Issues Related to Senior Citizens, Press Information Bureau of the Government of India (New Delhi) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1605657>

<sup>4802</sup> Health Issues Related to Senior Citizens, Press Information Bureau of the Government of India (New Delhi) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1605657>

<sup>4803</sup> This non-compliance was determined after a search of the following websites: <https://www.presidentri.go.id/>, <https://jakartaglobe.id/>, and <https://www.insideindonesia.org/>

the community,” and that the Italian government would defend the principle of universality of the national health coverage and to this end has invested new resources dedicated to healthcare in the last budget plan.<sup>4804</sup> The meeting also addressed the issue of population ageing.<sup>4805</sup> Minister Speranza declared that Italy has adopted a “global strategy” that aims to undertake collaborative efforts of various sectors in society and health systems to address disease prevention and treatment, and that Italy will address dementia as a priority.<sup>4806</sup>

On 8 November 2019, Minister of Health Roberto Speranza met with China’s Minister of Health Ma Xiaowei to sign the Implementation Programme of the Plan of Action for the years 2019 to 2021, which aims to establish healthcare cooperation between Italy and China to sectors such as oncology, cardiology and primary care.<sup>4807</sup>

On 4 February 2020, the Istituto Superiore di Sanità introduced an application which allows health and social workers to identify elderly people at risk of frailty.<sup>4808</sup> Funded by the Ministry of Health, the application uses a “Physical Activity Scale for the Elderly” questionnaire to identify physical activity levels of people over the age of 64 and direct them towards appropriate methods of performing physical activities.<sup>4809</sup>

On 21 September 2020, Minister of Health Roberto Speranza established the Elderly Assistance Commission, which is a commission that aims to reform health care and social care of the elderly population.<sup>4810</sup> This initiative will “facilitate a transition from residential care to an effective presence in the area through home care, support for families and telemedicine.”<sup>4811</sup>

Italy has reaffirmed its commitment to health systems and taken action to promote active ageing through collaborating with China on healthcare cooperation. While Italy has funded a project to promote active aging, it has not made substantive progress on the promotion of healthy and active ageing through policy measures.

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<sup>4804</sup> G20 sanità. Speranza: "Tutela salute individuo è alla base nostra Costituzione", Ministero della Salute (Rome) 21 October 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2020.

[http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_1\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3934](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3934)

<sup>4805</sup> G20 sanità. Speranza: "Tutela salute individuo è alla base nostra Costituzione", Ministero della Salute (Rome) 21 October 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2020.

[http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_1\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3934](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3934)

<sup>4806</sup> G20 sanità. Speranza: "Tutela salute individuo è alla base nostra Costituzione", Ministero della Salute (Rome) 21 October 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2020.

[http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_1\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3934](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3934)

<sup>4807</sup> Italia-Cina, incontro tra i ministri della Salute Roberto Speranza e Ma Xiaowei, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 8 November 2019. Access Date: 29 February 2020.

[http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_1\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3956](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=3956)

<sup>4808</sup> The quality of life seen by people aged 65 and over, The portal of epidemiology for public health by the Higher Institute of Health (Rome) 13 February 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.epicentro.iss.it/passi-argento/>

<sup>4809</sup> From the ISS an APP to counter the risk of frailty among the elderly, The portal of epidemiology for public health by the Higher Institute of Health (Rome) 13 February 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020.

<https://www.epicentro.iss.it/passi-argento/info/app-fragilita>

<sup>4810</sup> Health: Hope establishes the Elderly Assistance Commission, the President will be Mons. Paglia, Ministry of Health (Rome), 21 September 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_4\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5650](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5650)

<sup>4811</sup> Health: Hope establishes the Elderly Assistance Commission, the President will be Mons. Paglia, Ministry of Health (Rome), 21 September 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. [http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_4\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5650](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_4_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=salastampa&p=comunicatistampa&id=5650)

Thus, Italy receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Zarlasht Jamal*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 30 August 2019, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare selected four organizations to implement the “Lifelong Active Promotion Regional Collaboration Project (for the Second Recruitment in the First Year of Reiwa).”<sup>4812</sup> The program aims to promote employment opportunities for elderly people and support their active role in the workplace.<sup>4813</sup>

On 30 October 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe called on cabinet ministers to speed up the work on introducing driver’s licences that restrict senior drivers to only drive vehicles with safe support functions.<sup>4814</sup>

On 21 November 2019, the Japanese government announced plans to subsidize the purchase of cars with safety functions for Japanese citizens aged 65 or over.<sup>4815</sup> Vehicles with safety features will allow senior residents to continue to drive while also reducing the number of fatal traffic accidents caused by the elderly.<sup>4816</sup>

On 17 December 2019, in response to the rise in car accidents associated with senior drivers, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism declared that it would apply the United Nations international standard on automatic breaks, requiring domestic automakers to equip passenger cars with automatic breaks by November 2021.<sup>4817</sup>

On 4 February 2020, the Cabinet approved bills to encourage businesses to allow employees to work until 70 years of age, which will go into effect in April 2021.<sup>4818</sup> While the adoption of the bills is not mandatory, the bills urge business to choose from five options such as raising the retirement age,

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<sup>4812</sup> 「生涯現役促進地域連携事業（令和元年度開始分・2次募集）」の実施団体候補として4団体を決定, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020.

[https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000207424\\_00006.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000207424_00006.html)

<sup>4813</sup> 「生涯現役促進地域連携事業（令和元年度開始分・2次募集）」の実施団体候補として4団体を決定, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (Tokyo) 30 August 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020.

[https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000207424\\_00006.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000207424_00006.html)

<sup>4814</sup> After accidents involving elderly, Japan eyes license restricting drivers to cars with safety features, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 30 October 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/10/30/national/japan-drivers-license-for-elderly/> — .Xj78rVJKjOR

<sup>4815</sup> Japan aims to offer subsidies to elderly drivers for cars with safety systems, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/11/21/national/japan-subsidies-to-elderly-drivers-for-safer-cars/> — .Xj4711JKhQI

<sup>4816</sup> Japan aims to offer subsidies to elderly drivers for cars with safety systems, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 21 November 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/11/21/national/japan-subsidies-to-elderly-drivers-for-safer-cars/> — .Xj4711JKhQI

<sup>4817</sup> With eye on elderly, Japan to make automatic brakes mandatory for new cars from late 2021, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 17 December 2019. Access Date: 11 January 2020.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/12/17/national/japan-automatic-brakes-new-cars-2021/> — .Xj4711JKhQI

<sup>4818</sup> Japan to amend laws to help elderly work until 70, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 7 February 2020. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/02/04/national/japan-amend-laws-elderly-work-until-70/> — .Xj74sVJKhQI

removing the retirement age, or allowing senior employees to continue working after the current age limit.<sup>4819</sup>

Japan has taken action to promote healthy ageing through policies on safety measures that aim to improve senior citizens' ability to drive, which encourages independence and functional ability. Japan has also supported the development of community-based projects, which promote elderly citizens' employment opportunities and support their continued economic participation, enabling their active participation in society.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Fatima Chohan*

### **Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 3 July 2019, the government of Korea announced an increase in employment programs for low-income people, including older adults.<sup>4820</sup>

On 4 September 2019, the Ministry of Science Technology and Information Communications announced an increase in funding for research in the pharmaceutical sector to KRW1.15 trillion.<sup>4821</sup> This includes an increase to KRW93.8 billion dedicated to the development of “full life cycle medical devices.”<sup>4822</sup>

On 18 September 2019, the government of Korea announced that it will set up incentives for companies that hire older adults aged 60 or older.<sup>4823</sup> The government of Korea will invest KRW19.2 billion for this initiative.<sup>4824</sup>

On 18 September 2019, Deputy Prime Minister Hong Nam-ki announced measures to manage demographic changes.<sup>4825</sup> These measures include developing “smart workplaces” for older adult employees, improving pension plans and the welfare system and increasing support for businesses to maintain older adult employees.<sup>4826</sup>

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<sup>4819</sup> Japan to amend laws to help elderly work until 70, The Japan Times (Tokyo) 4 February 2020. Access Date: 7 February 2020. <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2020/02/04/national/japan-amend-laws-elderly-work-until-70/> — Xj74sVJKhQJ

<sup>4820</sup> Economic Policies, H2 2019, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Sejong City) 3 July 2019. Access Date: 17 March 2020. <http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4710>

<sup>4821</sup> Korea ups R&D budget by 16% in biotech, backs genome data initiative next year, Pulse by Maeil Business News Korea 4 September 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?year=2019&no=698622>

<sup>4822</sup> Korea ups R&D budget by 16% in biotech, backs genome data initiative next year, Pulse by Maeil Business News Korea 4 September 2019. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?year=2019&no=698622>

<sup>4823</sup> S. Korea unveils measures to cope with population decline, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20190918004251320>

<sup>4824</sup> S. Korea unveils measures to cope with population decline, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20190918004251320>

<sup>4825</sup> Government Unveils Framework Measures to Deal with Demographic Changes, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Sejong City) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 17 March 2020.

<http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4754>

<sup>4826</sup> Government Unveils Framework Measures to Deal with Demographic Changes, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Sejong City) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 17 March 2020. <http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4754>



On 14 November 2019, Deputy Prime Minister Hong Nam-ki announced additional measures to manage demographic changes, which include increasing senior housing, such as residential care facilities, developing guidelines for establishing age-friendly cities and improving pension plans.<sup>4827</sup>

On 19-20 October 2019, Minister of Health and Welfare Park Neung-hoo, at the G20 Health Ministers' Meeting, shared Government of Korea plans to improve international healthcare collaboration.<sup>4828</sup> These plans include the Community Care project and the National Dementia Initiative.<sup>4829</sup>

On 29 October 2019, the Ministry of Health and Welfare announced measures to improve support to those living with dementia.<sup>4830</sup> These measures include increasing cognitive rehabilitation programs, increasing short term care service, increasing the number of care facilities for dementia patients, and the investment of KRW198.7 billion in dementia research.<sup>4831</sup>

On 15 December 2019, the Korean Minister of Health and Welfare Park Neung-hoo, China's National Health Commission Director Ma Xiaowei and Japan's Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare Katsunobu Kato, released a joint statement that Korea, China, and Japan would collaborate to promote healthy and active aging and improve health systems through information and communications technology and data.<sup>4832</sup> Korea will be increasing health insurance benefits to reduce financial burden on older citizens and aim to ensure high quality of life for senior citizens.<sup>4833</sup>

On 13 January 2020, President Moon Jae-in appointed Democratic Party lawmaker Seo Hyung-soo as vice head of the Presidential Committee on Ageing Society and Population Policy.<sup>4834</sup> The committee aims to investigate future healthy ageing policies and explore solutions that address social problems.<sup>4835</sup>

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<sup>4827</sup> Government Unveils Last Round of Measures to Deal with Demographic Changes, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Sejong City) 14 November 2019. Access Date: 17 March 2020.

<http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4787>

<sup>4828</sup> Minister Park Neung-hoo emphasizes international cooperation in healthcare at the G20 Health Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Sejong City) 21 October 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. [https://www.mohw.go.kr/eng/nw/nw0101vw.jsp?PAR\\_MENU\\_ID=1007&MENU\\_ID=100701&page=1&CONT\\_SEQ=351258](https://www.mohw.go.kr/eng/nw/nw0101vw.jsp?PAR_MENU_ID=1007&MENU_ID=100701&page=1&CONT_SEQ=351258).

<sup>4829</sup> Minister Park Neung-hoo emphasizes international cooperation in healthcare at the G20 Health Ministers' Meeting, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Sejong City) 21 October 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. [https://www.mohw.go.kr/eng/nw/nw0101vw.jsp?PAR\\_MENU\\_ID=1007&MENU\\_ID=100701&page=1&CONT\\_SEQ=351258](https://www.mohw.go.kr/eng/nw/nw0101vw.jsp?PAR_MENU_ID=1007&MENU_ID=100701&page=1&CONT_SEQ=351258)

<sup>4830</sup> DayNight Care for Dementia Patients to be Strengthened and National Research on Dementia to be Conducted, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Sejong City) 30 October 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. [https://www.mohw.go.kr/eng/nw/nw0101vw.jsp?PAR\\_MENU\\_ID=1007&MENU\\_ID=100701&page=1&CONT\\_SEQ=351361](https://www.mohw.go.kr/eng/nw/nw0101vw.jsp?PAR_MENU_ID=1007&MENU_ID=100701&page=1&CONT_SEQ=351361)

<sup>4831</sup> DayNight Care for Dementia Patients to be Strengthened and National Research on Dementia to be Conducted, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Sejong City) 30 October 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. [https://www.mohw.go.kr/eng/nw/nw0101vw.jsp?PAR\\_MENU\\_ID=1007&MENU\\_ID=100701&page=1&CONT\\_SEQ=351361](https://www.mohw.go.kr/eng/nw/nw0101vw.jsp?PAR_MENU_ID=1007&MENU_ID=100701&page=1&CONT_SEQ=351361)

<sup>4832</sup> S. Korea, China, Japan to work together on health coverage, infectious disease, active healthy aging, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 15 December 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20191214001900320>

<sup>4833</sup> S. Korea, China, Japan to work together on health coverage, infectious disease, active healthy aging, Yonhap News Agency (Seoul) 15 December 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2019. <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20191214001900320>

<sup>4834</sup> Lawmaker picked for presidential panel on aging society, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 13 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20200113000646&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20200113000646&ACE_SEARCH=1)

<sup>4835</sup> Lawmaker picked for presidential panel on aging society, The Korea Herald (Seoul) 13 January 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. [http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20200113000646&ACE\\_SEARCH=1](http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20200113000646&ACE_SEARCH=1)

On 30 January 2020, the government of Korea launched the second population policy taskforce to tackle demographic challenges, which includes supporting digital financial literacy of the elderly, the development of “elder-friendly financial products”<sup>4836</sup> and creating senior markets.<sup>4837</sup>

On 17 February 2020, the Ministry of Economy and Finance announced that an increase in pension benefits from KRW250,000 to KRW300,000 per month.<sup>4838</sup> This pension benefit will expand coverage to include the bottom 40 per cent of earners in addition to the previous standard of bottom 20 per cent of earners.<sup>4839</sup>

On 1 June 2020, Korea announced the implementation of digital education to older adults provided to 3,000 community centres nationwide.<sup>4840</sup> This is part of a KRW800 trillion investment in the telecommunications industry.<sup>4841</sup>

On 1 June 2020, the government announced that it will invest KRW1.4 trillion in remote learning and working by 2022.<sup>4842</sup> This includes providing remote care services to 120,000 older adults.<sup>4843</sup>

On 14 July 2020, the government announced the Korean New Deal with one expected outcome of digital inclusion.<sup>4844</sup> All rural areas will be provided internet access and 70 per cent of older adults will be able to access mobile internet access.<sup>4845</sup>

On 1 September 2020, the government announced that it will invest KRW8.6 trillion in job retention and creation.<sup>4846</sup> This includes the creation of 1.03 million public sector jobs for older adults and those living with disability.<sup>4847</sup>

Korea has taken action to promote healthy and active aging through supporting the continued economic inclusion of elderly citizens, dementia support in terms of dementia research and cognitive

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<sup>4836</sup> Taskforce on 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Population Policy Takes Off, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Sejong City) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 17 March 2020. <http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4827>

<sup>4837</sup> Taskforce on 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Population Policy Takes Off, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Sejong City) 30 January 2020. Access Date: 17 March 2020. <http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4827>

<sup>4838</sup> 2020 Work Report: Promote Investment and Support Industrial Innovation, Ministry of Health and Welfare (Sejong City) 17 February 2020. Access Date: 17 March 2020.

