

April 1, 2019

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee for State
and Foreign Operations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee for State
and Foreign Operations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Chairwoman
Appropriations Subcommittee for State
and Foreign Operations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee for State
and Foreign Operations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Graham, Senator Leahy, Chairwoman Lowey and Representative Rogers,

We deeply appreciate your leadership over many years to promote America's critically important role in global health. As representatives of companies active in the U.S. and globally, we know that American investment in effective global health programming not only saves millions of lives, but also advances U.S. economic growth, trade and diplomatic as well as security interests.

We are writing to encourage you to provide increased funding to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) in your Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) appropriations bills. As you know, the Global Fund holds its 6th Replenishment in October of this year to raise funds for the next three years. The event provides a unique opportunity for America to invest in putting the world on track to *end* the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, and to challenge other countries to join us in stepping up the effort against these most deadly infectious diseases.

There are many reasons why the private sector supports a strong Global Fund. Perhaps most significantly, since its founding, the Global Fund has been focused on a clear goal and results – saving lives and bending the trajectory of infectious diseases. Since it was founded in 2002, Global Fund-supported programming has saved more than 27 million lives. In countries where the Global Fund operates, mortality has fallen by half for AIDS from a peak in 2005, and TB and malaria deaths have declined by 25% and 45%, respectively, since 2000.

In the most heavily affected areas, infectious diseases can have a devastating impact on the overall population and on marginalized groups, consumers and the workforce. This goes beyond the absences of sick or caretaker employees from our operations and supplies. Global Fund-supported programming helps countries establish and improve health services, helping them be better prepared to address their health challenges, and in our companies' wide-ranging experience, they lay a foundation for better-functioning markets. As the biggest funder of global health programming, the Global Fund is a principal means by which health innovations are brought to scale so that they can have major impact.

The private sector also values the Global Fund as a global public-private partnership that engages the businesses in decision-making and knowledge sharing. The private sector has its own delegation on the Global Fund board and is an active participant in oversight of the Global Fund's work. Numerous companies have agreements with the Global Fund to provide expertise in areas ranging from supply chain management, information technology, communications and other areas.

For all these reasons, the private sector has played an active role in helping finance the Global Fund, contributing over \$2.2 billion to expand the reach of the Global Fund's investments since its founding.

This is a critical year for the Global Fund, and for the global response to infectious disease threats. With the 6th Replenishment just six months away, it is crucially important that the United States demonstrates its continued leadership on the Global Fund in order to drive increased contributions by other donors. Since the U.S. is limited by law to provide no more than 33% of all Global Fund resources, our contribution leverages donations from other donors who don't want to leave U.S. funding on the table.

The Global Fund has developed a detailed and compelling investment case for the 6th Replenishment. In analyzing progress and opportunities in the future, the Global Fund has determined that *at least* \$14 billion is needed in the 6th Replenishment cycle for it to scale up evidence-based programming alongside partners and put the world on track to end the three epidemics.

We encourage you to appropriate \$1.56 billion for the Global Fund in FY20. This amount is consistent with continuing U.S. leadership in providing 33% of resources for the Global Fund.

A strong signal of support and investment from Congress will save millions of lives, drive the generosity of other donors and help achieve the full Global Fund Replenishment target.

Thank you for your leadership, and your consideration.

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