

GHA Annual Report 2016

EU

ACCESS TO MEDICINES

#HealthyPrices: GHA's successful campaign on affordable medicines



The #HealthyPrices black box at the European Development Days in Brussels in June

GHA, together with EPHA (European Public Health Alliance), carried out the #HealthyPrices campaign, which aimed to raise awareness among EU decision makers about the current burning problem of high and unaffordable prices of medicines in Europe as well as globally, proposing concrete and effective solutions: the need for full transparency on the cost of medical R&D and the need for public health return of investments, whenever public money (such as EU funds) is invested in medical R&D to develop new drugs.

Using the campaigns communication tools (HealthyPrices [website](#), a big black box symbolizing the lack of transparency of the cost of medical R&D, [infographics](#), etc.), GHA organized a series of activities to present the campaign to key EU decision makers and engage with them. Such activities included an exhibition during the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in Windhoek (Namibia), a stand at the European Development Days (Brussels), European Health Forum Gastein (Austria), HealthyPrices exhibition in the European Parliament (Strasbourg), etc.



MEP Carlos Zorrinho supporting the #HealthyPrices campaign during the ACP EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in Windhoek, June 2016

In addition to these initiatives, GHA also held a series of advocacy meetings with MEPs, European Commission officials, and EU Member States. Overall, thanks to the campaign, GHA managed to reach out to many EU decision-makers, sensitizing them on the issue of high prices of medicines and proposing increased transparency and the need for public health return as effective solutions. These messages have been successfully debated within EU institutions during the time the campaign has been running. Some key messages of the campaign on transparency and affordability have been included in the European Parliament report on access to medicines.

One big win of the campaign and GHA's access to medicines work in general, is that the European Commission (EC) is now willing to explore with us how we can attach transparency, public return and affordability provisions to EU funding in its next EU Research Framework Programme (post-2020). Follow up meetings and discussions on specific access language and legislation will be continued throughout 2017, focus on the need to ensure public return on EU public investments for medical R&D.

TUBERCULOSIS

European Commission's increased pledge to the Global Fund

Throughout 2015, GHA has been involved in the development of strategies to push the EC to increase the pledge for the GF replenishment. These efforts saw a positive outcome: in March 2016 the European Commission announced it will increase its contribution to the Global Fund for 2017-2019. The pledge of EUR 470 million represents an increase of more than 27% from the Commission's previous commitment made in 2013.

On the occasion of the Fifth Replenishment Conference of the Global Fund in Montreal, European Commissioner for Development and Cooperation, Neven Mimica, announced that the European Commission will top an additional € 5 million to the pledge already announced in March, allocating an overall € 475 million to the fund for the period 2017-19, which is a substantial increase compared to the previous period (2014-16) when the EC contributed € 370 million. This comes as a consequence of the continuous advocacy efforts undertaken by civil society in the months proceeding the EC pledge.

TB remained a priority in the EU agenda

As a result of GHA's continued advocacy efforts, TB has become a priority of the Slovak EU Presidency for July-December 2016. After several ministerial discussions on TB, EU Member States agreed to support the development of an integrated EU policy framework for HIV, TB and Hepatitis C. This is a big move, as GHA has been advocating for a policy framework for the past 5 years. There is also a strong support from many MEPs on the need of the adoption of a common EU policy framework on the three diseases, covering also the neighboring countries of the EU. Pushing for a policy framework will continue to be an advocacy priority for us the upcoming year. Currently the European Parliament is working on a resolution on the issue. GHA is closely working with different MEPs to influence the resolution, as this will be pressure from the EP to the EC on the urgency of the adoption of the framework.

For the first time TB civil society was present at HIV/AIDS Civil Society Forum

GHA participated for the first time to the HIV/AIDS Civil Society Forums taking place in Luxembourg. It was the first time a TB organization was attending the forum, and GHA presented the work of TB Europe Coalition. For the first time the forum was enlarged to representatives from TB and Hepatitis C communities, as it was agreed that a strong common advocacy action should be done towards the EU, asking for a EU common policy framework that includes HIV, TB and Hepatitis C. The participants of the forum also agreed on the urgent need to tackle the issue of countries in EECA region transitioning from Global Fund's support, putting at risk the sustainability of TB and HIV programmes. There were positive signals from HIV CSOs about the possibility of enlarging the forum to TB and Hepatitis C organisations, but it will all depend on the EC decision on a new policy framework.

