

In-Person UHC Knowledge Hub Training in Tokyo

Dates, Participants, etc.

Dates/Location: 24-28 February 2026 at Bellesalle Shiba Park

Participants: Senior officials from the finance and health authorities of the eight first-year UHC Knowledge Hub participating countries (*), together with representatives from the World Bank, WHO, the Ministry of Finance (MOF), the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), and other organizations, for a total of approximately 70 participants. (At the reception, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister Takahiro Inoue and former Health Minister Keizo Takemi delivered welcome remarks.) * Cambodia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Nigeria, and the Philippines

Overview

Training: Participants from finance and health authorities discussed challenges identified by their countries, including domestic resource mobilization, health system efficiency, public financial management, and finance-health coordination, to strengthen practical capacities for designing and implementing health financing policies toward UHC. In a peer to peer learning process, they exchanged views from both technical and leadership perspectives across countries and presented future outlooks for strengthening health financing in their countries.

MOF Visit: Mr. Mitazono, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Finance, delivered welcome remarks. MOF officials shared efforts to ensure the efficiency and sustainability of social security expenditures through finance-health coordination, the process through which Japan achieved UHC in 1961, and how UHC has contributed to economic development and social stability, followed by discussions with participants.

MHLW Visit: Dr. Sakoi, Vice-Minister for Health Officer, and Mr. Hayashi, Councillor, Health and Welfare Bureau for the Elderly, delivered lectures on the development and evolution of Japan's health insurance system, medical fee schedule, and long-term care insurance system.

Facility Visits: Participants visited medical facilities, long-term care facilities, and Minato City Office.



Future Direction

At the next UHC High-Level Forum, the first-year participating countries are expected to present progress toward achieving UHC. In preparation, they are expected to advance efforts in cooperation with relevant ministries and stakeholders within their countries.