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Statement of interest

If there is one thing in health sector, which need more policy, research and advocacy attention and need more academicians and champions: it is health system strengthening. If there is a better understanding of health systems- and not just that of one of the functions/building blocks or an intermediate goal but the health systems as a whole- countries would have a healthier citizen.

More than a decade ago, from a leadership position in my the then area of work, I made a voluntary shift to conduct research and work in the area of health systems. Since then, I have worked in health systems strengthening in India, South-east Asia, Africa and many regions of WHO (as part of my earlier work with the World Health Organization at all three levels). My realization is that health systems can be strengthened only when there is high quality research and scientific evidence, which is shared widely and extensively.

I have been associated with Health Systems Global for last 12 years and participated in Health System Global activities and works and been regular in global symposiums on health systems research. This is an immensely useful platform for anyone interested in area of health systems. However, the need for more researchers and more collaboration in this area is greater than ever.

That is why I had associated with Foundation for people-centric health systems, where in the last 3 years, I had done pro-bono work and voluntarily guided and supported 5 Health systems and policy fellowship programs. In these programs, the early career researchers were guided and supported in conducting health systems research.

I have been on mid management roles in WHO at various levels and have extensive experience in health system work. I have been engaged in the partner coordination, resource mobilization and convening of multi-stakeholder engagements. With my current organization, I have extensive experience of leadership and senior management and/or governance roles, including Board roles or leadership activities within organisations. In this new role,
I have been extensively involved with professional associations and Indian national and state governments on vaccine related decision making.

I am interested to join the board of HSG so, I can bring my experience to support health systems research at the global level. I believe that it is an opportunity to support and strengthen researchers in low- and middle-income countries. My focus would be on bringing attention on (a) Evidence synthesis, interpretation and policy decision making and (b) Science communication and demystifying health system. I hope to be considered for this important role.