EU to take a leading role in ensuring sustainability of TB response

As part of the efforts to encourage a scaled-up regional political response to the TB/MDR-TB and HIV epidemics and ensure the sustainability of the response in the WHO European region, GHA coordinated the work that led to the delivery of a joint letter signed by Dr Lucica Ditiu, Dr Marc Dybul, Professor Michel Kazatchkine, Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab and Mr Michel Sidibé to the Estonian Prime Minister. The letter asks to bring the issues of TB/MDR-TB, HIV and viral Hepatitis on top of the EU's agenda next year, when the Estonian government will hold the EU Presidency, and to host a high level Joint Partnership Meeting on Transition and Sustainability in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. GHA also coordinated the preparation and

delivery of a joint letter signed by 66 European CSO to the Estonian Prime Minister with the same request to prioritize TB/HIV and host a high-level meeting. The Estonian government has replied to two letter from the agencies and civil society organisations showing its willingness to organise a High Level Policy dialogue on transition & sustainability of TB and HIV response in November 2017.

Launch of TBpeople - the first ever regional Russian speaking network of people with TB experience



Family picture of the launch of TB People in Bratislava

During its participation in the 7th Conference of the Union European Region in Bratislava, GHA, as one of the TBEC coordinators organized multiple activities on the side of it. One of those was launching of TBpeople, the first regional network of people with experience of TB in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA). It was launched as a result of a three-day workshop of Russian speaking community advocates, that gathered people with experience on TB, leveraging their expertise in order to become advocates who can be actively engaged in the fight against TB across the EECA region. The workshop saw the participation of Mark Dybul (Executive Director of Global Fund), Lucica Ditiu (Executive Director of StopTB), who both welcomed the launch of the new network. This is a huge achievement, as it is a result of seven years' work of TBEC in mobilizing and empowering TB communities to make sure they are actively engaged in the fight against TB across the EECA region.

Launch of European TB Caucus



Parliamentarian members of the European TB Caucus in Bratislava

Another major activity during the 7th Conference of the Union European Region in Bratislava was the launch of the Eurasian Parliamentary Group on TB. This new Caucus of MPs gathered MPs from over 20 countries of WHO Europe region, who all have made a commitment to further mobilize Parliamentarians in their countries and work towards greater EU engagement in the fight against TB, particularly linked to the AMR and transition agenda.

GHA also actively participated in different sessions of the Union conference: it chaired the closing plenary session of the Regional UNION conference. The session, with the title: "Road to

Bratislava 2016: a uniting call from TB and HIV stakeholders for European political leadership in the fight against communicable diseases" saw the participation of various actors, among others, Stop TB Partnership, representatives from Global Fund, WHO Europe, TBpeople, the Government of Slovakia and the Eurasian Parliamentary Group on TB.

Implementation of TB REP project

2016 has been very important for the implementation of the TB REP project. Together with Alliance for Public Health Ukraine, TBEC has organized the first TB REP Regional Event with our 10 grantees from the region, WHO Europe office, and regional civil society networks, which trained grantees in advocacy techniques in the specific context of transition to ambulatory models of care and discussed coordination strategies at regional level. In the frames of the TB REP project, TBEC has also conducted three monitoring visits (Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Armenia), assessing our grantees' advocacy strategies and work in the shift towards ambulatory models of care. The purpose of the visit was to strengthen the ability of local civil society to contribute to national actions against TB through the facilitation of a three-day advocacy workshop.

GHA at a roundtable with EU Member States at World TB Day

On the occasion of World TB Day, GHA spoke at a Round Table discussion hosted by the Dutch Permanent Representation and WHO. Speakers included Michel Kazatchkine (UNSG Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia). The meeting was attended by health attaches of many permanent representations of MS in Brussels. During the event Professor Kazatchkine underlined that the withdrawal of Global Fund support from the EECA region could potentially have tragic consequences on the TB and HIV response. It was the occasion for GHA to add that the issue of donor transition and sustainability of TB and HIV programmes should require a stronger involvement of the EU as a key political convener in the region.

