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Prepared by

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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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as the primary instrument to meet the Health Agenda for the Americas 2030, and thereby, the UN Sustainable Development Goals.²⁰⁴³

On 21 and 22 August 2018, the IX Binational Ministerial Meeting and VII Binational Meeting of Shared Border Superintendents and Governors - Chile and Argentina took place, resulting in a bilateral agreement signed by Argentine Minister of Health Adolfo Rubinstein and Chilean Minister of Health Emilio Santelices.²⁰⁴⁴ Both countries agreed to increase collaboration between the National Administration of Medicine, Food and Medical Technology and the Institute of Public Health and thereby further standardize medicine, food, and medical technology regulations across the two countries.²⁰⁴⁵ Furthermore, the countries endeavor to improve primary health care by conducting training exercises for emergencies by implementing the Simplified Procedure for Coordinating Primary Medical Assistance in Urgent Cases and Emergencies.²⁰⁴⁶

Argentina has successfully strengthened its own health system, as well as those of other countries, through cooperative action. It has expanded and trained the health workforce of others as well as of themselves. Argentina has worked with numerous countries from three continents to improve their own and other health systems, led health conferences to bring attention to global health issues, trained civilians to be health workers, and created networks to expand access to health care.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Jacob Newfeld

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to pursue cooperative action to strengthen health systems worldwide, including through developing the health workforce.

On 17 September 2017, Australia announced AUD15 million to provide “essential health services for displaced people in Bangladesh” who have been affected by the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar.²⁰⁴⁷

On 8 October 2017—immediately prior to hosting the 68th meeting of the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Committee for the Western Pacific (RCM68) on 9-13 October 2017—Australia announced the launch of the Indo-Pacific Health Security Initiative.²⁰⁴⁸ This initiative will disperse AUD300 million over five years (2017-2022) to fund research on infectious

²⁰⁴³ Argentina Participó en Reunión para la Elaboración del Plan Estratégico 2020-2025 de la OPS, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 7 August 2018. Access Date: 8 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-participo-en-reunion-para-la-elaboracion-del-plan-estrategico-2020-2025-de-la-ops>.

²⁰⁴⁴ Argentina y Chile Firmaron Acuerdo de Cooperación en Temas de Salud, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 22 August 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-chile-firmaron-acuerdo-de-cooperacion-en-temas-de-salud>.

²⁰⁴⁵ Argentina y Chile Firmaron Acuerdo de Cooperación en Temas de Salud, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 22 August 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-chile-firmaron-acuerdo-de-cooperacion-en-temas-de-salud>.

²⁰⁴⁶ Argentina y Chile Firmaron Acuerdo de Cooperación en Temas de Salud, Ministry of Health (Buenos Aires) 22 August 2018. Access Date: 28 August 2018. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-chile-firmaron-acuerdo-de-cooperacion-en-temas-de-salud>.

²⁰⁴⁷ Additional humanitarian assistance for Myanmar and Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, September 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_170919.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

²⁰⁴⁸ Indo-Pacific Health Security Initiative, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171008.aspx.

diseases (AUD16 million), develop new pharmaceutical products (AUD75 million), and strengthen health systems in developing countries of the Western Pacific region,²⁰⁴⁹ including Cambodia and Papua New Guinea.²⁰⁵⁰ The initiative also includes a new Health Security Corps, which will coordinate the placement of Australian health professionals across the Western Pacific region, enabling them to share their expert knowledge with local health workforces.²⁰⁵¹ The initiative's AUD300 million budget will also include AUD20 million over four years to the World Health Organization's Health Emergencies Program.²⁰⁵²

On 9 October 2017 at RCM68, Australia signed its first Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) with the WHO, between Health Minister Greg Hunt and WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific Dr. Shin Young-soo.²⁰⁵³ The CCS identifies “four strategic priorities as a focus for the partnership over the coming five years: 1) health security; 2) people-centred health systems for universal health coverage (UHC); 3) regulatory strengthening; and 4) working together to support to WHO in its efforts to achieve organizational excellence.”²⁰⁵⁴

