

2. Health: Health Care Funding [11]

Commitment:

“To this end, the G8 undertake to mobilize as of today \$5.0 billion of additional funding for disbursement over the next five years.”

- G8 Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings

Assessment:

Country	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France	-1		
Germany		0	
Italy	-1		
Japan	-1		
Russia	-1		
United Kingdom	-1		
United States	-1		
European Union	-1		
Average Score		-0.67	

Background:

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), “[t]he risk of a woman in a developing country dying from a pregnancy-related cause during her lifetime is about 36 times higher compared to a woman living in a developed country.”¹⁵⁵ These deaths are, however, preventable through investment in “health systems and the quality of care.”¹⁵⁶

Two of the eight Millennium Development Goals focus on maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH).¹⁵⁷ Despite this, progress towards improving maternal health and reducing child mortality “has been unacceptably slow.”¹⁵⁸ At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, Prime Minister Stephen Harper championed a “major initiative to improve the health of women and children in the world’s poorest regions.”¹⁵⁹ While the G8 has previously undertaken many development and health related commitments, this specific funding initiative is new. Agreed to as part of the Muskoka Initiative on Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, and signed at the 2010 G8 Summit, the above commitment refers to funding for maternal, newborn, and child health in the

¹⁵⁵ Maternal Deaths Worldwide Drop by Third, WHO (Geneva) 15 September 2010. Date of Access: 4 November 2010.

http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2010/maternal_mortality_20100915/en/index.html.

¹⁵⁶ Maternal Deaths Worldwide Drop by Third, WHO (Geneva) 15 September 2010. Date of Access: 4 November 2010.

http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2010/maternal_mortality_20100915/en/index.html.

¹⁵⁷ Millennium Development Goal 5, WHO (Geneva) Date of Access: 4 November 2010.

http://www.who.int/making_pregnancy_safer/topics/mdg/en/index.html.

¹⁵⁸ G8 Muskoka Declaration Recovery and New Beginings, Government of Canada (Huntsville) 26 June 2010. Date of Access: 7 November 2010. <http://g8.gc.ca/g8-summit/summit-documents/g8-muskoka-declaration-recovery-and-new-beginnings/>.

¹⁵⁹ Canada’s G8 Priorities, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 26 January 2010. Date of Access: 18 November 2010. <http://g8.gc.ca/3291/canadas-g8-priorities/>.

developing world.¹⁶⁰ Since the 2010 Muskoka Summit, the Millennium Development Goal Summit in September 2011 secured over US\$40 billion in member pledges and announced the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health.¹⁶¹

Commitment Features:

This commitment focuses on the mobilization and disbursement of funding additional to previously committed official development assistance (ODA). As such, full compliance will require the pledge of new monies, and funds that have been already pledged or delegated will not be counted. Additionally, funding must be tied to a timeline for disbursement not exceeding five years.

The US\$5 billion commitment is a total for the G8 as a whole and does not represent individual country contributions. As part of the initiative, members made specific announcements outlining their respective monetary commitments, which are divided as indicated in Table 2-1.^{162,163}

Specific programs and initiatives for the allocation of funding have not been outlined in the commitment or communiqué. The Muskoka Initiative includes, but is not limited to: “prenatal care; attending childbirth; postpartum care; sexual and reproductive care and services; health education; treatment and prevention of diseases, including infectious diseases; prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV; immunization; basic nutrition; safe drinking water and sanitation.”¹⁶⁴ G8 members are able to distribute funding in various ways as long as the funding is specifically attributed to addressing MDG 4, to reduce Child Mortality and MDG 5, to the improvement of Maternal Health.

¹⁶⁰ G8 Muskoka Declaration Recovery and New Beginnings, Government of Canada (Huntsville) 26 June 2010. Date of Access: 4 November 2010. <http://g8.gc.ca/g8-summit/summit-documents/g8-muskoka-declaration-recovery-and-new-beginnings/>.

