



**ENSURING ACCESS TO HEALTH FOR ALL
ASSURER UN ACCÈS À LA SANTÉ POUR TOUS**

MAY 16TH AND 17TH 2019 - PARIS



**G7 HEALTH
MINISTERS' MEETING**

16 AND 17 MAY 2019, PARIS

PRESS KIT

EDITORIAL

Today, over half of the world's population does not have access to all the health services that they need. However, access to prevention and healthcare is a fundamental right without which stability and development are threatened.

The G7, which is making the fight against inequalities a priority, offers Member States an opportunity to increase their commitment to global health.

To deal with these challenges, the meeting of G7 Health Ministers' Meeting – which will take place on 16 and 17 May 2019 – will provide a platform to discuss which solutions can be applied to fight against healthcare inequalities. Indeed, a coordinated cooperation between States is necessary for the defence of common goods. Health is one of these; it is one of the most essential but also one of the most vulnerable. Investing in healthcare is therefore an imperative necessity to ensure people's access to prevention and quality healthcare.

The G7 Health Ministers' Meeting will aim to promote access to healthcare for all by strengthening primary health care.

In addition to the G7 ministers, the Burkina Faso Health Minister and a G5 Sahel representative will be part of this high-level meeting, in their capacity as France's privileged partners. Several high representatives from international organisations, the Global Fund, the World Health Organisation (WHO), Gavi or Unitaïd, as well as the Agence française de développement (AFD) and a few figures and experts from civil society will also take part in the work.

The fight against gender inequalities will also be a main topic during the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting, and particularly in terms of access to healthcare worldwide and representation of women at a high-level in the health sector. For this reason, representatives from the Advisory Committee for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men will also be invited to contribute to the exchanges.

The G7 Health Ministers' Meeting should also mobilise all stakeholders in preparation for the Global Fund Replenishment Conference which will be hosted by France for the first time on 10 October in Lyon. This conference will bring together representatives from donor and recipient countries, from civil society and from the private sector with one aim: **to raise at least \$14 billion to fight AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis.**

To ensure the success of this conference, all means will be mobilised to promote the political and financial involvement of both new and long-standing stakeholders.

The G7 Health Ministers' Meeting will be an opportunity to reinforce the commitments made by States to improve healthcare access for all.



THE G7: SHARED VALUES AND A DESIRE FOR COORDINATED ACTION

The G7, or Group of Seven, is made up of seven countries : **Germany, Canada, the United States, France, Italy, Japan and the United Kingdom.**

The European Union has also been involved in G7 activities since 1977. Together, the G7 nations account for **40 % of global GDP and 10 % of the world's population.** A distinctive feature of the group is that it has no legal existence, no permanent secretariat, and no ex officio members.

The presidency is held each year by one of the seven States, which provides the framework for the group's activities and sets the broad agenda.

The G7 was created to provide a coordinated response to the first oil crisis in 1975. Since then, G7 heads of state and government have met annually to discuss issues such as peace and security, the fight against terrorism, development, education, health, environment, and climate change, which all involve different stakeholders and require a joint response.

The G7 countries share a set of core values : **democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, the free market, and respect for international law.**

The French G7 presidency's priorities for the Biarritz Summit

France has held the presidency of the G7 since 1 January 2019. It takes over from Canada, which hosted the 2018 Summit, and will hand over the presidency to the United States next year.

The Biarritz Summit takes place on 24 to 26 August and will be the culmination of the French presidency.

Five major priorities have been set for this Summit:

- **fighting inequality of opportunity**, highlighting gender equality, and promoting access to education and high-quality health services;
- **reducing environmental inequality** by providing increased funding for climate initiatives and pursuing an equitable ecological transition, with a particular focus **on preserving biodiversity and the oceans**;
- promoting fairer and more equitable business, tax and development policies;
- **implementing peace initiatives to combat security threats and terrorism, which undermine the foundations of our societies**;
- harnessing the opportunities offered by digital technology and artificial intelligence in an ethical and human-centred way.

