The Delhi Commitment on Sustainable Development Goal for Health

11 May 2016

We the Health Secretaries of the States and Union Territories of India, represented at the National Consultation for transitioning from MDGs to SDGs in New Delhi from 10th to 11th May 2016 commit to work collaboratively towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal-3 “Ensure healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages” by 2030. We commit to build upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and finish the unfinished agenda of preventing avoidable deaths of mothers and children, end the epidemics of communicable disease and combat the increasing burden and risk factors leading to Non-Communicable Disease including mental illnesses and road traffic injuries.

We acknowledge that Health and Well-being are core pillars for happier societies, economic growth and sustainable development. Therefore we commit to Universal Health Coverage for all so that every Indian citizen irrespective of social or economic status has access to good quality affordable health services they need, without facing financial hardship.

We acknowledge that strengthening public health systems and universal comprehensive primary health care are non-negotiable strategies towards UHC. We would make people and communities partners, and collaborate with private and voluntary sectors to achieve a unified and responsive health system capable of providing people centered comprehensive health services (preventive, promotive, diagnostic, curative, rehabilitative and palliative) across the levels of care (primary, secondary and tertiary) and through the life course.

We pledge to take steps to augment human and financial resources for health, make essential medicines and vaccines available for all and ensure that functioning systems for early warning, detection and response to public health emergencies are in place.

We acknowledge the need to invest in health data collection, analysis and research so that evidence could inform policies and strategies.

We accept that existing and emerging health challenges require cooperation with other sectors and we therefore commit to engage and influence policies and practices of those sectors that have an impact on health.

We commit to work towards creating an enabling environment and develop appropriate policies and strategies aimed at achievement of SDG-3 targets. We would establish mechanisms for transparency and accountability and ensure periodic progress review of targets and indicators to feed into policies and programmes so that no-one is left behind.