<http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4842>

<sup>4839</sup> Korea’s minimum wage goes up 2.9% to \$7.4, child benefits increased in 2020, Pulse by Maeil Business News Korea 1 January 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://pulsenews.co.kr/view.php?year=2020&no=726>

<sup>4840</sup> Korea to focus on digital, green initiatives to boost economy, The Korea Times (Seoul) 2 June 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. [http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/biz/2020/06/602\\_290494.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/biz/2020/06/602_290494.html)

<sup>4841</sup> Korea to focus on digital, green initiatives to boost economy, The Korea Times (Seoul) 2 June 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. [http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/biz/2020/06/602\\_290494.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/biz/2020/06/602_290494.html)

<sup>4842</sup> Economic Policies, H2 2020, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Sejong City) 1 June 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4913>

<sup>4843</sup> Economic Policies, H2 2020, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Sejong City) 1 June 2020. Access Date: 21 July 2020. <http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4913>

<sup>4844</sup> Government Announces Overview of Korean New Deal, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Sejong City) 14 July 2020. Access Date: 21 September 2020.

<http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4940>

<sup>4845</sup> Government Announces Overview of Korean New Deal, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Sejong City) 14 July 2020. Access Date: 21 September 2020.

<http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4940>

<sup>4846</sup> 2021 Budget Proposal, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Sejong City) 1 September 2020. Access Date: 21 September 2020. <http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4967>

<sup>4847</sup> 2021 Budget Proposal, Ministry of Economy and Finance (Sejong City) 1 September 2020. Access Date: 21 September 2020. <http://english.moef.go.kr/pc/selectTbPressCenterDtl.do?boardCd=N0001&seq=4967>

rehabilitation programs that support functional ability, improved pension plans, and cooperation with other countries to improve health systems.

Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Rachael Mannie*

### **Mexico: 0**

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 19 July 2019, Secretary of Welfare María Luisa Albores González announced that in the municipality of San Luis Potosí, “200 thousand people over 68 will be supported, with the delivery of MXN2,550 bimonthly.”<sup>4848</sup> This support embodies the goal of “benefiting the elderly” to “renew the face of communities, ranches and territories.”<sup>4849</sup>

On 30 July 2019, the Directorate of Economic Social and Cultural Benefits of the Institute of Security and Social Services of State Workers released a series of online multimedia courses aimed at providing education about how to take care of older adults.<sup>4850</sup> The courses aim to “empower [elder adults and their caregivers] with information,” which will help them “improve their quality of life and promote welfare states, thereby increasing their participation in social, family and economic life.”<sup>4851</sup>

From 14 to 16 October 2019, representatives from Mexico attended the first Hispanic Conference on Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.<sup>4852</sup> Spanish speakers congregated at the conference to share “knowledge, experience and tools” and create a “Spanish speaking movement within the Global Network for age-friendly cities and communities.”<sup>4853</sup> Activities included a series of round tables, workshops, and field visits to age-friendly communities and cities.<sup>4854</sup>

On 23 October 2019, Secretary González and the rector of the National Autonomous University of Mexico Enrique Graue Weichers signed a General Collaboration Agreement, in which officials

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<sup>4848</sup>Gobierno de México trabaja para cerrar las brechas de la discriminación y pobreza: María Luisa Albores González, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 19 July 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020.

<https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/gobierno-de-mexico-trabaja-para-cerrar-las-brechas-de-la-discriminacion-y-pobreza-maria-luisa-albores-gonzalez?idiom=es>

<sup>4849</sup>Gobierno de México trabaja para cerrar las brechas de la discriminación y pobreza: María Luisa Albores González, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 19 July 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020.

<https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/gobierno-de-mexico-trabaja-para-cerrar-las-brechas-de-la-discriminacion-y-pobreza-maria-luisa-albores-gonzalez?idiom=es>

<sup>4850</sup>Adultos Mayores. Cursos Multimedia, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 30 July 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/issste/acciones-y-programas/portal-del-adulto-mayor>

<sup>4851</sup>Adultos Mayores, Instituto de Seguridad y Servicios Sociales de Los Trabajadores del Estado, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 30 July 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. <http://www.issste.gob.mx/adultosmayores/>

<sup>4852</sup>First ever Hispanic conference on age-friendly cities and communities, World Health Organisation (Geneva) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. <https://extranet.who.int/agefriendlyworld/>

<sup>4853</sup>First ever Hispanic conference on age-friendly cities and communities, World Health Organisation (Geneva) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. <https://extranet.who.int/agefriendlyworld/>

<sup>4854</sup>First ever Hispanic conference on age-friendly cities and communities, World Health Organisation (Geneva) 14 October 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. <https://extranet.who.int/agefriendlyworld/>

specifically mentioned “opportunities for collaboration in topics such as regional development, health, environment, older adults” as part of the efforts to solve social inequality present in Mexico.<sup>4855</sup>

On 11 November 2019, Secretary González declared that the Pension for the Well-being of Older Adults would expand its budget from MXN100 billion to MXN126.65 billion.<sup>4856</sup> The declaration occurred at the First Regular Session of the National Commission for Social Development.<sup>4857</sup>

On 29 January 2020, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador helped support the inauguration of the new General Hospital of Mazatlan, Sinaloa by the federal and state governments.<sup>4858</sup> Involving an investment of over MXN1,000 million, the new general hospital is run by trained personnel and is outfitted to provide, among others, geriatric care.<sup>4859</sup>

On 31 January 2020, Secretary González specifically commended the remodeling work in two hostels in Mexico City during a visit with the Head of the National Institute of Older Adults (Inapam) Elsa Veites Arévalo.<sup>4860</sup> Both were affiliated with Inapam and had a focus on “[providing] food, medical care, rehabilitation and occupational therapy for older adults who require extended stay.”<sup>4861</sup>

On 1 February 2020, while accompanying President López Obrador to publicize the progress of the Comprehensive Welfare Programs, Secretary González pledged to expand the coverage of elder adults receiving welfare pension from 55,000 older adults to more than 58,000 in the 2020 Comprehensive Welfare Programs.<sup>4862</sup>

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<sup>4855</sup> Refrenda Secretaría de Bienestar colaboración con todos los órdenes de gobierno contra la pobreza, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 11 November 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020.

<https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/refrenda-secretaria-de-bienestar-colaboracion-con-todos-los-ordenes-de-gobierno-contra-la-pobreza?idiom=es>

<sup>4856</sup> Refrenda Secretaría de Bienestar colaboración con todos los órdenes de gobierno contra la pobreza, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 11 November 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020.

<https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/refrenda-secretaria-de-bienestar-colaboracion-con-todos-los-ordenes-de-gobierno-contra-la-pobreza?idiom=es>

<sup>4857</sup> Refrenda Secretaría de Bienestar colaboración con todos los órdenes de gobierno contra la pobreza, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 11 November 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020.

<https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/refrenda-secretaria-de-bienestar-colaboracion-con-todos-los-ordenes-de-gobierno-contra-la-pobreza?idiom=es>

<sup>4858</sup> Con apoyo del Presidente Andrés Manuel López Obrador, el gobierno federal y estatal inauguraron el Hospital General de Mazatlán, Sinaloa, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 29 January 2020. Access Date: 3 February 2020.

<https://www.gob.mx/insabi/articulos/con-apoyo-del-presidente-andres-manuel-lopez-obrador-el-gobierno-federal-y-estatal-inauguraron-el-hospital-general-de-mazatlan-sinaloa?idiom=es>

<sup>4859</sup> Con apoyo del Presidente Andrés Manuel López Obrador, el gobierno federal y estatal inauguraron el Hospital General de Mazatlán, Sinaloa, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 29 January 2020. Access Date: 3 February 2020.

<https://www.gob.mx/insabi/articulos/con-apoyo-del-presidente-andres-manuel-lopez-obrador-el-gobierno-federal-y-estatal-inauguraron-el-hospital-general-de-mazatlan-sinaloa?idiom=es>

<sup>4860</sup> Supervisa secretaria de Bienestar remodelación de albergues del Inapam, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 3 February 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/supervisa-secretaria-de-bienestar-remodelacion-de-albergues-del-inapam>

<sup>4861</sup> Supervisa secretaria de Bienestar remodelación de albergues del Inapam, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 31 January 2020. Access Date: 3 February 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/supervisa-secretaria-de-bienestar-remodelacion-de-albergues-del-inapam>

<sup>4862</sup> María Luisa Albores informa sobre los avances de los Programas Integrales de Bienestar en Campeche, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 1 February 2020. Access Date: 3 February 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/maria-luisa-albores-informa-sobre-los-avances-de-los-programas-integrales-de-bienestar-en-campeche>

On 6 March 2020, Secretary González announced that the Comprehensive Welfare Programs aim to prioritize the wellbeing of the most vulnerable population.<sup>4863</sup> The Pension Program for the Welfare of the Elderly, which financially supports over 200,000 older adults increased from MXN2,550 to MXN2,620.<sup>4864</sup>

On 26 March 2020, the Secretariat of Welfare, in collaboration with Secretariat of Health adopted necessary administrative actions and sanitary measures to ensure hygienic conditions in the operation and delivery of Comprehensive Welfare Program to the most vulnerable population, namely older adults and those with disabilities.<sup>4865</sup>

On 27 March 2020, the Secretariat of Welfare announced that older adults and people with disabilities will receive an advance on pension payments for the two-month periods, March-April and May-June, totalling MXN5,240, as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4866</sup> As there are more than 8 million elderly people and 800,000 people with disabilities in the country, the investment totals to MXN46.4 billion. This initiative ensures that seniors and people with disabilities, who are the most vulnerable population to health risks of COVID-19, can purchase essential items and stay safely at home to avoid risks to their health.<sup>4867</sup>

On 14 April 2020, the National Institute for Older Adults published a fact sheet urging the strengthening of intergenerational relationships in support of older people in the community during the pandemic.<sup>4868</sup> In order to facilitate interactions, the fact sheet included suggestions on how to contact elderly acquaintances and relatives.<sup>4869</sup>

On 24 May 2020, the Institute for Social Security and Services for State Workers published a release on its actions in monitoring the health of over 2,758 older adults by telephone in quarantine.<sup>4870</sup> The program, entitled the “Telephone Gerontological Accompaniment Program,” is part of strategies to

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<sup>4863</sup> Con programas de Bienestar, se coloca en el centro de la política social a los más vulnerables, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020 <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/con-programas-de-bienestar-se-coloca-en-el-centro-de-la-politica-social-a-los-mas-vulnerables?idiom=es>

<sup>4864</sup> Con programas de Bienestar, se coloca en el centro de la política social a los más vulnerables, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 6 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020 <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/con-programas-de-bienestar-se-coloca-en-el-centro-de-la-politica-social-a-los-mas-vulnerables?idiom=es>

<sup>4865</sup> Continúan labores estratégicas en la Secretaría de Bienestar, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 26 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/continuan-labores-estrategicas-en-la-secretaria-de-bienestar?idiom=es>

<sup>4866</sup> En apoyo a la economía popular se adelanta pago de pensiones de adultos mayores y personas con discapacidad, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/en-apoyo-a-la-economia-popular-se-adelanta-pago-de-pensiones-de-adultos-mayores-y-personas-con-discapacidad?idiom=es>

<sup>4867</sup> En apoyo a la economía popular se adelanta pago de pensiones de adultos mayores y personas con discapacidad, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 27 March 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/en-apoyo-a-la-economia-popular-se-adelanta-pago-de-pensiones-de-adultos-mayores-y-personas-con-discapacidad?idiom=es>

<sup>4868</sup> It is time to strengthen intergenerational relationships, National Institute for Older Adults (Mexico City) 14 April 2020. Access Date: 11 July 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/inapam/articulos/es-tiempo-de-fortalecer-las-relaciones-intergeneracionales?idiom=es>

<sup>4869</sup> It is time to strengthen intergenerational relationships, National Institute for Older Adults (Mexico City) 14 April 2020. Access Date: 11 July 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/inapam/articulos/es-tiempo-de-fortalecer-las-relaciones-intergeneracionales?idiom=es>

<sup>4870</sup> The ISSSTE monitors the health of 2,758 older adults with gerontological monitoring by telephone, in quarantine, Institute of Security and Social Services for State Workers (Mexico City) 24 May 2020. Access Date: 11 July 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/issste/prensa/monitorea-el-issste-salud-de-2-mil-758-adultos-mayores-con-acompanamiento-con-acompanamiento-gerontologico-telefonico-en-cuarentena?idiom=es>

“reduce the risks of COVID-19 in the vulnerable population” by ensuring “adherence and continuation of [treatment]” and continued “[integration] with the family and with respect to the prevention of abuse or violence in the home.”<sup>4871</sup>

On 18 June 2020, the National Institute for Older Adults published an informative article detailing the rights of the elderly in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4872</sup> Specifically, the article stressed the importance of inalienability and universality of human rights, the Law on the Rights of Older Adults, and the right of elderly people to preferential care.