On 23 October 2017, Minister for Foreign Affairs Julie Bishop announced a further AUD10 million to support people affected by the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar and Bangladesh.²⁰⁵⁵ The funding will support the World Food Program, Save The Children, Oxfam, Care, the Australia Red Cross, and UN High Commission for Refugees; these organizations will focus on providing medical care for those injured by the violence and in providing maternal health services to the displaced persons, 70 per cent of whom are young children and pregnant or breastfeeding women.²⁰⁵⁶

On 14 November 2017, the Department of Foreign Affairs published an “impact story” about eye-care NGO Sight For All, which is operating in Myanmar and which has been supported by the Australia NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).²⁰⁵⁷ Australia has provided regular foreign aid funding through the ANCP, which is estimated to provide AUD129.3 million in 2017-18²⁰⁵⁸ to various

²⁰⁴⁹ Indo-Pacific Health Security Initiative, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171008.aspx.

²⁰⁵⁰ Health Security in the 2017 Foreign Policy White Paper, Indo-Pacific Centre for Health Security, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, November 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <http://indopacifichealthsecurity.dfat.gov.au/Pages/News/News/White-Paper.aspx>.

²⁰⁵¹ New initiatives put regional health security at the forefront of Australian aid priorities, Devex, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <https://www.devex.com/news/new-initiatives-put-regional-health-security-at-the-forefront-of-australian-aid-priorities-91224>.

²⁰⁵² Indo-Pacific Health Security Initiative, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171008.aspx.

²⁰⁵³ New Country Cooperation Strategy signed will leverage Aust's experience and expertise to solve regional health problems, Twitter, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <https://twitter.com/healthgovau/status/917274502752378880>.

²⁰⁵⁴ Australia-WHO Country Cooperation Strategy 2018-2022, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <http://iris.wpro.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665.1/13681/WPRO-2017-DPM-028-eng.pdf>.

²⁰⁵⁵ Rohingya Crisis: Australia Commits Further \$10M In Humanitarian Aid, Huffington Post Australia, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. http://www.huffingtonpost.com.au/2017/10/23/rohingya-crisis-australia-commits-further-10m-in-humanitarian-aid_a_23252087/.

²⁰⁵⁶ Further humanitarian assistance to Bangladesh and Myanmar, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171023.aspx.

²⁰⁵⁷ Strengthening eye health care in Myanmar, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, November 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/strengthening-eye-health-care-in-myanmar.aspx>.

²⁰⁵⁸ Australian NGO Cooperation Program, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, November 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/Pages/australian-ngo-cooperation-program.aspx>.

initiatives—including supporting other eye-health projects that have provided training for biomedical technicians in Kiribati²⁰⁵⁹ and Pakistan.²⁰⁶⁰

On 15 December 2017, Minister Bishop announced AUD600,000 in humanitarian support for communities affected by volcanic activity in Bali, Indonesia.²⁰⁶¹ This humanitarian support will help meet the needs of 17,000 displaced persons, providing sanitation services and medical care.²⁰⁶²

On 21 December 2017, Minister Bishop announced the deployment of a team of medical experts to Bangladesh to assess the conditions in a disease outbreak following the Rohingya crisis.²⁰⁶³ The Australian Medical Assistance Team (AUSMAT) will be funded from Australia's existing AUD30 million commitment to help people affected by the Rohingya crisis.²⁰⁶⁴ Australian medical professionals will work with WHO partners to contain the disease outbreak.²⁰⁶⁵

On 19-20 February 2018, Australia hosted the inaugural Global Digital Health Partnership (GDHP) summit.²⁰⁶⁶ The summit included “senior digital health officials from Austria, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Italy, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Sweden, the United States, the United Kingdom, and the WHO.”²⁰⁶⁷ According to Australia's Digital Health Agency, the GDHP “is an opportunity for deep, transformational engagement by governments, digital health agencies, and the WHO so they can learn, share policy and other

²⁰⁵⁹ Supporting a restorative eye clinic in Kiribati, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/supporting-restorative-eye-clinic-kiribati.aspx>.

²⁰⁶⁰ Improving access to primary eye health services in Pakistan, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, October 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. <http://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/improving-access-primary-eye-health-services-pakistan.aspx>.