¹⁶¹ UN secured \$40 billion for women's and children's health, We can End Poverty, United Nations (New York) not date given. Date of Access: 11 February 2011. <http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/>.

¹⁶² What Happened to the Maternal and Child Health Initiative at the 2010 G8 Muskoka Summit? 29 June 2010 Date of Access: 18 November 2010. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2010muskoka/guebert-mcnh.html>.

¹⁶³ Money Mobilized by the Muskoka Initiative, 28 June 2010. Date of Access: 18 November 2010. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2010muskoka/mnch-money.html>.

¹⁶⁴ Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, Canadian International Development Agency (Ottawa) 31 January 2011. Date of Access: 11 February 2011. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/acdi-cida/ACDI-CIDA.nsf/eng/FRA-127113657-MH7#a1>.

Table 2-1: G8 Commitments to the Muskoka Initiative on Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (Total Contributions)

Total Contributions		
Country	New Funding	Commitment Timeline
Canada	\$1.1 billion	2010-2015
France	€500 million ¹⁶⁵	2011-2015
Germany	\$500 million	2010-2015
Italy	N/A ¹⁶⁶	N/A
Japan	\$500 million	2010-2015 ¹⁶⁷
Russia	\$75 million	2011-2013 ¹⁶⁸
United Kingdom	\$600 million	2010-2011
United States	\$1.3 billion	2010-2011
European Union	N/A ¹⁶⁹	N/A
2010-11 Pledges		
Country	Pledge	Contribution
Canada	\$220 million	\$284.6 million
France	€125 million	\$0
Germany	\$100 million	\$80 million
Italy	N/A	\$1.2 million
Japan	\$100 million	\$10 million
Russia	\$25 million	\$0
United Kingdom	\$600 million	\$0
United States	\$1.3 billion	\$14.331 million
European Union	N/A	\$4.5 million

Scoring Guidelines:

-1	Member allocates none or less than half of the funding it pledged to specific MNCH initiatives.
0	Member allocates more than half of the funding it pledged to specific MNCH initiatives.
+1	Member allocates the full funding it pledged to specific MNCH initiatives.

Lead Analyst: Natalie Antonowicz

¹⁶⁵ France at the United Nations, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) October 2010. Date of Access: 10 February 2011. <http://www.franceonu.org/spip.php?article5239>.

¹⁶⁶ Italy pledged a lesser commitment at approximately 25 million

¹⁶⁷ Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health Commitment Summary : 1 October 2010, United Nations (New York) 1 October 2010. Date of Access : 17 January 2011. http://www.un.org/sg/hf/global_strategy_commitments.pdf.

¹⁶⁸ Russia pledges \$75 mln to curb child and maternal mortality in Africa, RIANOVOSTI (Toronto) 26 June 2010. Date of Access: 21 January 2011. <http://en.rian.ru/russia/20100626/159585191.html>.

¹⁶⁹ "No announcements have been made outlining the specific contributions of Italy and the EU. However, the contributions of these two G8 members must total \$600 million or 12% of the total G8 funding, in order to complete the full \$5 billion commitment."¹⁶⁹ Subsequently, compliance with this commitment for these two members will be assessed within that range.

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to allocate US\$220 million of funding towards maternal and child health, as per the Muskoka Initiative.

In January 2011, it was announced that Prime Minister Stephen Harper will co-chair a United Nations commission that will oversee the progression of maternal and child health pledges, and the setting of goals to fulfill these pledges.¹⁷⁰ This commission will oversee the distribution of US\$40 billion worth of pledges, and will seek "to complete a common reporting mechanism" for maternal and child health initiatives. Prime Minister Harper has also restated his commitment to maternal and child health as one of Canada's key priorities.¹⁷¹

On 21 September 2010, in a speech at the UN Summit on the Millennium Development Goals, Prime Minister Harper noted that as host of the Muskoka G8 Summit, Canada "pushed leaders to fund a maternal health initiative" and pledged "\$1.1 billion in new money to the cause."¹⁷² Prime Minister Harper also told the UN that "Canada will increase its contributions to the Global Fund, which fights HIV-AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis in developing countries"¹⁷³ giving "[CA]540 million over three years to the fund, which already receives \$150 million a year from Canada."¹⁷⁴ This amounts to CA\$180 million per year.