On 2 July 2020, the Undersecretary of Welfare Ariadna Montiel Reyes presented a dispersal operation strategy taken by the Government of Mexico through the Ministry of Welfare.<sup>4873</sup> A wellness pension totalling MXN5,240 for the months of July, August, September and October will be given to seniors and people with disabilities through bank transfer or cash.<sup>4874</sup>

On 8 September 2020, the Ministry of Health announced that, starting the following week, “the delivery of 76,247 Welfare Cards will begin for older adults.”<sup>4875</sup> This will incorporate individuals who have met the age requirements into the registry to receive their pension.<sup>4876</sup>

Mexico has taken multiply policy actions to promote healthy and active ageing, with consideration to equity and diversity. Specifically, Mexico has launched online courses that support health literacy, remodelled structures to improve standard of care and functional ability of older people, improved pensions for older adults, and politically engaged older adults in the first Hispanic Conference on Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. However, Mexico has not taken policy action to promote active ageing in terms of political, social, economic, and/or cultural inclusion.

Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Daisy Liu*

### **Russia: 0**

Russia has partially complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

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<sup>4871</sup> The ISSSTE monitors the health of 2,758 older adults with gerontological monitoring by telephone, in quarantine, Institute of Security and Social Services for State Workers (Mexico City) 24 May 2020. Access Date: 11 July 2020.

<https://www.gob.mx/issste/prensa/monitoreo-el-issste-salud-de-2-mil-758-adultos-mayores-con-acompanamiento-con-acompanamiento-gerontologico-telefonico-en-cuarentena?idiom=es>

<sup>4872</sup> Rights of the elderly and COVID-19, National Institute for Older Adults (Mexico City) 18 June 2020. Access Date: 11 July 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/inapam/articulos/derechos-de-las-personas-mayores-y-covid-19?idiom=es>

<sup>4873</sup> They will pay four months of Welfare Pensions in July, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 02 July 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/pagaran-en-julio-cuatro-meses-de-las-pensiones-para-el-bienestar?idiom=es>

<sup>4874</sup> They will pay four months of Welfare Pensions in July, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 02 July 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/pagaran-en-julio-cuatro-meses-de-las-pensiones-para-el-bienestar?idiom=es>

<sup>4875</sup> More than 76 thousand cards will be delivered to older adults recently incorporated into the Wellbeing Pension, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 08 September 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/se-entregaran-mas-de-76-mil-tarjetas-a-adultos-mayores-recien-incorporados-a-la-pension-bienestar?idiom=es>

<sup>4876</sup> More than 76 thousand cards will be delivered to older adults recently incorporated into the Wellbeing Pension, Government of Mexico (Mexico City) 08 September 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <https://www.gob.mx/bienestar/prensa/se-entregaran-mas-de-76-mil-tarjetas-a-adultos-mayores-recien-incorporados-a-la-pension-bienestar?idiom=es>

On 11 October 2019, the Ministry of Health hosted the Second All-Russian Forum, titled “Russia — the Territory of Care,” which included a meeting of the Board of the Russian Association of Gerontologists and Geriatrics along with analytical contributions from the Russian Gerontological Scientific and Clinical Centre.<sup>4877</sup> Russian regional representatives proposed various draft projects to help Russia’s elderly persons, including those aiming to prevent and reduce various ailments that they may have to endure, such as arterial hypertension, and discussed novel treatments such as lipid-lowering therapy.<sup>4878</sup>

On 12 November 2019, the Ministry of Health hosted a district meeting for the implementation of the federal project titled “The Elder Generation” in Russia’s North Caucasus.<sup>4879</sup> The meeting discussed geriatric services and long-term care and also reiterated Russia’s national “Demography” project’s goal of increasing life expectancy in Russia up to 78 years.<sup>4880</sup>

On 28 November 2019, Russia and the World Health Organization formed a bilateral working group for long-term care in Russia.<sup>4881</sup> The group will work to develop and improve Russia’s long-term care system by establishing an “exchange platform” for policymakers and experts in Russia.<sup>4882</sup>

On 3 December 2019, head geriatrician of the Ministry of Health Olga Tkacheva held a meeting between regional district leaders, where provisions for regional geriatric services and long-term care systems were discussed and negotiated.<sup>4883</sup> The legal regulatory framework to govern long-term care was also introduced and discussed at the meeting, as well as frameworks for the interdepartmental exchange of data and interregional cooperation.<sup>4884</sup>

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<sup>4877</sup> 11.10. Москва: В Москве завершился II Всероссийский форум «Россия — территория заботы», Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 12 October 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2020.

<https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/poleznye-resursy/natsproektzdravoohranenie/stranitsa-5729/novosti-proekta/11-10-moskva-v-moskve-zavershilsya-ii-vserossiyskiy-forum-rossiya-territoriya-zaboty>

<sup>4878</sup> 11.10. Москва: В Москве завершился II Всероссийский форум «Россия — территория заботы», Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 12 October 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2020.

<https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/poleznye-resursy/natsproektzdravoohranenie/stranitsa-5729/novosti-proekta/11-10-moskva-v-moskve-zavershilsya-ii-vserossiyskiy-forum-rossiya-territoriya-zaboty>

<sup>4879</sup> Развитие гериатрии на Северном Кавказе, Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/poleznye-resursy/natsproektzdravoohranenie/stranitsa-5729/novosti-proekta/razvitie-geriatrii-na-severnom-kavkaze>

<sup>4880</sup> Развитие гериатрии на Северном Кавказе, Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/poleznye-resursy/natsproektzdravoohranenie/stranitsa-5729/novosti-proekta/razvitie-geriatrii-na-severnom-kavkaze>

<sup>4881</sup> Long-term care services in focus in the Russian Federation, World Health Organization (Copenhagen) 26 December 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/Life-stages/healthy-ageing/news/news/2019/12/long-term-care-services-in-focus-in-the-russian-federation>

<sup>4882</sup> Long-term care services in focus in the Russian Federation, World Health Organization (Copenhagen) 26 December 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/Life-stages/healthy-ageing/news/news/2019/12/long-term-care-services-in-focus-in-the-russian-federation>

<sup>4883</sup> 03.12 В Уфе состоялось окружное совещание по реализации ФП «Старшее поколение», Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020.

<https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/poleznye-resursy/natsproektzdravoohranenie/stranitsa-5729/novosti-proekta/v-ufe-sostoyalos-okruzhnoe-soveshanie-po-realizatsii-fp-starshee-pokolenie>

<sup>4884</sup> 03.12 В Уфе состоялось окружное совещание по реализации ФП «Старшее поколение», Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020.

<https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/poleznye-resursy/natsproektzdravoohranenie/stranitsa-5729/novosti-proekta/v-ufe-sostoyalos-okruzhnoe-soveshanie-po-realizatsii-fp-starshee-pokolenie>

On 20 December 2019, the Ministry of Health released Order No. 1067n to amend the previous procedure for geriatric care to clarify several provisions, including patient referrals for palliative care, calculations for the need of gerontological beds, and the creation of regional geriatric centres.<sup>4885</sup>

On 1 January 2020, the government indexed insurance pensions for non-working pensioners by 6.6 per cent.<sup>4886</sup> This is expected to affect approximately 31 million non-working pensioners and is projected to increase the average annual size of old-age insurance pension to RUB1,000.<sup>4887</sup>

On 6 March 2020, the State Duma passed Bill No. 674572-7, which aimed to increase the penalties for businesses that refuse to serve disabled and/or elderly individuals.<sup>4888</sup> President Putin signed the bill on 18 March 2020.<sup>4889</sup> This bill supports the consumer rights of socially vulnerable groups, including seniors and people with disabilities.

On 18 March 2020, President Vladimir Putin signed into law Bill No. 722163-7 on reforms to non-state pension funds.<sup>4890</sup> According to the Chairman of the State Duma Viacheslav Volodin, the measures “reduce the age that gives the right to grant a non-state pension, from 60 to 55 for women and from 65 to 60 for me” in order to “support people of pre-retirement age.”<sup>4891</sup>

On 23 March 2020, the Ministry of Health published special recommendations on the prevention of COVID-19 infection for Russians at least 60 years old and older.<sup>4892</sup> The Ministry recommended not going outside except in essential circumstances, refraining from travelling via public transport and re-scheduling non-essential visits to the doctor.<sup>4893</sup>

On 25 March 2020, President Putin asked the Russian people to attend to the needs of the at-risk older generation during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4894</sup> President Putin stated, “minimizing the risks should be a priority for [the elderly] and all people in general.”<sup>4895</sup>

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<sup>4885</sup> Новый приказ Минздрава России не исключает оказание ВМП пожилым пациентам, Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 13 January 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.rosminzdrav.ru/news/2020/01/13/13134-novyy-prikaz-minzdrava-rossii-ne-isklyuchaet-okazanie-vmp-pozhilym-patsientam>

<sup>4886</sup> October 1 is International Day of Older Persons, Ministry of Labor of Russia (Moscow) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 19 October 2020. <https://mintrud.gov.ru/social/veteran-defence/77>

<sup>4887</sup> October 1 is International Day of Older Persons, Ministry of Labor of Russia (Moscow) 30 September 2019. Access Date: 19 October 2020. <https://mintrud.gov.ru/social/veteran-defence/77>

<sup>4888</sup> Bill No. 674572-7, On Amendments to Article 14.8 of the Code of the Russian Federation on Administrative Offenses, State Duma (Moscow), 18 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://sozd.duma.gov.ru/bill/674572-7>

<sup>4889</sup> Bill No. 674572-7, On Amendments to Article 14.8 of the Code of the Russian Federation on Administrative Offenses, State Duma (Moscow), 18 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://sozd.duma.gov.ru/bill/674572-7>

<sup>4890</sup> Bill No. 722163-7, On amendments to Article 10 of the Federal Law "On Non-State Pension Funds" on the issues of assigning non-state pensions, 18 March 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <https://sozd.duma.gov.ru/bill/722163-7>

<sup>4891</sup> The age that gives the right to grant a non-state pension is decreasing, Federation Council (Moscow), 3 March 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <http://duma.gov.ru/news/47922/>

<sup>4892</sup> Recommendations of the Russian Ministry of Health for the prevention of coronavirus infection for older Russians, Ministry of Health (Moscow), 23 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020.

<https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2020/03/23/13564-rekomendatsii-minzdrava-rossii-po-profilaktike-koronavirusnoy-infektsii-dlya-rossiyan-starshego-vozrasta>

<sup>4893</sup> Recommendations of the Russian Ministry of Health for the prevention of coronavirus infection for older Russians, Ministry of Health (Moscow), 23 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020.

<https://minzdrav.gov.ru/news/2020/03/23/13564-rekomendatsii-minzdrava-rossii-po-profilaktike-koronavirusnoy-infektsii-dlya-rossiyan-starshego-vozrasta>

<sup>4894</sup> Address to the Nation, President of Russia (Moscow), 25 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/transcripts/speeches/63061>



On 26 March 2020, the Cabinet of the Russian Federation passed Order No. 742-r, approving a special skills-based training program for citizens over 50 years of age to take place until 2024.<sup>4896</sup> According to the order, the program aims to improve the employment prospects of individuals of pre-retirement age and to ensure that their skills are in line with the job market.<sup>4897</sup>

On 1 April 2020, the State Duma adopted amendments to the federal laws “On Information, Information Technologies and the Protection of Information” and “On Circulation of Medicines” to allow for the remote sale of medicines and health consultations.<sup>4898</sup> Dmitry Morozov, Chairman of the Health Protection Committee, stated, “[t]his, of course, will greatly help older people over 65 - they are recommended to be in home quarantine. It is very important for them to get a doctor’s consultation without coming to the clinic.”<sup>4899</sup>

On 7 April 2020, the Ministry of Labor passed an order ““On approval of the detailed schedule for the implementation of the state program of the Russian Federation Social Support of Citizens’ for 2020 and for the planning period 2021 and 2022.”<sup>4900</sup> The program reaffirmed the need to create conditions to raise the material and social status of elderly citizens.<sup>4901</sup>

On 22 April 2020, First Deputy Chairman of the Federation Council Committee on Social Policy Valery Ryazansky sent a letter to the Ministry of Sports in which he proposed to initiate remote physical exercise programs for the elderly to be broadcast via Match TV and Channel One, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4902</sup> According to Senator Ryazansky, the Ministry of Sports agreed with the proposal.<sup>4903</sup>

On 30 April 2020, President Putin held a meeting with the participants of the nationwide campaign We Are Together, which aims to support social sector organizations.<sup>4904</sup> President Putin emphasized the need for social institutions to take care of the elderly and asked the Government to “determine as quickly as possible the procedure for payments” to employees of social institutions that support the elderly,

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<sup>4895</sup> Address to the Nation, President of Russia (Moscow), 25 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/transcripts/speeches/63061>

<sup>4896</sup> The government approved a special training program for citizens 50+, The Future of Russia: National Projects - TASS (Moscow), 27 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://futurerussia.gov.ru/nacionalnye-proekty/pravitelstvo-utverdilo-novuu-programmu-obucenia-grazdan-stare-50-let>; A new version of the program of vocational training and additional vocational education for older citizens was approved, Government of the Russian Federation (Moscow), 27 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <http://government.ru/docs/39287/>

<sup>4897</sup> Order of March 26, 2020 No. 742-r, Government of the Russian Federation (Moscow), 26 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <http://static.government.ru/media/files/rqZDEPeEA5IISzxDlzF3wjkyZgbcabGk.pdf>

<sup>4898</sup> State Duma has adopted a law on the online sale of medicines, including prescriptions, under emergency conditions, State Duma (Moscow), 1 April 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020 <http://www.komitet2-2.km.duma.gov.ru/Novosti-Komiteta/item/21895836/>

<sup>4899</sup> The Health Protection Committee spoke about the most important measures to fight infections, State Duma (Moscow), 30 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <http://www.komitet2-2.km.duma.gov.ru/Novosti-Komiteta/item/21875128/>

<sup>4900</sup> Detailed schedule for the implementation of the state program "Social support of citizens" for 2020 and for the planning period of 2021 and 2022, Ministry of Labor (Moscow), 7 April 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://mintrud.gov.ru/docs/mintrud/orders/1392>

<sup>4901</sup> Detailed schedule for the implementation of the state program "Social support of citizens" for 2020 and for the planning period of 2021 and 2022, Ministry of Labor (Moscow), 7 April 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://mintrud.gov.ru/docs/mintrud/orders/1392>

<sup>4902</sup> Senator asks the Ministry of Sports to launch exercises for the elderly on Match TV during self-isolation, TASS (Moscow), 22 April 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://tass.ru/obschestvo/8306229>

<sup>4903</sup> Senator asks the Ministry of Sports to launch exercises for the elderly on Match TV during self-isolation, TASS (Moscow), 22 April 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://tass.ru/obschestvo/8306229>

<sup>4904</sup> Meeting with participants in nationwide campaign We Are Together, President of Russia (Moscow), 30 April 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/63294>

particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4905</sup> Following President Putin's formal request, on 11 May 2020, on 18 May 2020 the Government approved more than RUB7.6 billion in payments to social workers from the Government Reserve Fund, including caregivers for the elderly.<sup>4906</sup> In a follow-up call on 26 June 2020, the office of President Putin announced that the We Are Together campaign set up a 24/7 hotline to help the elderly and disabled people to register their requests for aid and thanked the campaign's organizers for their efforts to support Russians during the pandemic.<sup>4907</sup>

On 1 May 2020, the Russian government launched several short video lessons on the website stopkoronavirus.ru intended to "help diversify the life of older Russians in self-isolation and...inspire users to call their elderly relatives more often."<sup>4908</sup> This initiative aims to support the digital literacy of seniors and encourage social connection.

