

## **Preventing Future Health Emergencies through Global Health Architecture and Financing**

**JAKARTA, 21 FEBRUARY 2022.** The COVID-19 pandemic has been the biggest challenge to the global community since the 1940s. Today, as global communities are overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic altogether, new conversations emerged that primarily focus on building a more robust international health architecture that will protect future generations. The future possibility of other pandemic incidence and other major health emergencies might be left with no single government or multilateral agency that can address this threat alone. Such a landscape is needed as we are urged to be better prepared to predict, prevent, detect, assess, and effectively respond to pandemics in a highly coordinated manner.

Through the **T20 Inception Conference**, the Think 20 aims to provide such discussion under one of the plenary sessions, titled "**Global Health Architecture and Financing**." This session was chaired by **Hasbullah Thabrany** as the Lead Co-Chair of Task Force 6 of T20 Indonesia 2022 and invited lists of panelists, such as **Budi Gunadi Sadikin** (Minister of Health, Republic of Indonesia), **Rifat Atun** (Professor of Global Health Systems, Harvard University), **Vera Songwe** (United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)), and **Sachin Chaturvedi** (Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)).

### **Developing Global Health Architecture and Financing to Achieve Resilient Global Health System**

When opening the session, Thabrany mentioned that the G20 is expected to strengthen the global health architecture and finance together to build a more resilient world. "We need to strengthen the global health architecture and to finance together to build a world that is more resilient to the pandemic and future shock. The resources must include vaccines, drugs, medical devices, and health workers ready to be deployed to face the health crisis. In addition, the process of restructuring the architecture of global health resilient must be inclusive and adhere to principal of solidarity, justice, transparency, and equity." said Thabrany.

The session continued with a keynote speech delivered by Budi Gunadi Sadikin. In his speech, he emphasized that the Indonesia G20 Presidency is committed to three priorities in the health sector. "First, we encourage countries to build a global health systems resilience by synergizing financial and essential health resources mobilization and global surveillance enhancement by sharing genomic data through a platform to respond to the current and future global health threats. Second, Indonesia proposes that we can harmonize the global health protocols standards, as people and their mobility have been faster than ever. Third, Indonesia also would like to propose that we expand and redistribute equally global manufacturing health and global resources health for pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response. We need to expand the global manufacturing capacities of health products,

particularly for vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostic and personal protective equipment," said Sadikin.

Furthermore, Sadikin also stated that as a health leader and part of the global community, we need to strengthen our cooperation by building our capacity and systems to ensure that the world learns the lesson of the COVID-19 pandemic. "We must come together as a global community for peaceful cooperations that extend beyond this crisis, building our capacity and systems and require a sustain political, financial, and societal commitment over many years. Only by investing in what matters, we can minimize the social-economic impact of the future pandemic," added Sadikin.

### **Addressing The Global Losses and Pressing Challenges from COVID-19 Pandemic to Reform the Global Health Architecture and Financing**

The session continued with a panelist discussion, where Budi Gunadi Sadikin, Rifat Atun, Vera Songwe, and Sachin Chaturvedi shared their thoughts about several key questions related to accelerating global health architecture and financing. The economic losses are huge for countries and current and future generations, but there is also a huge cost of COVID-19 on health systems. Atun stated, "Recent estimates on the economic losses amount more than 12.5 trillion according to latest estimates by IMF losses to 2024. There's going to be a large number of large amounts of losses into the future, including intergenerational effects of the COVID-19.". The COVID-19 pandemic has also increased poverty around the world, particularly in Africa, Songwe stated, "We also saw a huge increase in poverty. We estimate that over 70 million more people fell into poverty during the year 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly because of job losses and because economists just contracted. We did not have enough safety net. As the ILO has shown, only 17% of the African countries have safety net programs that can keep people out of poverty," said Songwe.

Afterward, Chaturvedi emphasized how important it is to create resilient health infrastructure. He stated that digitalization could create interconnected health infrastructure and support systems for fiscal and monetary policies. "India has created a new allocation going to teach forward the idea of digitalization of health sector for digital infrastructure trying to focus on physical and social infrastructure interconnected trying to create MSMEs and supporting system to both fiscal and monetary policies," said Chaturvedi. Furthermore, he added the global approach for materials availability and the importance of sharing production and exporting the vaccines to developing countries. As we can see, many countries are struggling to face the COVID-19 pandemic. Atun also mentioned investing in the development as a strong digital assistance response, and the system needs to function as a whole and be integrated. "The critically important message in terms of response is that the system needs to function as a whole, not just on health care component but also on the organization of the public health systems, the availability of financing and additional



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resources, and delivery of services that were targeted to manage the COVID-19 pandemic and also other conditions," added Atun.

The discussion then continued to the reforming systems of health architecture and financing. Sadikin mentioned six strategies to reform healthcare in Indonesia that can be proposed globally as the President of G20. "First, reform on the primary care. Second, reform the healthcare systems. Third, reform the healthcare resiliences to ensure the pharmaceutical, therapeutic, and diagnostic—fourth, health care financing systems. Fifth, reform the human healthcare resources. Sixth or last is the reform on the healthcare information technology," said Sadikin. The G20 under Indonesia's presidency is expected to play a leading role in the development of this global upward for pandemics, not just for preparedness but also for response and resilience with the inclusive process and integrated and multi-sectoral approach. "We need to change our mindset and give the huge impact of the COVID-19, we should stop seeing health care as a cost; we must see it as a real investment that benefits individuals, communities, societies, and economies. A critically important investment and for this G20 should push for a one-off financing plan to build health systems that enable them to be prepared, responsive, and resilient to the next wave of pandemics," added Atun.

*For full coverage of the event, please watch our recorded live stream on Youtube:*  
<https://youtu.be/lvXWZS1hek0>