from the pandemic to prosperity

DEDELIVERING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

5 - 7 December 2022
Parliament of Portugal, Lisbon, Portugal
Some events will be hybrid
about the summit

The UNITE Global Summit is the world’s leading Forum for forging partnerships between parliamentarians and leaders from the global health community.

Over three days, experts from civil society, affected communities, international organizations and academia will come together with leading parliamentarians from across the world to discuss the most pressing issues in global health and set the agenda for the year to come.

This year’s Summit comes at a particularly opportune moment. The world is recovering from the most severe public health crisis in 100 years and simultaneously marking the halfway point of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) period. The pandemic has set back the fight against many infectious diseases by years. New partnerships, new ways of thinking, and new funding will be needed to get back on track and achieve the promise of the SDGs.

The UNITE Global Summit will catalyze that renewed effort.
The main agenda of the UNITE Global Summit will dedicate sessions each day to one of our three core strategic themes:

- pandemic prevention preparedness & response
- the future of health systems
- health as a human right

For each of the themes we are seeking to answer three questions:

• What progress have we made so far during the SDGs period?
• What have we learned that can help us make even more progress by 2030?
• What is the role of parliamentarians in helping drive that progress?

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way that billions of people around the world work, live, and go about their daily lives. It has resulted in millions of deaths and left a deep impact on the health and wellbeing of hundreds of millions more.

It has unlocked innovation on an unprecedented scale and speed, and highlighted systemic weaknesses in the way that novel medicines are distributed.

What can we learn from the global effort to fight the pandemic?

What successes have we seen against COVID-19 that can be replicated for other infectious diseases?

And what are the policy barriers that might hamper our ability to stop the next lethal respiratory pathogen from becoming a global pandemic?
the future of health systems

One of the innovations brought by COVID-19 was the provision of real-time data on cases and deaths from most countries in the world. Experts shared genomic data at incredible speed, warning of the emergence of new variants weeks or even months before they spread around the world. Health systems facilitated the trialing of old therapeutics for a new threat, mainstreaming the use of drugs like Dexamethasone and saving hundreds of lives.

These are just a handful of the innovations that could revolutionize the way health is delivered around the world, without even considering the wider range of advances brought through the digitization of health systems.

What will health systems look like in 2030?

How can we get the highest standards of care to everyone, today?

What role can data play in improving access to health?

And what policies need to change to unlock better care for everyone?

health as a human right

Every major health crisis of the last hundred years has hit the most marginalized the hardest. Whether that is vulnerable groups in high-income countries, or entire populations in low- and middle-income countries that cannot get access to life-saving medicines, it is the poorest who struggle most.

Yet, for over fifty years, the human right to health has been universally recognized by the world’s governments – even if we are not delivering on it.

What role will human rights play in realizing the health aspects of the SDGs agenda?

How do issues like drug policy intertwine with health outcomes?

And what policies can ensure that the poorest and most vulnerable populations are not left behind over the rest of the SDGs period?
Our regional sessions will be structured in the format of a parliamentary inquiry. Expert ‘witnesses’ will be invited to give their insights into the specific challenges faced in each of UNITE’s regions and offer their thoughts on where parliamentarians should focus their efforts for maximum impact.
The UNITE Global Board, composed of leading parliamentarians from across the world, each with a proven record in championing global health & development, will be attended by up to 30 members of Parliament representing the different regions of intervention of UNITE.

Civil society organizations & affected communities, bringing first-hand experience of the challenges we will discuss, will be present.

International organizations who are at the heart of the global health agenda will also be present.

Leading academics & thinkers in global health, including policy experts from UNITE’s partner organizations, will contribute their insights.

The UNITE Global Summit will be attended by:

- up to 30 members of Parliament
- international organizations
- leading academics & thinkers in global health
- civil society organizations & affected communities
hosting a session at the UNITE Global Summit

UNITE is seeking partners who will host sessions at the Global Summit and shape the Summit Programme. We request that partners identify one, or more, of the key themes described above and structure their sessions to help bring attention to important issues within those themes.

Partners will work with the UNITE Secretariat to shape all aspects of a 90-minute main programme session, including:

01. identifying relevant expert speakers

02. defining clear recommendations for parliamentarians on our key themes

03. reach out to key attendees after the event for follow-up

04. help shape the roadmap that will be agreed by the UNITE Global Board and members for 2023 and the regional agendas

05. have first request on spaces for bilateral and side meetings

More information is available upon request.
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