Key Challenges Facing Healthcare Systems and Potential Solutions Were the Focus of the 2020 G20 First Health Working Group Meeting Discussions

Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, January 16, 2020

During the three-day Health Working Group meeting held in Riyadh, from January 14th to January 16th, 2020, delegations from the G20 together with the invited guest countries and regional and international organizations discussed common challenges and potential opportunities within the context of the Saudi G20 Presidency priority topics to formulate the next steps toward creating sustainable person-centered health systems.

Globally, healthcare accounts for 11% of GDP and generates millions of jobs, many of them for women. At the same time, nearly 3.5 billion people do not receive the essential health services they need. This prospect could change if the global community seizes the opportunities offered by emerging trends and technologies, which has the potential to shape the next frontier for health care.

Value-Based Health Care (VBHC), Digital Health, and Patient Safety were among the priority topics discussed by the G20 Health Working Group during the first meeting under the Saudi G20 Presidency. Additionally, constructive dialogue on the topics of pandemic preparedness and the threat of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) was continued during the meeting, building on the progress achieved in previous presidencies.

Prior to the meeting, delegates attended the Accelerating Transformation Towards Sustainable Health Systems Through Value Based Health Care. The conference brought together experts, governments and international organizations, who discussed their experiences and best practices in implementing VBHC solutions.

The G20 Health Working Group will meet again in March 2020, progressing discussions and building consensus to create sustainable health systems that place people's needs and safety first.

Further information about the G20, including the Presidency Agenda and full program of events, can be found at www.g20.org

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