The G7 Summit will also be characterised by a renewed partnership with Africa, with an emphasis on three priorities:

1. creating sustainable employment

2. supporting entrepreneurship, with a particular focus on women

3. enhancing and predicting conditions for effective investment

Working with its G5 Sahel partners, the G7 will launch an initiative focusing on the Sahel, offering additional support for the Sahel Alliance, as well as promoting increased human development activity through education and health. Enhanced economic prospects, greater resilience to crises, and **increased action against trafficking will round off the agenda to support this region.**



THE G7 HEALTH MINISTERS' MEETING

The main goal of the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting is to improve "primary" health care, which addresses individuals' needs at all stages in their life, whether for prevention, screening or health care.

France has set out three priorities to meet this objective.

1. Fighting against unequal access to healthcare

In many countries, health systems struggle to address the diversity of health issues encountered by individuals throughout their life.



France and G7 Member States have chosen to make primary health care one of the core topics of their discussions.

Primary health care, or first aid, is neighbourhood care that is provided by health professionals who are directly accessible and geographically close to patients and focused on their specific needs. They take into account the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of pathologies. The attending physician, in nursing homes or health centres, can provide them. They also aim to give patients better information and the ability to manage their health better.

As this type of care is both the cornerstone of health systems and a necessary prerequisite for the socio-economic development of populations, it provides the most comprehensive response to health care inequalities.

2. By 2030, put an end to three pandemics: AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria

AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria are still responsible for 2.7 million deaths every year. France has long been committed to combatting these three pandemics. **Having invested €4.5 billion to this cause since 2002, France is the second longest-standing contributor towards the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.**

However, fragile health systems are threatening to revive major pandemics. In 2017, the ten African countries most affected by malaria reported an increase in the number of cases compared to 2016.

To face this risk, the improvement of primary health care should also bolster the fight against these three pandemics: AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.



France is counting on the commitment of G7 Member States, who created the Global Fund, to mobilise all stakeholders as the Global Fund Replenishment Conference – to be hosted by France in Lyon on 10 October – approaches.

This international conference will be a major meeting following the G7 Heads of State Summit and will aim to raise at least \$14 billion to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria with a view to eliminating these three diseases by 2030, in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals¹.

¹ The Sustainable Development Goals are a call for action by all countries – poor, rich and middle-income – to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and address range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.

3. Improve the effectiveness of health systems by sharing knowledge

The international community is now called on to innovate alongside stakeholders from civil society in order to set out effective cooperation arrangements. In the context of the G7, France's objective is to set up a concrete mechanism to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and expertise for the effectiveness of health systems.

The launch of an initiative to share knowledge on primary health care

France would like to succeed in launching an initiative, in collaboration with its G7 partners, made to share knowledge in the field of primary health care.

For the first time, international organisations are committed to working together to set up a collaborative platform.

At the end of the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting, the main relevant international organisations – the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Global Fund, Gavi The Vaccine Alliance and the World Bank – will be asked **to sign a letter of commitment** stating their intention to collaborate in the field of primary health care. They will also draft a report on the arrangements for the implementation of a participative online platform between G7 Member States.

This platform should:

- **develop the sharing of knowledge and expertise** on primary health care between G7 Member States;
- **contribute towards improving primary health care between G7 Member States and medium- and low-income countries**, particularly G5 Sahel Member States;
- **promote innovation** as regards improving primary health care by also relying on civil society (researchers, professionals, patients, NGOs, private sector, etc.).





THE COMMITMENTS OF THE G7 HEALTH MINISTERS' MEETING

The outcome of the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting will be published at the end of the ministerial meeting on Friday, 17 May. This outcome will be added to the Agenda of solutions to be presented to the Biarritz Heads of State Summit taking place from 24 to 26 August, particularly in the field of global health.

Its outcome will also be taken into consideration during other international events taking place in 2019:

- the World Health Assembly, on 20 May **in Geneva**;
- the United Nations General Assembly, on 18 September **in New-York**;
- the Global Fund Replenishment Conference, on 10 October **in Lyon**;
- the G20 Health Ministers' Meeting to take place on 19 and 20 October **in Okayama**.

Bilateral meetings

In the sidelines of the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting, the Minister of Solidarity and Health is expected to meet with several of her counterparts in particular.