NUTRITION

Increased impact of nutrition advocacy at EU level



GHA continued, for the third year, to coordinate the activities of the Generation Nutrition EU campaign, a network of civil society organisations working to ensure the EU has effective policies in place and put adequate efforts to end undernutrition. **On the road to the Nutrition Summit in Rio de Janeiro**, that took place in August 2016, GHA organized a [high level event](#) in the **European Parliament** about the EU's role in ending undernutrition. The event, that took place on 16th February, was organized with Generation Nutrition partners and was hosted by key MEPs from the Development Committee. This was the occasion to present our [position paper](#) asking the European Commission for €1bn additional funding for nutrition specific interventions by 2020, with specific targets for wasting reduction.

This successful advocacy led to the adoption, by the plenary of the

European Parliament in October, of a **resolution on “Next steps towards attaining global goals and EU commitments on nutrition and food security in the world”**. The resolution is very much in line with Generation Nutrition's positions, and it contains specific asks to the EC of pledging an additional €1bn targeting nutrition specific programmes, as well as the development of a wasting reduction target within EU's development policies.



Participants to the event in the European Parliament

Parliamentary engagement on nutrition

Global Health Advocates continued in 2016 its engagement with parliamentarians from both the EU and developing countries, to ensure they play a strong role in the fight against malnutrition, ensuring effective policies for early childhood development are in place. GHA is actively putting nutrition issues high in the agenda of different parliamentary fora, especially engaging with MPs from countries with high rates of undernutrition.



Panel discussion during the ACP EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in Windhoek, June 2016

On the side of the same Parliamentary Assembly, GHA engaged with a group of **Members of the European Parliament**, bringing them to **visit a clinic in the township of Katutura, on the outskirts of Windhoek**. The clinic provides primary healthcare services to a population of 36,000, including the diagnosis of acute malnutrition. During the visit, MEPs had the opportunity to hear from mothers about the benefits of exclusive breastfeeding: children are less prone to diarrhea and sickness. This was also the occasion for MEPs to discuss which steps and commitments the EU should take in the fight against malnutrition worldwide.

In June, GHA, together with UNICEF Namibia, organised a [lunch debate](#) on the side of the **ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly who took place in Windhoek**. The topic of the event was the **role of parliamentarians in the fight against malnutrition** and saw the participation of many MPs from African countries who shared best practices across regional and national parliamentary networks to end malnutrition. Also the former Namibian Prime Minister Hon. Nahas Angula took part to the debate.



MEPs visiting a local clinic in the outskirts of Windhoek, June 2016



Parliamentarians discuss their role in promoting nutrition in Nairobi, December 2016

In December, on the side of the **ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly who took place in Nairobi**, GHA mobilised parliamentarians during an [event](#) on the topic **“Investing in Nutrition: the key role of parliamentarians”**. Co-hosted by the British Member of the European Parliament Julie Ward and Hon. Saoudatou Wane from Mauritania, the debate focused on the key role parliamentarians have to play in the fight against undernutrition: in countries heavily

affected by malnutrition, they can advance the well-being of their constituencies by crafting legislation, voting budget and holding their governments

accountable for the commitments made. In donor countries, parliamentarians can leverage additional funding for nutrition and shape effective development policies that can have a positive impact on early childhood development in partner countries. The event saw the active participation of 12 members of the

European Parliament together with around 40 MPs from ACP countries, who showed real commitments in advancing nutrition policies in their respective constituencies.

In October GHA, together with ACTION partners and Action Against Hunger, gathered for the first time a group of **parliamentarians on the side of the Annual Meetings of the World Bank** in Washington DC. This first meeting of the **leading group of MPs engaged on nutrition and early childhood development** resulted in different commitments taken by parliamentarians, to improve nutrition policies in their respective countries.

Mobilising media: journalist delegation to Madagascar



Two kids born on the same day: one well nourished, the other stunted. Madagascar, May 2016

From 29 May to 4 June GHA EU, together with ACTION colleagues from Italy and the UK, accompanied 5 journalists on a field trip to Madagascar, with the goal of experiencing the health challenges that the country is facing, including the problem of malnutrition and TB and HIV epidemics. The delegations resulted in different media piece, including an article written by Cecile Barbieri, the EU journalist who participated to the delegation, which had been published on [Euractiv](#) (a wide-spread and influential EU outlet) and it focuses on the HIV epidemic on the island.

