

The
G7 Research Group
at the Munk School of Global Affairs at Trinity College in the University of Toronto
presents the

2016 Ise-Shima G7 Interim Compliance Report

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

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10. Health: Global Health Security Agenda

“[Recent outbreaks of Ebola and Zika underscore the imperative to improve prevention of, detection of and response to public health emergencies, whether naturally occurring, deliberate or accidental.] In that respect, we remain committed to advancing compliance with the WHO’s IHR [International Health Regulations] objectives including through the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA).”

G7 Ise-Shima Leaders’ Declaration

Note: This commitment has not been reviewed by stakeholders.

Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union		0	
Average		+0.38	

Background

The legally binding International Health Regulations (IHR) entered into force in June 2007,¹⁰⁵⁹ and comprise a legal framework geared at enhancing global public health security through the management of “collective defences to detect disease events and to respond to public health risks and emergencies that can have devastating impacts on human health.”¹⁰⁶⁰ In particular, the IHR “define the rights and obligations of countries to report public health events, and establish a number of procedures that WHO must follow in its work to uphold global public health security.”¹⁰⁶¹ The consensus includes all WHO member states. Specifically, the framework calls on countries to meet criteria for “national health surveillance and response capacities” and to inform the WHO of evidence for international disease spread risks.¹⁰⁶²

Enhanced preparedness for and prevention of public health emergencies is a critical feature of global health security given recent infectious disease outbreaks.¹⁰⁶³ Yet, according to the WHO, the Ebola crisis revealed a serious failure by states to properly implement the IHR.¹⁰⁶⁴ For this reason, an IHR Review Committee noted the need “to move from exclusive self-evaluation to approaches that combine self-evaluation, peer review and voluntary external evaluations involving a combination of

¹⁰⁵⁹ Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005), World Health Organization (Geneva) 13 May 2016. Date of Access: 7 November 2016. http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA69/A69_21-en.pdf.

¹⁰⁶⁰ The International Health Regulations. World Health Organization (Geneva) 2005. Date of Access: 1 October 2016. <http://www.who.int/ihr/publications/ihrbrief1en.pdf?ua=1>.

¹⁰⁶¹ International Health Regulations, World Health Organization (Geneva) 2016. Date of Access: 7 November 2016. http://www.who.int/topics/international_health_regulations/en/.

¹⁰⁶² The International Health Regulations. World Health Organization (Geneva) 2005. Date of Access: 1 October 2016. <http://www.who.int/ihr/publications/ihrbrief1en.pdf?ua=1>.

¹⁰⁶³ G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health. G8 Information Center (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 1 October 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#health>.

¹⁰⁶⁴ Implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005), World Health Organization (Geneva) 13 May 2016. Date of Access: 7 November 2016. http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA69/A69_21-en.pdf, 9.

domestic and independent experts.”¹⁰⁶⁵ As a result, the WHO called for a move away from state self-assessment of implementation, and introduced the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) tool in 2016.¹⁰⁶⁶ The Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) helped to develop the JEE.

The Global Health Security Agenda is a partnership of countries, international organizations, and non-governmental stakeholders that was initiated in February 2014 to establish concrete commitments to achieve global health security and combat infectious disease threats.¹⁰⁶⁷ The Global Health Security Agenda recognizes the critical need for multilateral and multi-sectoral collaboration to prevent, detect, respond to, and recover from infectious disease threats to promote global health security.¹⁰⁶⁸ The US notes that the agenda “accelerates action and spurs progress toward implementation of the World Health Organization’s International Health Regulations and other global health security frameworks.”¹⁰⁶⁹ It also emphasizes the need for assessments of national health capacity in prevention of and preparedness for public health threats.¹⁰⁷⁰

Thus, the JEE tool is a comprehensive assessment tool for the WHO’s 2005 IHR and Global Health Security Agenda–related capacities with measurable targets in preventing, detecting, and responding to public health threats.¹⁰⁷¹

Global health governance has been on the G7 agenda since the first commitment regarding health research on infectious disease at the 1996 Lyon Summit with increasingly broad efforts in global health security. The G7 Ise-Shima Summit Agenda includes comprehensive approaches to health and public health emergencies, identifying “the pursuit of universal health coverage (UHC) ... to ensure that all people have access to the health services they need without suffering financial hardship to pay for them.”¹⁰⁷² The G7 Ise-Shima Summit Vision for Global Health recognizes that health system strengthening and comprehensive multi-sectoral approaches promote better preparedness for public health emergencies.¹⁰⁷³

The G7 Health Ministers’ Meeting on 11-12 September 2016 produced the Kobe Communiqué reaffirming commitments regarding public health emergencies. Given the recent Zika and Ebola outbreaks, the ministers stated that “global health security remains high on the international

¹⁰⁶⁵ IHR (2005) Monitoring and Evaluation Framework: Joint External Evaluation Tool (JEE Tool), World Health Organization (2016). Date of Access: 7 November 2016.

http://www.who.int/ihr/publications/WHO_HSE_GCR_2016_2/en/.

¹⁰⁶⁶ Fact Sheet: United States Leadership to Advance the Global Health Security Agenda: 55 Countries Show Concrete Commitment to Prevent, Detect, and Respond, The White House (Washington DC) 12 October 2016. Date of Access: 7 November 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/10/12/fact-sheet-united-states-leadership-advance-global-health-security>.