²⁰⁶¹ Humanitarian assistance to Indonesia, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171215a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

²⁰⁶² Humanitarian assistance to Indonesia, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171215a.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

²⁰⁶³ Australian medical team to assess disease outbreak in Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171221.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

²⁰⁶⁴ Australian medical team to assess disease outbreak in Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171221.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

²⁰⁶⁵ Australian medical team to assess disease outbreak in Bangladesh, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2017.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2017/jb_mr_171221.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

²⁰⁶⁶ Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

²⁰⁶⁷ Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

evidence that supports them to deliver better digital health services.”²⁰⁶⁸ Australia will host the GDHP secretariat for the next year.²⁰⁶⁹

On 15 March 2018, the Department of Foreign Affairs published an “impact story” about NGO Act for Peace, which is providing healthcare to over 60,000 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees in India and which has been regularly supported with ANCP grants of up to AUD1.9million.²⁰⁷⁰

On 28 March 2018, Australia announced that an Australian Medical Assistance Team (AUSMAT) had been dispatched to Papua New Guinea to assist with urgent healthcare capabilities following a 7.5 magnitude earthquake.²⁰⁷¹ The AUSMAT team worked with Papua New Guinean healthcare workers at Mendi Hospital in the Southern Highlands Province to provide emergency medical services.²⁰⁷²

On 6 April 2018, the Department of Foreign Affairs announced that the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS), funded through the ANCP, will establish an Anaesthesia Training Centre at the National Referral Hospital in the Solomon Islands.²⁰⁷³

On 19 April 2018, Minister Bishop announced AUD75 million over five years to help develop new drugs, diagnostic tools, and vector control technologies to help end TB and malaria in the Indo-Pacific region.²⁰⁷⁴

On 21 May 2018, Minister Bishop announced that Australia would provide AUD1 million to procure 75,000 doses of a vaccine to help fight a recent meningococcal outbreak in Fiji.²⁰⁷⁵

On 30 May 2018, Minister Bishop announced that Australia will provide AUD4 million to the WHO’s Contingency Fund for Emergencies in support of the WHO’s Ebola containment efforts in

²⁰⁶⁸ Media Release: New Global Digital Health Partnership, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership>.

²⁰⁶⁹ Global Digital Health Partnership – 19 & 20 February 2018 Summit Canberra, Australia Communique, Australian Digital Health Agency, February 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018: <https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/news-and-events/news/media-release-new-global-digital-health-partnership/Global%20Digital%20Health%20Partnership%20Summit%20Communique%20-%20February%202018%20-%20FINAL.pdf>.

²⁰⁷⁰ Improving healthcare for refugees in India, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, March 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. <https://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/improving-healthcare-for-refugees-in-india.aspx>.

²⁰⁷¹ Australian medical staff deploy to Papua New Guinea, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, March 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180328.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

²⁰⁷² Australian medical staff deploy to Papua New Guinea, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, March 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180328.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

²⁰⁷³ Supporting anaesthesia in the Solomon Islands, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, April 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. <https://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/supporting-anaesthesia-in-the-solomon-islands.aspxwith/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/preventing-hearing-impairments-in-kiribati.aspx>.

²⁰⁷⁴ Working to end Malaria by 2030 and funding for Health Security innovations, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, April 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180419.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

²⁰⁷⁵ Support for Fiji’s meningococcal outbreak, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, May 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180521.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).²⁰⁷⁶ Additionally, Minister Bishop announced that Australia will provide AUD9.5 million to the Cash Window of the World Bank's Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility.²⁰⁷⁷ This money will be drawn from the AUD300 million Indo-Pacific Health Security Initiative funding.²⁰⁷⁸

On 1-5 July 2018, Australia hosted the inaugural meeting of the Malaria World Congress. Minister Bishop announced five research projects under Australia's Stronger Systems for Health Security program, to be funded by the AUD300 million Health Security Initiative for the Indo-Pacific.²⁰⁷⁹ Projects included upskilling frontline health workers in Papua New Guinea, improving disease surveillance in Timor-Leste, and strengthening water-borne disease prevention in Fiji.²⁰⁸⁰