PUBLICATIONS

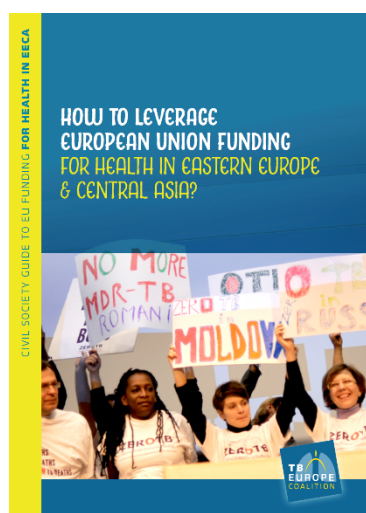
Launch of a position paper on transition



GHA, as part of the TB Europe Coalition, launched on Monday 25 April a new position paper: [Transitioning from donor support. HIV and TB programmes in Eastern Europe and Central Asia: Challenges and effective solutions](#) . The paper has concrete recommendations to all stakeholders in order to ensure countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia can face sustainable and responsible transitions from

donor support and guarantee continuation and scale up of the TB and HIV response. The paper was launched on the occasion of the Global Fund board taking place in Ivory Coast on 26-27 April, which was attended by GHA.

Launch of a guide on EU funding for health



In March GHA, as coordinator of the TB Europe Coalition, launched a new guide [How to Leverage EU funding for health in Eastern Europe and Central Asia](#). The guide is a support for civil society organisations across the European region that explains how to access European Union funding in support of their TB and HIV activities. It provides local actors, especially civil society organisations, with simple and practical suggestions on how to make best use of EU funding opportunities to support TB, HIV and harm reduction projects. It also provides a snapshot of all the different EU funding instruments, with concrete examples on how they have already been used in the past by NGOs in countries, giving some useful tips on the best way to leverage funding. The guide is available in English and Russian.

France

TUBERCULOSIS



Infographic on the consequences of France maintaining its contribution

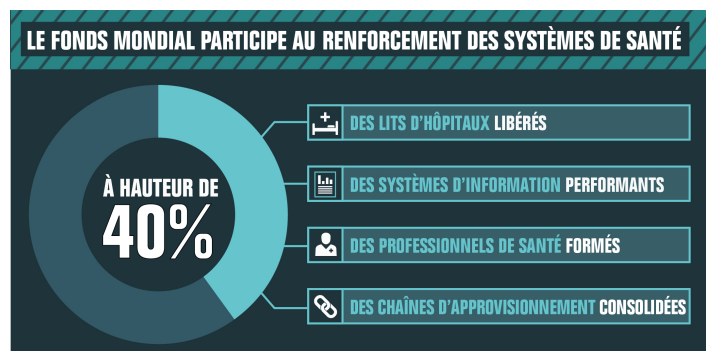
Global Fund replenishment and cuts to UNITAID and the Fund

During the first part of the year, GHA developed a campaign asking for France to maintain its previous commitment to the Global Fund of €1.08 billion for 2017-2019 and announce its contribution as early as possible. The campaign was made out of 3 tools : a [1:30mn video](#) summarizing the context and the importance for France to maintain an ambitious contribution to the Fund, 4 briefing notes explaining why

investing in the Fund is strategic ([action towards health systems strengthening](#), [efficiency in French priority zones](#), [a track-record in financial management](#) and the [advantages of multilateral aid](#)) and finally 4

infographics illustrating our arguments that GHA tweeted, along with other NGOs. Moreover, GHA published an [op-ed](#) in the Huffington Post signed by Mayor of Paris Anne Hidalgo, President of Seine-Saint-Denis Departmental Council Stéphane Troussel and 3 MPs who were part of the Cape Town delegation, Chantal Guittet, Romain Colas and Yves Censi.

On June 26th, François Hollande announced that France would maintain its contribution to the Global Fund for the next 3 years (€1.08 billion), a commitment that was confirmed during the Fifth Replenishment Conference in Montreal mid-September. France will remain the first european donor to the Fund since its creation.



Infographic on the action of the Fund for health systems

During the second part of the year, GHA focused its Global Fund and UNITAID advocacy on calling the government to maintain existing pledges and steer away from potential cuts in the fight against pandemics. Through September to December, along with partner NGOs, GHA generated media attention around the issue by publishing op-eds (in the [Huffington Post](#) and in [Libération](#)) and press-releases. GHA also sent letters to François Hollande and Jean-Marc Ayrault to express our concern about the delay in the Global Fund disbursements for 2014-2016, the potential €60 million cut in the Fund pledge and cuts in the UNITAID contribution in 2015 and 2016.

