

B20 Health Conference

Stepping Up Global Health – Towards Resilient,
Responsible, and Responsive Health Systems

Thursday, May 18th, 2017 - Berlin

“Resilient, sustainable, accessible, and future-oriented health systems are indispensable – not only for the well-being of each individual, but also for the well-being of our societies, for economic growth, for prosperity, and for development.”

Jürgen Heraeus, B20 Chair



Hermann Gröhe, German Federal Minister of Health, and Jürgen Heraeus, B20 Chair



Hermann Gröhe, German Federal Minister of Health, and Jorge Lemus, Argentinian Minister of Health



Illona Kickbusch, Graduate Institute Geneva; Christoph Benn, The Global Fund; Iris Plöger, BDI



Carla Kriwet, Philips; Clive Wood, Boehringer Ingelheim; Patricia Mechael, Personal Connected Health Alliance; Ali Karami-Ruiz, Business at OECD



Kemal Malik, Bayer AG; Bernd Montag, Siemens Healthineers; Clive Wood, Boehringer Ingelheim; Ali Karami-Ruiz, Business at OECD



Workshop on Antimicrobial Resistance: Opportunities and Challenges



Workshop on Innovation at the Heart of the Debate: Improving Health and Well-being for an Active Generation

B20 Chair Jürgen Heraeus Outlines the Role the B20 Can Play in Health

At the B20 Health Conference at the Gasometer in Berlin in Mid-May, B20 Chair Jürgen Heraeus welcomed the efforts of the B20 regarding the G20 health track. More than 200 guests from various G20 members and health sectors came together for the first ever B20 health conference to present their recommendations to the G20. Heraeus thanked all members of the B20 Health Initiative for their strong engagement and enthusiastic support. He stressed the responsibility of businesses to support the G20 with their advice, expertise, and practical experience to improve health around the world.

In his introductory remarks, Heraeus emphasized that the world would not be able to reach the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals without substantial investments in health. Even though medical innovations had improved human health tremendously, current health challenges, such as pandemics, spelled enormous costs for the global economy and societies. Heraeus continued by explaining how the G20 motto of "Shaping an Interconnected World" applied to health systems. The B20 Chair emphasized that the majority of the current health challenges did not know national borders. It follows that cross-country and sectoral cooperation was of the essence if these health

"We, the B20, laud G20 Germany for placing health on the agenda of this year's summit. It is crucial that health becomes a permanent agenda item for the G20."

Jürgen Heraeus
B20 Chair

challenges were to be tackled effectively. Given the magnitude of the challenges, Heraeus lauded the G20 for placing health on the agenda of this year's summit with a clear focus on antimicrobial resistance, pandemics, and neglected tropical diseases. At the same time, Heraeus urged the G20 to establish an environment for innovation and to prioritize the potentials of digital health. He highlighted the need for several policy measures the G20 should consider, including predictable regulatory environments to protect intellectual property, guidelines for the responsible use of antimicrobials, increased funding for research and development to tackle pandemics, and strong digital infrastructures, as well as privacy laws.



Top: Jürgen Heraeus, B20 Chair

Middle: Conference Participants

Bottom: Hermann Gröhe, German Federal Minister of Health, and Jürgen Heraeus, B20 Chair

German Federal Minister of Health Gröhe Receiving the B20 Recommendations

After introductory remarks by B20 Chair Jürgen Heraeus, German Federal Minister of Health Hermann Gröhe addressed the audience. Minister Gröhe emphasized that no global challenge today could be addressed without clear and decisive commitment by the G20. He underlined that the German Government would like to see health higher on the G20 agenda and that strengthening health systems and antimicrobial resistance were amongst the most important priorities of the German government.

The B20 Chair then handed over the B20 health recommendations to Minister Gröhe. Focusing on innovation, antimicrobial resistance, pandemic preparedness, neglected tropical diseases, and digital health, the B20 recommendations feature a range of policy ideas that the G20 countries can implement to improve health around the world.