Ministry of Solidarity and Health - Outside view of the Fontenoy room

LIST OF GUESTS

G7

France

Mrs Agnès BUZYN, Minister of Solidarity and Health

United States

Mr Alex AZAR, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

United Kingdom

Mr Matt HANCOCK, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

Japan

Mr Masayoshi SHINTANI, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare

Italy

Ms Giulia GRILLO, Minister of Health

Germany

Mr Jens SPAHN, Federal Minister of Health

Canada

Mr Simon KENNEDY, Deputy Minister of Health

European Union

Mr Vytenis ANDRIUKAITIS, Commissioner on Health and Food Safety

Guests

Burkina-Faso

Mrs Léonie Claudine LOUGUE SORGHO, Minister of Health (to be confirmed)

G5 Sahel

Mr Guidio KOULDJIM, Resilience and Human Development Expert (Permanent Secretariat of the G5 Sahel)

International Organizations

Gavi

Mr Seth BERKLEY, CEO

Global Fund

Mr Peter SANDS, Executive Director

OECD

Mr Stefano SCARPETTA, Director for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs

Unitaid

Mr Leilo MARMORA, Executive Director

WHO

Mr Tedros ADHANOM GHEBREYESUS, Director-General

World Bank

Mr Tim EVANS, Senior Director of Health, Nutrition and Population

Guests from civil society

Pr Dominique KEROUEDAN (France), Scientific counselor for the Global Health specialization at Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences Po Paris

Mr David NABARRO (United Kingdom), Institute of Global Health Innovation, Imperial College London

Monsieur Rémy RIOUX (France), Director-General of Agence française de développement-AFD Group

Mrs Katja IVERSEN (Denmark), President/CEO of Women Deliver & Member of the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council

Representatives from G7 commitment groups:

Mrs Véronique SÉHIER, Co-chair of Family Planning, representative from the Women 7

Mr Bruno RIVALAN, Deputy Executive Director of the Global Health Advocates, Representative from the Civil 7



Day 1 – Thursday, 16 May 2019

13:15 Reception of participants

13:45 Family photo

14:00 **Session 1: Improving primary health care to combat health inequalities**

A word of welcome from Agnès Buzyn, Minister for Solidarity and Health (France)

Presentations from international organisations and high-level experts

14:50 - 15:45 **G7 Members' thematic discussion**

For an effective strengthening of primary health care to improve the fight against health inequalities

15:45 Bilateral meetings

16:15 **Session 2: Why is a common operational culture of improving primary health care now necessary?**

Opening address from Agnès Buzyn, Minister for Solidarity and Health (France)

Presentations from international organisations and high-level experts

16:40 - 17:40 **G7 Members' thematic discussion**

Experiencing mutual learning on the key topic : How to improve access to primary health care in underserved regions?

Day 2 – Friday 17 May 2019

8:15 Reception of participants

8:45 - 9:15 Dialogue with civil society

With the presence of representatives from G7 commitment groups, Women 7 and Civil 7

9:15 Session 3: G7 initiative for universal knowledge on primary health care

Opening address by Agnès Buzyn, Minister for Solidarity and Health (France)

Presentations from international organisations and high-level experts

9:45 - 10:45 G7 Members' thematic discussion

Basing primary health care strengthening on knowledge, mutual learning and an operational platform, through the G7 PHC Universal Knowledge Initiative

10:45 Bilateral meetings

11:15 Working towards the Sixth Global Fund's Replenishment Conference (10 October in Lyon)

Opening speech by Agnès Buzyn, Minister for Solidarity and Health (France)

Presentations from international organisations and high-level experts

11:50 - 12:40 G7 Members' thematic discussion

For a successful Sixth Global Fund's Replenishment Conference.

12:40 **Closing speech** by Agnès Buzyn, Minister for Solidarity and Health (France)

12:50 Adoption of the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting statement

Signing of a letter of commitment by the international organisations to jointly support the G7 initiative for universal knowledge on primary health care

12:55 **Press conference** with the Minister for Solidarity and Health (France)

The Minister for Solidarity and Health will restore works of the G7 ministers and will answer journalists' questions.



G7 HEALTH MINISTERS' MEETING

16 AND 17 MAY 2019, PARIS

PRESS CONTACT

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