The mobilization of global health NGOs paid off, and in December, the President confirmed a €1.160 billion for the Global Fund for 2017-2019 in order to deliver on previous commitments and on the new pledge. €385 million have already been disbursed. UNITAID will be receiving €95 million out of the €100 million annual baseline. The €5 million missing will be earmarked for the WHO health regulation in agreement with the UNITAID Secretariat.

Conference on tuberculosis and HIV at the National Assembly



1st roundtable of the conference

On April 5th, GHA co-organized a conference at the French National Assembly with Sidaction and 3 MPs on global health security challenges linked to TB and HIV epidemics. The speakers discussed the global situation of both epidemics, the new challenges that they pose worldwide and the implementation of the response through public policies and financing. High level panelists included: André Vallini, Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in charge of development and Francophonie; Mark Dybul, Executive Director of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and malaria; Philippe Douste-Blazy, Under-Secretary-General, Special Adviser on Innovative Financing for Development in the United Nations and chairman of UNITAID; 3 MPs Chantal Guittet, Romain Colas and Yves Censi; Pierre

Bergé, Chairman of Sidaction ; Stéphane Troussel, President of the most affected French county; Boubacar Diallo, a cured TB patient from Mali; Clarisse Loe Loumou, GHA board member and Bruno Rivalan, Director of GHA's French office.

MP delegation in Madagascar (July)

GHA, along with Sidaction, organized an MP delegation to Madagascar on TB and HIV. Five MPs participated from different political groups.



Visit in a tuberculosis community center

The aim of this study tour was for MPs to be sensitized to TB-HIV related issues, health financing and broader ODA, ahead both the Global Fund replenishment conference and the financial bill in France.

They visited TB and HIV clinics and community health centers, met with officials (Minister of Health, French development agency, CCM, EU and French Ambassadors,...), health workers, local NGOs and patients.



Visit at the hospital specialized in MDR-TB

Back from this delegation, the MPs supported media action during the financial bill (see below), calling for more ODA, and engaged on TB through the creation of a Francophone parliamentary network on TB (see below).

Creation of a Francophone TB Caucus

A cooperation agreement between the Francophone Parliamentary Assembly (FPA), the Stop TB Partnership and GHA was signed during the Francophone Parliamentary Assembly in Madagascar in July, the first step in creating the Francophone TB Caucus, a vast network of Francophone MPs committed to end tuberculosis.

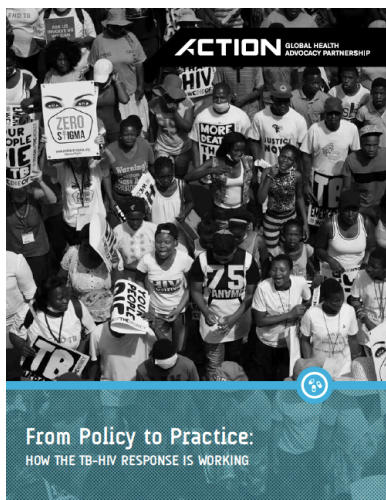
Following the launch of the Francophone TB Caucus, GHA co-organized its first meeting in Burkina Faso at the beginning of October, during the Francophone Parliamentary Assembly's annual meeting on TB, HIV and malaria. For two days, 15 MPs from both donors and affected countries discussed the challenges of tackling these diseases in La Francophonie both in-country and internationally. TB was featured like never before : the launch of the Francophone TB Caucus was presented in plenary session by French MP Chantal Guittet and the Global Plan to End TB and the role of MPs was presented in plenary by GHA on behalf of Stop TB.

The 15 MPs signed the Barcelona Declaration (founding document of the Global TB Caucus) and the FPA Secretariat committed to mobilize countries to create National TB Caucuses.



During the signature of the agreement

Côte d'Ivoire case-study for TB/HIV report



GHA participated in the drafting of the ACTION new report that highlights the persistent need to coordinate an integrated response to the deadly duo of TB-HIV co-infections if additional progress is to be made against either disease.

The report, *From Policy to Practice: How the TB-HIV Response is Working*, recommends that governments of high-burden countries develop joint national TB and HIV strategic plans, as well as scale up investments in underfunded TB programs. It also urges governments, donor agencies, civil society, and the private sector to work together to address key gaps and develop the appropriate tools to prevent, diagnose, and treat HIV-associated TB.

