

## 2. More strategic and sustainable country support

WHO is renewing its country cooperation strategies (CCS) in the Region as Member States update their national health plans and embrace the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

A more thorough approach to CCS development has been adopted in the Western Pacific Region. The process includes a robust analysis of a country's strategic vision in a time of rapid change as well as WHO's evolving role in the public health arena. First, a comprehensive technical dialogue occurs between regional and country-based staff to determine technical areas that should be highlighted based on the priorities and

anticipated needs highlighted by a particular Member State. A new tool, called the Technical Programme Country Support Plan, was developed to help this process.

Secondly, a high-level discussion of priorities follows those initial consultations to evaluate the resources that would be needed and will become available for WHO to support countries. WHO then will sharpen the focus of its country support to areas of work that are priorities for particular countries – and where WHO can make a difference. While aligned with the national health policies, strategies and plans, the CCS strategic agenda in the Region will focus on three common pri-

orities: advancing UHC, achieving health security and implementing health-related Sustainable Development Goals.

In March 2016, Dr Shin Young-soo, Regional Director for the Western Pacific and Dr Li Bin, Minister of the National Health and Family Planning Commission of China, jointly launched the renewed *China–WHO Country Cooperation Strategy 2016–2020*. The Regional Director also joined the launch of the updated *Cambodia–WHO Country Cooperation Strategy 2016–2020* in June 2016 with Dr Mam Bunheng, Minister of Health of Cambodia. WHO is eager to assist other countries in renewing their CCS.

The CCS process also has brought a new dimension to the work culture at WHO. An increasing number of regional and country staff members have begun to interact more closely within and among technical teams and divisions. Further, as more staff members are brought into the strategic planning process, they gain a better understanding of country situations and how regional and global initiatives can help Member States achieve better health outcomes. ■

Country cooperation strategies, tailored plans that match WHO technical support with country priorities, have a new look intended to spark greater interest from the public.



**CHINA-WHO**  
Country Cooperation Strategy 2016–2020



**CAMBODIA-WHO**  
Country Cooperation Strategy 2016–2020