In October 2010, Canada made a new commitment of CA\$50 million to the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI Alliance) as a part of its contribution to the G8 Muskoka initiative.¹⁷⁵

On 1 November 2010, Minister of International Cooperation Beverly Oda announced that Canada will provide CA\$75 million over five years for nutrition supplements for developing nations, including micronutrients such as iodine and vitamin A, as part of its G8 commitment to maternal and child health as well as CA\$58.5 million for polio eradication.¹⁷⁶

¹⁷⁰ Harper Follows Up on a Favoured Cause: Maternal Health, The Globe and Mail (Ottawa) 25 January 2011. Date of Access: 8 February 2011. <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/harper-follows-up-on-a-favoured-cause-maternal-health/article1881549/>.

¹⁷¹ PM Heads to Geneva for Maternal Health Panel, CBC News (Geneva) 25 January 2011. Date of Access: 8 February 2011. <http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2011/01/25/harper-maternal-health.html>.

¹⁷² Harper tells UN to focus on aid results, CBC News (Toronto) 21 September 2010. Date of Access: 9 December 2010. <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2010/09/21/un-canada-millennium-development.html>.

¹⁷³ Harper tells UN to focus on aid results, CBC News (Toronto) 21 September 2010. Date of Access: 9 December 2010. <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2010/09/21/un-canada-millennium-development.html>.

¹⁷⁴ Harper tells UN to focus on aid results, CBC News (Toronto) 21 September 2010. Date of Access: 9 December 2010. <http://www.cbc.ca/world/story/2010/09/21/un-canada-millennium-development.html>.

¹⁷⁵ GAVI Alliance donors and partners agree to first pledging conference in June 2011 and announce early commitments, Global Alliance for Vaccine and Immunisation (New York) 6 October 2010. Date of Access: 14 November 2010. http://www.gavialliance.org/media_centre/statements/call_for_action.php.

¹⁷⁶ Minister Oda Announces Global Health, Nutrition and Disease Prevention Initiatives, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 1 November 2010. Date of Access: 9 December 2010. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/acdi-cida/ACDI-CIDA.nsf/eng/FRA-103117396-TE2>.

On 20 July 2010, at the International AIDS Conference in Vienna, Minister of Health Leona Aglukkaq announced that Canada pledges CA\$30 million to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS in developing countries.¹⁷⁷

Canada has committed additional funding towards maternal, newborn, and child health programs, totalling over \$220 million. Thus, Canada has been assigned a score of +1.

Analyst: Nehal Tolia

France: -1

France has not complied with its commitment to allocate €125 million during the 2010-2011 commitment period. However, the French commitment to maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH) is slated to start in 2011.

France has had a long commitment to MNCH and is committed “improving health throughout the world.”¹⁷⁸ On 20 September 2010, French president Nicolas Sarkozy delivered a speech at the Millennium Development Goals Summit in New York about a sustained commitment towards maternal, new born, and child health.¹⁷⁹ Although France has pledged to donate US\$400 million over five years,¹⁸⁰ for maternal and child health initiatives, no concrete action towards this goal has been taken since the Muskoka Summit.

At the 16th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, held in January 2011, French President Nicholas Sarkozy stated that France is striving towards achieving "innovative financing" for development and health, but did not specify any new funding or initiatives.¹⁸¹

Thus, France has been assigned a score of -1 for failing to distribute any portion of its €125 million maternal, newborn, and child health pledge.

Analyst: Natalie Antonowicz

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to allocate US\$100 million of funding towards maternal, newborn, and child health, as per the Muskoka Initiative.

The German Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Gudrun Kopp, announced on 20 October 2010 that funding for family planning

¹⁷⁷ Ottawa’s AIDS strategy targets research, mother-child transmission, Elizabeth Church, The Globe and Mail (Ottawa) 20 July 2010. Date of Access: 9 December 2010.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/ottawas-aids-strategy-targets-research-mother-child-transmission/article1645458/>.