On 17 May 2020, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Russian Federation announced an extension to a pilot program designed to award grants to private clinics that provide free healthcare services to the elderly.<sup>4909</sup> According to the decree, "[t]he competitive selection of private medical organizations for receiving grants in the form of subsidies from the federal budget for the provision of medical and social services to citizens aged 65 and over has been extended until June 15."<sup>4910</sup> This will allow a larger number of private medical institutions to participate in the selection.<sup>4911</sup>

On 20 May 2020, the Head of the State Duma Committee on Labor, Social Policy and Veterans Affairs Yaroslav Nilov confirmed a set of proposed initiatives to relax the government's restrictions on early retirement.<sup>4912</sup> According to Deputy Nilov, the proposal was included as a COVID-19 crisis measure in a bill drafted and sent for Government approval by the Ministry of Economic

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<sup>4905</sup> Meeting with participants in nationwide campaign We Are Together, President of Russia (Moscow), 30 April 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/63294>

<sup>4906</sup> The Government allocates over 7.6 billion roubles for additional payments to social workers, Government of Russia (Moscow), 18 May 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <http://government.ru/en/docs/39697/>

<sup>4907</sup> Meeting with participants in the We Are Together campaign, President of Russia (Moscow), 26 June 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/63569>

<sup>4908</sup> Older people will be able to master the Internet with the help of online lessons, The Future of Russia: National Projects – TASS (Moscow), 1 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://futurerussia.gov.ru/nacionalnye-proekty/pozilye-ludi-smogu-osvoit-internet-pri-pomosi-onlajn-urokov>

<sup>4909</sup> The Cabinet of Ministers of the Russian Federation has extended the competition for private clinics for grants to provide services to the elderly (Moscow), 17 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://futurerussia.gov.ru/nacionalnye-proekty/kabmin-rf-prodlil-konkurs-dla-castnyh-klinik-na-granty-dla-okazania-uslug-pozilym-ludam>

<sup>4910</sup> The Cabinet of Ministers of the Russian Federation has extended the competition for private clinics for grants to provide services to the elderly (Moscow), 17 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://futurerussia.gov.ru/nacionalnye-proekty/kabmin-rf-prodlil-konkurs-dla-castnyh-klinik-na-granty-dla-okazania-uslug-pozilym-ludam>

<sup>4911</sup> The Cabinet of Ministers of the Russian Federation has extended the competition for private clinics for grants to provide services to the elderly (Moscow), 17 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://futurerussia.gov.ru/nacionalnye-proekty/kabmin-rf-prodlil-konkurs-dla-castnyh-klinik-na-granty-dla-okazania-uslug-pozilym-ludam>

<sup>4912</sup> State Duma supported the idea of easing conditions for early pensions, Rossiyskaya Gazeta (Moscow), 20 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://rg.ru/2020/05/20/v-gosdume-podderzhali-ideiu-o-smiagchenii-uslovij-dlia-dosrochnyh-pensij.html>

Development.<sup>4913</sup> The proposed measures intend to offer unemployed individuals who are within three years of retirement age the opportunity to retire early.<sup>4914</sup>

On 25 May 2020, Deputy Nilov stated that a bill had been submitted to the State Duma proposing to lower the age of eligibility for fixed pension payments from 80 to 75 years of age.<sup>4915</sup> The Bill No. 961691-7 aimed to “amend the said Federal Law, according to which the right to establish an increase in the amount of 100 [per cent] of the fixed payment to the old-age insurance pension is granted to persons who have reached the age of 75 years.”<sup>4916</sup> The proposed bill aims to support the financial security of the elderly with attention to health needs related to age.

On 31 May 2020, Prime Minister Mishustin announced monthly compensation for those who, during the COVID-19 pandemic, provided temporary care and support to vulnerable populations such as the elderly.<sup>4917</sup> Prime Minister Mishustin said that monthly payments of RUB12,130 per person would be sent between 1 April 2020 and 30 June 2020 to those who helped provide temporarily care for the elderly.<sup>4918</sup>

On 15 June 2020, the Ministry of Sports announced a partnership with the Ministry of Sports of the Orenburg Region and the Union of Pensioners of Russia to deliver an online series of sports programs designed for the elderly to exercise at home during the COVID-19 crisis.<sup>4919</sup> The initiative supports physical activity of seniors.

In the All-Russia Vote that took place between 25 June and 1 July 2020, changes to the Russian Constitution proposed and published by the State Duma on 14 March 2020 were confirmed by public ballot.<sup>4920</sup> The changes included amendments relating to the provision of healthcare and the elderly population.<sup>4921</sup> For instance, Article 72 was amended to add the “obligatory coordination of healthcare issues, ensuring the provision of affordable and high-quality medical care, preserving and strengthening public health, creating conditions for a healthy lifestyle and fostering a culture of a responsible attitude of citizens to their health; social protection, including social security.”<sup>4922</sup> Article 132 was updated to mandate that local government bodies ensure the “availability of medical

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<sup>4913</sup> State Duma supported the idea of easing conditions for early pensions, Rossiyskaya Gazeta (Moscow), 20 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://rg.ru/2020/05/20/v-gosdume-podderzhali-ideiu-o-smiagchenii-uslovij-dlia-dosrochnyh-pensij.html>

<sup>4914</sup> State Duma supported the idea of easing conditions for early pensions, Rossiyskaya Gazeta (Moscow), 20 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://rg.ru/2020/05/20/v-gosdume-podderzhali-ideiu-o-smiagchenii-uslovij-dlia-dosrochnyh-pensij.html>

<sup>4915</sup> State Duma proposed to increase the fixed pension supplement from the age of 75, The Future of Russia: National Projects - TASS (Moscow), 25 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://futererussia.gov.ru/nacionalnye-proekty/v-gosdume-predlozili-povysit-fiksirovannuu-doplatu-k-pensii-s-75-let>

<sup>4916</sup> Bill No. 961691-7 On amendments to the Federal Law "On Insurance Pensions, State Duma (Moscow), 18 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://sozd.duma.gov.ru/bill/674572-7>

<sup>4917</sup> Mikhail Mishustin approved the rules for special payments for volunteering during the coronavirus, Government of the Russian Federation (Moscow), 31 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <http://government.ru/news/39800/>

<sup>4918</sup> Mikhail Mishustin approved the rules for special payments for volunteering during the coronavirus, Government of the Russian Federation (Moscow), 31 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <http://government.ru/news/39800/>

<sup>4919</sup> A Complex of Sports Exercises for Elderly Russians Appeared on the Internet, RIA56 (Orenburg), 16 June 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://ria56.ru/posts/kompleks-sportivnyx-uprazhnenij-dlya-pozhilyx-rossiyan-poyavilsya-v-internete.htm>

<sup>4920</sup> Full text of amendments to the Constitution: what is changing? The State Duma and Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation (Moscow), 14 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <http://duma.gov.ru/news/48045/>

<sup>4921</sup> Full text of amendments to the Constitution: what is changing? The State Duma and Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation (Moscow), 14 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <http://duma.gov.ru/news/48045/>

<sup>4922</sup> Full text of amendments to the Constitution: what is changing? The State Duma and Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation (Moscow), 14 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <http://duma.gov.ru/news/48045/>

care.”<sup>4923</sup> Article 75 was updated to guarantee that the “system of pension provision for citizens is being formed on the basis of the principles of universality, fairness and solidarity between generations and its effective functioning is supported, and pensions are indexed at least once a year in accordance with the procedure established by federal law.”<sup>4924</sup>

On 26 June 2020, Minister of Health Mikhail Murashko stated in a report published by the Ministry of Health that 44 new geriatric centers opened in 2019 in order to expand the elderly population’s access to healthcare.<sup>4925</sup>

On 9 July 2020, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection and the Pension Fund of Russia supported the 10<sup>th</sup> All-Russian Computer Championships for Retirees.<sup>4926</sup> According to Senator Ryazansky, “with an increase in computer literacy, the quality of life of the older generation is also growing. Over the past ten years, computer technology has become an integral part of the life of Russian pensioners. Self-isolation has proven that they can maintain a decent quality of life even in such ‘extreme’ conditions” brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>4927</sup>

On 6 May 2020, President Putin signed Resolution No. 120-rp, aimed at allocating RUB3 million to the Presidential Grants Fund in order to fund the development of civil society.<sup>4928</sup> In turn, the Presidential Grants Fund initiated a special contest among non-profit civil society groups focused in part on granting funds to organizations with projects designed to protect and promote the health of the elderly.<sup>4929</sup>

For instance, on 19 June 2020, the Regional Council of Veterans of the Gubkinsky Urban District announced that it had received a grant of an unspecified amount from the Presidential Grants Fund for teaching senior citizens about the need to lead a healthy lifestyle.<sup>4930</sup> Called the Active Longevity Club, the Regional Council said that they intend to use the grant to create promotional materials about “proper nutrition, physiotherapy exercises and the rejection of certain bad habits.”<sup>4931</sup>

On 21 July 2020, President Putin signed a Decree “On the national development goals of the Russian Federation for the period up to 2030,” which emphasized “improving the standard of living of citizens and creating comfortable conditions for their living.”<sup>4932</sup> Among other targets, the Decree pledged to “a) [preserve] the population, health and well-being of people; b) [create] opportunities for self-realization and development of talents; [and] c) [create a] comfortable and safe living

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<sup>4923</sup> Full text of amendments to the Constitution: what is changing? The State Duma and Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation (Moscow), 14 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <http://duma.gov.ru/news/48045/>

<sup>4924</sup> Full text of amendments to the Constitution: what is changing? The State Duma and Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation (Moscow), 14 March 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <http://duma.gov.ru/news/48045/>

<sup>4925</sup> The Ministry of Health opened six times more geriatric centers in 2019 than planned, The Future of Russia: National Projects - TASS (Moscow), 26 June 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://futuraerussia.gov.ru/nacionalnye-proekty/minzdrav-otkryl-v-2019-godu-v-sest-raz-bolse-geriatrikeskih-centrov-cem-planiroval>

<sup>4926</sup> Russian pensioners take active longevity online, Sprrt.ru (Kazan), 23 June 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <http://sprrt.ru/news/21848/>

<sup>4927</sup> Russian pensioners take active longevity online, Sprrt.ru (Kazan), 23 June 2020. Access Date: 5 July 2020. <http://sprrt.ru/news/21848/>

<sup>4928</sup> Order of the President of the Russian Federation dated 06.05.2020 No. 120-rp, President of Russia (Moscow), 6 May 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <http://kremlin.ru/acts/bank/45510>

<sup>4929</sup> Announcement 15062020.pdf - Competition Documentation - 2020 Special Competition, Presidential Grants Fund (Moscow), 15 June 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://xn--80afcdbalict6afooklqi5o.xn--p1ai/public/contest/index>

<sup>4930</sup> District Council of Veterans Receives Presidential Grant, Prostor31.ru (Gubkin), 19 June 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://prostor31.ru/obshestvo/socialnaya-politika/6513.html>

<sup>4931</sup> District Council of Veterans Receives Presidential Grant, Prostor31.ru (Gubkin), 19 June 2020. Access Date: 22 July 2020. <https://prostor31.ru/obshestvo/socialnaya-politika/6513.html>

<sup>4932</sup> Decree on the national development goals of Russia until 2030, President of Russia (Moscow), 21 July 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <http://kremlin.ru/acts/news/63728>

environment” through targets such as improving living conditions, increasing the volume of housing construction, improving the quality of the urban environment and ensuring that pension payments are not lower than inflation.<sup>4933</sup>

On 25 August 2020, the Press Service of the Ministry of Labor announced the planned implementation of a pilot project titled “The Needs of the Elderly Population in Medical and Social Sciences.”<sup>4934</sup> The project resulted from a study run by the World Bank and other stakeholders, which found access to quality medical care to be a major problem for the elderly population in Russia.<sup>4935</sup> In the second half of 2020, the project plans to recruit private clinics in 18 federal subjects of Russia to act as “patrons” to the elderly population in the designated pilot regions by coordinating bedside visits, conducting special examinations and performing basic medical treatment.<sup>4936</sup>

Russia has taken multiple policy actions to promote active ageing, such as initiatives that support long-term care and preventive care. However, Russia has taken no policy actions towards the promotion of healthy ageing in terms of supporting functional ability. Russia has also not taken action to promote active ageing in terms of social, political, cultural, and/or economic inclusion.

Thus, Russia receives a score of 0.