¹⁰⁶⁷ Fact Sheet: Global Health Security Agenda: Getting Ahead of the Curve on Epidemic Threats, The White House (Washington DC) 26 September 2014. Date of Access: 7 November 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/09/26/fact-sheet-global-health-security-agenda-getting-ahead-curve-epidemic-th>.

¹⁰⁶⁸ Global Health Security Agenda: Action Packages. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Atlanta) 24 September 2014. Date of Access: 1 October 2016. http://www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/healthprotection/ghs/pdf/ghsa-action-packages_24-september-2014.pdf.

¹⁰⁶⁹ Fact Sheet: The US Commitment to the Global Health Security Agenda, The White House (Washington DC) 16 November 2015. Date of Access: 7 November 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/11/16/fact-sheet-us-commitment-global-health-security-agenda>.

¹⁰⁷⁰ Fact Sheet: Global Health Security Agenda: Getting Ahead of the Curve on Epidemic Threats, The White House (Washington DC) 26 September 2014. Date of Access: 9 November 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/09/26/fact-sheet-global-health-security-agenda-getting-ahead-curve-epidemic-th>.

¹⁰⁷¹ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration: Health. G8 Information Center (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 1 October 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html>.

¹⁰⁷² Main Agenda for the G7 Ise-Shima Summit. The Government of Japan (Tokyo) 2016. Date of Access: 1 October 2016. <http://www.japan.go.jp/g7/summit/agenda/index.html>.

¹⁰⁷³ G7 Ise-Shima Leaders' Declaration: Health. G8 Information Center (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 1 October 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/health.html>.

agenda.”¹⁰⁷⁴ Thus, the G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health states, “outbreaks of Ebola and Zika underscore the imperative to improve prevention of, detection of and response to public health emergencies, whether naturally occurring, deliberate or accidental.”¹⁰⁷⁵ This concern has resulted in a focus on the IHR and the Global Health Security Agenda.

Commitment Features

The commitment puts forward strategies for the prevention of, response to, and recovery from public health emergencies. The key target of the commitment is the advancement of the WHO’s IHR objectives, including those effected through the Global Health Security Agenda. The commitment thus requires that G7 states take action in two areas to be considered to be in full compliance: (1) advancing the WHO’s IHR objectives in general; and (2) advancing the WHO’s IHR objectives through the Global Health Security Agenda specifically.

The WHO notes that the implementation of the IHR requires states to: (1) “develop and strengthen specific national public health capacities;” (2) “identify priority areas for action;” (3) “develop national IHR implementation plans;” and (4) “maintain these capacities and continue to build and strengthen as needed over time.”¹⁰⁷⁶ In order to help other states achieve these goals, the G7 Vision for Global Health includes a clear commitment to offer concrete assistance to support the development of partners’ national plans in coordination with relevant organizations including the WHO.¹⁰⁷⁷ If G7 members take action to help countries develop such plans, it can be seen as an effort to meet the WHO’s IHR objectives.

In order to achieve compliance with the G7’s commitment to advancing IHR objectives through the Global Health Security Agenda, G7 members must: (1) “assist these partners to achieve the common and measurable targets of the ... JEE tool” and (2) undergo their own assessments using the JEE tool, and share these evaluations through projects like the Strategic Partnership Portal.¹⁰⁷⁸

Scoring Guidelines

-1	Member takes little to no action to advance compliance with the World Health Organization’s (WHO) International Health Regulations (IHR) objectives, including little to no action through the Global Health Security Agenda OR takes no action to advance the WHO’s IHR objectives, including no action through the Global Health Security Agenda.
0	Member takes action to advance compliance with the WHO’s IHR objectives, but has not done so through the Global Health Security Agenda OR takes action to advance IHR objectives through the Global Health Security Agenda but not through any other means.
+1	Member takes robust action to advance compliance with the WHO’s IHR objectives, including through the Global Health Security Agenda AND other means.

Lead Analyst: Alison Dillman

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to support the World Health Organization’s (WHO) International Health Regulations (IHR), including through the Global Health Security Agenda.

¹⁰⁷⁴ Kobe Communiqué. G8 Information Center (Toronto) 11-12 September 2016. Date of Access: 1 October 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/healthmins/2016-kobe-en.html>.

¹⁰⁷⁵ G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health. G8 Information Center (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 1 October 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#health>.

¹⁰⁷⁶ Support for IHR Monitoring Implementation, World Health Organization (Geneva) 2016. Date of Access: 7 November 2016.

¹⁰⁷⁷ G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health. G8 Information Center (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 23 October 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#health>.

¹⁰⁷⁸ G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health. G8 Information Center (Toronto) 27 May 2016. Date of Access: 23 October 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/ise-shima-declaration-en.html#health>.

