

Towards a healthier future: a call for strengthening public health systems

Wemos statement for the zero draft of the Pact for the Future – virtual consultations on 21 February 2024

To promote and safeguard the health and well-being of all generations in the near and far future, countries need to strengthen public health systems. Health equity requires sufficient public - not private - funding for public purposes.

In that vein, and building on last year's health-related high-level political declarations, we urge member states on the necessary next steps in reforming the international financial architecture, including:

- all countries cooperating, without any reservations, towards a UN Framework Convention on Tax;
- putting a sovereign debt workout mechanism and framework on the UN agenda;
- refraining from 'private finance first' approaches in financing for development until an independent review shows the impact on relevant development outcomes, such as health equity, when it concerns the health sector;
- urgently implementing measures to improve development assistance, including the implementation of the Lusaka Agenda for Global Health Initiatives, while moving towards more sustainable ways of funding global public goods and development goals - guided by fair share financing principles and governed by all countries on equal footing.

The Pact for the Future should include a wholehearted commitment to such systemic changes. Although it takes time, well-grounded, decisive and inclusive action toward stronger public health systems today will secure a healthier future.

Who are we?

We are Wemos, a non-profit civil society organization committed to the universal human right to health. Through collaborative and evidence-based advocacy, we strive to address systemic challenges and advocate for policy changes that will protect and promote health for all.