Following the handover of the recommendations, Minister Gröhe welcomed Minister Lemus for a keynote speech on the significance of universal access to healthcare. Minister Lemus stressed the plethora of

“The B20 and G20 will contribute to finding and seeking consensus and to come up with the appropriate strategies for universal healthcare.”

Jorge Lemus
Minster of Health
Argentina

benefits universal health coverage can bring through access to healthcare, equality, and, crucially, by focusing on the vulnerable members of society. He continued by highlighting that one of the most significant tasks in health was to leave no one behind in order to ensure resilient and sustainable societies.

Richard Hatchett, CEO of the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), gave the final keynote speech on pandemic preparedness. Hatchett delivered a strong reminder that the human, economic, and social costs of failing to prepare and to devise strong crisis responses were enormous, as exemplified by Ebola in countries like Liberia. Hatchett’s keynote speech was poignant as an Ebola outbreak was developing in the Democratic Republic of Congo as he was speaking. Hatchett’s speech set the right tone of collaboratively addressing opportunities and challenges.



Top: Hermann Gröhe, German Federal Minister of Health
Middle (1): Hermann Gröhe, German Federal Minister of Health, and Jürgen Heraeus, B20 Chair
Middle 2): Conference Participants
Bottom: Richard Hatchett, CEO of CEPI

Panel Discussions on Improving Health Globally and Driving Innovation in Health

After the opening speeches, the conference continued with two stimulating panel discussions.

The first panel focused on how to improve health globally and saw passionate contributions by all participants. Moderated by BDI Executive Board member Iris Plöger, the panel featured Minister Lemus, Steven Hildemann, Global Chief Medical Officer of Merck, Ilona Kickbusch, Director of the Global Health Centre and Adjunct Professor at the Graduate Institute Geneva, Christoph Benn, Director of External Relations at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Richard Hatchett, CEO of Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, Jane Griffiths, Company Group Chairman EMEA of Johnson & Johnson, and Mark Pearson, Deputy Director of Employment, Labor, and Social Affairs at the OECD. The panelists discussed the most effective ways to improve health around the world.



Steven Hildemann, Jorge Lemus, Ilona Kickbusch, Christoph Benn, Richard Hatchett, Jane Griffiths, Mark Pearson, and Iris Plöger.

The panel focused on the following issues, which also stood at the center of the B20 health recommendations: “Fighting Neglected Tropical Diseases”, “Improving Pandemic Preparedness and Response” and “Improved Access to Medical Care”. In addition, participants discussed the G20 Germany Compact with Africa Initiative.

Steven Hildemann, Global Chief Medical Officer of Merck kicked off the panel with explaining the B20 Health Initiative process. With 94 representatives from 24 different countries and diverse sectors, Hildemann concluded that diversity of the membership was an added value, especially since health is a cross-cutting issue. Jane Griffiths, Company Group Chairman EMEA

of Johnson & Johnson, stressed the importance of empowering people to take control of their own health. For her, self-care was an important corner stone for improving health in any nation. Another topic that was discussed passionately was pandemic preparedness. The panelists concluded that pandemic preparedness was one of the most pressing challenges not just for developing but also developed countries. The panelists agreed that joint efforts were needed by governments, civil society, and business.

“If we don’t get the silo thinking out of healthcare now, we are risking a unique opportunity in the trends and development of history.”

Carla Kriwet
Executive Vice President
Philips



Kemal Malik, Bernd Montag, Carla Kriwet, Clive Wood, Patricia Mechael, Morris Hosseini, and Ali Karami-Ruiz.

After a short break, the conference resumed with the second panel discussion on driving innovation in health. Moderated by Ali Karami-Ruiz, Director Policy and Communications at Business at OECD (BIAC), the panel featured Kemal Malik, Member of the Board of Management at Bayer, Bernd Montag, Chief Executive Officer of Siemens Healthineers, Carla Kriwet, Executive Vice President of Philips, Clive Wood, Corporate Senior Vice President at Boehringer Ingelheim, Patricia Mechael, Executive Vice President at the Personal Connected Health Alliance, and Morris Hosseini, Senior Partner at Roland Berger.