Between 15 and 17 May 2016, the Public Health Agency of Canada held a conference in Ottawa in order to develop a federal network on Lyme disease. The aim of this conference was to build a framework that will focus on prevention and reduction of Lyme disease-related health risk to the population.¹⁰⁷⁹

On 22 May 2016, Minister of Health Jane Philpott chaired the Commonwealth Health Ministers' Meeting and led Canada's delegation to the 69th World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting focused on two important global health challenges: first, universal health coverage "to improve access to and quality health care globally," and second, health security that is "the capacity of all countries to preserve and protect the health of the population."¹⁰⁸⁰ At WHA, Health Minister Philpott delivered Canada's statement in which she brought forward some of Canada's main priorities in global health.¹⁰⁸¹

On 11-12 September 2016, Canada participated in the Health Ministers' Meeting held in Kobe, Japan. Minister of Health Jane Philpott and Chief Public Health Officer Dr. Gregory Taylor shared Canada's approach with health leaders from G7 countries, the WHO, and other international organizations to take concrete actions to advance global health with a focus on "improving global capacity to respond to public health emergencies, combat antimicrobial resistance, encourage research and development, and build sustainable health systems."¹⁰⁸²

On 23 September 2016, Minister of Foreign Affairs Stéphane Dion announced that Canada will contribute CAD2.3 million to the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) Renovation of the Nuclear Applications Laboratories ReNuAL project. Dion stated that "Canada supports the IAEA's important scientific and technical work and its efforts to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Our contribution to the IAEA ReNuAL project will help to advance important objectives related to the Global Health Security Agenda and ensure that nuclear technologies are used in a safe and secure manner that does not contribute to the threat of nuclear proliferation."¹⁰⁸³

On 17 November 2016, Minister of Health Jane Philpott and Minister of International Development and La Francophonie Marie-Claude Bibeau announced that Canada is backing its commitment of a CAD9 million investment to the WHO to assist the comprehensive global approach to fighting antimicrobial resistance AMR.¹⁰⁸⁴

Canada has also taken steps since the Ise-Shima Summit to advance IHR objectives through the Global Health Security Agenda. Canada is a member of the JEE Alliance,¹⁰⁸⁵ and, on 29 June 2016, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced at the North American Leaders' Summit that the country

¹⁰⁷⁹ Minister Philpott Launches Conference to Develop Federal Framework on Lyme Disease, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 16 May 2016. Date of Access: 29 November 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1065859>.

¹⁰⁸⁰ Minister Philpott to Chair the Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting and take part in the World Health Assembly in Geneva, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 20 May 2016. Date of Access: 29 November 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1069649&tp=1>.

¹⁰⁸¹ Minister Philpott to Chair the Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting and take part in the World Health Assembly in Geneva, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 20 May 2016. Date of Access: 29 November 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1069649&tp=1>.

¹⁰⁸² Government of Canada Helps Advance G7 Global Health Commitments, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 13 September 2016. Date of Access: 29 November 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1123909>.

¹⁰⁸³ Canada Contributes to Peaceful Application of Nuclear Technology, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 23 September, 2016. Date of Access: 28 November 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1129259>.

¹⁰⁸⁴ Government of Canada Invests in a Global Approach to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 17 November 2016. Date of Access: 28 November 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1155979&tp=1>.

¹⁰⁸⁵ Members, JEE Alliance (Helsinki). Date of Access: 18 February 2017. <https://www.jeealliance.org/members/>.

“plans to undertake a JEE in 2018.”¹⁰⁸⁶ By scheduling a time to implement the JEE evaluation, the state has demonstrated its intent to fulfill its commitment.

Thus, Canada has been awarded a score of +1 for taking action to advance the WHO’s IHR objectives, including through the Global Health Security Agenda.

Analyst: Diva Turial

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to advance compliance with the World Health Organization’s (WHO) International Health Regulations (IHR) objectives, including through the Global Health Security Agenda.

On May 23, 2016, France announced that it would donate EUR10 million to the Muskoka Fund, with the specific purpose to improve, “the sexual and reproductive health of teens and young people,” “nutrition and ... healthcare systems.”¹⁰⁸⁷ The Muskoka Fund is a joint program operated by four United Nations agencies (WHO, United Nations Population Fund, UN Women and UNICEF) with the specific purpose of ameliorating women’s health worldwide.¹⁰⁸⁸

In September 2016, André Vallini, Minister of State in charge of Development and Francophonie, represented France at the Fifth Replenishment Conference of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Vallini reaffirmed France’s strong commitment to the Global Fund and reiterated President Hollande’s pledge to donate EUR1.08 billion over three years (2017-2019). This equates to EUR360 million per year.¹⁰⁸⁹

In October 2016, France adopted a concerted strategy to cope with “issues of population and sexual and reproductive health and rights.”¹⁰⁹⁰ France’s External Action on the Issues of Population and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights 2016-2020 outlines France’s response to the projection that the world population will reach 8.5 billion by 2030. Recognizing the potential health issues associated with a rapidly growing population, France affirms its intention to undertake a “rights-based approach” to sexual and reproductive health, with a particular emphasis on regions “where health and demographic challenges are more significant, namely West and Central Africa.”¹⁰⁹¹

¹⁰⁸⁶ 2016 North American Leaders’ Summit, Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada (Ottawa) 29 June 2016. Date of Access: 18 February 2017. <http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/06/29/regional-and-global-issues-2016-north-american-leaders-summit>.

