

## A note from PMNCH<sup>1</sup> and UHC2030<sup>2</sup> on the Summit of the Future Prioritizing health and well-being for all, including for women, children and adolescents

COVID-19 demonstrated the devastating impacts health crises can have on our world. The Summit of the Future must prioritize health and well-being for all, particularly for vulnerable populations, to progress action towards universal health coverage, leave no one behind and set the blueprint for the post 2030 development agenda.

### Key asks for the Summit of the Future

The Summit of the Future should:

1. Recognize health and well-being, including disease outbreaks, pandemics, and health emergencies, as having critical impacts for the international system and future generations. We must make progress towards universal health coverage to build equitable and resilient health systems that will equip future generations to respond to these emergencies.
2. Reflect the interlinked nature of the SDGs and the critical role of universal health coverage and gender equality, not only to achieving health and well-being targets, but leaving no one behind and meeting SDG agenda as a whole, particularly eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty.
3. Retain references to the high-level meeting on universal health coverage and health and well-being related texts, key to ensuring the Summit reaffirms the critical priority of strengthening health systems through primary health care, as the means to achieve universal health coverage and health security as two intertwined goals for now and for beyond 2030.
4. Embody the principles of equity, non-discrimination, social justice, and human rights; ensuring equitable access to resources and opportunities for all, particularly the most vulnerable including children, adolescents, youth, and women.
5. Call for the integration of comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights in national and subnational plans, using a multistakeholder approach to ensure progress towards achieving universal health coverage.
6. Recognize adolescents and youth as agents of change and foster their leadership and action by ensuring meaningful adolescent and youth engagement in policy design, implementation, and evaluation.

### High-level messages for the Summit of the Future

- Universal health coverage and gender equality must be at the front and centre of the Summit of the Future's agenda, the post 2030 development agenda, and our collective global actions.
- Future challenges need multilateral solutions. The international community must act together with unity, international solidarity, cooperation and renewed multilateralism to create an enabling environment for health for all at all levels.
- The Summit must acknowledge that achieving universal health coverage is critical for our collective response to global threats.
- By prioritizing the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and well-being for all, and accelerating actions towards the achievement of universal health coverage, we move progress towards the 2030 Agenda as a whole and lay the foundation for fairer and safer world for the future.
- We must prioritize universal health coverage, based on a primary health care approach. Primary health care is the most inclusive, equitable, cost-effective and efficient approach to enhance people's physical and mental health.
- The Summit must dismantle barriers and promote equal opportunities for all, leaving no one behind, in particular women and girls. Acting on commitments for universal health coverage means strengthening coverage of quality health services and financial protection, while addressing other barriers that hinder vulnerable and marginalised populations from accessing the full range of services they need to ensure their comprehensive well-being.
- Adolescents belong to the age group of 10-19 years old, constitute a distinct subset within the broader young population aged 10-24 years old and represent a unique stage of human development, crucial for establishing the foundations of good health and development. Investing in adolescents has profound impact and long-term benefits, as it not only ensures a healthy transition into adulthood but also influences the trajectory of societies and communities as a whole.
- Access to comprehensive sexuality and reproductive health and rights information, education, and services is a fundamental human right recognized by international human rights frameworks, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action. Governments have an obligation to fulfill young people's rights to health, education, and information, regardless of their age, gender, or socio-economic status.

<sup>1</sup> The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH) is the world's largest alliance for women's, children's and adolescents' health and well-being, with nearly 1,500 members working together through 10 constituency groups (governments and partner organizations) working to mobilize, align and amplify the collective efforts of partners to every woman, child and adolescent is able to realize their right to health and well-being, leaving no one behind. Learn more at [pmnch.who.int](http://pmnch.who.int)

<sup>2</sup> UHC2030 is the global movement to build stronger health systems for universal health coverage (UHC). It brings together diverse voices and perspectives for the common goal of achieving UHC, sustaining momentum around UHC commitments and supporting collective action and accountability. Learn more at [uhc2030.org](http://uhc2030.org).

