



Women's,
Children's and
Adolescents'
Health

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Strategic Dialogue IV

Political leadership for women's, children's and adolescents' health

Tues. 06 Dec 2022, 11.00 – 14.00 CET and Wed. 07 Dec 2022, 11.00 – 13.30 CET

Document Title: Board-30-2022; 8a Global Leaders Network briefing note

Background

The Global Leaders Network will be a cohesive and effective network of heads of state/government operating at the highest political level to advocate for the health and rights of women, children, and adolescents everywhere, and in so doing, work to improve the lives of all people.

The Network will provide leadership and inspire ambitious action to increase investment, strengthen policy directives, and enhance service delivery for the health and well-being of women, children, and adolescents, as well as encourage collaboration with relevant areas of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Network will be chaired by H.E. President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa and supported by a vice-chair.

- The members will include 10 sitting heads of state/government.
- Outreach is currently underway by the President's Office to prospective network members
- Secretariat support to this network will be facilitated by PMNCH (The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health), hosted by WHO and chaired by the Rt Hon. Helen Clark, former Prime Minister of New Zealand.
- Diplomatic focal points from member countries will convene twice a year (virtually) to guide efforts.
- Network principals will meet opportunistically (or if needed, virtually) on the sidelines of global and regional meetings, including the UN General Assembly in September 2022, linking to the SDG review and UHC high level dialogue, as well as the forthcoming Global Forum for Adolescents





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Value Add

- Members will be instrumental in influencing the agenda of global and regional platforms, including bloc dialogues within the G7, G20, and AU, to promote the health and well-being of women, children and adolescents as a priority.
- Members will be able to showcase their leadership, share their vision, goals, and actions on delivering on these issues, and identify specific areas of joint action (including at a regional level).
- Members will be able to share their learnings among each other based on the initiatives they lead in their respective countries.
- The GLN will offer opportunities for members to access, influence and mobilize peers and relevant global champions from UN agencies, funds and foundations, regional and parliamentary organizations, private sector, and civil society organizations

Objectives

- The Network will influence strategic shifts in policies and investments to protect and promote the well-being of women, children and adolescents, and to optimize this window of opportunity to build back better for a sustainable future post Covid-19 and towards the 2030 Agenda.
- Influence national, regional, and global platforms and agendas to ensure that women, children and adolescents remain visible and central to all UHC and Primary Health Care efforts, accelerating progress to the 2030 goals.
- The Network will advocate for sustained and enhanced financial investments, contributing to the growth of nations and individuals to reach their highest potential. They will also advocate for improved alignment of global financing mechanisms to foster better investments in strategic priorities to meet the health and well-being needs of women, children and adolescents.

Timeline

- Outreach to prospective member countries (Q3 2022)
- Formal invitations from South Africa to proposed members (Q4 2022)
- Launch of the Global Leaders Network (Jan 2023; World Economic Forum, Davos – session in main programme, press conference, and dinner event)
- Face to face meeting at UN General Assembly (Sept 2023)
- First progress report (Jan 2024)