¹⁰⁸⁷ Health – France’s Contribution to Improving Women’s Health, France Diplomatie (Paris) 23 May 2016. Date of Access: 9 March 2017. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/health-education-gender/events/article/health-france-s-contribution-to-improving-women-s-health-23-05-16>.

¹⁰⁸⁸ Health – France’s Contribution to Improving Women’s Health, France Diplomatie (Paris) 23 May 2016. Date of Access: 9 March 2017. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/health-education-gender/events/article/health-france-s-contribution-to-improving-women-s-health-23-05-16>.

¹⁰⁸⁹ Development - André Vallini to Attend the Fifth Replenishment Conference of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, France Diplomatie (Paris) Date of Access: 8 March, 2017. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/development-assistance/events/events-2016/article/development-andre-vallini-to-attend-the-fifth-replenishment-conference-of-the>.

¹⁰⁹⁰ France’s External Action on Issues of Population and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights 2016-2020, France Diplomatie (Paris) October 2016. Date of Access: 9 March 2017. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/photos-publications-and-graphics/publications/article/france-s-external-action-on-issues-of-population-and-sexual-and-reproductive>.

¹⁰⁹¹ France’s External Action on Issues of Population and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights 2016-2020, France Diplomatie (Paris) October 2016. Date of Access: 9 March 2017. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/photos-publications-and-graphics/publications/article/france-s-external-action-on-issues-of-population-and-sexual-and-reproductive>.

In terms of advancing the WHO's IHR objectives through the Global Health Security Agenda, France has not used the Strategic Partnership Portal or any other assessment tool to reduce fragmentation.¹⁰⁹² According to the portal, France has not contributed any funding to the IHR core capacities since 2014.¹⁰⁹³ In addition, France has failed to utilize the Joint External Evaluation (JEE), a tool used to evaluate compliance with the Global Health Security Agenda.¹⁰⁹⁴

In sum, while France has contributed to advancing the WHO's IHR objectives, it has not committed to undergoing, sharing, and promoting evaluations through the JEE. Thus, France has received a score of 0 for partially complying to advance the WHO's IHR objectives.

Analyst: Ambika Varma

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to implement the International Health Regulations (IHR) set by the World Health Organization (WHO). It has not taken substantive action through the Global Health Security Agenda.

Since 2013, the German Partnership Programme of Excellence in Biological Health and Security has helped partner countries in Africa, Central Asia, South America, and Eastern Europe strengthen their response to biological security risks, such as infectious diseases.¹⁰⁹⁵ The program had a budget of EUR25 million between 2013 and 2016, and an extended budget of EUR18 million for 2017-2019.¹⁰⁹⁶ This main use of this financial aid is to “recognise outbreaks of dangerous and highly contagious diseases, reduce infection and swiftly identify and eliminate the causes.”¹⁰⁹⁷

From 1 November to 10 November 2016, laboratory professionals in Mali used equipment donated by the Germany to prepare for epidemic and biological attacks. Additionally, Germany has extended help to the G5 Sahel states of Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger, and Chad to improve “protection from cross-border biological dangers — whether caused by natural outbreaks of disease or by the use of biological pathogens.”¹⁰⁹⁸

On 21 July 2016, German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier announced that German experts from the Bernhard Noch Institute for Tropical Medicine and the Robert Koch Institute,

¹⁰⁹² Strategic Partnership Portal, World Health Organization. Date of Access: 28 November 2016.

<https://extranet.who.int/spp/Donor-Profile?DonorID=164>.

¹⁰⁹³ Strategic Partnership Portal, World Health Organization. Date of Access: 28 November 2016.

<https://extranet.who.int/spp/Donor-Profile?DonorID=164>.

¹⁰⁹⁴ Assessments & JEE, Global Health Security Agenda. Date of Access: 29 November 2016.

<https://www.ghsagenda.org/assessments>.

¹⁰⁹⁵ German Partnership Program for Excellence in Biological and Health Security, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 13 April 2016. Date of Access: 1 December 2016. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/Friedenspolitik/Abruestung/BioChemie/Biosicherheit/Biosicherheit_node.html.

¹⁰⁹⁶ German Partnership Program for Excellence in Biological and Health Security, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 13 April 2016. Date of Access: 1 December 2016. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/Friedenspolitik/Abruestung/BioChemie/Biosicherheit/Biosicherheit_node.html.

¹⁰⁹⁷ German Partnership Program for Excellence in Biological and Health Security, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 13 April 2016. Date of Access: 1 December 2016. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/Friedenspolitik/Abruestung/BioChemie/Biosicherheit/Biosicherheit_node.html.

¹⁰⁹⁸ Germany Extends Cooperation on Biosecurity to Include the Sahel Region, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 16 November 2016. Date of Access: 1 December 2016. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/Friedenspolitik/Abruestung/Projekte/161116_Mali_mobLabor.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=ebola&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.

known as the European Medical Corps, have been deployed to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where they will take action to “react effectively to future epidemics.”¹⁰⁹⁹

While Germany has thus evidently been supportive of the general goals of the IHR, no information about Germany’s use or encouragement of the Joint External Evaluation tool appears to have been published.

Germany’s adherence to the IHR commitments has been demonstrated by its crucial role in encouraging biological security in partner countries, though not through the Global Health Security Agenda; thus, Germany has been awarded a score of 0 for taking action to advance the WHO’s IHR objectives.