<b>Pact for the Future</b>	
<b>4</b>	We recognize that challenges such as these can only be addressed through strong and sustained international cooperation. To enhance our cooperation, we need a multilateral system that is fit for the future, ready to address <b>the</b> political, economic, <b>health and well-being</b> , environmental and technological changes in the world, and with the agility to adapt to an uncertain future now and beyond 2030 [...]
<b>12</b>	Environmental crises pose the most pressing and serious threats to the sustainability of our planet and the <b>health and well-being</b> of its present and future inhabitants and have disproportionate effects on developing countries and we will redouble efforts to implement our commitments in United Nations intergovernmental agreements.
<b>15</b>	We recognize that <b>adolescents and youth</b> , today and in the future, will have to live with the consequences of our action and our inaction. We reiterate our commitment to providing <b>adolescents and youth</b> with a nurturing environment for the full realization of their rights and capabilities, including through investment in quality education and life-long learning. We reaffirm the importance of involving <b>adolescents</b> , youth, youth-led and youth-focused organizations meaningfully in the work of the United Nations.
<b>21</b>	We further reaffirm the centrality of ensuring the full implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, <b>which reaffirmed strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity</b> , and which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, and recommit to providing the means of implementation to support developing countries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
<b>24</b>	We reaffirm our commitment to leave no one behind in pursuit of the 2030 Agenda; to respect, protect and fulfil all human rights without discrimination; to achieve <b>universal health coverage and access to quality health and well-being for all without financial hardship</b> , universal and quality education <b>to ensure all adolescents and youth develop skills aligned with modern labor market demands</b> , and to take targeted and accelerated action to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, <b>and protect adolescents and youth from all forms of violence, discrimination, and harm, including sexual, gender-based, and domestic violence</b> and remove all legal, social and economic barriers to achieve gender equality. We reaffirm that achieving gender equality, empowering all women and <b>adolescent girls</b> , and the full realization of their human rights [...].
<b>26 bis</b>	<b>Recall the unprecedented effects of pandemics, including the severe disruption to societies and economies, as well as to global travel and commerce, and the devastating impact on the livelihood of people. Recognize the fundamental role of equitable, people-centered and community-based primary health care in preventing, preparing for, and responding to pandemics, with the goal of achieving universal health coverage and other Sustainable Development Goals and targets. Recognizing that investments in preparedness further social and economic benefits and advance shared goals, such as strengthening health systems in order to achieve universal health coverage and the Sustainable Development Goals;</b>
<b>54</b>	We recognize the devastating impact of armed conflict on civilians and civilian infrastructure, <b>including sustainable health systems</b> , and we reaffirm our commitment to the full respect of international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and to granting humanitarian access, in line with resolution 46/182 and humanitarian principles.
<b>95</b>	We pledge to harness the potential of technology and innovation to improve women's and <b>adolescent girls' lives including health and well-being</b> , and to close the development divide and the digital divide, including the gender digital divide, as well as address the risks and challenges [...]
<b>Declaration on Future Generations</b>	
<b>6</b>	Recognizing the need for intergenerational dialogue and engagement, including among the elderly, youth, <b>adolescents</b> , and children, in our decision-making in order to safeguard the interests of future generations, [...]
<b>27</b>	Guarantee the rights of future generations to the highest standard of health and well-being, through universal <b>healthcare health coverage including comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights</b> , to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all throughout the life course
<b>Global Digital Compact</b>	
<b>7d</b>	Gender equal: The full, equal, and meaningful <b>engagement</b> , participation and leadership of women and <b>adolescent girls</b> in the digital space is essential to close gender digital divides and advance sustainable development. Our cooperation will empower women and <b>adolescent girls</b> , [...]
<b>7i</b>	Multi-stakeholder: Governments, the private sector, civil society, the technical community, academia, international and regional organizations, <b>and adolescents and youth themselves</b> have roles and responsibilities in advancing an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital future.
<b>20</b>	We recognize all human rights to be enablers of sustainable development and closing digital divides. We commit to promote, respect, protect and fulfill the human rights of everyone, <b>with special attention to the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women, children, adolescents and youth</b> , in the digital space. [...]

**Further resources:**

[Action Agenda from the UHC Movement](#)

[Agenda for Action for Adolescents](#)