GHA developed the Côte d'Ivoire case study through research and interviews in country.

NUTRITION

World Health Assembly

The Decade of Action on Nutrition was proclaimed by the UN and spans from 2016 to 2025. The WHO is its co-leader along with the FAO. This is why WHA 2016 was of particular interest for nutrition. To ensure that this Decade of Action did not become an empty shell, GHA and Action contre la Faim (ACF) drafted a resolution calling for a strong Decade of Action (2016-2020) with a focus on setting national targets and increasing financing. The resolution was sponsored by Chad, Ecuador, Peru, Haiti, Panama and New Zealand and was adopted on Saturday the 28th.



Dinner guests

On May 22nd, GHA and ACF facilitated the organization of a high-level dinner hosted by Yvonne Chaka Chaka on nutrition during which guests exchanged their best practices to fight against undernutrition and discussed the resolution. Yvonne Chaka Chaka reaffirmed the urgency to act: *"We have wasted too much time. Now is the time to act and end the shameful death of our children. Malnutrition can be prevented; Member states should take their responsibilities and make maternal and child nutrition a public health priority."*

The dinner was attended by the Minister of Health from Haiti, by representatives from Ministers of Health from South Africa (also chair of the Executive Board),

Afghanistan, Chad, by the WHO (Assistant Director General for NCDs) and by the West African Health Organization, who agreed to meet again ahead of the next WHA.

Parliamentary symposium on nutrition and official launch of the French roadmap



The panel of the symposium

On June 9th, GHA and Action contre la Faim (ACF), as part of Generation Nutrition and in collaboration with UNICEF France, supported the organization of a parliamentary symposium on how to build a French ambition for the fight against undernutrition in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals. The symposium was hosted by MP Jean-Marie Tétart, chair of the study group on cooperation and development aid in the National Assembly. Speakers included

Marlyse Rose Doula Bell, MP from Cameroon; the French development agency; the FAO; the European Commission; UNICEF France. They highlighted the need for multisectoral activities to fight undernutrition and the need for financing to implement an ambitious French nutrition policy. Philippe Douste-Blazy was recorded and talked about innovative financing for nutrition and especially UnitLife.

Secretary of State for Development and Francophonie André Vallini gave the closing statement, announcing that out of the €10 million committed for 2016 to Muskoka renewal, €2.5 million would go to nutrition-specific interventions. He also launched the French Nutrition Roadmap.

As part of Generation Nutrition, GHA has been participating to the GISA nutrition quarterly meetings (Interministerial group on food security) and input the [French Nutrition Roadmap for 2016-2020](#) which was launched on June 9th (see below). The roadmap targets eight priority countries (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Laos, Madagascar, Mali and Niger) and focuses on five priority areas : incorporate nutrition in programs implemented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its operators in target countries, contribute to the inclusion of nutrition in target countries' policies, contribute to increasing international and european mobilization for nutrition, contribute to research and knowledge on nutrition (causes, impacts, solutions) and finally contribute to training and awareness raising on nutrition. This is the first time that France developed an intergovernmental operational strategy specifically dedicated to nutrition.

World Bank and IMF annual meetings

On the 6th of October 2016 in the World Bank premises (Washington DC), GHA organised with ACF and the ACTION Secretariat, in partnership with the Parliamentary network of the World Bank and IMF, a meeting with parliamentarians engaged in early childhood development (ECD) and nutrition. Using the opportunity of the Human Capital Summit convened by Jim Kim, this meeting gathered members of the parliament from eight countries (Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Madagascar, United Kingdom, USA, Malawi, Tanzania) with the aim to provide them with a space to share challenges, best practices, and lessons learned around ECD and nutrition initiatives, but also to start a discussion on the potential future development of a global movement of parliamentarians engaged in ECD and nutrition. Each parliamentarian made commitments with regard to their role in nutrition and ECD and signed a letter of commitments calling the relevant stakeholders to launch a global network of parliamentarians on the issue.