On 9 August 2018, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) announced a partnership with Australia to launch the Transformative Agenda for Women, Youth and Adolescents.²⁰⁸¹ Australia will provide AUD30 million from 2018-2022 "to improve access to quality sexual and reproductive health in six priority countries in the Pacific."²⁰⁸²

On 5 September 2018, Assistant Minister for International Development and the Pacific Anne Ruston announced that Australia would contribute AUD1.4 million over the next three years to the WHO to support prevention and management of non-communicable diseases (such as diabetes, respiratory, and cardiovascular diseases) in Nauru.²⁰⁸³

On 13 September 2018, the Department of Foreign Affairs announced that the RACS, funded through the ANCP, will establish a nurse-led ear clinic at Tungaru Central Hospital in Kiribati.²⁰⁸⁴

²⁰⁷⁶ Australian contribution to fighting Ebola and other infectious disease outbreaks, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, May 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180530.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

²⁰⁷⁷ Australian contribution to fighting Ebola and other infectious disease outbreaks, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, May 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180530.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

²⁰⁷⁸ Australian contribution to fighting Ebola and other infectious disease outbreaks, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, May 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180530.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FISOK%2Bg9ZKEg%3D%3D.

²⁰⁷⁹ Australian support for eliminating malaria and health research in the Indo-Pacific, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, July 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180702.aspx.

²⁰⁸⁰ Australian support for eliminating malaria and health research in the Indo-Pacific, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, July 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018.

https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/jb_mr_180702.aspx.

²⁰⁸¹ A new "Transformative Agenda" for women, youth and adolescents in the Pacific, United Nations Population Fund, August 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. <https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/en/news/new-transformative-agenda-women-youth-and-adolescents-pacific>.

²⁰⁸² Other regional health initiatives - Transformative Agenda for Women, Youth and Adolescents in the Pacific, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, August 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018.

<https://dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/education-health/health/Pages/regional-health-initiatives.aspx>.

²⁰⁸³ Australian support for Nauru's development, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, September 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. https://ministers.dfat.gov.au/ruston/releases/Pages/2018/ar_mr_180905.aspx.

²⁰⁸⁴ Preventing hearing impairments in Kiribati, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, September 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. <https://dfat.gov.au/aid/who-we-work-with/ngos/ancp/news/Pages/preventing-hearing-impairments-in-kiribati.aspx>.

On 13 September 2018, Minister of Foreign Affairs Marise Payne announced AUD10 million to support a vaccination campaign to fight polio, measles, and other infectious diseases in Papua New Guinea.²⁰⁸⁵

By undertaking the above measures, Australia has demonstrated a strong commitment to pursuing cooperative action, strengthening health systems, and developing the health workforce in multiple health sectors and in multiple regions of the world.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Bruce Cinnamon

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen health systems worldwide through cooperative action and to develop the health workforce.

On 19 September 2017, the Brazilian and Chilean Ministries of Health met to discuss healthy eating policies as well building food guides and policies regarding front food labeling.²⁰⁸⁶ The meeting was mediated alongside the General Coordination of Food and Nutrition alongside the Advisory Board on International Health Affairs.²⁰⁸⁷ The two nations began preparations for bilateral health cooperation.²⁰⁸⁸

On 26 September 2017, the Brazilian and American governments signed a partnership to produce the second stage of the Zika vaccine.²⁰⁸⁹ This agreement was signed between Minister of Health Ricardo Barros and United States Minister of Health Thomas Price at the Pan American Sanitary Conference.²⁰⁹⁰ The agreement marks the beginning the human testing phase of the Zika vaccine clinical trial.²⁰⁹¹ The American and Brazilian researchers will streamline the vaccine production process to develop it efficiently.²⁰⁹²

²⁰⁸⁵ \$10 million boost for immunisation in PNG, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, September 2018. Access Date: 26 September 2018. https://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2018/mp_mr_180913.aspx.

²⁰⁸⁶ Brasil e Chile debatem políticas de alimentação saudável, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://portalsaude.saude.gov.br/index.php/o-ministerio/aisa/noticias-aisa/29687-brasil-e-chile-debatem-politicas-de-alimentacao-saudavel>.