Analyst: Jainetri Merchant

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to advance the World Health Organization’s (WHO) International Health Regulation (IHR) objectives, and to advance the WHO’s IHR objective through the Global Health Security Agenda specifically.

On 19 January 2017 Italian Prime Minister Paola Gentiloni signed the National Prevention Vaccine Plan (Piano Nazionale Prevenzione Vaccinale) into action.¹¹⁰⁰ The plan strengthened special national health capacities by ensuring access to health services, and increasing the availability of free vaccines with a special focus on groups of the population that are hard to reach and have low vaccination coverage.¹¹⁰¹ Lorenzin announced this was a crucial step towards prevention of future health care risks.¹¹⁰²

Italy has also taken the initiative to report outbreaks of disease within its borders. On 24 January 2017, Italy detected an outbreak of the H5N8 virus on Venetian farms, and subsequently reported it to the European Commission.¹¹⁰³ The reporting of this outbreak meets the IHR objective of reporting public health events.

From a more international perspective, in June 2016, Italy pledged EUR130 million to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria for the three-year period beginning in 2017.¹¹⁰⁴

¹⁰⁹⁹ Foreign Minister Steinmeier and Health Minister Gröhe on the First Deployment of the European Medical Corps, Federal Foreign Office. 21 July 2016. Date of Access: 1 December 2016. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2016/160721_European_Medical_Corps.html?searchArchive=0&searchEngineQueryString=ebola&searchIssued=0&searchIssuedAfter=27.11.2013.

¹¹⁰⁰ Lorenzin Annuncia il Nuovo Piano: "Più Vaccini e Senza Ticket", Giornale Di Sicilia (Sicily) 13 January 2017. Date of Access: 5 February 2017. http://gds.it/2017/01/13/nuovo-piano-vaccini-lorenzin-gratis-per-tutti-e-senza-il-ticket_615810/.

¹¹⁰¹ Piano Nazionale Prevenzione Vaccinale 2017-2019, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 23 January 2017. Date of Access: 5 February 2017. http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=2803.

¹¹⁰² Lorenzin Annuncia il Nuovo Piano: "Più Vaccini e Senza Ticket", Giornale Di Sicilia (Sicily) 13 January 2017. Date of Access: 5 February 2017. http://gds.it/2017/01/13/nuovo-piano-vaccini-lorenzin-gratis-per-tutti-e-senza-il-ticket_615810/.

¹¹⁰³ Influenza Aviaria: due focolai virus H5N8 in allevamenti del Veneto, Ministero della Salute (Rome) 24 January 2017. Date of Access: 5 February 2017. http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=2804.

¹¹⁰⁴ Italy Makes Strong Commitment to Global Fund, The Global Fund (Rome) 27 June 2016. Date of Access: 8 March 2017. http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news/2016-06-27_Italy_Makes_Strong_Commitment_to_Global_Fund/.

Italian Under-secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Benedetto Della Vedova, emphasized that, “these three epidemics are a cause and a consequence of poverty.”¹¹⁰⁵

Furthermore, on 26 October 2016 the Italian government provided financial assistance to Ukraine in order to develop a sustainable health care system which provides life-saving health services.¹¹⁰⁶ The assistance was contributed via the WHO, and totalled up to USD250,000.¹¹⁰⁷

While Italy has worked towards the objectives of the IHR and is a member of Global Health Security Agenda, it has not taken any publicized actions to support the Joint External Evaluation tool.

As such, Italy is awarded a score of 0 for its broad commitment to the IHR as set forth by the WHO, but not necessarily through the Global Health Security Agenda.

Analyst: Sommyyah Awan

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to following the World Health Organization’s (WHO) International Health Regulations (IHR) through the Global Health Security Agenda.

At the United Nations General Assembly on 19 September 2016, the Minister of Health, Labour, and Welfare H.E. Mr. Yasuhisa Shiozaki stated, on behalf of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, that Japan intends to provide ongoing “support for the ...WHO’s emergency response reform.”¹¹⁰⁸ In addition, the minister professed his country’s dedication to the promotion of Universal health coverage (UHC) to “prevent and prepare against future emergencies.”¹¹⁰⁹ Shiozaki finally discussed Japan’s leadership in providing financial support to the World Bank’s Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility during the Ebola crisis, and Japan’s continued commitment to this fund in order to combat global health emergencies.¹¹¹⁰

On 27 August 2016 at the Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI) in Kenya, Prime Minister Abe outlined Japan’s commitment to improving healthcare throughout the African continent. Abe referenced the dire effect of Ebola and the need to take a two-pronged approach to combatting infectious disease in the future, “to have preparedness in the local areas, and for the entire international community to confront it.”¹¹¹¹ Abe also committed to bolstering healthcare infrastructure by fostering “experts and policy professionals that will combat infectious diseases, for a total of 20 thousand people over 3 years” and by contributing USD500 million

¹¹⁰⁵ Italy Makes Strong Commitment to Global Fund, The Global Fund (Rome) 27 June 2016. Date of Access: 8 March 2017. http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/news/2016-06-27_Italy_Makes_Strong_Commitment_to_Global_Fund/.