Gathering of 8 MPs on ECD and nutrition



Gathering of 8 MPs on ECD and nutrition

GHA also co-organised with ACF and the ACTION Secretariat a side-event on innovative financing for nutrition during the Civil Society Policy Forum. Panelists included staff from the Bank presenting the Global Financing Facility and Power of Nutrition, a Member of Parliament from Burkina Faso and the think tank Results for Development presenting the investment case for nutrition. GHA participated in the seminar of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF gathering more than 50 from various countries, this was followed by a reception organized by our associations and attended by 14 members of

Parliament, Gerda Verburg the Coordinator of the SUN movement, Meera Shekar Senior economist at the World Bank who led the Investment Case for Nutrition and the Coordinator of the Parliamentary Network.

CHILD HEALTH

Support advocacy from Southern partners at the Ministerial conference on immunization in Africa



In February 2016, ministers or heads of delegation from across Africa signed the Addis Declaration on Immunization (ADI) at the landmark Ministerial Conference on Immunization in Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. GHA supported ACTION-immunization champions and members of the OAFRESS platform in the reach-out to their Ministers of Health. Several bilateral meetings and press conferences were organized at the margins of the conference.

GHA supported ACTION and other partners in the organization of a one-day CSO side event that brought together over 100 people. It provided an opportunity for CSOs to discuss their role in holding governments accountable to improve vaccine access and coverage in

Africa in line with the Global Vaccine Action Plan (GVAP), review current and best practices in community-level immunization advocacy and outreach work and identify ways CSOs can best work together during and following the conference. GHA also supported the drafting and the translation of the [CSO declaration](#) that has been presented at the main conference by a member of the OAFRESS platform.

OAFRESS



Budget workshop attendees in Abidjan

As part of the Technical Committee, GHA continued to support OAFRESS on the grant proposal side, doing capacity building and advocacy outreach support. OAFRESS will lead the support of Gavi CSO platforms in 5 countries (Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Central African Republic and Niger). GHA facilitated a workshop on domestic resource mobilization in Côte d'Ivoire with representatives from OAFRESS countries to develop budget advocacy knowledge and capacities to increase finances towards health and immunization. Finally, GHA worked with the OAFRESS Secretariat to ensure participation of OAFRESS representatives in high-level events such as the Addis Ababa Conference on Immunization and the Francophonie Heads of State Summit.

For a new French global health policy, GHA and OXFAM France report



GHA and OXFAM France published a report based on a review of decision-taking and implementation mechanisms for global health policies in France so as to understand better the French policy for development aid for health and formulate recommendations for France to renew its global health policies across governments. The report draws several conclusions on insufficient funding for health ODA, a lack of coherence between strategies and a fragmentation at the steering level. From these conclusions, GHA and OXFAM put forward some recommendations, including increasing overall ODA and making sure that subventions remain the main source of funding for health; helping to reinforce national taxation and facilitating domestic resources mobilization to finance UHC; making health and UHC a priority area in the French development policy and creating an interministerial body to steer the global health strategy and the French operators.

CROSS-CUTTING

International Health Partnership for Universal Health Coverage 2030

In 2016, the mandate of International Health Partnership + (IHP+) expanded to include health system strengthening towards the achievement of universal health coverage (UHC) and the Partnership became the IHP for UHC 2030 (*International Health Partnership for Universal Health Coverage 2030*). GHA took part in the establishment of UHC 2030 by implementing a civil society engagement framework. In June, GHA participated to the IHP Steering Committee to present the UHC Alliance framework for civil society engagement and participated to a multi-stakeholder consultation to discuss this framework with other partners and look at how to work with other platforms (Global Fund / Gavi). From June to December, GHA led a CSO consultation across regions and areas of expertise to refine the proposal of such framework and make sure to design the best engagement mechanism possible for CSOs.

In December 2016, the Civil Society Engagement Mechanism (CSEM) was approved by the UHC 2030 Steering Committee with the core objectives of strengthening an inclusive and broad civil society and citizen movement on UHC, influencing policy design and implementation of UHC, strengthening citizen-led and social accountability mechanisms and promoting cooperation and harmonization between CSO platforms and networks working on health related issues. To ensure that the CSEM would be operationalized, a meeting of around 20 CSOs involved in HSS and UHC accountability and advocacy was organized after the UHC 2030 Steering Committee to discuss the proposed structures for the CSEM as well as the challenges and way forward for making the CSEM operational at the country and global levels. The participants agreed to act as a CSO pre-advisory group in UHC 2030 with the objectives of ensuring participation of CSOs in ongoing transformation and work priorities of UHC 2030 and supporting the operationalization and roll out of the CSEM by end of 2017. GHA is chairing this interim advisory group until December 2017.