²⁰⁸⁷ Brasil e Chile debatem políticas de alimentação saudável, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://portalsaude.saude.gov.br/index.php/o-ministerio/aisa/noticias-aisa/29687-brasil-e-chile-debatem-politicas-de-alimentacao-saudavel>.

²⁰⁸⁸ Brasil e Chile debatem políticas de alimentação saudável, Ministry of Health (Brasilia) 20 September 2017. Access Date: 25 November 2017. <http://portalsaude.saude.gov.br/index.php/o-ministerio/aisa/noticias-aisa/29687-brasil-e-chile-debatem-politicas-de-alimentacao-saudavel>.

²⁰⁸⁹ Brazil to speed up zika virus vaccine production, says Health minister, EBC Agencia Brasil (Brasilia) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 26 November 2017. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/geral/noticia/2017-09/brazil-speed-zika-virus-vaccine-production-says-health-minister>.

²⁰⁹⁰ Brazil to speed up zika virus vaccine production, says Health minister, EBC Agencia Brasil (Brasilia) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 26 November 2017. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/geral/noticia/2017-09/brazil-speed-zika-virus-vaccine-production-says-health-minister>.

²⁰⁹¹ Brazil to speed up zika virus vaccine production, says Health minister, EBC Agencia Brasil (Brasilia) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 26 November 2017. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/geral/noticia/2017-09/brazil-speed-zika-virus-vaccine-production-says-health-minister>.

²⁰⁹² Brazil to speed up zika virus vaccine production, says Health minister, EBC Agencia Brasil (Brasilia) 26 September 2017. Access Date: 26 November 2017. <http://agenciabrasil.ebc.com.br/en/geral/noticia/2017-09/brazil-speed-zika-virus-vaccine-production-says-health-minister>.

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

Analyst: Olivia Smith

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to pursue cooperative action to strengthen health systems worldwide, including through developing the health workforce.

On 13 July 2017, speaking in Washington DC at a High-Level Meeting on the Internally Displaced Persons Crisis in Mosul (Iraq), EU Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides announced EUR30 million in aid for Iraq, including funding for emergency medical service workers on the frontlines.²⁶⁸⁸

On 20 July 2017, Commissioner Stylianides announced EUR10 million in humanitarian aid to support healthcare organizations in Libya, whose “health system has practically collapsed” and where “[h]uman resources are lacking, in particular for intensive care units or in the nursing sector.”²⁶⁸⁹

On 13 September 2017, at the French Ministry of Health in Paris, the European Commission launched the Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections (EU-JAMRAI).²⁶⁹⁰ This initiative brings together 44 partners from across Europe, including EU member states and international organizations like the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).²⁶⁹¹ The initiative is co-funded by the third Health Programme of the European Union and has a EUR4 million budget “to support member states in the development and implementation of national strategies; ensure a common approach at European level on the implementation of a global action plan; produce guidance documents and tools allowing member states to step up the fight against AMR at national and local levels; and enhance the implementation of organisational change and/or other methods to enable sustainable improvements in practice by health care professionals.”²⁶⁹²

On 21 September 2017, Commissioner Stylianides announced a further EUR10 million to help displaced persons in Iraq, including funding mental health supports for survivors of violence.²⁶⁹³

On 11 October 2017, the European Commission published a mid-term evaluation of the EU’s third Health Programme 2014-2020.²⁶⁹⁴ With a total budget of EUR449.4 million, the third Health

²⁶⁸⁸Humanitarian aid for Iraq - EU announces additional €30 million, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, July 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/humanitarian-aid-iraq-eu-announces-additional-30-million_en.

²⁶⁸⁹€10 million in emergency assistance for increasing humanitarian needs in Libya, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, July 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/10-million-emergency-assistance-respond-increasing-humanitarian-needs-libya_en.

²⁶⁹⁰Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections, European Commission-CHAFAEA, September 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. <http://ec.europa.eu/chafea/news/news522.html>.

²⁶⁹¹Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance & Healthcare-Associated Infections “EU-JAMRAI” Kick-off Meeting Agenda, EU-JAMRAI, September 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. https://eu-jamrai.sciencesconf.org/data/EU_JAMRAI_Kickoff_Agenda_VF2.pdf.

