



IAP RECOMMENDATION FOR

The UN Global Compact and the EWEC partners



The UN Global Compact and the EWEC partners should strengthen their monitoring and accountability standards for engagement of the business sector, with an emphasis on women's, children's and adolescents' health. They should advocate for accountability of the for-profit sector to be put on the global agenda for achieving UHC and the SDGs, including at the 2019 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and the Health Summit. The UN H6 Partnership entities and the GFF should raise accountability standards in the country programmes they support.

In the context of the UN Secretary-General's proposals for system-wide reform of partnerships with the private sector, our recommendations reflect standards that are common practice among development and UN agencies—but are not necessarily expected of, nor applied, when it comes to the for-profit sector.

KEY MEASURES FOR THE UN GLOBAL COMPACT

The UN Global Compact Board and Office should strengthen accountability standards to protect the right to health among women, children and adolescents.

- Bolster due diligence standards and practices for accepting and retaining members to ensure that the health impacts of their operations are addressed.
- Proactively encourage corporations wishing to join to undergo health impact assessments, and existing members to undertake external evaluations of their health-focused initiatives.
- Prompt companies to collaborate with national authorities to ensure alignment with public health standards.
- Open a space on the UN Global Compact website for independent parties, including civil society and academia, to publicly post evidence and assessments of industry performance.

KEY MEASURES FOR THE UN GLOBAL COMPACT AND EWEC PARTNERS

The UN Global Compact and the UN H6 Partnership Heads of Agency should ensure that the issue of business engagement and accountability for women's, children's and adolescents' health and rights is made an explicit work stream of the UN system's inter-agency platforms addressing private sector engagement, at both the principals and working levels. They should also involve civil society in processes to determine due diligence and accountability standards for qualifying corporations as partner-ready for engagement with the UN.

The EWEC global partners should ensure systematic application of robust monitoring and accountability standards with relation to engagement of the business sector, including to the support they provide governments for implementing the Global Strategy. The EWEC global community is well-positioned to

play a leadership role in innovating and modelling private sector accountability for women's, children's and adolescents' health. The strategic positioning of the PMNCH Private Sector Constituency and the for-profit EWEC commitment-makers, as EWEC champions, should be leveraged to this end.

The EOSG should enable the PMNCH Secretariat to assume full responsibility for coordinating and managing improvements across the full cycle of EWEC commitments, including those of governments and corporations. The PMNCH should build in accountability standards from the start of private sector EWEC commitments. It should facilitate the establishment of exclusionary criteria, as well as a due diligence process, governing EWEC private sector commitments.

The EWEC High-Level Steering Group should help put accountability of the for-profit sector on the global agenda for achieving UHC and the SDGs, including at the 2019 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and the Health Summit during next year's UN General Assembly. It should also place private sector accountability for women's, children's and adolescents' health on its own agenda.

KEY MEASURES FOR UN H6 AGENCIES AND GFF

The UN H6 Partnership entities and the GFF should apply due diligence and accountability standards to the technical advice and country programmes they support involving the private sector.

- **The UN H6 Partnership entities and the GFF should assist governments in establishing meaningful mechanisms for planning private sector engagement and tracking performance.**
- **The UN H6 Partnership should facilitate the development of technical guidance on monitoring and accountability standards for business engagement in women's, children's and adolescents' health.** The process should fully involve academics and civil society, as well as consultation with companies.
- **The WHO and the World Bank should ensure that global monitoring of UHC captures for-profit providers.**
- **The WHO should facilitate and strengthen the provision of legal advisory services to support governments in regulating the pharmaceutical and food industries.**

Reference

Independent Accountability Panel. **Private Sector: Who is Accountable?** woman's, children's, and adolescents' health. 2018. www.iapewec.org/reports/2018report.

ABOUT THE IAP

The Independent Accountability Panel for Every Woman, Every Child, Every Adolescent (IAP) is appointed by the UN Secretary-General. It is composed of an internationally-recognized group of experts in health and human rights, who serve in their individual capacities. The IAP's main functions are to:

- Independently review progress and accountabilities towards achieving the EWEC Global Strategy objectives aligned with Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3; and provide actionable recommendations
- Disseminate IAP reviews and recommendations to support country action and impact
- Promote accountability principles and advocate for remedy and action.

The IAP is the only independent accountability mechanism established under the SDGs so far. The panel recommends the development of an integrated accountability mechanism under UHC, addressing non-communicable and communicable diseases, emergencies and other SDG 3 issues. It should prioritize accountability for the health of women, children and adolescents, and others left furthest behind.

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