

Governance of Legislative Network on UHC

Composition and ToR of Steering Committee

Background

Across democratic world, lawmakers play very important statutory functions that have huge implications for the design, implementation, financing and raising accountability bar for social policy thrusts including Universal Health Coverage (UHC) agenda. The legislature's statutory functions of appropriation, legislation, accountability, oversight and representation are needed to create necessary legal frameworks, mobilize additional public fund and hold the system accountable to ensure high quality design and effective implementation of UHC mechanisms.

The Senate Committee on Health in collaboration with development partners have resolved to institute a Legislative Network on UHC to harness and align the roles of lawmakers towards advancing UHC cause and serve as a veritable tool for coordination and learning among federal and state lawmakers.

As part of efforts geared towards ensuring effectiveness and sustainability of the Network, its organizers are aiming for a strong governance arrangement, clear course of action and a robust performance management framework. This document describes the composition and ToR of the Legislative Network steering committee which is saddled with the responsibility of governing the Network.

The Legislative Network Steering Committee

The steering Committee for the Legislative Network provides overall leadership for advancing the vision of the Network and coordinates its activities in order to achieve its set goals. The steering committee sets direction for the Network and appraises its performance based on agreed performance framework.

Composition of the Steering Committee

The Chair, Senate Committee on Health is the Chairman of the Steering Committee while the following are the members of the committee:

- Chair, Senate Committee on PHC
- Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriation
- Chair, House of Rep. Committee on Health
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- Chair House of Rep. Committee on AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- Chair, Conference of Speakers
- One Chair, State House of Assembly Committee on Health for each of the six geopolitical zones
- One Chair, State House of Assembly Committee on Appropriation for each of the six geopolitical zones

Secretariat of the Steering Committee

The office of the Chair, Senate Committee on Health shall serve as the secretariat of the steering committee and provides necessary secretariat functions for the steering committee of the Network.

Technical Advisory Group

The technical advisory group shall provide technical assistance to the steering committee towards effective discharge of its duty, implementation of the legislative network's action plan and appraisal of its performance framework. The Technical Advisory Group shall consist of the main development partners supporting Legislative Network including USAID/HFG, BMGF/PACFaH, World Bank, DFID/MNCH2, USAID/HP+ and other partners. The National Institute for Legislative Studies will also provide technical support to the steering committee through the Technical Advisory Group.

ToR of the Steering Committee

The following terms of reference are to guide the steering committee for the Legislative Network on Universal Health Coverage. The steering committee is expected to, among other things, carry out the following;

1. Provide leadership to the Legislative Network in terms of coordination, administration and stewardship;
2. Ensure that action plan for the network is developed implemented and reviewed regularly;
3. Serve as a springboard for facilitating implementation of health legislations including National Health Act and statutory earmarking for health such as Basic Health Care Provision Fund (BHCPF) at national level and Equity Fund at the state level;
4. Identify gaps that militates against effective discharge of lawmakers duties as it relates to appropriation for health, oversight and other legislative functions;

5. Mobilize technical and financial resources from technical advisory group and other sources towards addressing identified gaps in legislative capacity gaps;
6. Appraise performance of Legislative Network members based on agreed performance framework;
7. Promote learning and exchange of ideas among state lawmakers and between nation and state lawmakers;
8. Keep Network members abreast of emerging national and international health policy thrusts;
9. Forge a consensus on topical national and state level health policy issue and present a common front on behalf of the Network;
10. Create opportunities at national, regional and international level for capacity building for lawmakers on basic health financing concepts and acquaint them also with legal, policy and institutional frameworks for health finance reforms;
11. Organize and hold quarterly and annual meetings, encourage robust participation on the network's social media platform and link members to targeted technical assistance.
12. Represent the Network at the National Council on Health and other relevant national and regional events.