*Analysts: Ian Stansbury and Miles Harrison*

### **Saudi Arabia: -1**

Saudi Arabia has not complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 28 January 2020, the Saudi Prince of Riyadh reported to the press regarding the Fourth International Alzheimer’s Conference and acknowledged the impact of Alzheimer’s disease on the elderly.<sup>4937</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken verbal action towards promoting healthy ageing nor active ageing through policy measures. No stronger actions were registered for this report after searching news sources, government publications, ministries, and international organizations.<sup>4938</sup>

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Zarlasht Jamal*

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<sup>4933</sup> Decree on the national development goals of Russia until 2030, President of Russia (Moscow), 21 July 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <http://kremlin.ru/acts/news/63728>

<sup>4934</sup> Affordable help: how private clinics connect to the health care for the elderly under compulsory medical insurance, Future of Russia: National Projects – TASS (Moscow), 25 August 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <https://futerussia.gov.ru/nacionalnye-proekty/dostupnaa-pomos-kak-castnye-kliniki-podklucatsa-k-patronazu-pozilyh-po-oms>

<sup>4935</sup> Affordable help: how private clinics connect to the health care for the elderly under compulsory medical insurance, Future of Russia: National Projects – TASS (Moscow), 25 August 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <https://futerussia.gov.ru/nacionalnye-proekty/dostupnaa-pomos-kak-castnye-kliniki-podklucatsa-k-patronazu-pozilyh-po-oms>

<sup>4936</sup> Affordable help: how private clinics connect to the health care for the elderly under compulsory medical insurance, Future of Russia: National Projects – TASS (Moscow), 25 August 2020. Access Date: 25 September 2020. <https://futerussia.gov.ru/nacionalnye-proekty/dostupnaa-pomos-kak-castnye-kliniki-podklucatsa-k-patronazu-pozilyh-po-oms>

<sup>4937</sup> The Launch of the Fourth International Alzheimer’s Conference, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 28 January 2020. Access Date: 24 September 2020. <http://www.alriyadh.com/1801173>.

<sup>4938</sup> This non-compliance was determined after a search of the following websites: <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en>, <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en>, <https://www.arabnews.com>, and <https://www.sesric.org/>

### **South Africa: –1**

South Africa has not complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 7 October 2019, Deputy Minister of Social Development Hendrietta Bogopane-Zulu hosted an outreach initiative in Midvaal to promote cancer awareness.<sup>4939</sup> The program aimed to encourage early diagnosis and intervention, through educating the community and providing free early screening for certain cancers, which supports healthy ageing and improves health literacy.<sup>4940</sup>

On 21 October 2019, Minister of Social Development Lindiwe Zulu launched the Active Ageing Programme in Port Elizabeth, which takes place from 21 to 25 October 2019.<sup>4941</sup> The week-long programme aims to promote independence, improve quality of life, and encourage social and cultural inclusion older persons.<sup>4942</sup> The program was created through a partnership between the Department of Social Development and the South Africans Older Persons Forum as a response to South Africa's Older Persons Act 13 of 2006 and the Madrid Plan of Action on Ageing.<sup>4943</sup>

On 3 February 2020, South African Human Rights Commissioner Bokankatla Malatji visited the Mpumalanga province from 3 to 6 February 2020 to promote the rights of older persons and people with disabilities and encourage dialogue about their inclusion in society.<sup>4944</sup>

South Africa has taken some action to promote active ageing through their health promotion events, which address health literacy as well as social and cultural inclusion. However, it has not made substantive progress on the promotion of healthy and active ageing through policy measures.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of –1.

*Analyst: Areej Malik*

### **Turkey: –1**

Turkey has not complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

From 19 to 20 October 2019, at the G20 Health Ministers' Meeting in Okayama, Japan, Deputy Minister of Health Emine Alp Meşe announced that Turkey would adopt a multi-sectoral approach

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<sup>4939</sup> Deputy Minister Hendrietta Bogopane-Zulu and Pinkdrive promote Cancer Awareness in Midvaal, The Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/deputy-minister-hendrietta-bogopane-zulu-and-pinkdrive-promote-cancer-awareness-midvaal-7>

<sup>4940</sup> Deputy Minister Hendrietta Bogopane-Zulu and Pinkdrive promote Cancer Awareness in Midvaal, The Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 4 October 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/deputy-minister-hendrietta-bogopane-zulu-and-pinkdrive-promote-cancer-awareness-midvaal-7>

<sup>4941</sup> Minister Lindiwe Zulu opens 2019 Active Ageing Programme in Port Elizabeth, The Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/nelson-mandela-bay-municipality-18-oct-2019-0000>

<sup>4942</sup> Minister Lindiwe Zulu opens 2019 Active Ageing Programme in Port Elizabeth, The Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/nelson-mandela-bay-municipality-18-oct-2019-0000>

<sup>4943</sup> Minister Lindiwe Zulu opens 2019 Active Ageing Programme in Port Elizabeth, The Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 18 October 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/nelson-mandela-bay-municipality-18-oct-2019-0000>

<sup>4944</sup> Human Rights Commission assess the observance of the rights of people with disabilities and older persons in Mpumalanga, The Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 2 February 2020. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/commissioner-adv-bokankatla-malatji-conducts-provincial-visit-mpumalanga-3-6-feb-3-feb-2020>

to deal with issues of chronic diseases and elderly care while continuing “to increase coverage and quality of health services.”<sup>4945</sup>

From 29 to 31 October 2019, at the sixth Turkish Medical World Council, the health ministers of Turkey and Namibia signed an Agreement on Cooperation in the field of health.<sup>4946</sup> The council organized in collaboration with the Presidency of Turkey, Ministry of Health and TÜSEB, and HIMSS’19 Eurasia Organization to bring together health ministers of various countries in the region to exchange knowledge and experience.<sup>4947</sup>

From 2 to 6 March 2020, the International Institute on Ageing worked with the Turkish Geriatrics Society and Hacettepe University Application and Research Centre of Geriatric Sciences to host the seventh on-site training programme in Gerontology and Geriatrics.<sup>4948</sup> The event brought participants from various professions, including social workers, doctors, and nurses, to discuss “demographic, social, psychological, ethical and medical issues on ageing.”<sup>4949</sup>

Turkey has reaffirmed its commitment to improving health services and geriatric care. However, it has not implemented substantive policy initiatives to address healthy and active ageing.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Zarlasht Jamal*

### **United Kingdom: 0**

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 30 June 2019, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Department for Health and Social Care announced the creation of the UK Longevity Council comprising healthcare experts, business leaders and civil society organisations.<sup>4950</sup> The Council aims to advise the UK government on policies to ensure healthy and active ageing.<sup>4951</sup>

On 4 July 2019, the House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee published a report entitled ‘Social care funding: time to end a national scandal’ detailing funding deficiencies in adult social care

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<sup>4945</sup> G20 Health Ministers’ Meeting, Ministry of Health (Ankara) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2020.

<https://www.saglik.gov.tr/EN,58531/g20-health-ministers-meeting.html>

<sup>4946</sup> 6th Turkish Medical World Council in Istanbul, Ministry of Health (Ankara) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.saglik.gov.tr/EN,58532/6th-turkish-medical-world-council-in-istanbul.html>

<sup>4947</sup> 6th Turkish Medical World Council in Istanbul, Ministry of Health (Ankara) 11 December 2019. Access Date: 20 March 2020. <https://www.saglik.gov.tr/EN,58532/6th-turkish-medical-world-council-in-istanbul.html>

<sup>4948</sup> ‘In-Situ’ Training Programme in Gerontology and Geriatrics, Ankara, Turkey, The International Institute on Ageing, UN-Malta (INIA)(Malta) March 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.inia.org.mt/event/in-situ-training-programme-in-gerontology-and-geriatrics-ankara-turkey>

<sup>4949</sup> ‘In-Situ’ Training Programme in Gerontology and Geriatrics, Ankara, Turkey, The International Institute on Ageing, UN-Malta (INIA)(Malta) March 2020. Access Date: 19 March 2020. <https://www.inia.org.mt/event/in-situ-training-programme-in-gerontology-and-geriatrics-ankara-turkey>

<sup>4950</sup> Experts to help UK champion ageing society opportunities, Government Digital Service (London) 30 June 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/experts-to-help-uk-champion-ageing-society-opportunities>

<sup>4951</sup> Experts to help UK champion ageing society opportunities, Government Digital Service (London) 30 June 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/experts-to-help-uk-champion-ageing-society-opportunities>

programmes across England.<sup>4952</sup> The objective is to call attention to the impact of insufficient funding on healthy ageing efforts by the National Health Service and private caregivers and compel the UK government to publish a white paper detailing its plan to resolve funding issues.<sup>4953</sup>

On 5 July 2019, the All Parliamentary Party Group for Ageing and Older People published a report on its Inquiry into Decent and Accessible Homes for Older People examining the connection between poor housing standards and healthy ageing and listing 13 recommendations to improve housing for the elderly.<sup>4954</sup> The report aims to incorporate its recommendations into the UK government's housing policies to improve the mental, physical and social well-being of elderly residents.<sup>4955</sup>

On 25 July 2019, the House of Lords Science and Technology Committee launched an inquiry to examine the application of science and technology on improving the health of elderly individuals and supporting older persons with poor health.<sup>4956</sup> The goal is to determine effective practices for accomplishing the UK government's Industrial Strategy mission of increasing the national lifespan by five years by 2035.<sup>4957</sup>

On 9 September 2019, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Department for Health and Social Care announced a joint GBP133 million investment in research by the National Health Service and Centres for Excellence in Oxford, Coventry and London.<sup>4958</sup> The investment aims to support the development of new treatments for arthritis, cancer, dementia and Parkinson's, which affect senior citizens, and improve healthy ageing.<sup>4959</sup>

On 16 September 2019, Innovate UK announced a GBP98 million investment competition for businesses and public sector entities to develop products and services that support elderly physical

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<sup>4952</sup> Social care funding: time to end a national scandal — 7th Report of Session 2017-19 I, House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee (London) 4 June 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020.

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201719/ldselect/ldeconaf/392/392.pdf>

<sup>4953</sup> Social care funding: time to end a national scandal — 7th Report of Session 2017-19 I, House of Lords Economic Affairs Committee (London) 4 June 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020.

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201719/ldselect/ldeconaf/392/392.pdf>

<sup>4954</sup> Inquiry into decent and accessible homes for older people, All Parliamentary Party Group for Ageing and Older People (London) 5 July 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/globalassets/age-uk/documents/reports-and-publications/appg/appg-for-ageing-and-older-people---report-on-decent-and-accessible-homes-for-older-people.pdf>

<sup>4955</sup> Inquiry into decent and accessible homes for older people, All Parliamentary Party Group for Ageing and Older People (London) 5 July 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/globalassets/age-uk/documents/reports-and-publications/appg/appg-for-ageing-and-older-people---report-on-decent-and-accessible-homes-for-older-people.pdf>

<sup>4956</sup> Ageing: Science, Technology and Healthy Living — Lords Committee launches a new inquiry, U.K. Parliament (London) 25 July 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/science-and-technology-committee/news-parliament-2017/ageing-inquiry-launch/>

<sup>4957</sup> Ageing: Science, Technology and Healthy Living — Lords Committee launches a new inquiry, U.K. Parliament (London) 25 July 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/science-and-technology-committee/news-parliament-2017/ageing-inquiry-launch/>

<sup>4958</sup> Government to invest over 130 million in new tech to tackle cancer and debilitating illnesses, Government Publishing Service (London) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-invest-over-130-million-in-new-tech-to-tackle-cancer-and-debilitating-illnesses>

<sup>4959</sup> Government to invest over 130 million in new tech to tackle cancer and debilitating illnesses, Government Publishing Service (London) 9 September 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-invest-over-130-million-in-new-tech-to-tackle-cancer-and-debilitating-illnesses>



activity, the health of older workers and the design of age-friendly homes.<sup>4960</sup> The competition aims to support the UK government's mission of increasing the national lifespan by five years by 2035.<sup>4961</sup>

On 1 October 2019, Public Health England and the Centre for Ageing Better published a statement entitled "A consensus on healthy ageing" listing five commitments by signatory organisations: developing preventive healthcare strategies, removing access barriers to opportunities for the elderly, ensuring good homes, narrowing inequalities between elderly populations across demographics and challenging ageist practices.<sup>4962</sup> The objective is to coordinate the activities of public and private organizations working to ensure healthy ageing by establishing common policy goals.<sup>4963</sup>

On 28 October 2019, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced an investment of GBP33.9 million over five years into the development of autonomous robotic systems for the care of elderly persons.<sup>4964</sup> The investment aims to ensure autonomous systems incorporate principles of "respect, fairness and quality" in the care of older persons in homes and hospitals.<sup>4965</sup>

On 4 November 2019, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Thérèse Coffey announced an increase to basic and new State Pensions by 3.9 per cent beginning on 6 April 2020.<sup>4966</sup> The increase aims to raise retirement incomes of elderly persons and support their active participation in society.<sup>4967</sup>

On 23 January 2020, the National Health Service (NHS) announced the availability of Urgent Community Response Teams beginning in April 2020 to provide older people at risk of hospitalization with access to healthcare professionals within two hours of a request.<sup>4968</sup> The urgent community response teams will also make available "tailored packages of intermediate care, or reablement services" for older persons within a two-day standard, which will help treat older persons

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<sup>4960</sup> Supporting healthy and active later life: apply for funding, Government Digital Service (London) 16 September 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/supporting-healthy-and-active-later-life-apply-for-funding>

<sup>4961</sup> The Grand Challenge missions, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 27 November 2017. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/industrial-strategy-the-grand-challenges/industrial-strategy-the-grand-challenges>

<sup>4962</sup> A consensus on healthy ageing, Public Health England (London) 1 October 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/839709/Healthy\\_Ageing\\_Consensus\\_Statement.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/839709/Healthy_Ageing_Consensus_Statement.pdf)

<sup>4963</sup> A consensus on healthy ageing, Public Health England (London) 1 October 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/839709/Healthy\\_Ageing\\_Consensus\\_Statement.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/839709/Healthy_Ageing_Consensus_Statement.pdf)

<sup>4964</sup> Care robots could revolutionise UK care system and provide staff extra support, Government Digital Service (London) 26 October 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/care-robots-could-revolutionise-uk-care-system-and-provide-staff-extra-support>