¹¹⁰⁶ Italian Government Provides Funding to Improve Health Services in Eastern Ukraine, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 26 October 2016. Date of Access: 5 February 2017. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/emergencies/pages/news/news/2016/10/italian-government-provides-funding-to-improve-health-services-in-eastern-ukraine>.

¹¹⁰⁷ Italian Government Provides Funding to Improve Health Services in Eastern Ukraine, World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (Copenhagen) 26 October 2016. Date of Access: 5 February 2017. <http://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/emergencies/pages/news/news/2016/10/italian-government-provides-funding-to-improve-health-services-in-eastern-ukraine>.

¹¹⁰⁸ Global Health Crises: Implementing Lessons Learned, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 19 September 2016. Date of Access: 1 December 2016. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000189687.pdf>.

¹¹⁰⁹ Global Health Crises: Implementing Lessons Learned, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 19 September 2016. Date of Access: 1 December 2016. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000189687.pdf>.

¹¹¹⁰ Global Health Crises: Implementing Lessons Learned, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 19 September 2016. Date of Access: 1 December 2016. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000189687.pdf>.

¹¹¹¹ Address by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the Opening Session of the Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAS VI), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Nairobi, Kenya) 27 August 2016. Date of Access: 1 December 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/afr/af2/page4e_000496.html.

through the World Bank and Global Fund to aid African infectious disease prevention.¹¹¹² Finally, Abe emphasized the importance of UHC and asserted Japan's intention to "select countries to serve as models and provide assistance intensively to those model countries" in order to "increase the population benefiting from fundamental health services by 2 million people over the next 3 years."¹¹¹³

While Japan has been supportive of the general goals of the IHR, no information about Japan's use or encouragement of the Joint External Evaluation tool appears to have been published.

Thus, Japan has been awarded a score of 0 for its continued commitment to the IHR as set forth by the WHO, but not necessarily through the Global Health Security Agenda.

Analyst: Jainetri Merchant

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has partially complied with the commitment to advance the World Health Organization's (WHO) International Health Regulations (IHR) objectives, including through the Global Health Security Agenda.

The UK showed concrete commitment to furthering the IHR's objectives by investing GBP112 million in clinical research facilities on 18 November 2016.¹¹¹⁴ Minister for Public Health and Innovation Nicola Blackwood stated "We want to help other nations across the world with our gold standard science and research."¹¹¹⁵ The UK government has also launched a GBP60 million call for research in global health. The money will be awarded to select institutions across the UK in April 2017.¹¹¹⁶

Minister Nicola Blackwood recognized the global effect of epidemics when she asserted, "the sobering reality is that infectious diseases do not respect borders; this was made all too clear during the outbreaks of Ebola and Zika."¹¹¹⁷ On 18 November 2016, the UK launched a new vaccine fund of GBP120 million to aid researchers in finding vaccines for diseases such as Ebola and Zika.¹¹¹⁸ Additionally, the government is allowing select researchers to compete for two separate awards of

¹¹¹² Address by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the Opening Session of the Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAS VI), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Nairobi, Kenya) 27 August 2016. Date of Access: 1 December 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/afr/af2/page4e_000496.html.

¹¹¹³ Address by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the Opening Session of the Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAS VI), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Nairobi, Kenya) 27 August 2016. Date of Access: 1 December 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/afr/af2/page4e_000496.html.

¹¹¹⁴ New £112 million investment in clinical research facilities, Department of Health (UK) 18 November 2016. Date of Access: 28 November 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-112-million-investment-in-clinical-research-facilities>.

¹¹¹⁵ Government launches £60 million call for global health research, Department of Health (UK) 18 November 2016. Date of Access: 28 November 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-60-million-call-for-global-health-research>.

¹¹¹⁶ Government launches £60 million call for global health research, Department of Health (UK) 18 November 2016. Date of Access: 28 November 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-60-million-call-for-global-health-research>.

¹¹¹⁷ UK Zika researched awarded share of £120 million vaccine fund, Department of Health (UK) 18 November 2016. Date of Access: 28 November 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-zika-research-awarded-share-of-120-million-vaccine-fund>.

¹¹¹⁸ UK Zika researched awarded share of £120 million vaccine fund, Department of Health (UK) 18 November 2016. Date of Access: 28 November 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-zika-research-awarded-share-of-120-million-vaccine-fund>.

GBP60 million, making the UK the second largest investor in global health worldwide.¹¹¹⁹ Moreover, the UK is also supporting four projects with a contribution of GBP2.4 million to create vaccines for diseases that are related to bioterror, such as plague and Q fever.¹¹²⁰

On 1 November 2016, the UK government committed GBP20 million to the UK Public Health Rapid Support Team.¹¹²¹ This newly formed team will respond to countries around the world to control disease outbreaks within 48 hours. The team includes expert epidemiologists, microbiologists, infection prevention and control personnel, clinical researchers, and social scientists.¹¹²² The team will also work with foreign counterparts to train local authorities in controlling and preventing infectious disease abroad.¹¹²³ Chief Executive of Public Health Duncan Selbie said, “Speed is key in tackling infectious disease and with this new capability, we can now deploy specialists anywhere in the world within 48 hours, saving and protecting lives where an outbreak starts and helping to keep the UK safe at home.”¹¹²⁴ The new team complies with IHR objectives to develop national IHR implementation plans and to develop specific national public health capacities.

