

Box 1 Recommendations and actions

Health diplomacy seminar/forum

1. It is proposed to establish an advisory group on global health diplomacy to support WHO on moving the global health diplomacy agenda forward in the Region.
2. WHO should organize health diplomacy seminars/forums regularly in the Region to help raise awareness and bring stakeholders together.

International negotiations

3. WHO must help decision-makers in different sectors to be well informed and prepare well for international negotiations that impact on health.
4. The Region as a whole needs to be more engaged and present in negotiations that are critical for health, as well as in discussions in many different political venues (regional and global).
5. Issues that are critical for the Region need to be taken forward proactively in different international negotiation venues based on common positions.

Capacity-strengthening

6. The Region as a whole needs to significantly strengthen its capacity in health diplomacy.
7. Countries can explore new mechanisms to strengthen the support for global health diplomacy “at home”.

Coordination and collaboration

8. Coordination with other agencies and organizations which can support a common health agenda, such as the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), must be made use of and close collaboration sought.
9. More contact should be established between parliamentarians and other decision-makers with regard to health equity, health issues in national security and national legislation, and to get them interested and involved in committees where health is impacted.

Advocacy

10. WHO can help raise awareness among key actors of the interface between global and domestic/local health issues and health and foreign policy.
11. The Region’s experiences, best practices and achievements in global health diplomacy should be analysed and shared widely and research undertaken to further develop the field.
12. Efforts must be made to involve the media in global health diplomacy.