The panel focused on the potential of innovation as a driver for economic growth and the effects of digitalization on the healthcare sector. According to the panelists, innovation was the most effective lever when it comes to improving health at a global scale. Bernd Montag, Chief Executive Officer of Siemens Healthineers,

“We need to have standards that allow translational data flows in Health.”

Morris Hosseini
Senior Partner
Roland Berger

underlined that the opportunities from data and the digital world for healthcare were enormous and would be as large as the transformation we had seen in our private lives. More action was, however, needed by both industry and governments to push innovation and digitalization further, he stressed.

Overall, the panelists agreed that innovation in healthcare was the only way ahead and all stakeholders needed to act jointly in order to reach its full potential, thereby sending a clear message to the upcoming G20 Summit.

Workshop Discussions on Six Topics of Global Health

The stimulating panel discussions set the stage for the conference participants to disperse into individual workshops on the priority health areas. The workshops' intimate setting allowed for a fruitful discussion between the workshop chair, discussants, and the conference participants.

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) was the topic of the first workshop, chaired by Benjamin Grosch, Partner and Managing Director of the Boston Consulting Group, who was joined by discussants Thomas Cueni, Director General, International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations, Manica Balasegaram, Director, GARDP Operations, DNDi, and Rachael Crockett, Chair for Global Health, C20 Germany.



Workshop on Antimicrobial Resistance: Opportunities and Challenges

The workshop was in part based on a recent report commissioned by the German Federal Ministry of Health that explored a number of mechanisms to incentivize research and development of new antimicrobials. A central point of discussion was that tuberculosis should rank high in global efforts to tackle AMR because of its high risk for resistance.

Furthermore, the importance of vaccines in agriculture was raised as an effective means to treat animals instead of using antibiotics. Overall, the workshop participants agreed that a mix of policies was needed to incentivize research as well as to foster a more responsible use of antibiotics.

A second workshop asked whether the glass in the fight against neglected tropical diseases was half-full or half-empty. Workshop chair Johannes Waltz, Director of the Global Schistosomiasis Alliance at Merck was joined by discussants Alan Donnelly, Executive Chairman of Sovereign Strategy, Joseph Ndung'u, Head of Neglected Disease Programmes at FIND, and Sami Al-Hajjar, President of the Saudi Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society. The workshop participants agreed that substantial progress had been made thus far while at the same time pointing at a number of areas for improvement. For example, participants underlined the need for individual long-term surveillance, especially after an NTD has been eradicated in order to prevent its return.

“When it comes to fighting neglected tropical diseases, the glass is half-full and not half-empty.”

Joseph Ndung'u
Head of Neglected Disease Programmes
FIND

Following Richard Hatchett's keynote speech on pandemics earlier in the day, a third workshop picked up the issue of pandemic preparedness. This workshop was chaired by Peter Sands, Chair of the International Working Group on Financing Pandemic Preparedness at the World Bank.



Workshop on Improving Pandemic Preparedness and Response

The discussants were Byungki Oh, Vice President of Global Business Development at Korea Telecom, Arnaud Bernaert, Head of Global Health and

Healthcare Industries at the World Economic Forum, and Christoph Bonsmann, Member of the Executive Board at Action Medeor. There was broad agreement that strengthening health systems through building multi-functional capabilities, such as telecommunication that can support pandemic preparedness through the innovative use of automatic text alert systems to help tracking disease outbreaks, was a viable strategy to address known and unknown threats.

In the workshop on digital health, the panelists agreed that rising uncertainty made global resilience an increasingly difficult task, but they presented different views on possible problem-solving approaches. Workshop chair Walter Märzendorfer, President of Diagnostic Imaging at Siemens Healthineers, was joined by discussants Carla Kriwet and Michael Lorschbach, Chief Executive Officer at Alcedis.