<sup>4965</sup> Care robots could revolutionise UK care system and provide staff extra support, Government Digital Service (London) 26 October 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/care-robots-could-revolutionise-uk-care-system-and-provide-staff-extra-support>

<sup>4966</sup> Welfare and Pensions Update: Written statement — HCWS74, U.K. Parliament (London) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2019-11-04/HCWS74/>

<sup>4967</sup> Welfare and Pensions Update: Written statement — HCWS74, U.K. Parliament (London) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2019-11-04/HCWS74/>

<sup>4968</sup> Rapid NHS response teams to help people stay well at home, National Health Service England (London) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/2020/01/rapid-nhs-response-teams-to-help-people-stay-well-at-home/>

in their own home and support their independence.<sup>4969</sup> The creation of National Health Service response teams aims to fulfil the National Health Service’s Long-Term Plan objective of supporting England’s ageing population, particularly those with urgent care needs.<sup>4970</sup>

On 15 May 2020, the Department of Health and Social Care published the care home support package.<sup>4971</sup> The Coronavirus (COVID-19): Care Home Support Package focuses on the prevention and control of COVID-19 in all registered care homes, “reducing workforce movement between care homes and minimizing risk for care workers,” improve protective personal equipment (PPE) supply and so on.<sup>4972</sup> To support this, the government announced on 13 May 2020 that an additional GBP600 million to support care providers through the “social care infection control fund.”<sup>4973</sup>

On 16 April 2020, the Department of Health and Social Care published “COVID-19: our action plan for adult social care,” which addresses health and social care for the most vulnerable in society, including seniors.<sup>4974</sup> The plan includes outlines the government’s four pillars approach, which include “controlling the spread of infection”; “supporting the workforce”; “supporting independence, supporting people at the end of their lives, and responding to individual needs”; and “supporting local authorities and the providers of care.”<sup>4975</sup> This initiative sets out an action plan to support “all the settings and contexts in which people receive adult care,” which includes “people’s own homes, residential care homes and nursing homes, and other community settings.”<sup>4976</sup>

On 18 September 2020, the Department of Health and Social Care published the “Adult social care: our COVID-19 winter plan 2020 to 2021,” which outlines how government, NHS organizations and local authorities can support social care between winter 2020 to 2021.<sup>4977</sup> The plan outlines key elements that impact the care home sector, including ensuring the supply of PPE for care providers, supporting COVID-19 testing for people discharged from the hospital to a care home,

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<sup>4969</sup> Rapid NHS response teams to help people stay well at home, National Health Service England (London) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/2020/01/rapid-nhs-response-teams-to-help-people-stay-well-at-home/>

<sup>4970</sup> Rapid NHS response teams to help people stay well at home, National Health Service England (London) 23 January 2020. Access Date: 8 February 2020. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/2020/01/rapid-nhs-response-teams-to-help-people-stay-well-at-home/>

<sup>4971</sup> Adult social care: our COVID-19 winter plan 2020 to 2021, Department of Health and Social Care (London), 18 September 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adult-social-care-coronavirus-covid-19-winter-plan-2020-to-2021/adult-social-care-our-covid-19-winter-plan-2020-to-2021>

<sup>4972</sup> Coronavirus (COVID-19): care home support package, Department of Health and Social Care (London), 9 July 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-care-homes/coronavirus-covid-19-care-home-support-package>

<sup>4973</sup> Coronavirus (COVID-19): care home support package, Department of Health and Social Care (London), 9 July 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-care-homes/coronavirus-covid-19-care-home-support-package>

<sup>4974</sup> Our action plan for adult social care, Department of Health and Social Care (London), 16 April 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-adult-social-care-action-plan/covid-19-our-action-plan-for-adult-social-care>

<sup>4975</sup> Our action plan for adult social care, Department of Health and Social Care (London), 16 April 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-adult-social-care-action-plan/covid-19-our-action-plan-for-adult-social-care>

<sup>4976</sup> Our action plan for adult social care, Department of Health and Social Care (London), 16 April 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-adult-social-care-action-plan/covid-19-our-action-plan-for-adult-social-care>

<sup>4977</sup> Adult social care: our COVID-19 winter plan 2020 to 2021, Department of Health and Social Care (London), 18 September 2020. Access Date: November 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adult-social-care-coronavirus-covid-19-winter-plan-2020-to-2021/adult-social-care-our-covid-19-winter-plan-2020-to-2021>

“[collaborating] across health and care services” and digital support so that care home staff can remotely aid people in their care.<sup>4978</sup>

The United Kingdom has taken policy actions to promote healthy and active ageing through preventive health care measures, investments towards the development of age-friendly homes which healthy ageing in terms of functional ability, and improved pensions to support elderly people’s active participation in society. However, the United Kingdom has not taken policy action to address the economic and/or political inclusion of older people.

Thus, United Kingdom receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Arjun Singh*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measure to address health promotion.

On 9 July 2019, Deputy Secretary Eric Hargan of the US Department of Health and Human Services introduced the Quality Summit.<sup>4979</sup> The summit aims to encourage dialogue on how to evaluate and improve the current programs the Department of Health and Human Services offers to enhance quality of care for patients.<sup>4980</sup>

On 12 September 2019, through the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, the US Department of Health and Human Services pledged USD351 million to 56 states, territories, and non-profit organizations to improve maternal health outcomes.<sup>4981</sup> The department also awarded USD23 million in funding to create three new programs to support and promote maternal health.<sup>4982</sup>

On 18 September 2019, the US Department of Health and Human Services and the Health Resources and Services Administration donated USD85 million to approximately 300 healthcare centres.<sup>4983</sup> This

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<sup>4978</sup> Adult social care: our COVID-19 winter plan 2020 to 2021, Department of Health and Social Care (London), 18 September 2020. Access Date: November 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adult-social-care-coronavirus-covid-19-winter-plan-2020-to-2021/adult-social-care-our-covid-19-winter-plan-2020-to-2021>

<sup>4979</sup> HHS Announces Quality Summit to Streamline and Improve Quality Programs across Government, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 9 July 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/07/09/hhs-announces-quality-summit-streamline-improve-quality-programs-government.html>

<sup>4980</sup> HHS Announces Quality Summit to Streamline and Improve Quality Programs across Government, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 9 July 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/07/09/hhs-announces-quality-summit-streamline-improve-quality-programs-government.html>

<sup>4981</sup> HHS Awards \$374 Million to Programs Supporting Maternal and Child Health, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/12/hhs-awards-374-million-programs-supporting-maternal-child-health.html>

<sup>4982</sup> HHS Awards \$374 Million to Programs Supporting Maternal and Child Health, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 12 September 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/12/hhs-awards-374-million-programs-supporting-maternal-child-health.html>

<sup>4983</sup> HHS Awards over \$85 Million to Help Health Centers Expand Access to Oral Health Care, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/18/hhs-awards-over-85-million-help-health-centers-expand-access-oral-healthcare.html>

investment will help establish new infrastructure, expand oral health services, and improve the current services.<sup>4984</sup> It encourages early detection of oral diseases to prevent future health issues.<sup>4985</sup>

On 19 September 2019, the US Department of Health and Human Services announced the National Youth Sports Strategy to encourage youth participation in sports, promote access, and raise awareness of the advantages of playing sports, which promotes physical activity and healthy ageing early in life.<sup>4986</sup> This strategy was created in response to President Trump's call for a national strategy to engage more youth in sports.<sup>4987</sup> Through the strategy's new grants, there will be more opportunities for children, especially those from marginalized communities, to participate in sports.<sup>4988</sup>

On 1 October 2019, the National Institutes of Health, through the National Institute on Ageing, pledged over USD73 million over the next five years toward two research centers, specifically the "Open Drug Discovery Center for Alzheimer's Disease"<sup>4989</sup> and the "Indiana University School of Medicine Alzheimer's Disease Drug Discovery center,"<sup>4990</sup> which aim to support the research and development of drugs towards Alzheimer's disease.<sup>4991</sup>

On 3 October 2019, the Trump administration announced their plan to enhance the Medicare program.<sup>4992</sup> The effective aspects of the program will remain in place and the administration will include new market-based approaches to healthcare to improve the quality of care for senior citizens.<sup>4993</sup>

On 22 October 2019, the US Department of Health and Human Services and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality pledged USD16 million to enhance primary care in relation to

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<sup>4984</sup> HHS Awards over \$85 Million to Help Health Centers Expand Access to Oral Health Care, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/18/hhs-awards-over-85-million-help-health-centers-expand-access-oral-healthcare.html>

<sup>4985</sup> HHS Awards over \$85 Million to Help Health Centers Expand Access to Oral Health Care, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/18/hhs-awards-over-85-million-help-health-centers-expand-access-oral-healthcare.html>

<sup>4986</sup> HHS Releases First Federal Strategy to Increase Youth Sports Participation, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 19 September 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/19/hhs-releases-first-federal-strategy-increase-youth-sports-participation.html>

<sup>4987</sup> HHS Releases First Federal Strategy to Increase Youth Sports Participation, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 19 September 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/19/hhs-releases-first-federal-strategy-increase-youth-sports-participation.html>

<sup>4988</sup> HHS Releases First Federal Strategy to Increase Youth Sports Participation, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 19 September 2019. Access Date: 17 February 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/19/hhs-releases-first-federal-strategy-increase-youth-sports-participation.html>

<sup>4989</sup> NIH-funded translational research centers to speed, diversify Alzheimer's drug discovery, National Institute on Ageing (Bethesda) 1 October 2019. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.nia.nih.gov/news/nih-funded-translational-research-centers-speed-diversify-alzheimers-drug-discovery>

<sup>4990</sup> NIH-funded translational research centers to speed, diversify Alzheimer's drug discovery, National Institute on Ageing (Bethesda) 1 October 2019. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.nia.nih.gov/news/nih-funded-translational-research-centers-speed-diversify-alzheimers-drug-discovery>

<sup>4991</sup> NIH-funded translational research centers to speed, diversify Alzheimer's drug discovery, National Institute on Ageing (Bethesda) 1 October 2019. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://www.nia.nih.gov/news/nih-funded-translational-research-centers-speed-diversify-alzheimers-drug-discovery>

<sup>4992</sup> Executive Order on Protecting and Improving Medicare for Our Nation's Seniors, The White House (Washington) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 26 September 2020. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-protecting-improving-medicare-nations-seniors/>

<sup>4993</sup> Executive Order on Protecting and Improving Medicare for Our Nation's Seniors, The White House (Washington) 3 October 2019. Access Date: 26 September 2020. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-protecting-improving-medicare-nations-seniors/>

unhealthy alcohol use.<sup>4994</sup> The six grant receivers will use evidence-based interventions at more than 700 healthcare centres to promote healthy living.<sup>4995</sup>

On 2 January 2020, the Trump administration and the Food and Drug Administration banned certain e-cigarette flavours to regulate and prevent the use of e-cigarettes among teenagers.<sup>4996</sup>

On 21 April 2020, the US Department of Health and Human Services and the Administration for Community Living pledged USD955 million in grants to support actions related to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.<sup>4997</sup> These grants will finance actions to support older adults and prevent the spread of COVID-19.<sup>4998</sup> Some of these actions include homecare services, meal delivery and resources for information and support.<sup>4999</sup>

On 30 April 2020, the Trump administration reiterated their commitment to keep older adults safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>5000</sup> Through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the administration devoted USD81 million from the CARES Act to ensure more frequent inspections of nursing homes.<sup>5001</sup>

On 22 July 2020, the US Department of Health and Human Services bookmarked USD5 billion of the Provider Relief Fund to assist long-term care facilities strengthen their response to COVID-

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<sup>4994</sup> HHS Awards \$16 Million to Help Primary Care Practices Address Patients' Unhealthy Alcohol Use, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/10/22/hhs-awards-16-million-help-primary-care-practices-address-unhealthy-alcohol-use.html>

<sup>4995</sup> HHS Awards \$16 Million to Help Primary Care Practices Address Patients' Unhealthy Alcohol Use, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 22 October 2019. Access Date: 18 February 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/10/22/hhs-awards-16-million-help-primary-care-practices-address-unhealthy-alcohol-use.html>

<sup>4996</sup> US announces countrywide ban on flavoured e-cigs, BBC (Washington) 2 January 2020. Access Date: 18 February 2020. <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-50978321>

<sup>4997</sup> HHS announces Nearly \$1 Billion in CARES Act Grants to Support Older Adults and People with Disabilities in the Community During the COVID-19 Emergency, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/21/hhs-announces-nearly-1-billion-cares-act-grants-support-older-adults-people-with-disabilities-community-during-covid-19-emergency.html>

<sup>4998</sup> HHS announces Nearly \$1 Billion in CARES Act Grants to Support Older Adults and People with Disabilities in the Community During the COVID-19 Emergency, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/21/hhs-announces-nearly-1-billion-cares-act-grants-support-older-adults-people-with-disabilities-community-during-covid-19-emergency.html>

<sup>4999</sup> HHS announces Nearly \$1 Billion in CARES Act Grants to Support Older Adults and People with Disabilities in the Community During the COVID-19 Emergency, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 21 April 2020. Access Date: 26 September 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/04/21/hhs-announces-nearly-1-billion-cares-act-grants-support-older-adults-people-with-disabilities-community-during-covid-19-emergency.html>

<sup>5000</sup> President Donald J. Trump Remains Committed to Caring for Our Nation's Seniors During the Coronavirus Pandemic and Beyond, The White House (Washington) 30 April 2020. Access Date: 27 September 2020. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-remains-committed-caring-nations-seniors-coronavirus-pandemic-beyond/>

<sup>5001</sup> President Donald J. Trump Remains Committed to Caring for Our Nation's Seniors During the Coronavirus Pandemic and Beyond, The White House (Washington) 30 April 2020. Access Date: 27 September 2020. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/president-donald-j-trump-remains-committed-caring-nations-seniors-coronavirus-pandemic-beyond/>

19.<sup>5002</sup> This funding aims to enhance services by hiring more staff and purchasing more personal protective equipment to improve infection control.<sup>5003</sup>

