

# **WHO Results Report**

Programme Budget 2018-2019 Mid-Term Review



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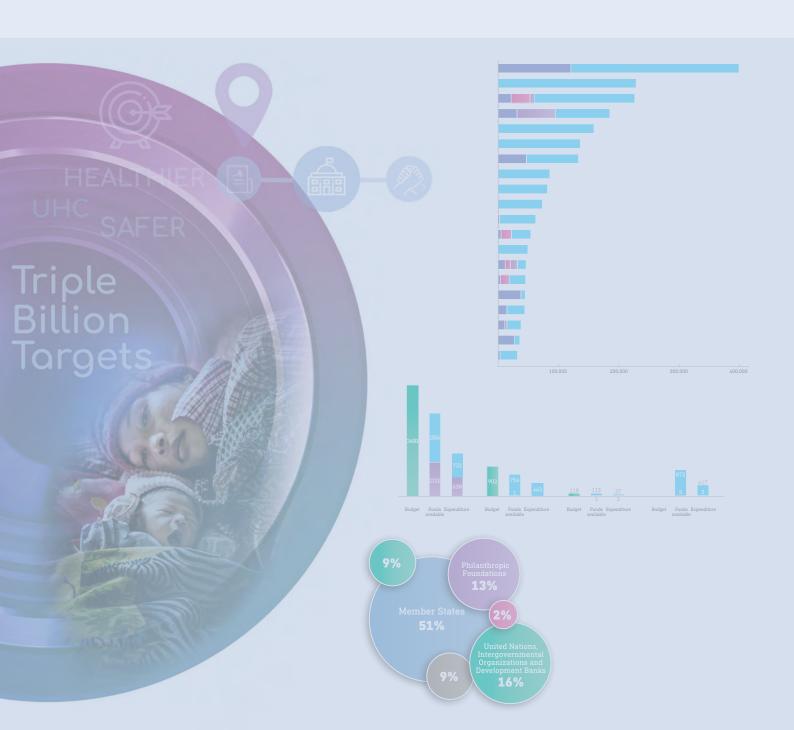
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### **Director-General's foreword**







Results are the heart of what WHO does. Everything we do – from developing treatment guidelines and holding expert review meetings, to responding to outbreaks and other health emergencies – is about delivering an impact in the lives of the people we serve.

Impact is also the essence of the Thirteenth General Programme of Work, 2019–2023 (GPW 13), with its "triple billion" targets, and of the Sustainable Development Goals on which GPW 13 is based. The approval of GPW 13 by Member States at the Seventy-first World Health Assembly was one of the major achievements of 2018.

But strategies are one thing – results are another. This WHO results report for 2018 highlights what WHO is achieving, describing how, for example:

- on universal health coverage with support from WHO, countries including Egypt, India, Kenya and the Philippines made decisive steps towards expanding coverage and preventing catastrophic spending on health:
- on emergencies WHO investigated, and where necessary responded to, 481 emergencies and potential emergencies in 141 countries, including two outbreaks of Ebola virus disease in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the world's worst cholera outbreak in Yemen;

• **on healthier populations** – the Organization raised awareness and reinforced measures to reduce tobacco use, eliminate artificial *trans* fatty acids, address antimicrobial resistance and reduce air pollution.

We can feel proud of these results. But none of them are possible without the support of Member States and partners.

I'm also particularly proud of the people in our Organization who delivered these results. I want to sincerely thank our staff who are enormously dedicated and expose themselves to personal risk in the conduct of their work.

In particular, I want to pay tribute to my brother, Dr Richard Mouzoko. He was killed this year in the line of duty while delivering results. He is a global health hero and represents the best of WHO. I dedicate this Results Report to Dr Mouzoko and his family – and to all our colleagues who have died while performing their duties – for their sacrifice.

Without WHO, the world would be much worse off. And yet, this great Organization has still not completed its journey towards delivering its full potential.

I look forward, therefore, to reporting even better results in the years to come as we work together to promote health, keep the world safe, and serve the vulnerable.



## **Executive summary**

WHO turned 70 in 2018. Looking back over its history, it is clear that the Organization has achieved a lot: smallpox had been eradicated; polio is on the brink of eradication; the AIDS epidemic is in decline; a breakthrough convention on tobacco control has been passed – just to name a few landmark achievements.

At the same time, WHO must continue to evolve to achieve even greater impact. This is why, in May 2018, Member States approved a new strategy for WHO – the Thirteenth General Programme of Work, 2019–2023 – steering WHO to a data-driven, results-oriented, country-focused trajectory. GPW 13 introduced a **new mission**: promote health, keep the world safe, and serve the vulnerable. To bring this to reality, bold **triple billion targets** were set:

- One billion more people benefiting from universal health coverage;
- One billion more people better protected from health emergencies; and
- One billion more people enjoying better health and well-being.

Such ambitious targets, which are fully aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, require reshaping WHO. The year 2018 was dedicated to reorienting the Organization towards this new strategic direction.

The targets also require partnerships. In 2018, WHO was asked to lead the Secretariat for the **Global Action Plan for Healthy Lives and Well-being for All**, which includes the commitment of 12 signatory agencies to accelerate progress towards Goal 3 through enhanced collective action at the global and country level.

The Mid-term Review 2018–2019 is a summary of key

# One billion more people benefiting from universal health coverage

In October 2018, countries agreed to the **Declaration of Astana in Kazakhstan**. Coming 40 years after the historic Alma-Ata Declaration **on primary health care**, it reinvigorated commitment to strengthen primary health care, laying a foundation for universal health coverage.

The universal health coverage acceleration project in the Western Pacific Region and the adoption of the global compact towards universal health coverage (UHC2030) in the Eastern Mediterranean Region are evidence of the growing political support for universal health coverage. At the country level, Greece, India and Kenya are moving swiftly on the road to universal health coverage, with WHO support.

Normative work highlighted in the report includes the **prequalification** of health products. In 2018, almost 200 products were prequalified, including vaccines for inactivated polio, rotavirus and typhoid fever. A new drug, moxidectin, was prequalified for river blindness while landmark guidelines were issued on HIV related to new drugs such as dolutegravir and raltegravir.

Other normative work includes the release of the **International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11),** whose implementation will enable improved tracking of health trends, and the new **Essential Diagnostics List,** which builds on the WHO Essential Medicines List that has long guided countries.

The **elimination of some neglected tropical diseases** – such as lymphatic filariasis, trachoma and malaria in low-burden countries – is a growing reality through WHO's coordination of shipment, distribution and delivery of

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