



**Research Unit**  
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**Ministry of Information and Broadcasting**  
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## **G20 Series #95**

### **India's G20 Presidency**

#### **G20 4<sup>th</sup> Health Working Group Meeting (G20 Health Deputies' Meeting)**

**(Gandhinagar, Gujarat– August 17, 2023)**

(Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)

August 23, 2023

*“Health and the environment are organically linked. Clean air, safe drinking water, sufficient nutrition, and secure shelter are major factors of health.”*

[- Prime Minister Narendra Modi](#)

The 4<sup>th</sup> G20 Health Working Group Meeting which was a meeting of G20 Health Deputies' was held on August 17, 2023, in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. Delegates from 19 G20 member countries, 10 invited states, and 22 International Organizations participated in the meeting.

The focus of the G20 Health Deputies' Meeting was to finalise the draft of the Outcome Document that would be adopted by the Health Ministers' meeting to be held subsequently. The draft focused on the three key priorities of the Health Working Group:

- ❖ **Health Emergencies Prevention Preparedness and Response (HEPPR)**
- ❖ **Strengthening Cooperation in the Pharmaceutical Sector**
- ❖ **Digital Health Innovations and Solutions**

The G20 Health Deputies' Meeting was a culmination of the three G20 Health Working Group Meetings that had been held so far:

- ❖ [1<sup>st</sup> Health Working Group Meeting](#) in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala from January 18 - 20, 2023
- ❖ [2<sup>nd</sup> G20 Health Working Group Meeting](#) Goa from April 17 - 19, 2023
- ❖ [3<sup>rd</sup> G20 Health Working Group Meeting](#) in Hyderabad, Telangana from June 4 - 6, 2023

The aim of the Health Deputies' Meeting was to further discuss strategies to enhance healthcare delivery, improve access, and bolster our health systems for a healthier future.

The Union Minister of State (MoS) for Health and Family Welfare Dr Bharati Pravin Pawar, addressed the G20 Deputies' Meeting during the inaugural session. The MoS underlined that the first priority of addressing Health Emergencies Prevention Preparedness and Response (HEPPR) has been a core priority in every G20 Health Working Group since its inception. She

stated that the “*Indian G20 Presidency has put special focus on the critical threats of One Health, AMR (Anti-microbial resistance), and Climate Change*”.

*“The second priority on addressing the need to ensure equitable access to affordable medical countermeasures highlights the need to establish a global MCM (medical countermeasures) coordination platform that envisions the establishment of R&D and manufacturing networks across the globe.*

*This will enable access to quality and affordable vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics (VTDs), especially for the most vulnerable around the world, particularly those in the Global South”, the MoS added.*



On the development and use of digital health innovations and solutions which is the third health priority under India’s G20 Presidency, Dr. Pawar highlighted that “*the Global Initiative for Digital Health (GIDH) has been envisaged to have a convergent approach that breaks the silos and ensures that existing and ongoing digital health efforts can be made accessible under one umbrella*”.

The Union Minister further stated that the three priorities and their related deliverables have the potential to make global healthcare services more accessible and affordable, especially for people in vulnerable situations and those in low-and middle-income countries”.

The first day concluded with delegates keeping the focus on the finalisation of the Outcome Document. They engaged in Live Negotiations on the Draft Declaration led by India’s G20 Presidency Health Track Focal Point

WHO also held a two-day Global Summit for Traditional Medicine on August 17 – 18, 2023.

## **Global Summit for Traditional Medicine**

On the first day of the meeting, WHO held a **Global Summit for Traditional Medicine**. It was inaugurated by the Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, in the presence of the Union Minister of AYUSH Shri Sarbananda Sonowal; the Chief Minister of Gujarat Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel; and the Director-General, World Health Organization Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus,

Co-hosted by the Ministry of AYUSH, the summit was a co-branded event as part of the G20 Health Ministers’ Meeting. The two-day summit, with the theme “**Towards Health and Well-being for All**”, explored the role of traditional, complementary and



integrative medicine in addressing pressing health challenges and driving progress in global health and sustainable development.

Addressing the first-ever Global Summit on Traditional Medicine, Dr. Mandaviya said, *“This Global Summit presents a unique platform for dialogue, idea exchange, collaboration, and international partnerships in the realm of Traditional and Complementary Medicine.”*

On the WHO’s Global Centre for Traditional Medicine headquartered in Jamnagar, Gujarat, Dr. Mandaviya said, *“This center serves as a knowledge hub, synergizing ancient wisdom with modern science for the betterment of people and the planet. By supplementing WHO’s core functions, the center accelerates the advancement of traditional medicine globally.”*



Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, at the inaugural event, acknowledged the efforts of India to enhance Universal Health Coverage under the umbrella scheme of Ayushman Bharat. He highlighted India’s adoption of telemedicine, which not only expands health service delivery, but also help save time, and money for patients.

Dr. Ghebreyesus stressed on the link between traditional medicines, and the environment, and said, *“Traditional Medicine is as old as humanity itself; people in all nations have used traditional healing practices at some point in their lives.”*

The summit saw detailed deliberation and knowledge sharing on various facets of Traditional Medicine in the world, ranging from the need, impact, innovation, and data on the use of traditional systems of medicine. A dedicated exhibition for traditional medicine, showcasing the value, and diversity of traditional medicine across the globe was also inaugurated as part of the Summit.



## References:

[G20 Health Minister’s Meeting to Commence in Gandhinagar from 17 August](#)

[PM addresses G20 Health Ministers’ Meeting](#)

[WHO’s first ever Global Summit on Traditional Medicine inaugurated as part of the G20 Health Minister’s Meeting in Gandhinagar, Gujarat](#)

[Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya delivers keynote address at the concluding session of WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine in the presence of Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of AYUSH](#)

[Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya Inaugurates India MedTech Expo 2023](#)

[Dr Bharati Pravin Pawar, Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare addresses G20 Deputies’ Meeting](#)

[G20 Health Minister’s Meeting inaugurated in Gandhinagar, Gujarat](#)

[Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya launches 'Global Initiative on Digital Health – a WHO Managed Network' in the presence of Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General, World Health Organization](#)

[Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya accompanies G20 Ministers and Delegates to visit India MedTech Expo 2023](#)

[PM addresses G20 Health Ministers' Meeting](#)

[Text of PM's Video message at G20 Health Ministers meeting](#)

[Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya delivers keynote address at the Ministerial meeting – Sustain, Accelerate and Innovate to end TB in the South-East Asia Region](#)

[G20 Health Minister's Meeting concludes in Gandhinagar, Gujarat](#)

[Our vision is clear, our goals are ambitious, and our determination is unyielding: Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya](#)

[Outcome Document unanimously adopted at G20 Health Minister's Meeting in Gandhinagar](#)

### **Twitter Links:**

[Delegates & Ministers will deliberate and pave the way towards creating a responsive and resilient global health architecture.](#)

[With the 4th Health Working Group Meeting & Health Ministers' Meeting commencing, here's an overview of the Working Group's journey that fosters creating sustainable & resilient societies.](#)

### **Video Links:**

[PM Narendra Modi's speech at G20 Health Ministers Meeting in Gandhinagar](#)

[Press Conference On G20 Health Ministers' Meeting in Gandhinagar](#)

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