¹⁷⁸ France at the United Nations, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) October 2010. Date of Access: 10 February 2011. <http://www.franceonu.org/spip.php?article5239>.

¹⁷⁹ General Assembly – MDGs Summit – Speech Delivered by M. Nicolas Sarkozy, President of the French Republic, France at the United Nations (Paris) 20 September 2010. Date of access: 25 January 2010. <http://www.franceonu.org/spip.php?article5149>.

¹⁸⁰ From Muskoka to Toronto to Seoul in G8-G20 Global Health Governance. G8 Research Group, 19 June 2010. Date of Access: 30 December 2010. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2010muskoka/kirton-health.html>.

¹⁸¹ 16th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly Opens With a Focus on Shared Values, All Africa (Addis Ababa) 31 January 2011. Date of Access: 8 February 2011. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201101310769.html>.

and reproductive health services and education will be doubled in 2011 to €80 million to address Millennium Development Goal five of maternal health.¹⁸²

Germany's ongoing commitment to maternal, newborn, and child health is exemplified in their continuing contribution to the area of €300 million per year.¹⁸³ And on 22 November 2010 the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Dirk Niebel announced the government's contribution of over €500 million to support "the sustainable development of health systems in developing countries. In the future we will be putting particular emphasis on mother-and-child health."¹⁸⁴

Thus, Germany has been given a score of 0, as it has allotted more than half of the US\$100 million pledged for maternal, newborn, and child health.

Analyst: Tina Xu

Italy: -1

Italy has not complied with its commitment to allocate additional funding towards maternal, newborn, and child health, as per the Muskoka Initiative.

On 29 September 2010, the Permanent Mission of Italy, with the Permanent Mission of Burkina Faso, Colombia, New Zealand, and the WHO, held a side event of the UN MDG Summit called Women Create Life.¹⁸⁵ This side event was focused on "'Health as a Human Right' and advancing commitments on maternal and child health."¹⁸⁶ Although, the Women Create Life initiative has the "aim to create new funds,"¹⁸⁷ no Italian funds have been pledged towards this initiative.

In December 2010 the Italian government committed US\$1.2 million in collaboration with the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) for women and children in South Sudan "under the immunization and maternal health project."¹⁸⁸ The Ministry of Foreign Affairs expects to allocate

¹⁸² Kopp: Deutschland räumt der selbstbestimmten Familien-planung höchste politische Priorität ein, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 20 October 2010. Date of Access: 9 December 2010.

http://www.bmz.de/de/presse/aktuelleMeldungen/2010/oktober/20101020_weltbevoelkerung/index.html.

¹⁸³ Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health, Commitments Summary: 1 October 2010, UN (New York) 1 October 2010. Date of Access: 17 January 2011.

http://www.un.org/sg/hf/global_strategy_commitments.pdf/

¹⁸⁴ WHO presents World Health Report in Berlin – Investing in Health is an investment in the future, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 22 November 2010. Date of Access: 21 January 2011.

http://www.bmz.de/en/press/aktuelleMeldungen/2010/november/20101122_pm_xx_gesundheitsbericht/index.html.

¹⁸⁵ Health and Human Rights: The case of Maternal and Child Health, The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (Geneva) 29 September 2010. Date of Access: 17 January 2011.

http://www.who.int/pmnch/events/2010/20100929_hhr_mch/en/index.html.

¹⁸⁶ Health and Human Rights: The case of Maternal and Child Health, The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (Geneva) 29 September 2010. Date of Access: 17 January 2011.

http://www.who.int/pmnch/events/2010/20100929_hhr_mch/en/index.html.

¹⁸⁷ Health and Human Rights: The case of Maternal and Child Health, The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (Geneva) 29 September 2010. Date of Access: 17 January 2011.

http://www.who.int/pmnch/events/2010/20100929_hhr_mch/en/index.html.