On 27 August 2020, the US Department of Health and Human Services distributed USD2.5 billion to nursing homes.<sup>5004</sup> This funding was provided through the Provider Relief Fund and was allocated to increase training, testing, access to personal protective equipment and hiring more staff.<sup>5005</sup>

On 23 September 2020, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services guaranteed up to USD165 million to assist with the Money Follows the Person demonstration programs.<sup>5006</sup> This funding aims to help older adults move from care facilities to independent living.<sup>5007</sup>

On 24 September 2020, the Trump administration decreased Medicaid insurance premiums to improve access to prescription drugs.<sup>5008</sup> The senior savings model for the new insurance plans will make insulin more affordable for older adults.<sup>5009</sup>

On 29 September 2020, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services declared an update to the COVID-19 testing methodology for nursing homes based on the “positivity rate of their respective counties.”<sup>5010</sup> This initiative increases the frequency of COVID-19 testing for nursing home staff,

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<sup>5002</sup> Trump Administration Announces New Resources to Protect Nursing Home Residents Against COVID-19, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (Washington) 22 July 2020. Access Date: 27 September 2020. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/trump-administration-announces-new-resources-protect-nursing-home-residents-against-covid-19>

<sup>5003</sup> Trump Administration Announces New Resources to Protect Nursing Home Residents Against COVID-19, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (Washington) 22 July 2020. Access Date: 27 September 2020. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/trump-administration-announces-new-resources-protect-nursing-home-residents-against-covid-19>

<sup>5004</sup> Trump Administration Announces the Distribution of \$2.5 Billion to Nursing Homes for COVID-19 Relief Funding, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 27 August 2020. Access Date: 27 September 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/08/27/trump-administration-announces-2-5-billion-to-nursing-homes-for-covid-19-relief-funding.html>

<sup>5005</sup> Trump Administration Announces the Distribution of \$2.5 Billion to Nursing Homes for COVID-19 Relief Funding, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (Washington) 27 August 2020. Access Date: 27 September 2020. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/08/27/trump-administration-announces-2-5-billion-to-nursing-homes-for-covid-19-relief-funding.html>

<sup>5006</sup> CMS Announces New Federal Funding for 33 States to Support Transitioning Individuals from Nursing Homes to the Community, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (Washington) 23 September 2020. Access Date: 27 September 2020. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-announces-new-federal-funding-33-states-support-transitioning-individuals-nursing-homes>

<sup>5007</sup> CMS Announces New Federal Funding for 33 States to Support Transitioning Individuals from Nursing Homes to the Community, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (Washington) 23 September 2020. Access Date: 27 September 2020. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-announces-new-federal-funding-33-states-support-transitioning-individuals-nursing-homes>

<sup>5008</sup> Trump Administration Announces Historically Low Medicare Advantage Premiums and New Payment Model to Make Insulin Affordable Again for Seniors, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (Washington) 24 September 2020. Access Date: 27 September 2020. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/trump-administration-announces-historically-low-medicare-advantage-premiums-and-new-payment-model>

<sup>5009</sup> Trump Administration Announces Historically Low Medicare Advantage Premiums and New Payment Model to Make Insulin Affordable Again for Seniors, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (Washington) 24 September 2020. Access Date: 27 September 2020. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/trump-administration-announces-historically-low-medicare-advantage-premiums-and-new-payment-model>

<sup>5010</sup> CMS Updates COVID-19 Testing Methodology for Nursing Homes, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (Washington), 29 September 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-updates-covid-19-testing-methodology-nursing-homes>

which aims to detect COVID-19 early to ensure that nursing home residents remain safe.<sup>5011</sup> The government has also pledged over USD21 billion to nursing homes to support testing and offsetting other costs.<sup>5012</sup>

The United States has taken some policy action to promote healthy and active ageing through adopting a life-course perspective towards health and policy measures taken towards preventive care and the promotion of active lifestyles, such as the e-cigarette ban, the National Youth Sports Strategy, and funding towards Alzheimer’s research. However, the United States has not taken policy actions to address healthy ageing in terms of seniors’ functional ability nor has it taken action to address social, political, economic, and/or cultural inclusion of older people.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Areej Malik*

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

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to promote healthy and active ageing through policy measures to address health promotion.

On 10 July 2019, the kick-off meeting for the Intgr@tencion project was held in Valladolid.<sup>5013</sup> This project, funded by the EU through the INTERREG VA Espana Portugal programme, aims to develop products and services to ensure that elderly citizens suffering from “autonomy loss, disability, or chronic conditions” are taken care of at home.<sup>5014</sup> These objectives will be achieved through the “development and piloting of a joint model of care and technology support provision.”<sup>5015</sup>

On 20 September 2019, Innovation to Market (I2M) announced a matchmaking event to be held in February 2020 to support organizations seeking to implement digital Active and Healthy Ageing (AHA) solutions but are unable to find relevant matches in the market.<sup>5016</sup> This program will connect healthcare organizations with unmet needs with digital AHA solutions offered by (primarily) tech companies.<sup>5017</sup>

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<sup>5011</sup> CMS Updates COVID-19 Testing Methodology for Nursing Homes, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (Washington), 29 September 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-updates-covid-19-testing-methodology-nursing-homes>

<sup>5012</sup> CMS Updates COVID-19 Testing Methodology for Nursing Homes, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (Washington), 29 September 2020. Access Date: 17 November 2020. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-updates-covid-19-testing-methodology-nursing-homes>

<sup>5013</sup> Intgr@tención DEMO-Sessions showcasing innovative technological solutions to promote independent living (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/integrtenci%C3%B3n-demo-sessions-showcasing-innovative-technological-solutions-promote-independent\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/integrtenci%C3%B3n-demo-sessions-showcasing-innovative-technological-solutions-promote-independent_en)

<sup>5014</sup> Intgr@tención DEMO-Sessions showcasing innovative technological solutions to promote independent living (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/integrtenci%C3%B3n-demo-sessions-showcasing-innovative-technological-solutions-promote-independent\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/integrtenci%C3%B3n-demo-sessions-showcasing-innovative-technological-solutions-promote-independent_en)

<sup>5015</sup> Intgr@tención DEMO-Sessions showcasing innovative technological solutions to promote independent living (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/integrtenci%C3%B3n-demo-sessions-showcasing-innovative-technological-solutions-promote-independent\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/integrtenci%C3%B3n-demo-sessions-showcasing-innovative-technological-solutions-promote-independent_en)

<sup>5016</sup> Calling the most innovative organisations in Europe: Matchmaking sessions for Active and Healthy Ageing (Brussels) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/calling-most-innovative-organisations-europe-matchmaking-sessions-active-and-healthy-ageing\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/calling-most-innovative-organisations-europe-matchmaking-sessions-active-and-healthy-ageing_en)

<sup>5017</sup> Calling the most innovative organisations in Europe: Matchmaking sessions for Active and Healthy Ageing (Brussels) 20 September 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/calling-most-innovative-organisations-europe-matchmaking-sessions-active-and-healthy-ageing\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/calling-most-innovative-organisations-europe-matchmaking-sessions-active-and-healthy-ageing_en)

On 7 October 2019, the European Commission announced the launch of EU\_SHAFE (Europe Enabling Smart Healthy Age-friendly Environments).<sup>5018</sup> Co-financed by INTERREG Europe and led by municipality of Bizkaya, this project strives to develop a comprehensive approach to “Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments” through the improvement of policies and practices in seven European regions.<sup>5019</sup> EU\_SHAFE will aim to create an inclusive ecosystem comprised of public authorities, European networks, user associations, and research professionals to work towards the development of community-based services that will help with healthy and active “ageing at home” across Europe.<sup>5020</sup>

On 19 October 2019, the Medical University of Lodz, Poland, announced its plan to run a pilot program dedicated to PhD candidates whose research addresses the biomedicine of AHA.<sup>5021</sup> The Medical University of Lodz holds a status of Lead Partner with the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing.<sup>5022</sup>

On 28 October 2019, the European Commission announced SoCaTel’s call to take part in their upcoming “Transforming Ageing” hackathon. SoCaTel is a European project which allows users, professionals, and public administrators to collaboratively partake in design of services related to dependence.<sup>5023</sup> Moving forward with the project, SoCaTel will organize a series of hackathons to promote the development of technologies to improve the accessibility of health and social care services in the home for elderly citizens.<sup>5024</sup>

On 18 November 2019, the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) on AHA announced that they would reward organizations that have successfully implemented AHA innovations.<sup>5025</sup> The goal of these I2M Adoption Awards is to not only recognize the work of adopters and technological

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<sup>5018</sup> EU\_SHAFE is the new Interreg project for European age-friendly environments, European Commission (Brussels) 7 October 2019. Access Date: 2 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eushafe-new-interreg-project-european-age-friendly-environments\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eushafe-new-interreg-project-european-age-friendly-environments_en)

<sup>5019</sup> EU\_SHAFE is the new Interreg project for European age-friendly environments, European Commission (Brussels) 7 October 2019. Access Date: 2 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eushafe-new-interreg-project-european-age-friendly-environments\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eushafe-new-interreg-project-european-age-friendly-environments_en)

<sup>5020</sup> EU\_SHAFE is the new Interreg project for European age-friendly environments, European Commission (Brussels) 7 October 2019. Access Date: 2 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eushafe-new-interreg-project-european-age-friendly-environments\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eushafe-new-interreg-project-european-age-friendly-environments_en)

<sup>5021</sup> Medical University of Lodz (Poland) is dedicating its International Doctoral School to the subject of Active and healthy Ageing, European Commission (Brussels) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 2 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/medical-university-lodz-poland-dedicating-its-international-doctoral-school-subject-active-and\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/medical-university-lodz-poland-dedicating-its-international-doctoral-school-subject-active-and_en)

<sup>5022</sup> Medical University of Lodz (Poland) is dedicating its International Doctoral School to the subject of Active and healthy Ageing, European Commission (Brussels) 9 October 2019. Access Date: 2 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/medical-university-lodz-poland-dedicating-its-international-doctoral-school-subject-active-and\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/medical-university-lodz-poland-dedicating-its-international-doctoral-school-subject-active-and_en)

<sup>5023</sup> Transforming Ageing — SoCaTel Hackathons: Win a 500 EUR cash prize plus a contract worth 6,000 EUR, European Commission (Brussels) 28 October 2019. Access Date: 2 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/transforming-ageing-socatel-hackathons-win-500-eur-cash-prize-plus-contract-worth-6000-eur\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/transforming-ageing-socatel-hackathons-win-500-eur-cash-prize-plus-contract-worth-6000-eur_en)

<sup>5024</sup> Transforming Ageing — SoCaTel Hackathons: Win a 500 EUR cash prize plus a contract worth 6,000 EUR, European Commission (Brussels) 28 October 2019. Access Date: 2 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/transforming-ageing-socatel-hackathons-win-500-eur-cash-prize-plus-contract-worth-6000-eur\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/transforming-ageing-socatel-hackathons-win-500-eur-cash-prize-plus-contract-worth-6000-eur_en)

<sup>5025</sup> I2M ADOPTION AWARDS: Rewarding the adopters of cutting-edge technologies in Active and Healthy Ageing (Brussels) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/i2m-adoption-awards-rewarding-adopters-cutting-edge-technologies-active-and-healthy-ageing\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/i2m-adoption-awards-rewarding-adopters-cutting-edge-technologies-active-and-healthy-ageing_en)



suppliers AHA innovation, but to also inspire other healthcare organizations to better their delivery of healthcare services in the context of AHA.<sup>5026</sup>

On 3-4 December 2019, TeNDER, a project funded by Horizon 2020 (the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation), held its first meeting in Madrid to discuss “task allocations, timelines, and key deliverables.”<sup>5027</sup> This project aims to develop an integrated care model to manage multi-morbidity in patients with neurodegenerative diseases.<sup>5028</sup> It includes five large scale pilot programs in various care settings (e.g., in-hospital acute care or at home) and monitoring patients.<sup>5029</sup>

On 6 December 2019, the EIP, funded by the European Union, organized a two-day workshop attended by over 300 stakeholders.<sup>5030</sup> It specifically tackled lifespan health promotion and the prevention of age-related frailty and disease, aiming to highlight the importance of digital solutions in the implementation of home-care service provision and social inclusion for the elderly.<sup>5031</sup>

On 19 December 2019, the European Commission presented the development of 11 Blueprint scenarios.<sup>5032</sup> “Blueprint” refers to the “European Blueprint on Digital Transformation of Health and Care for the Ageing Society” and embodies a collective European vision on how innovation can transform healthcare in a rapidly ageing society.<sup>5033</sup> Blueprint scenarios are primarily used in workshops with a variety of stakeholders to “enable co-development, stock-taking of the best practices and/or ICT [information and communications technology] solutions, and the targeting of various key topics from different points of views.”<sup>5034</sup> They are essential building blocks to widening the support for the large scale uptake of digital innovation for active and healthy ageing in the

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<sup>5026</sup> I2M ADOPTION AWARDS: Rewarding the adopters of cutting-edge technologies in Active and Healthy Ageing (Brussels) 18 November 2019. Access Date: 3 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/i2m-adoption-awards-rewarding-adopters-cutting-edge-technologies-active-and-healthy-ageing\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/i2m-adoption-awards-rewarding-adopters-cutting-edge-technologies-active-and-healthy-ageing_en)

<sup>5027</sup> New H2020 project TeNDER: Affective based integrated care for better quality of life (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/new-h2020-project-tender-affective-based-integrated-care-better-quality-life\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/new-h2020-project-tender-affective-based-integrated-care-better-quality-life_en)

<sup>5028</sup> New H2020 project TeNDER: Affective based integrated care for better quality of life (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/new-h2020-project-tender-affective-based-integrated-care-better-quality-life\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/new-h2020-project-tender-affective-based-integrated-care-better-quality-life_en)

<sup>5029</sup> New H2020 project TeNDER: Affective based integrated care for better quality of life (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/new-h2020-project-tender-affective-based-integrated-care-better-quality-life\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/new-h2020-project-tender-affective-based-integrated-care-better-quality-life_en)