In addition to taking substantive steps to advance the WHO’s IHR objectives, the UK also served as the volunteer to pilot the Global Health Security Agenda’s Joint External Evaluation (JEE) tool in August 2015.¹¹²⁵ While the JEE tool has not been subsequently used to assess the success of UK health security initiatives following the Ise-Shima Summit, the United Kingdom, being the first country to subject itself to assessment through the JEE, serves as an example for other countries.

Thus, the United Kingdom has been awarded a score of +1 for taking clear action to advance the WHO’s IHR objectives, including through Global Health Security Agenda.

Analyst: Ambika Varma

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to advance the World Health Organization’s (WHO) International Health Regulations (IHR) objectives, both through the Global Health Security Agenda as well as through external means.

¹¹¹⁹ UK Zika researched awarded share of £120 million vaccine fund, Department of Health (UK) 18 November 2016. Date of Access: 28 November 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-zika-research-awarded-share-of-120-million-vaccine-fund>.

¹¹²⁰ UK Zika researched awarded share of £120 million vaccine fund, Department of Health (UK) 18 November 2016. Date of Access: 28 November 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-zika-research-awarded-share-of-120-million-vaccine-fund>.

¹¹²¹ UK team of health experts to tackle global disease outbreak, Department of Health, Public Health England, and Department for International Development (UK) 1 November 2016. Date of Access: 28 November 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-team-of-health-experts-to-tackle-global-disease-outbreaks>.

¹¹²² UK team of health experts to tackle global disease outbreak, Department of Health, Public Health England, and Department for International Development (UK) 1 November 2016. Date of Access: 28 November 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-team-of-health-experts-to-tackle-global-disease-outbreaks>.

¹¹²³ UK team of health experts to tackle global disease outbreak, Department of Health, Public Health England, and Department for International Development (UK) 1 November 2016. Date of Access: 28 November 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-team-of-health-experts-to-tackle-global-disease-outbreaks>.

¹¹²⁴ UK team of health experts to tackle global disease outbreak, Department of Health, Public Health England, and Department for International Development (UK) 1 November 2016. Date of Access: 28 November 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-team-of-health-experts-to-tackle-global-disease-outbreaks>.

¹¹²⁵ Global Health Security Agenda: pilot assessment of the UK, Department of Health (UK) 27 August, 2015. Date of Access: 5 March 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/global-health-security-agenda-pilot-assessment-of-the-uk>.

The US has engaged in multisectoral efforts to achieve the WHO's IHR objectives.¹¹²⁶ This concerted effort to develop and strengthen national public health capacities has involved the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the US Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security and other relevant authorities.¹¹²⁷

Since the launch of the GHSA in 2014, the United States has stood by its 2015 commitment to provide USD1 billion in funding to 17 at-risk nations.¹¹²⁸ In addition, the United States has partnered with 30 other countries to facilitate partnerships and design roadmaps to achieve the GHSA targets.¹¹²⁹ These 30 countries include: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Laos, Liberia, Mali, Mozambique, Pakistan, Peru, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, Ukraine, and Vietnam.^{1130,1131}

The US is also one of the ten countries that constitute the Global Health Security Agenda Steering Group, which invests in the building of healthcare system capacities and the enhancement of coordination and commitment for countries, international organizations, and civil society to work together to achieve specific targets set by the Global Health Security Agenda.¹¹³² Since the Ise-Shima Summit, the US has also maintained a strong working relationship with its nongovernmental sector to aid in implementation.¹¹³³

In order to monitor its commitments to the IHR and GHSA objectives, the US supports the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) and its targets.¹¹³⁴ In 2016, the United States became the sixth country to

¹¹²⁶ Joint External Evaluation of the United States of America: Mission Report, World Health Organization (Washington DC) 20 June 2016. Date of Access: 15 December 2016. <https://www.ghsagenda.org/docs/default-source/jee-reports/united-states-jee-report.pdf>.

¹¹²⁷ Joint External Evaluation of the United States of America: Mission Report, World Health Organization (Washington DC) 20 June 2016. Date of Access: 15 December 2016. <https://www.ghsagenda.org/docs/default-source/jee-reports/united-states-jee-report.pdf>.

¹¹²⁸ FACT SHEET: United States Leadership to Advance the Global Health Security Agenda: 55 countries show concrete commitment to prevent, detect, and respond, Office of the Press Secretary (Washington DC) 12 October 2016. Date of Access: 15 December 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/10/12/fact-sheet-united-states-leadership-advance-global-health-security>.

¹¹²⁹ FACT SHEET: United States Leadership to Advance the Global Health Security Agenda: 55 countries show concrete commitment to prevent, detect, and respond, Office of the Press Secretary (Washington DC) 12 October 2016. Date of Access: 15 December 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/10/12/fact-sheet-united-states-leadership-advance-global-health-security>.

¹¹³⁰ Country Roadmaps, Global Health Security Agenda. 1 November 2016. Date of Access: 15 December 2016. <https://www.ghsagenda.org/where-ghsa>.