¹⁸⁸ South Sudan: Italy donates \$1.2m to support women and children, Sudan Tribune (Juba) 13 December 2010. Date of Access: 17 January 2011. <http://www.sudantribune.com/South-Sudan-Italy-donates-1-2m-to,37260>.

€326 million for 2010 and €210 million for 2011-2012 for Italian overseas development assistance through the General Directorate for Development and Cooperation for 2010-2012.¹⁸⁹ However, the country has not pledged any additional assistance for maternal, newborn, and child health since the 2010 Muskoka Summit.

Thus, Italy has been given a score of -1, as it has pledged less than half of the allocated funding to maternal, newborn, and child health.

Analyst: Nehal Tolia

Japan: -1

Japan has complied not with its commitment distribute US\$100 million for maternal and child health initiatives during the 2010-2011 compliance cycle.

On 24 September 2010 it was reported that Prime Minister Naoto Kan reaffirmed the Government of Japan's commitment to US\$500 million made at the Muskoka Summit when he pledged US\$5 billion over five years to the Millennium Development Goals of maternal and child health and HIV, tuberculosis and malaria treatment at the United Nations.¹⁹⁰ At the United Nations Millennium Development Goals Summit, Japan committed "\$8.5 billion over five years starting in 2011 to help improve the health of mothers and babies."¹⁹¹ This initiative intends to "ensure the continuum of care from pregnancy to post natal stage."¹⁹² However, these funds have not been formally disbursed.

In January 2011 Japan donated US\$10 million to maternal and child health, among other causes, through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.¹⁹³

Thus, Japan has been assigned a score of -1 for failing to assign its pledged amount for maternal and child health initiatives.

Analyst: Michael Hanrahan

Russia: -1

Russia has not complied with its commitment to the allocation of new funds to Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Initiative.

On 26 June 2010, at the G8 Muskoka Summit Russia announced a US\$75 million contribution over three years to the Muskoka Initiative, aimed at addressing maternal, newborn and under-five child health (MNCH).¹⁹⁴

¹⁸⁹ Euro Resources. 2010. Guide to European Population Assistance Funding, Donor Profile: Italy. Date of Access: 9 December 2010. <http://www.euroresources.org/index.php?id=421>.

¹⁹⁰ Japan Pledges \$8.5 billion in aid at U.N. Summit, Japan Times. 24 September 2010. Date of Access: 19 November 2010. <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20100924a2.html>.

¹⁹¹ Japan Pledges \$8.5 billion in aid at U.N. Summit, Japan Times. 24 September 2010. Date of Access: 19 November 2010. <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20100924a2.html>.

¹⁹² Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health, Commitments Summary: 1 October 2010, UN (New York) 1 October 2010. Date of Access: 17 January 2011. http://www.un.org/sg/hf/global_strategy_commitments.pdf.

¹⁹³ Japan Donates US\$10 Million for Palestine Refugees, Relief Web. 23 January 2011. Date of Access: 8 February 2011. <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900sid/MCOI-8DDMK2?OpenDocument>.

¹⁹⁴ Russia pledges \$75 mln to curb child and maternal mortality in Africa - 26/06/2010, RIA Novosti 26 June 2010. Date of Access: 3 November 2010. <http://en.rian.ru/russia/20100626/159585191.html>.

According to Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesman, Andrei Nesterenko, the Muskoka Initiative will be implemented by Russia through a program for the professional improvement of maternal & child health specialists from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Africa, Asia and Latin America.¹⁹⁵ Russia has announced an intention to hold “series of scientific and educational conferences devoted to maternal and child health from 2011 to 2015.”¹⁹⁶ But no funds have been allocated so far.

On 14 October 2010, the Russian Government committed to polio vaccine purchase and transfer to the CIS countries and these countries’ personnel training. However, maternal, newborn, and child health was not specified under this contribution, thus, this does not constitute compliance.¹⁹⁷

Russia has reaffirmed its commitment made at the 2010 G8 Muskoka Summit; however, it has not yet allocated funds towards Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health initiatives. Thus, Russia has been awarded a score of -1.