Workshop on The Role of Digital Health – Perspectives for Transforming Tomorrow's Health System

Access to medical care was the topic of discussion in the fifth workshop of the conference. The workshop chair Roland Göhde, Chairman of the German Healthcare Partnership, was joined by the discussants Nicole Denjoy, Secretary General at the European Coordination Committee of the Radiological, Electromedical and Healthcare IT Industry, Gregg Alton, Executive Vice President of Corporate and Medical Affairs at Gilead Sciences, and Pradeep Kakkattil, Director Partnerships, Innovations and Fundraising at UNAIDS to discuss the most important ways to increase access to healthcare in the G20 and beyond. The participants discussed regulatory frameworks, financing, and cross-sectoral cooperation. Continuous and long-term financing was deemed essential to extend healthcare access to all. Finally, gender was widely recognized as an important axis in the current inequalities that persist in providing access to healthcare.



Workshop on Global Health: Improved Access to Medical Care

During the workshop on innovation, workshop chair Kemal Malik was joined by discussants Harald Nusser, Head of Social Business at Novartis, Patrick Holmes, Head of International Policy Global Policy and International Public Affairs at Pfizer, and Erwin Böttinger, Chief Executive Officer of the Berlin Institute of Health to discuss how innovation in therapies, technologies and approaches such as citizen's involvement in their own health can help ensure prevention, early detection, treatment, and long-term management of diseases. All

“Roughly 400 million people in low and middle-income countries currently lack access to effective and affordable healthcare. This has to change.”

Kemal Malik
Member of the Board of Management
Bayer AG

agreed that improving health and well-being by valuing innovative medicines and empowering citizens to use self-care was key to sustainable health systems. However, the determination of the value of an innovation was often controversial, political, and arbitrary. While many understand that advances are achieved over time through incremental improvements, sometimes their importance is overlooked.



Workshop on Innovation at the Heart of the Debate: Improving Health and Well-being for an Active Generation

Moreover, valuing innovation was linked to different cultural understandings in the G20 countries. According to speakers and discussants, digitalization was a very important tool to empower patients.

Closing Discussion

The conference was concluded by the closing discussion. Each workshop sent either their chair or a discussant to report back and to deliver the key messages. Six panelists joined B20 Sherpa Stormy Mildner to discuss the most important and interesting lessons learned throughout the day.

Joseph Ndung'u of FIND returned with a positive conclusion from the workshop on NTDs. While a lot of work remained, Ndung'u reported an overall sense of encouragement that all relevant actors were working together to tackle the challenges of sustainable financing as well as long-term surveillance of individual diseases.



Benjamin Grosch, Joseph Ndung'u, Peter Sands, Walter Märzendorfer, Roland Göhde, Kemal Malik, and Stormy-Annika Mildner

On digital health, Walter Märzendorfer of Siemens Healthineers reported that, compared to other industries, healthcare was far behind when it came to digitalization. He argued that healthcare had to become an outcome-based system that had patients' interests at heart.

Roland Göhde of the German Healthcare Partnership reported back from the workshop on access to medical care. Göhde stressed that the G20 needed to build on the power of innovation but also on advancements from other countries and from the community level.

Kemal Malik of Bayer AG, chair of the workshop on innovation in healthcare, echoed similar sentiments to those of Walter Märzendorfer. After sharing a personal

experience of how the life of his immediate family members was significantly improved by digital solutions in medical care, Malik continued to argue that it was essential for healthcare to focus on innovation from a patient's point of view.



Peter Sands, Walter Märzendorfer, Roland Göhde, Kemal Malik, and Stormy-Annika Mildner

Benjamin Grosch of the Boston Consulting Group chaired the workshop on the challenges and opportunities posed by antimicrobial resistance. He urged that "there has been a lot of talk about combating antimicrobial resistance – now it's time to implement the necessary measures." Grosch stressed that the G20 could be the forum to push forward the right policy measures to find badly needed long-term solutions.

The debate closed with a statement by Peter Sands from the World Bank who reported from the workshop on pandemic preparedness and emphasized that every country should commit to undergoing and publishing an evaluation of its health system capabilities to foresee possible pandemics early and effectively.

B20 thanks all partners and sponsors of the B20 Health Initiative without whom the Health Initiative and the Conference would not have been possible.



Jürgen Heraeus, B20 Chair

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Imprint

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