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# National Global Health Strategies: Canadian Considerations

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# GHD: key considerations for National Global Health Strategies

- “The practice by which intergovernmental and non-state actors co-ordinate global policy solutions to improve global health”
- Focus on issues that transcend national boundaries (infectious diseases; climate change; war; migration; widening health inequities)
- Importance of considering health as a global public good with equitable distribution of resources and goods (vaccines)
- Imperative to link domestic health innovation to global health priorities (creation, research, production, allocation)
- Recognize the impact of “non-health” issues (trade: WTO waiver to Trade Related Aspects of International Property Rights (TRIPS) – failure in 2022)
- Challenges to the international rule of law by malignant state and non-state (eg: electronic media – Telegram; X; AI) actors and resulting geopolitical instability

# Canada's Foreign Policy and GHD

- FP has both stable and unstable components (threat response; opportunities)
- FP priorities change over time (eg: Indo-Pacific Strategy)
- Funding allocations in support of FP dependent on other demands (domestic issues and political calculations)
- Minister Joly: October 2022 – two key pillars for Canadian FP – defending our sovereignty and pragmatic diplomacy
- Long standing international development initiatives – women and girls framework and a long history of success in global health (OW – CIDA and Grand Challenges)

# Potential Components of a National Global Health Strategy for Canada

- Must be embedded in FP and other global considerations (trade; environment; etc): middle power reality – convene and convince
- Build on Canadian health sector strengths, both current and potential
- Both multilateral and bilateral (with key partners in key sectors)
- Must include international organizations (UN, WHO) and key NGO's
- Written strategy – housed in a single department with clear vision, priorities, governance, dedicated resources (WHO 0.7% GNI), ongoing monitoring/evaluation and process for rapid course corrections
- Must embrace Canadian NGO's, health funders and academic institutions in the space: CCNTD's; CCGHR; Dali Lama School of Public Health; CIHR

# Opportunity: Bilateral Health Collaboration, Canada and Taiwan

- Recent MOU on health collaboration
- Garner support within government to promote action on the MOU
- Establishment of a structure (joint) that can identify areas of collaboration and develop a strategic action plan (including governance)
- Creation of an actionable project map
- Creation of a funding envelope to support the project map
- Implementation and evaluation of initiatives arising

# Conclusions

- National Global Health Strategies are necessary to improve global health and enhance global wealth
- NGHS can be multilateral and bilateral
- Canada has a necessity to develop and implement a National Global Health Strategy – multilateral and bilateral – to support its FP directions
- The presence of a Health MOU between Canada and Taiwan provides an immediate opportunity to work together on a bilateral direction that can both inform and be informed by a National Global Health Strategy as it develops
- There are three Senators from Canada who are here now who are very interested in ideas from Taiwan about how this could move forward



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