Analyst: Yuriy Zaytsev

United Kingdom: -1

The United Kingdom has not complied with its commitment to the allocation of new funds to Maternal, Newborn and Child Health.

The United Kingdom pledged that it “will push hard in 2010 to make greater progress in tackling maternal and infant mortality.”¹⁹⁸ On 25 June 2010, Prime Minister David Cameron echoed this following the Muskoka Summit. Further commitment to this goal was reaffirmed by Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg, when he voiced support for the UN’s Millennium Development goals by “reorienting Britain’s aid programme to put [the needs of women and children] at its core.”¹⁹⁹ However, the UK has not distributed any additional funding.

At the 2010 MDG Summit in New York, the UK announced it is “currently re-orienting its aid programme to put women at the heart of its development efforts and is focusing rigorously on results, including a review of all bilateral and multilateral aid programmes to maximise impact on mothers and babies.”²⁰⁰ The UK announced additional annual funds to support Maternal, Newborn and Child Health by 2012, the “UK will provide an annual average of 1.1 billion for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health from 2010 to 2015. This means that over this period the UK

¹⁹⁵ Briefing by Russian MFA Spokesman Andrei Nesterenko, July 1, 2010, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia 1 July 2010. Date of Access: 10 January 2010.

http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/0/CB38AD105B024E87C32577560020A324.

¹⁹⁶ Briefing by Russian MFA Spokesman Andrei Nesterenko, July 1, 2010, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia (Moscow) 1 July 2010. Date of Access: 10 January 2011.

http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/0/CB38AD105B024E87C32577560020A324.

¹⁹⁷ Executive Order No. 1771-r of 14 October 2010, Government of Russia (Moscow) 14 October 2010. Date of Access: 10 January 2011. <http://government.ru/gov/results/12622>.

¹⁹⁸ Muskoka 2010 G8, British Embassy Tokyo (Tokyo) [no date]. Date of Access: 19 November 2010. <http://ukinjapan.fc.gov.uk/en/about-us/working-with-japan/g8-g20/g8-summit>.

¹⁹⁹ Millennium development goals: governments pledge 25.5bn to eradicate world poverty, Guardian UK (London) 22 September 2010. Date of Access: 18 November 2010. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/2010/sep/22/millennium-development-goals-governments-pledge/>.

²⁰⁰ Global Strategy for Women’s and Children’s Health, Commitments Summary: 1 October 2010, UN (New York) 1 October 2010. Date of Access: 17 January 2011. http://www.un.org/sg/hf/global_strategy_commitments.pdf.

will spend an additional £2.1 billion on MNCH. This commitment adds an additional £1.6 billion to the commitment of £490 the UK made for the 2010 and 2011 at the Muskoka Summit.”²⁰¹

The UK has emphasized the importance of Maternal, Newborn and Child health. 27 July 2010 the UK government announced its pledge to “family planning at the heart of its approach to women’s health in the developing world in an attempt to reduce the persistently high number of women who die in pregnancy and childbirth.”²⁰² On 21 September 2010 Andrew Mitchell announced a new research programme “designed to identify specific and cost effective solutions to chronic malnutrition”²⁰³ in women and children.

On 25 November 2010, the UK government announced a partner initiative with UNICEF to protect “nearly 1 million children under the age of five”²⁰⁴ by distributing “over 2 million life-saving bednets as well as teach communities the importance of sleeping under them.”²⁰⁵ However, this initiative does not distribute funds, so does not constitute compliance.

Finally, on 31 December 2010, the British government unveiled a comprehensive strategy to address malaria and to prevent deaths during pregnancy and childbirth.²⁰⁶

Although, the UK has placed an emphasis on the importance of maternal, newborn and child health, it has not made official allocations of funds towards MNCH initiatives.

Thus, the United Kingdom has been assigned a score of -1, as it has not distributed the US\$600 million it pledged for maternal and child health initiatives.