²⁶⁹²EU: Joint action on antimicrobial resistance to be launched in Paris tomorrow, Science Business, September 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. <https://sciencebusiness.net/healthy-measures/news/eu-joint-action-antimicrobial-resistance-be-launched-paris-tomorrow>.

²⁶⁹³Commissioner Stylianides announces additional €10 million EU humanitarian aid for Iraq, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, September 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/commissioner-stylianides-announces-additional-10-million-eu-humanitarian-aid-iraq_en.

Programme is the EU's major tool for distributing funding to health initiatives; “[m]ore than 539 actions have been or are being funded through the third Health Programme from 2014 to 2016, for a total cost of €165.6 million.”²⁶⁹⁵ The mid-term evaluation described successes in fighting the spread of infectious diseases and in “updating of skills for health professionals and other front line staff working on emergent issues such as the refugees crisis.”²⁶⁹⁶

On 16 November 2017, the EU announced a EUR400 million aid package to assist Guinea in its recovery from the Ebola epidemic.²⁶⁹⁷ This aid package includes EUR40 million of funding that will “support governance of the health sector so as to enable the State to deliver quality basic healthcare services and fulfil its role in monitoring health.”²⁶⁹⁸

On 12 December 2017, the EU announced a EUR10.9 million funding commitment to support the development of health systems in Libya. The support package will include funding for “assistance to maternal and new-born health, trainings for future nurse and midwifery and the establishment of a national prevention strategy at primary health care level countrywide.”²⁶⁹⁹ This action is done in partnership with the United Nations.

On 30 December 2017, an EU-funded mobile reproductive team from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) provided healthcare services to 80 vulnerable women in Aleppo, Syria.²⁷⁰⁰ Health service, particularly focused on maternal health, is the EU's top priority in the area. According to the EU Humanitarian Aid worker who oversaw the project, “this first intervention supported by the EU should pave the way for a regular delivery of services by humanitarian partners through mobile units in Aleppo.”²⁷⁰¹

On 27 February 2018, EU Health Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis met with Iranian Health Minister Hassan Ghazizadeh Hashemi in Brussels, where they discussed “antimicrobial resistance, health security [including] the international health regulations, health technology assessment, fight against non-communicable diseases, tobacco – with a focus on the ratification of the Protocol to

²⁶⁹⁴Third Health Programme (2014-2020): Mid-term review shows major progress in improving cooperation in health and healthcare, EU Health and Food Safety Directorate General, October 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=5494&page=1&fullDate=Fri%2010%20Nov%202017&lang=default.

²⁶⁹⁵The results are in: EU's third Health Programme is on track and having impact, EU Health and Food Safety Directorate General, November 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/health/health-eu-newsletter-204-focus_en.

²⁶⁹⁶Mid-term evaluation of the 3rd Health Programme 2014-2020, EU Health and Food Safety Directorate General, November 2017. Access Date: 21 November 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/health/programme/policy/2014-2020/midterm_evaluation_en.

²⁶⁹⁷The European Union announces €400 million to support Guinea, The European Commission, November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-4691_en.htm.

²⁶⁹⁸The European Union announces €400 million to support Guinea, The European Commission, November 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-4691_en.htm.

²⁶⁹⁹The European Union adopts new assistance programme to improve health services in Libya, The European Commission, December 2017. Access Date: 15 January 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-5222_en.htm.

²⁷⁰⁰EU support enables UNFPA to deliver aid to an area previously unreached in Aleppo, Syria, The European Commission, December 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/echo/blog/eu-support-enables-unfpa-deliver-aid-area-previously-unreached-aleppo-syria_en.

²⁷⁰¹EU support enables UNFPA to deliver aid to an area previously unreached in Aleppo, Syria, The European Commission, December 2017. Access Date: 7 March 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/echo/blog/eu-support-enables-unfpa-deliver-aid-area-previously-unreached-aleppo-syria_en.

