

UNITED NATION CONVENTION ON THE RIGHT OF THE CHILDREN
LIST OF ISSUES IN RELATION TO FIFTH PERIODIC REPORT OF PAKISTAN

The para 13 of the report relates to Ministry of National Health Service, Regulation and Coordination. In this regard it is stated that Government of Pakistan is signatory to Millennium Development Goal (MDG) and will take agenda forward into Sustainable Development Goal (SDG). Under MDG 4 or goal 3 of SDG, Pakistan has set itself the objective of reducing the under-five child mortality (U5MR). The country has shown slow but gradual progress on all the indicators related to this MDG. Under-five mortality fell from 117 deaths in 1990 / 91 to 89 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2012/13; and the infant mortality rate in this period from 102 to 74 deaths per 1,000 live births.

1. Measures taken to increase budget allocation to health sector

Ministry has taken many steps to increase budget allocation to health sector by developing many development project which has been approved from appropriate fora i.e. DDWP CDWP and ECNEC. These include National Prime Minister Health Insurance Scheme amounting to Pak rupee 9 billion, Expanded Program on Immunization amounting to Pak 3.6 billion, strengthening of M/o NHR&C (Pak Rs.52 million) to name the few. In addition there many development projects by National institute of health for enhancing capacity for the organization for increase vaccine production, strengthen disease surveillance and control antimicrobial resistant in the country. Furthermore each province have develop their own PC-1 for RMNCH, nutrition, communicable and non-communicable diseases worth millions of rupees.

2. The steps taken to protect polio health workers and ensure their safe access to children.

- New Emergency Operational Guidelines integrated operations, security and communication activities. An intensified schedule of campaigns has continued, although sometimes limited in scope and duration by the prevailing security climate.
- The DC/DCO/PA of every district/agency ensures safety and security of all the field polio eradication workers (including the workers supported by the partner organizations) with the assistance of the provincial governments.
- The District Police Officer is liaising with all the relevant stakeholders and security agencies to ensure safety and security of the polio eradication workers.
- The Police Inspector or SHO in every UC is member of the UPEC and participates in all its meetings to finalize and implement the security plan at the UC level as part of the UC micro-plan.
- All the police stations and check posts are actively engaged in ensuring protection of the polio eradication workers.
- Rangers providing support in security sensitive areas of Karachi. Additional check posts and pickets established in Gadap area of Karachi.

- Civil Military coordination committees constituted in FATA to enhance coordination to reach more children in the Agencies. Pro-active engagement through tribal elders and influencers to garner support for the campaign continues. Governor KP speaks to the tribal elders in every meeting on the Polio Eradication Initiative

3. Measures to combat malnutrition and problem of doctors giving formula milk to children in exchange for commissions from private companies

- In Nutrition Government has taken a life-cycle approach and recognizes the importance of optimal nutrition for women in order to minimize the risks associated with malnutrition. Securing good nutritional status of women across the life course will in the long term reduce intrauterine growth restriction, child underweight and stunting.
- National infant feeding board has been notified both at federal and provincial level to ensure implementation of breast feeding ordinance.
- Infant and young child hood Feeding (IYCF) strategy has been developed which will address first 1000day window of opportunity with involvement of all stakeholder.
- Provinces have developed their PC-1 for nutrition
- In province of Sindh with the support of WFP & UNICEF stunting program is being launched in high priority districts
- Food fortification alliance has been notified. Fortification of flour with iron supplement in collaboration with Pakistan flour mill association.
- Launch of PM health insurance program ensuring access to poor segment / community to avail essential obstetric care services at quality health care facilities.
- Fortification of flour has been initiated in Punjab and AJK.

4. Programs addressing the prevention and treatment of diarrhea and pneumonia among children.

Government has taken initiatives to address the situation by focusing more on prioritizing neonatal care which will result in tangible improvement while enhancing Primary Health Care system and increased allocation of resources can bridge the gap.

- **Expanded program for Immunization (EPI)** is being implemented throughout the country in which children are vaccinated against nine vaccine preventable diseases, including pneumonia. In addition, Pakistan intends to introduced ROTA vaccine for prevention of child hood diarrhea late this year
- **National Program for Family Planning and Primary Health Care** through its network of 96,000 community based Lady Health workers has a substantial impact on the uptake of important primary health services which include a large and positive impact on Childhood vaccination rates, and Lower rates of childhood diarrhea & pneumonia.
- **The WHO guidelines on Integrated management of newborn and childhood illnesses (IMNCI)** have been used for capacity building of facility based health

providers throughout the country under the MNCH program as well as through the partners (WHO, UNICEF, Save the Children etc).

- Government of Pakistan has endorsed **the Global Action Plan on Pneumonia and Diarrhoea** (GAPPD) in 2013 and Global Every Newborn Action Plan (GENAP) in 2014.
- National Institute of Health is now producing, manufacturing and distributing **low osmolality ORS** through EPI programs. Co-packaging of Zinc and low osmolality ORS is under process.
- Treatment of Sever bacterial infection at community level where referral is not possible is being piloted to see feasibility of such intervention at community level.