<sup>5030</sup> EIP on AHA thematic workshop on Lifespan Health Promotion & Prevention of age-related frailty and disease (Brussels) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 7 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eip-aha-thematic-workshop-lifespan-health-promotion-prevention-age-related-frailty-and-disease\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eip-aha-thematic-workshop-lifespan-health-promotion-prevention-age-related-frailty-and-disease_en)

<sup>5031</sup> EIP on AHA thematic workshop on Lifespan Health Promotion & Prevention of age-related frailty and disease (Brussels) 6 December 2019. Access Date: 7 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eip-aha-thematic-workshop-lifespan-health-promotion-prevention-age-related-frailty-and-disease\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eip-aha-thematic-workshop-lifespan-health-promotion-prevention-age-related-frailty-and-disease_en)

<sup>5032</sup> 11 Blueprint scenarios have been developed to illustrate the personal interactions and ICT solutions that support the Blueprint personas and their needs (Brussels) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 7 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/11-blueprint-scenarios-have-been-developed-illustrate-personal-interactions-and-ict-solutions\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/11-blueprint-scenarios-have-been-developed-illustrate-personal-interactions-and-ict-solutions_en)

<sup>5033</sup> 11 Blueprint scenarios have been developed to illustrate the personal interactions and ICT solutions that support the Blueprint personas and their needs (Brussels) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 7 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/11-blueprint-scenarios-have-been-developed-illustrate-personal-interactions-and-ict-solutions\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/11-blueprint-scenarios-have-been-developed-illustrate-personal-interactions-and-ict-solutions_en)

<sup>5034</sup> 11 Blueprint scenarios have been developed to illustrate the personal interactions and ICT solutions that support the Blueprint personas and their needs (Brussels) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 7 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/11-blueprint-scenarios-have-been-developed-illustrate-personal-interactions-and-ict-solutions\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/11-blueprint-scenarios-have-been-developed-illustrate-personal-interactions-and-ict-solutions_en)

European Union, as they successfully showcase improved interactions between digital AHA solutions and patients.<sup>5035</sup>

On 1 January 2020, a consortium of 12 entities, specifically, C  ritas Diocesana de Coimbra, SYNO GmbH, CNR (ISTT), Fraunhofer Institute for Computer Graphics Research IDG, Universidad Polit  cnica de Madrid, Institute of Communication and Computer Systems, Jo  zef Stefan Institute, Afedemy, Academy on Age-Friendly Environments BV, Link  ping University, Universitat de les Illes Balears, Stitching Smart Homes, and Etablissementsa Lievens Lanckman, launched the project, PlatformUptake.eu, which is funded by the European Union’s Horizon 2020 programme.<sup>5036</sup> This project is working towards creating an online information hub with the aim to assess the societal impact of existing open source platforms for the development of innovative solutions in the AHA domain.<sup>5037</sup> This online information hub will also support the uptake of these aforementioned platforms by providing “support materials on all relevant platforms, stakeholder events, and the promotion of synergies, knowledge exchange, and a common understanding among all stakeholders in the AHA market.”<sup>5038</sup>

On 28 February 2020, the European Commission announced that in spring 2020, the EIP and DigitalHealthEurope (DHE) will collaborate to promote EIP and DHE twinning schemes, which will “support ... Europe’s quadruple helix stakeholders: industry, civil society, academic and governments.”<sup>5039</sup> While the EIP twinings focus on healthy and active ageing with the aim to expand digital solutions to health and care, the DHE twinings aim to address health data sharing across borders, advance research on disease prevention, and support person-focused care.<sup>5040</sup>

On 5 March 2020, the European Commission announced that ProACT had secured grants to advance their platform, research, and trials, and that it would launch a spin-off company in 2020 to leverage ProACT’s outputs to aid other research endeavours.<sup>5041</sup> ProACT is a European initiative originally spanning from January 2016 to July 2019 which successfully developed a digitally integrated care system for elder citizens suffering from multimorbidity, their caregivers, and healthcare providers to better manage multiple chronic diseases.<sup>5042</sup>

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<sup>5035</sup> Report on the Evolution of the Blueprint on Digital Transformation of Health and Care for the Ageing Society (Brussels) December 2019. Access Date: 7 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/sites/eipaha/files/news/we4aha\\_blueprint\\_update\\_publishable\\_version\\_december\\_2019.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/sites/eipaha/files/news/we4aha_blueprint_update_publishable_version_december_2019.pdf)

<sup>5036</sup> PlatformUptake.eu, C  ritas Diocesana de Coimbra (Coimbra) 28 January 2020. Access Date: 3 April 2020. <https://en.caritascoimbra.pt/project/platformuptake-eu/>.

<sup>5037</sup> PlatformUptake.eu — Assessing the State of the Art and Supporting the Uptake and Evolution of Open Service Platforms in the Active and Healthy Ageing Domain (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/platformuptakeeu-assessing-state-art-and-supporting-uptake-and-evolution-open-service-platforms\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/platformuptakeeu-assessing-state-art-and-supporting-uptake-and-evolution-open-service-platforms_en)

<sup>5038</sup> PlatformUptake.eu — Assessing the State of the Art and Supporting the Uptake and Evolution of Open Service Platforms in the Active and Healthy Ageing Domain (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/platformuptakeeu-assessing-state-art-and-supporting-uptake-and-evolution-open-service-platforms\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/platformuptakeeu-assessing-state-art-and-supporting-uptake-and-evolution-open-service-platforms_en)

<sup>5039</sup> Second calls for twinning Scaling up digital transformation for health and care in Europe (Brussels) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 29 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/second-calls-twinning-scaling-digital-transformation-health-and-care-europe\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/second-calls-twinning-scaling-digital-transformation-health-and-care-europe_en)

<sup>5040</sup> Second calls for twinning Scaling up digital transformation for health and care in Europe (Brussels) 28 February 2020. Access Date: 29 February 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/second-calls-twinning-scaling-digital-transformation-health-and-care-europe\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/second-calls-twinning-scaling-digital-transformation-health-and-care-europe_en)

<sup>5041</sup> An ecosystem for integrated care of multimorbid patients (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/ecosystem-integrated-care-multimorbid-patients\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/ecosystem-integrated-care-multimorbid-patients_en)

<sup>5042</sup> An ecosystem for integrated care of multimorbid patients (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/ecosystem-integrated-care-multimorbid-patients\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/ecosystem-integrated-care-multimorbid-patients_en)

On 5 March 2020, the European Commission announced that ProACT had secured grants to advance their platform, research and trials and that it would launch a spin-off company in 2020 to leverage ProACT's outputs to aid other research endeavours.<sup>5043</sup> ProACT is a European initiative originally spanning from January 2016 to July 2019 which successfully developed a digitally integrated care system for elder citizens suffering from multimorbidity, their caregivers, and healthcare providers to better manage multiple chronic diseases.<sup>5044</sup>

On 31 March 2020, the European Commission announced that as a part of the We4authors project, Funka — a Sweden-based organization that specializes in the field of accessibility — has successfully analyzed the “main results of the prototyping and testing of accessibility features in different authoring tools.”<sup>5045</sup> We4authors is a pilot project that is comprised of a set of initiatives that help in incorporating accessibility features as default options in the most relevant, licensed and open source authoring tools used the public sector in Europe, effectively making these tools more accessible to everyone, particularly those with disabilities and older adults.<sup>5046</sup>

On 11 May 2020, the European Commission announced that the Skills4Adherence project, which was developed through the collaboration of three EIP on AHA partners, released a free online course on “Patient Adherence and Polytherapy in the Elderly.”<sup>5047</sup> This program provides essential knowledge and skills in “methods to improve patient adherence, prevention of polypharmacy, and methods to increase uptake of adherence-enhancing interventions in the elderly,” being particularly useful for healthcare professionals in helping their patients, while the course is open to everyone.<sup>5048</sup>

On 8 June 2020, the European Commission announced that through an EIP partnership, a paper addressing the potential long-term effects of the COVID-19 outbreak on individuals with Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) and elderly patients.<sup>5049</sup> The stated goal of this publication was to support NCD patients in managing their chronic conditions through the promotion and prioritization of their basic needs.<sup>5050</sup>

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<sup>5043</sup> An ecosystem for integrated care of multimorbid patients (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/ecosystem-integrated-care-multimorbid-patients\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/ecosystem-integrated-care-multimorbid-patients_en)

<sup>5044</sup> An ecosystem for integrated care of multimorbid patients (Brussels) 5 March 2020. Access Date: 20 March 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/ecosystem-integrated-care-multimorbid-patients\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/ecosystem-integrated-care-multimorbid-patients_en)

<sup>5045</sup> Promoting accessibility by default in web authoring tools: Guidelines now available!, European Commission (Brussels) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 24 July 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/promoting-accessibility-default-web-authoring-tools-guidelines-now-available\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/promoting-accessibility-default-web-authoring-tools-guidelines-now-available_en)

<sup>5046</sup> Promoting accessibility by default in web authoring tools: Guidelines now available!, European Commission (Brussels) 31 March 2020. Access Date: 24 July 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/promoting-accessibility-default-web-authoring-tools-guidelines-now-available\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/promoting-accessibility-default-web-authoring-tools-guidelines-now-available_en)

<sup>5047</sup> Innovative Online Educational Course released by the Skills4Adherence project!, European Commission (Brussels) 11 May 2020. Access Date: 24 July 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/innovative-online-educational-course-released-skills4adherence-project\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/innovative-online-educational-course-released-skills4adherence-project_en)

<sup>5048</sup> Innovative Online Educational Course released by the Skills4Adherence project!, European Commission (Brussels) 11 May 2020. Access Date: 24 July 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/innovative-online-educational-course-released-skills4adherence-project\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/innovative-online-educational-course-released-skills4adherence-project_en)

<sup>5049</sup> EIP partnership publication on The potential long-term impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on elderly patients with NCDs, European Commission (Brussels) 8 June 2020. Access Date: 24 July 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eip-partnership-publication-potential-long-term-impact-covid-19-outbreak-elderly-patients-ncds\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eip-partnership-publication-potential-long-term-impact-covid-19-outbreak-elderly-patients-ncds_en)

<sup>5050</sup> EIP partnership publication on The potential long-term impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on elderly patients with NCDs, European Commission (Brussels) 8 June 2020. Access Date: 24 July 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eip-partnership-publication-potential-long-term-impact-covid-19-outbreak-elderly-patients-ncds\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/eip-partnership-publication-potential-long-term-impact-covid-19-outbreak-elderly-patients-ncds_en)

On 10 June 2020, the European Commission announced the approval of the NET4AGE-FRIENDLY COST Action, connecting 136 researchers across 47 countries to partake in a four-year long project starting in the second half of 2020.<sup>5051</sup> The purpose of this project is to aid in the “establishment and maintenance of local and regional ecosystems to showcase the best implementation of Smart Healthy Age-Friendly Environments.”<sup>5052</sup> The EU’s Horizon 2020 programme and the COST Action Association together provide funding.<sup>5053</sup>

The European Union has taken multiple policy actions to promote healthy and active ageing, such as investments towards the development of age-friendly environments and products that aim to improve autonomy of older people, innovative technological approaches to enhance health outcomes of the ageing population, and the development of community-based services to encourage social inclusion.

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

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<sup>5051</sup> NET4AGE-FRIENDLY COST Action approved!, European Commission (Brussels) 10 June 2020. Access Date: 24 July 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/joint-aha-action-implementation-digitally-enabled-integrated-person-centred-care\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/joint-aha-action-implementation-digitally-enabled-integrated-person-centred-care_en)

<sup>5052</sup> NET4AGE-FRIENDLY COST Action approved!, European Commission (Brussels) 10 June 2020. Access Date: 24 July 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/joint-aha-action-implementation-digitally-enabled-integrated-person-centred-care\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/joint-aha-action-implementation-digitally-enabled-integrated-person-centred-care_en)

<sup>5053</sup> NET4AGE-FRIENDLY COST Action approved!, European Commission (Brussels) 10 June 2020. Access Date: 24 July 2020. [https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/joint-aha-action-implementation-digitally-enabled-integrated-person-centred-care\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eip/ageing/news/joint-aha-action-implementation-digitally-enabled-integrated-person-centred-care_en)

## 16. Health: Public Health Preparedness

“We are committed to improving public health preparedness and response including strengthening our own core capacities”

*G20 Osaka Leaders’ Declaration*

### Assessment

|                | No Compliance | Partial Compliance | Full Compliance |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Argentina      |               |                    | +1              |
| Australia      |               |                    | +1              |
| Brazil         |               |                    | +1              |
| Canada         |               |                    | +1              |
| China          |               |                    | +1              |
| France         |               |                    | +1              |
| Germany        |               |                    | +1              |
| India          |               |                    | +1              |
| Indonesia      |               |                    | +1              |
| Italy          |               |                    | +1              |
| Japan          |               |                    | +1              |
| Korea          |               |                    | +1              |
| Mexico         |               |                    | +1              |
| Russia         |               |                    | +1              |
| Saudi Arabia   |               |                    | +1              |
| South Africa   |               |                    | +1              |
| Turkey         |               |                    | +1              |
| United Kingdom |               |                    | +1              |
| United States  |               |                    | +1              |
| European Union |               |                    | +1              |
| Average        |               | +1.00 (100%)       |                 |

### Background

G20 leaders made their first commitments on health in Brisbane in 2014 in response to the outbreak of Ebola virus in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.<sup>5054</sup> They approved a joint statement on Ebola threat and pledged to “do what is necessary to ensure the international effort can extinguish the outbreak” and urged the World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund to “continue their strong support for the affected countries.” The G20 members pledged to fully implement the World Health Organization’s (WHO) International Health Regulations (IHR) addressing “longer-term systemic issues and gaps in capability, preparedness and response capacity that expose the global economy to the impacts of infectious disease.”<sup>5055</sup>

Under Germany’s G20 presidency in 2017, G20 health ministers met for the first time. They acknowledged the role of the IHR and agreed to act “accordingly with our obligations under the IHR and support the leadership and coordination of WHO in the event of health crises of international

<sup>5054</sup> G20 Leaders’ Brisbane Statement on Ebola, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 November 2014. Access Date: 19 November 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1115-ebola.html>

<sup>5055</sup> G20 Leaders’ Brisbane Statement on Ebola., G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 November 2014. Access Date: 11 December 2019. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2014/2014-1115-ebola.html>