



## The G20 Works on Coordinating Actions on COVID-19 and Pandemics

Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, March 7, 2020

The G20 Health Working Group (HWG) delegates gathered in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, to discuss how the group of 20 major economies can work together to strengthen health systems and enhance global health security to ensure people led healthy and productive lives.

Delegates of the HWG, discussed the health and social impacts of infectious diseases threats including the recent COVID-19 outbreak, and the need for urgency and inclusiveness in global response to health emergencies. The focus during the meeting was not only on the surveillance, monitoring and control of pandemics, but also on the value of real-time information sharing. This ensures access to the best and latest intelligence, improving prevention strategies and mitigation measures.

Outbreaks such as the COVID-19 highlight the pressing need for global cooperation. G20 countries will continue to lead global efforts to enhance global health risks management and to agree on enhanced and coordinated actions to improve emergency response core capacities.

During the meeting, the Chair of the HWG remarked: "Events such as the COVID-19 outbreak are indicative of the importance of our working group to strengthen collaboration among G20 members to achieve global health security. It is paramount that we are prepared to face any health-related issues that might arise to better protect our people."

Delegates from G20 countries also discussed how to ensure economic growth through promoting UHC. The meeting continued the dialogue on the priorities set by the Saudi Presidency for the HWG; to introduce and scale-up value-based health care (VBHC), promote digital health solutions, and improve patient safety. Delegates also addressed other priority areas in health for the G20, such as pandemic preparedness and antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Further information about the G20, including the Presidency Agenda and full program of events, can be found at [www.g20.org](http://www.g20.org)

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