Analyst: Michael Hanrahan

United States: -1

The United States has not complied with its commitment to mobilize US\$1.3 billion of additional funding for funding for maternal, newborn, and child health initiatives.

²⁰¹ Global Strategy for Women’s and Children’s Health, Commitments Summary: 1 October 2010, UN (New York) 1 October 2010. Date of Access: 17 January 2011.

http://www.un.org/sg/hf/global_strategy_commitments.pdf.

²⁰² Mitchell: “New focus on family planning to reduce deaths in pregnancy and childbirth,” Department for International Development (London) 27 July 2010. Date of Access: 21 January 2011.

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/Press-releases/2010/Mitchell-New-focus-on-family-planning-to-reduce-deaths-in-pregnancy-and-childbirth/>.

²⁰³ UK launches new research programme to tackle malnutrition, Department for International Development (London) 21 September 2010. Date of Access: 21 January 2011.

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/Press-releases/2010/UK-launches-new-research-programme-to-tackle-malnutrition/>.

²⁰⁴ UK government announces help to protect 4.7 million from malaria in Ghana, Department for International Development (London) 25 November 2010. Date of Access: 11 February 2011.

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/Press-releases/2010/UK-government-announces-help-to-protect-47-million-from-malaria-in-Ghana/>.

²⁰⁵ UK government announces help to protect 4.7 million from malaria in Ghana, Department for International Development (London) 25 November 2010. Date of Access: 11 February 2011.

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/Press-releases/2010/UK-government-announces-help-to-protect-47-million-from-malaria-in-Ghana/>.

²⁰⁶ Mitchell sets out Britain’s plan to tackle malaria and save lives of mothers and babies, Department for International Development (London) 31 December 2010. Date of Access: 21 January 2011.

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/Press-releases/2010/Mitchell-sets-out-Britains-plan-to-tackle-malaria-and-save-lives-of-mothers-and-babies/>.

On 24 November 2010, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) donated US\$4.9 million in health equipment to rural areas of Kenya, with the aim of improving service delivery to mothers and children in this region. The funding includes machines as well as technical and financial support in averting maternal mortality rates and newborns deaths in rural Kenyan health centres.²⁰⁷

On 22 November 2010, USAID gave a US\$731,000 grant, which to be used for the strengthening of maternal and child healthcare in the East, Central and Southern African Health Community (ECSA-HS). The funds will be administered over a period of one year, and will focus on advocacy for changes in pre and post-natal care guidelines for countries in this region. The money will also go towards developing means of monitoring family planning, as well as helping reduce maternal and newborn deaths.²⁰⁸

On 7 October 2010, USAID, together with Nigerian partners Diamond Bank Plc and Accion Microfinance Bank Limited, announced a joint commitment of US\$8.7 million to develop Nigeria's private health sector, which accounts for two thirds of the country's healthcare delivery. The funding will be disbursed through longer-term loans given out by the Development Credit Authority. The loans will be used to enhance maternal, child, and reproductive health services by purchasing new equipment, new medicines, and providing training to health care staff.²⁰⁹

On 22 September 2010, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, along with other global leaders, announced an alliance for a global initiative aimed at increasing funding for family planning, maternal health, and post-natal care health over the next five years. The Alliance will target developing countries with the goal of delivering more aid related to the Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5. Through the collaboration of USAID and other international development government agencies, a more concentrated effort on strengthening health systems and access to maternal and child health care will be carried out. Countries in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia will be the main targets of this initiative.²¹⁰

Thus, the United States has been assigned a score of -1 for assigning less than half of its US\$1.3 billion pledge.

Analyst: Tara Stankovic

European Union: -1

The European Union has not complied with its commitment to provide additional funding for maternal and child health programs in developing countries.

EU actions at a state level have been carried out since the G8 Summit in June 2010, but as a separate institution the European Union has not taken decisive action in allotting funds.

