

## 5. Collaborating to strengthen regulatory systems

Regulatory systems are a key action domain to achieve UHC and are essential for the protection and promotion of public health. WHO is working with partners and supporting Member States to strengthen their regulatory systems, including in the areas of medicines and the health workforce.

WHO has a well-established partnership with many national regulatory authorities and affiliated institutions, such as national control laboratories in the areas of medicines quality assurance and biological standardization and evaluation. For example, the partnership with the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety of the Republic of Korea has enabled both funding and technical support to strengthen vaccine, biomedicine, pharmaceutical and traditional medicine regulation in the Region.

This partnership provides consistency and reliability in country support and enables WHO to take a well-planned strategic approach based on specific country needs that have been identified through benchmarking activities by the national regulatory authorities.

WHO also has a wide range of partnerships to strengthen health workforce regulation in the Region. The partnership with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency has strengthened and grounded technical support to policy-makers and regulators in the Region



A nurse with a young patient promoting care focused on the child at Princess Margaret Hospital in Tuvalu, where health workforce regulations help ensure that workers are competent.

in the development of effective, appropriate and efficient regulatory systems. It also has facilitated the identification and sharing of best regulatory practices and common challenges, including through publications and policy dialogue. In particular, the partnership informed a policy roundtable held in 2016 alongside the 12th International Conference

on Medical Regulation convened by the International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities.

WHO will continue to collaborate with partners and support Member States in strengthening regulatory systems to advance UHC and promote and protect public health. ■