Eliminate illicit trade of tobacco under World Health Organisation (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, a number of sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) issues, and collaboration on health research.”²⁷⁰² The meeting laid the groundwork for a joint workshop on health research and innovation which will be held in Tehran in April.²⁷⁰³

On 28 February 2018, the EU announced a EUR24 million in humanitarian assistance, including funding for essential health services, to help people affected by conflict in eastern Ukraine.²⁷⁰⁴

On 12 March 2018, the EU announced a new EUR50 million program to support basic human services for vulnerable populations in Libya. The program includes funding to strengthen local health systems, including “the delivery of medical equipment to three Primary Health Care Centres in Sabha and one in Qatroun” and “the provision of generators to several health facilities in Sabha.”²⁷⁰⁵

On 26 March 2018, the EU announced a further EUR60 million commitment to help those affected by the humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including funding for health assistance against epidemics. “During his visit, the Commissioner [for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides] visited the EU funded Panzi hospital run by the 2014 Sakharov Prize laureate Dr D. Mukwege in Bukavu and the Ndoshoh hospital in Goma,” highlighting the EU’s contribution to strengthening local health systems.²⁷⁰⁶

On 3 April 2018, the EU announced EUR107.5 million in aid to Yemeni civilians, including funding to help support the country’s precarious health sector and fight the cholera outbreak affecting Yemen.²⁷⁰⁷

On 16 April 2018, the EU launched the Joint Action on Innovative Partnership for Action against Cancer (IPPAC). This initiative involves all EU member states—as well as Norway, Moldova, and Serbia—in implementing best practices for cancer research and treatment in their health systems.²⁷⁰⁸

On 25 April 2018, the EU announced new measures to increase healthcare data sharing among EU member states.²⁷⁰⁹ These measures include a new law on Public Sector Information, a set of

²⁷⁰² EU Health Commissioner meets Iranian Minister of Health and Medical Education, The European Commission, February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=7405&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2027%20Feb%202018&lang=default.

²⁷⁰³ EU Health Commissioner meets Iranian Minister of Health and Medical Education, The European Commission, February 2018. Access Date: 7 March 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=7405&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2027%20Feb%202018&lang=default.

²⁷⁰⁴ EU announces €24 million to address the humanitarian situation in eastern Ukraine, The European Commission, February 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-1282_en.htm.

²⁷⁰⁵ EU expands its support to Libyan municipalities to enhance access to basic and social services for migrants and Libyans, The European Commission, March 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-1641_en.htm.

²⁷⁰⁶ Commissioner Stylianides visits the Democratic Republic of Congo: over €60 million for the Great Lakes region, The European Commission, March 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-2242_en.htm.

²⁷⁰⁷ EU pledges €107.5 million to address urgent needs of Yemeni civilians, The European Commission, April 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-2701_en.htm.

²⁷⁰⁸ Fight against cancer: Joint Action Kick-off Meeting, Luxembourg, 16-17 April, 2018, The European Commission, April 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=8259&page=2&fullDate=Mon%2016%20Apr%202018&lang=default.

recommendations on establishing a European Open Science Cloud, and legal guidance for businesses operating in the EU, among other initiatives.²⁷¹⁰

On 18 May 2018, the EU announced EUR1.5 million of emergency funding to the WHO and EUR130,000 to the International Federation of the Red Cross to help fight the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.²⁷¹¹ The EU also activated its Echo Flight program, transporting medical experts, emergency workers, and medical equipment to the affected areas.²⁷¹²

On 23 May 2018, the EU Commission published country-specific recommendations for health system reform in 12 EU member states, providing policy recommendations for improving the effectiveness and resilience of their health systems.²⁷¹³

On 30 May 2018, as part of the EU's 2021-2027 budget process, the EU Commission adopted a proposal for a new European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) Programme—one of the goals of which is to “strengthen health systems, by supporting the digital transformation of health and care, developing a sustainable EU health information system, and supporting national reform processes for more effective, accessible and resilient health systems.”²⁷¹⁴ The proposed budget for the health strand of ESF+ is EUR413 million.²⁷¹⁵

On 19 June 2018, the EU announced EUR68 million in humanitarian assistance to support vulnerable populations in Sudan and South Sudan, including funding for basic health services.²⁷¹⁶

On 17 July 2018, the European Commission established the Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases.²⁷¹⁷ “The Steering Group will advise the Commission on the selection of best practices and using them to support their transfer

²⁷⁰⁹ Data in the EU: Commission steps up efforts to increase availability and boost healthcare data sharing, April 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-3364_en.htm.