Transition

During 2016, GHA carried out several activities around transition from international donor funding in health to domestic resources to raise awareness of this issue among decision-makers at country-level and in donor countries but also among civil society.

During the 35th Global Fund Board in Abidjan in April, GHA disseminated a memo on the challenges of simultaneous transition from different global health initiatives (Global Fund, Gavi, PEPFAR) and IDA. The memo was greatly appreciated by country delegates who were able to better grasp the concept of transition and the risks of its potential simultaneity. Another outcome was that transition was discussed during Alassane Ouattara's audience with Mark Dybul, Executive Director of the Fund, France and the United States.

From June 27th to 30th GHA attended to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Regional Health Advisor meeting and drove a session on transition. The advisors were very interested in the issue of simultaneity.

On the 5th of October, GHA was a panelist at a side event organized by the AIDS Healthcare Foundation at the World Bank Civil Society Policy Forum on transition and middle-income country health advocacy. GHA presented the issue of simultaneous transition from the Global Fund, Gavi, PEPFAR and IDA and the lack of coordination between civil society. At the end of the meeting, a commitment was made to organize global coordination on the issue, which was a recommendation from GHA's presentation.

ODA and Budget Bill for 2017 (October-December)



GHA's strategy to ensure an increase in ODA budgets during the 2017 financial bill discussions (from October to December) mainly focused on two channels: first educating and mobilizing MPs, second ensuring media coverage. To achieve our objective, GHA decided to work in coalition with CSO partners (Oxfam and ONE), supported by the French national NGO platform 'Coordination Sud'.

GHA participated in the drafting of Coordination Sud's position document on the 2017 financial bill (sent to MPs), developed and shared during bilateral briefing with MPs our analysis of the bill, developed together with Oxfam and Coalition Plus a [position paper](#) on 10 received ideas on the financial transaction tax (FTT), and participated in hearings to the National Assembly finance and foreign affairs committees as well as to political groups.

GHA also mobilized the Mayor of Paris Anne Hidalgo through a joint letter from ONE, Oxfam France and Action contre la Faim to ask for clarification of her position on the intraday transaction tax. This tax

was adopted by MPs during the first round of discussions of the financial bill but was more than likely to fall before the end of the discussions under bank lobby pressure, arguing that it would disadvantage Paris financial place in a context of Brexit – when Paris is trying to attract the financial activity leaving London.



GHA ensured media coverage during the financial bill thanks to a press conference (October 18th) co-organized with Oxfam France and ONE France, as well as 6 MPs from the whole political spectrum (socialist party, republican party, ecologist party, left-wing, center). MPs insisted on the need for France to meet the 0,7% ODA/GNI target and the opportunity of voting on an ambitious FTT during this Budget bill. Several media outcome came out of this press conference – Les Echos , [BFM](#) , Libération , France Inter.

MPs during the press conference

A [parliamentary op-ed](#) calling for more innovative financing for ODA was also published in The Huffington Post (October 19th) on the joint initiative of GHA, Oxfam and ONE and signed by 23 MPs. GHA also participated to a Twitter action calling for MPs to be mobilized during the financial bill.

Eventually, Parliament voted on the 2017 budget, allocating an addition €364 million to ODA (11% increase compared to 2016 levels, considering both budgetary credits and innovative financing). MPs voted in favor of an ambitious FTT by increasing its rate from 0.2% to 0.3%, which will leverage an additional €400 million, €270 million of which will be allocated to development (they will go through the French development agency).

MPs also voted in favor of taxing intra-day transactions starting January 1st 2018. 2017 will act as a gap year for banks to create and implement the necessary tools to effectively collect the tax on such transactions.

Presidential elections

The end of 2016 was also dedicated to the elaboration of GHA's strategy for the presidential election of April 2017. GHA met with Alain Juppé's and Bruno Le Maire's teams before the right-wing primary elections and with François de Rugy, candidate to the left-wing primaries. GHA developed a first briefing paper on ODA and aid quality issues that was disseminated to Les Républicains (right-wing party).

Together with ONE, Action contre la Faim (ACF) and CARE France, GHA started developing a platform to compare candidates' programs and visions on international development policy and ODA that was launched in February 2017.