



National Joint Annual Review of the Health Sector, 2019/20

Aide Mémoire

The following action points are agreed between the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) and External Development Partners (EDP) at the Business Meeting held on 14 December 2020.

COVID-19 Response Management

The Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) response is a priority and the efforts should be continued from the Government of Nepal (GoN) and the development partners for its effective prevention and management.

Action Point 1: MoHP in collaboration with development partners to continue priority on prevention and case management including screening, tracing testing, quarantine, isolation, treatment and surveillance, while ensuring the continuation of routine services.

Action Point 2: MoHP encourages all development partners to contribute to the COVID-19 vaccine fund. MoHP to prepare an operational plan for the vaccination of COVID-19 including procurement, supply and cold chain management, capacity enhancement and periodically publish the implementation progress (February 2021).

Action Point 3: Initiate the establishment and strengthening of the warehouse for vaccines, medicines and other logistics in federal and province level; considering the current need for COVID-19 vaccine readiness as well as for the longer term warehouse capacity enhancement (April 2021).

Coordination and Collaboration

Strengthening of coordination and collaboration across the three spheres of the governments (federal, provincial and local) is crucial to effective implementation of health sector programmes.

Action Point 4: Organize bi-annual review meetings between federal and provincial levels governments and partners to discuss major progresses, challenges and way forward on major reform agendas including planning and programme implementation. Similarly, facilitate such meetings between provincial and local governments.

Nepal Health Sector Strategy and Financing

Considering the high priority needed in the response management of COVID-19, the current Nepal Health Sector Strategy (NHSS) has been extended for one additional year- until mid-July 2022.

Action Point 5: GoN/MoHP and development partners amend the current Joint Financing Arrangement (JFA) to match the period extended for the current NHSS (May 2021).

Action Point 6: Develop new health sector strategy taking into account National Health Policy, Fifteenth Periodic Plan, Sustainable Development Goals, COVID-19 response and other national and international commitments and endorse by June 2022.

Action Point 7: Develop national health financing strategy by consolidating the current efforts to ensure equitable access of quality health services including the basic health care package for all without any financial hardship (December 2021).

Action Point 8: In line with the clause 9 of the Joint Financing Arrangement (JFA)/NHSS, the MoHP, in coordination with the Ministry of Finance and with cooperation from the pool fund partners, shall institute a formal mechanism to deal with the reimbursed expenses, declared other than eligible, during the implementation of NHSS 2015/16-2021/22 (30 November 2021).

Service Delivery

GoN has endorsed the package of the basic health services in public health services (PHS) regulations. Now the priority is to ensure provisions of basic health services across all local levels.

Action Point 9: Develop standards as envisioned in the PHS regulations to regulate the public and private health facilities for ensuring delivery of quality health services (December 2021).

Action Point 10: Roll out Minimum Service Standards across all levels of health facilities to identify gaps and develop plan to improve quality of health services (Ongoing).

Evidence and Information Management

In Nepal, first and second studies on Maternal Mortality were conducted respectively in 1998 and 2008 which were instrumental in designing the programme. MoHP has established Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response (MPDSR) mechanisms in selected hospitals to track the causes of maternal deaths.

Action Point 11: Taking the opportunity of the National Population Census, which is planned for 2021, conduct the Maternal Mortality Study for the country specific latest estimates and causes of maternal death (including sub-national level disaggregation) to feed into the planning and programme design (in alignment with census schedule).

Action Point 12: Nationwide roll-out of District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2) and electronic Logistics management Information System (e-LMIS) up to the health facilities (4,000) in phase-wise manner aiming their interoperability with other information management systems; and ensure minimum 400 health facilities conduct routine data quality assessment (December 2021).

Implementation of major Health Sector Reform Agenda

GoN has planned and initiated different health sector reform agenda in the current fiscal year to strengthen health system functions and each of three levels has been working to ensure access to health services.

Action Point 13: Redesign organizational structures across three levels including legal framework for the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Health Accreditation Authority to enhance access to quality health services through improved health systems (December 2021).

Action Point 14: Develop human resources for health (HRH) strategic roadmap with projection for next 20 years (July 2021).

Action Point 15: Implementation of Public Financial Management Strategic Framework including the tracking of public spending in health across three levels (Ongoing).



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