

ANNEX 2: GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR COUNTRY CONSULTATIONS

CATEGORY 1: ENSURE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP BEYOND HEALTH

Question	Facilitator notes	Priority
Does your government have a coordination government agency/mechanism/department that engages across sectors for the specific purpose of improving health or advancing UHC? If so, how well is this mechanism or department functioning?		Required
If you primarily conduct health advocacy, have you engaged with other government ministries or departments beyond health in your advocacy efforts? How so?	For example, briefings with Ministers of Finance, Welfare, Labor, Water, and Education, Agriculture, etc.	Required
During the COVID-19 pandemic, has your government made UHC a high priority?		Optional
How have new health policies and programmes during the pandemic changed the path towards UHC?		Optional

CATEGORY 2: LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

Question	Facilitator notes	Priority
<p>a. Which groups of people in your country struggle to gain access to health services? What are the main barriers for them to access health services?</p> <p>b. Considering the needs of the groups identified above, what are the specific health services that are under-prioritized?</p>	<p>Barriers to care can include: affordability; social, political and cultural determinants of health care access</p> <p>Groups of people could include: vulnerable populations like children and caregivers, persons with disabilities, people living with NCDs, people with mental health conditions, etc.</p>	Required

Are there laws and frameworks in place in support of vulnerable groups accessing essential health services they need? How well do they work in practice?	For example, the Affordable Care Act in the US includes that it is illegal to discriminate on the basis of "race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability in certain health programs"	Optional
a. Does your country have a policy or program to reduce or eliminate patient fees (out-of-pocket spending on health)?	Examples include: public insurance schemes, free health care policy	Optional
a. Who is most impacted or what health services are most negatively impacted by out-of-pocket payments?		

CATEGORY 3: REGULATE AND LEGISLATE

Question	Facilitator notes	Priority
Do you feel that UHC laws/policies/strategies that exist in your country are being adequately implemented?		Required
Do you know of any accountability or monitoring mechanisms for UHC in your country? If yes, please explain your answer.		Required
Are there laws and policies in place to ensure that people can engage in planning, budgeting and monitoring of health plans and budgets?		Optional

CATEGORY 4: UPHOLD QUALITY OF CARE

Question	Facilitator notes	Priority
a. Do you think that health services in your country are of good quality? Can you elaborate and give examples?		Required

b. What health services and what communities/population groups experience the gaps in quality?		
Does your country have adequate health workers, especially at the primary health care level? Are community health workers part of the health staff roster and are they paid adequately?		Optional

CATEGORY 5: INVEST MORE, INVEST BETTER

Question	Facilitator notes	Priority
Where do you think your government should be spending more in terms of achieving UHC?	Examples might include: primary health care, health worker training, increasing the number of hospitals, health promotion and prevention	Required
a. Is the government spending enough on health services and is this increasing? b. If the government is not increasing its spending on health services, what is preventing your government from investing more in health services?	"It is recommended that governments spend at least 5% of its GDP or at least 15% of its annual budget on health	Optional

CATEGORY 6: MOVE TOGETHER

Question	Facilitator notes	Priority
a. At the national level: are there opportunities for people, civil society organizations, and the private sector in your country to be engaged in planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluating the health sector? .If so, what are those opportunities and are they effective and efficient for the engagement of civil society, in particular, of the most vulnerable and marginalised populations and communities? b. At the community level: Are communities engaged in local level health planning, budgeting and accountability processes? .If so, how are they engaged?	Examples of different groups of people engaged: adolescents and youth, children and caregivers, persons with lived experience, vulnerable and marginalized groups. Some examples of opportunities: Open consultations with different groups of people/populations/communities before developing major policies (ie. National Health Plan)	Required

<p>a. Are there civil society forums or constituencies in your country to engage with decision-makers on health-related issues?</p> <p>b. If so, how well does the existing civil society coordination function and what can be improved?</p>	<p>Examples: country coordinating mechanisms (i.e. for Global Fund), civil society alliances to influence national health budgets</p>	<p>Optional</p>
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CATEGORY 7: GENDER EQUALITY

Question	Facilitator notes	Priority
<p>a. Can you identify some of the major challenges for women and girls in their access to health services?</p> <p>b. What kinds of health services are most challenging for women and girls to access?</p> <p>c. What are the primary challenges to access health care services for individuals who are non-binary?</p>		<p>Required</p>

CATEGORY 8: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Question	Facilitator notes	Priority
<p>a. How has the primary health care system been affected by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic?</p> <p>b. How do you think that PHC can be improved/evolved to be better prepared for future pandemic and other health emergencies?</p>	<p><i>Describe what PHC is:</i> Primary health care (PHC) refers to basic health services provided at the community level. It includes a wide range of services, including vaccination, maternity and infant care, preventative and palliative care. Increased public investment in primary health care is one of the best ways to ensure equity, availability, accessibility, quality and efficiency of the health service.</p> <p><i>Other health emergencies:</i> Crises affecting health outcomes may include war and conflict, famine and climate disasters, economic disruptions, etc.</p>	<p>Required</p>

CATEGORY 9: LOOKING TO 2023

Question	Facilitator notes	Priority
Is there another element of UHC and the distribution of health services in your country that was not covered in the discussion today?	This may include: human rights, shrinking civic space, humanitarian settings, disability and inclusion, youth and adolescent engagement etc. Encourage discussion of specific examples of challenges and/or recommendations.	Required
What is the main request you have for your Head of State about the state of health care (access, quality, and cost) in your country?		Optional
What is one message you would share with world leaders at the United Nations if you were the Head of State presenting the state of health care in your country?		Optional