¹¹³¹ FACT SHEET: The Global Health Security Agenda, Office of the Press Secretary (Washington DC) 28 July 2015. Date of Access: 15 December 2015. <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2015/07/28/fact-sheet-global-health-security-agenda>.

¹¹³² FACT SHEET: United States Leadership to Advance the Global Health Security Agenda: 55 countries show concrete commitment to prevent, detect, and respond, Office of the Press Secretary (Washington DC) 12 October 2016. Date of Access: 15 December 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/10/12/fact-sheet-united-states-leadership-advance-global-health-security>.

¹¹³³ FACT SHEET: United States Leadership to Advance the Global Health Security Agenda: 55 countries show concrete commitment to prevent, detect, and respond, Office of the Press Secretary (Washington DC) 12 October 2016. Date of Access: 15 December 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/10/12/fact-sheet-united-states-leadership-advance-global-health-security>.

¹¹³⁴ FACT SHEET: United States Leadership to Advance the Global Health Security Agenda: 55 countries show concrete commitment to prevent, detect, and respond, Office of the Press Secretary (Washington DC) 12 October 2016. Date of Access: 15 December 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/10/12/fact-sheet-united-states-leadership-advance-global-health-security>.

undergo and publish a JEE for IHR implementation on the Strategic Partnership Portal.¹¹³⁵ In addition, the United States plays an active role in providing technical and financial resources to implement JEE assessments in countries around the world.¹¹³⁶

Thus, the United States has fully complied with its IHR-related commitments, and receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Sabrina Lin

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially fulfilled its commitment to advancing the World Health Organization's (WHO) International Health Regulations (IHR) objectives, including through the Global Health Security Agenda.

In September 2016, the EU increased its donation to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. At the Fifth Replenishment Conference of the Global Fund in Montreal (17-19 September), Neven Mimica, Commissioner for Development and Cooperation, pledged an additional EUR5 million to the fund. This sum, combined with the EU's previous commitment made in March 2016, brings the European Union's total financial contribution to EUR475 for 2016.¹¹³⁷ The EU and its member states have been the largest contribution to the Global Fund since its creation in 2002.¹¹³⁸

In October 2016, the EU invested EUR45 million through its Horizon 2020 programme to combat the Zika virus and other mosquito-transmitted diseases.¹¹³⁹ Horizon 2020 is the EU's largest and most comprehensive Research and Innovation programme, launched in 2014. The European Commission asserts that, "By coupling research and innovation, Horizon 2020 is helping to achieve this [an investment in our future] with its emphasis on excellent science, industrial leadership and tackling societal challenges."¹¹⁴⁰ The overarching goal of the programme is to "ensure [that] Europe produces world-class science, removes barriers to innovation and makes it easier for the public and private sectors to work together in delivering innovation."¹¹⁴¹ Due to this emphasis on research and

¹¹³⁵ FACT SHEET: United States Leadership to Advance the Global Health Security Agenda: 55 countries show concrete commitment to prevent, detect, and respond, Office of the Press Secretary (Washington DC) 12 October 2016. Date of Access: 15 December 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/10/12/fact-sheet-united-states-leadership-advance-global-health-security>.

¹¹³⁶ FACT SHEET: United States Leadership to Advance the Global Health Security Agenda: 55 countries show concrete commitment to prevent, detect, and respond, Office of the Press Secretary (Washington DC) 12 October 2016. Date of Access: 15 December 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/10/12/fact-sheet-united-states-leadership-advance-global-health-security>.

¹¹³⁷ EU tops up commitment to end AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, European Commission (EU) 19 September 2016. Date of Access: 8 March 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-tops-commitment-end-aids-malaria-tuberculosis_en.

¹¹³⁸ EU tops up commitment to end AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, European Commission (EU) 19 September 2016. Date of Access: 8 March 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-tops-commitment-end-aids-malaria-tuberculosis_en.

¹¹³⁹ European Union invests EUR45 million into research to combat the Zika disease, European Commission (EU) 21 October 2016. Date of Access: 5 February 2017. <http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2016&na=na-211016>.

¹¹⁴⁰ What is Horizon 2020?, European Commission (EU) Date of Access: 8 March 2017. <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/what-horizon-2020>.

¹¹⁴¹ What is Horizon 2020?, European Commission (EU) Date of Access: 8 March 2017. <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/what-horizon-2020>.

innovation, the EUR45 million will be used to support research on treatments, diagnostics and vaccines, and more conclusive risk assessment for these mosquito-borne diseases.¹¹⁴²

The European Union is an advisory partner to Global Health Security Agenda, as such it is slightly unclear to what extent the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) tool could be applied to the EU.¹¹⁴³ At this point, the EU has not completed a Global Health Security Agenda assessment, therefore the JEE tool has not been used to assess the success of EU health security initiatives.

Overall, the EU contributed a significant amount to the increase of global health research and innovation, but did not do so through the Global Health Security Agenda. Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ambika Varma

¹¹⁴² European Union invests EUR45 million into research to combat the Zika disease, European Commission (EU) 21 October 2016. Date of Access: 5 February 2017.

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2016&na=na-211016>.

¹¹⁴³ About, Global Health Security Agenda. Date of Access: 8 March 2017. <https://www.ghsagenda.org/about>.