²⁷¹⁰ Data in the EU: Commission steps up efforts to increase availability and boost healthcare data sharing, April 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-3364_en.htm.

²⁷¹¹ EU releases emergency aid and starts humanitarian flight service to contain Ebola in Democratic Republic of Congo, The European Commission, May 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-3850_en.htm.

²⁷¹² EU releases emergency aid and starts humanitarian flight service to contain Ebola in Democratic Republic of Congo, The European Commission, May 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-3850_en.htm.

²⁷¹³ European Semester: Commission proposes health recommendations to 12 EU countries, The European Commission, May 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=8829&page=1&fullDate=Wed%2023%20May%202018&lang=default.

²⁷¹⁴ Health policies in the future EU budget (2021-2027), The European Commission, May 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=9001&page=1&fullDate=Wed%2030%20May%202018&lang=default.

²⁷¹⁵ EU Health Budget for the Future, The European Commission, May 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/programme/docs/2021_budget_factsheet_en.pdf.

²⁷¹⁶ Humanitarian Aid: EU releases €68 million for Sudan and South Sudan, The European Commission, May 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-18-4206_en.htm.

²⁷¹⁷ Commission establishes Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases, The European Commission, July 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=9978&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2017%20Jul%202018&lang=default.

and scaling up at the national and European level using the funds from the EU Health Programme or other EU financial instruments.²⁷¹⁸

On 24 July 2018, the WHO announced an end to the ninth outbreak of Ebola in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).²⁷¹⁹ The WHO listed the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (EU-ECHO) as contributing EUR1.5 million to the WHO's efforts in the DRC.²⁷²⁰ Commissioner Stylianides also issued a statement outlining the EU's non-financial contributions including logistical support, expert deployment, medical equipment, vaccines developed by way of EU research grants, and satellite mapping systems.²⁷²¹

On 22 August 2018, the EU announced that an additional EUR9 million will be mobilized to support health care in reception facilities for asylum seekers and refugees in Italy, with a particular focus on child and maternal health.²⁷²²

On 24 September 2018, the EU pledged to contribute EUR3 million to the Defeat-NCD (noncommunicable diseases) Partnership, which seeks to help low income states strengthen their health systems and fight against NCDs like cancer, diabetes, and cardiovascular and respiratory diseases.²⁷²³

The European Union has a robust and multivalent strategy to strengthen health systems in Europe and worldwide, including through developing the health workforce and through cooperative action with international organizations. Thus, the EU receives a score of +1.

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²⁷¹⁸ Commission establishes Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases, The European Commission, July 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/sante/newsletter-specific-archive-issue.cfm?archtype=specific&newsletter_service_id=327&newsletter_issue_id=9978&page=1&fullDate=Tue%2017%20Jul%202018&lang=default.

²⁷¹⁹ Ebola outbreak in DRC ends: WHO calls for international efforts to stop other deadly outbreaks in the country, WHO (Geneva) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <http://www.who.int/news-room/detail/24-07-2018-ebola-outbreak-in-drc-ends--who-calls-for-international-efforts-to-stop-other-deadly-outbreaks-in-the-country>.

²⁷²⁰ Ebola outbreak in DRC ends: WHO calls for international efforts to stop other deadly outbreaks in the country, WHO (Geneva) 24 July 2018. Access Date: 11 October 2018. <http://www.who.int/news-room/detail/24-07-2018-ebola-outbreak-in-drc-ends--who-calls-for-international-efforts-to-stop-other-deadly-outbreaks-in-the-country>.

²⁷²¹ Statement by Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos Stylianides on the end of the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo, The European Commission, March 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-18-4647_en.htm.

²⁷²² Migration: Commission awards €9 million to Italy to support health care for asylum seekers and refugees, The European Commission, August 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEX-18-5121_en.htm.

²⁷²³ The European Union joins forces with partners to defeat noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) in developing countries, The European Commission, September 2018. Access Date: 27 September 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/european-union-joins-forces-partners-defeat-noncommunicable-diseases-ncds-developing_en.