²⁰⁷ Sh400m gift to reduce deaths, The Standard (Nairobi) 24 November 2010. Date of Access: 10 December 2010. <http://www.standardmedia.co.ke/politics/InsidePage.php?id=2000023207&cid=159>.

²⁰⁸ USAID Gives U.S.\$731,000 for Health in Eastern, Southern Africa, AllAfrica.com (Arusha) 22 November 2010. Date of Access: 10 December 2010. <http://allafrica.com/stories/201011221430.html>.

²⁰⁹ USAID/Nigeria Partners with Diamond Bank, Accion Microfinance to Develop Nigeria's Private Health Sector, United States Agency for International Development (Abuja) 5 October 2010. Date of Access: 10 December 2010. <http://nigeria.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/DCA%20PR%20September%2028%202010.pdf>.

²¹⁰ International Alliance Launched to Support Country-Led Progress in Reproductive, Maternal and Newborn Health, USAID (New York) 22 September 2010. Date of Access: 10 December 2010. <http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2010/pr100922.html>.

On 23 July 2010, European Commissioner Piebalgs addressed members of the African Union Summit by stressing that progress for achieving MDG goals 4 and 5 is too slow and needs to be sped up. He said that “protecting the mothers and promoting the right to health for everybody are priority objectives for the EU.”²¹¹ He also emphasized that the African Union Member States and the EU both need to work together to achieve concrete progress in the areas of maternal, infant and child health.²¹²

The EU’s current financial contribution to MNCH is €310 million, for “strengthening health systems and universal access to health care.”²¹³ On 26 October 2010, the EU committed to US\$5.4 million in support of strengthening community’s capacities to improve MNCH in the East African region.²¹⁴ On 24 November 2010 EU Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs, accompanied by a five member delegation announced “an innovative programme now being piloted in eight regions of the country.”²¹⁵ This programme hopes to make “effective and inexpensive health services accessible to children and mothers is crucial if Uzbekistan is to achieve UN Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5.”²¹⁶

On 6 December 2010, leaders from the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group (ACP) held talks in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The importance of tackling maternal mortality in childbirth was one of the main issues highlighted on the agenda. Although this topic was discussed at the talks, no programs or grants to address the problem were established.²¹⁷

Thus, the European Union has been awarded a score of -1 due to lack of financial support and commitment to Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health.

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²¹¹ Commissioner Piebalgs pushes for tangible results on maternal and child health at the African Union Summit, Member of the European Commission Andris Piebalgs Development (Brussels) No date. Date of Access: 17 January 2011. http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/piebalgs/headlines/news/2010/07/20100723_en.htm.

²¹² Development aid for maternal, newborn and child health doubled over 5 years, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (London) 17 September 2010. Date of Access: 10 December 2010. <http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/news/2010/maternalhealth.html>.

²¹³ Commissioner Piebalgs pushes for tangible results on maternal and child health at the African Union Summit, Member of the European Commission Andris Piebalgs Development (Brussels) No date. Date of Access: 17 January 2011. http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/piebalgs/headlines/news/2010/07/20100723_en.htm.

²¹⁴ East Africa: Region Benefits from EU’s US\$5.4 Million Support for AMREF’s Projects, News from Africa (Nairobi) 26 October 2010. Date of Access: 22 January 2011. http://www.newsfromafrica.org/newsfromafrica/articles/art_12058.html. http://www.newsfromafrica.org/newsfromafrica/articles/art_12058.html.

²¹⁵ European Union and UNICEF support maternal and child health in Uzbekistan, UNICEF (Tashkent) 24 November 2010. Date of Access: 21 January 2011. http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/uzbekistan_56998.html.

²¹⁶ European Union and UNICEF support maternal and child health in Uzbekistan, UNICEF (Tashkent) 24 November 2010. Date of Access: 21 January 2011. http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/uzbekistan_56998.html.

²¹⁷ African, Caribbean, Pacific, EU Leaders Meet To Discuss Maternal Mortality, Climate Change, Other Issues, Medical News Today (Kinshasa) 6 December 2010. Date of Access: 10 December 2010. <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/210339.php>.