



November 29, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

As leaders of several faith traditions, we write to urge you to offer strong leadership in the upcoming seventh replenishment of Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund). Thank you for the Secretary of State announcing the United States will host it. It is vital and urgent that the U.S. do more to help spare the most vulnerable and marginalized from infectious disease—whether AIDS, tuberculosis or malaria as longstanding killers, COVID-19, or inevitable pandemics yet to come.

Thank you for offering moral and practical leadership at home and globally on the challenges brought to light by the current pandemic. Given the Global Fund's strengths, one of the best ways to offer and show the world leadership is by championing the seventh replenishment. The United States leading by example with an early and bold pledge of one third of the Global Fund's replenishment goal (as past Administrations have pledged), along with hosting replenishment, is the most effective way to leverage contributions from other donors.

The Global Fund partnership is estimated to have saved over 44 million lives since its inception in 2002. In that time, the number of precious lives extinguished by AIDS, TB and malaria annually has been cut by nearly half in countries where the Global Fund works. Yet COVID-19 has devastated the AIDS, TB and malaria responses to which you and the United States have been committed so humanely for two decades. For the first time in the Global Fund's history, progress against the three diseases has gone backwards because of COVID-19's impact on access to care. Comparing 2020 to 2019: HIV prevention services reached 11% fewer people and HIV tests declined by 22%. About one million fewer people with TB got treated. Inroads against malaria – which killed over 400,000 people in 2019—stalled due to COVID-19.

The Global Fund has taken on the disruption of AIDS, TB and malaria programs, and COVID-19's direct harm, through its COVID-19 Response Mechanism. U.S. emergency funding to that mechanism has allowed the Global Fund to rapidly respond to local governments' and communities' requests. The Global Fund is the largest provider of the non-vaccine components of the COVID-19 response, including oxygen, PPE, tests and therapeutics.

Since you championed major financing of pandemic preparedness and response recently at the UN General Assembly, we appeal to you to use the Global Fund to the fullest. The partnership has enormous capacity for

serving the needs and dignity of communities—bolstering health systems and frontline health workers, engaging affected populations and delivering to remote places with its supply chain acumen.

The Global Fund has a record of inspiring other donors to step up alongside the United States (not least because U.S. law requires their generosity amount to at least twice as much our own). Please pledge one-third of the Global Fund’s Replenishment target. We urge you to use the replenishment to encourage other world leaders to invest in re-accelerating progress on AIDS, TB and malaria; in saving lives now from COVID-19; and in nurturing health systems and pandemic preparedness.

Humankind’s victims of poverty, stigma, discrimination and neglect have a right to prevention and treatment resources so that they can withstand life-threatening pandemics and epidemics. By championing the Global Fund as a proven, adaptable lifesaver, you will lift up millions of lives, restore U.S. leadership and, yes, inspire others to follow suit.

Sincerely,

Robert Bank	President and CEO, American Jewish World Service	New York, NY
Tara Brach	Buddhist Teacher and Leader	Great Falls, VA
The Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde	Bishop, The Episcopal Diocese of Washington	Washington, DC
Dr. Tarunjit Singh Butalia	Executive Director, Religions for Peace USA	New York, NY
Sean Callahan	President/CEO, Catholic Relief Services	Baltimore, MD
Bishop Edmore Chiota	Bishop, Methodist Church of Zimbabwe, Harare East District	Harare, Zimbabwe
The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry	Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal Church	New York, NY
The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton	Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	Chicago, IL
Mohamed Gula	National Organizing Director, Emgage	Washington, DC
The Very Rev. Randolph Marshall Hollerith	Dean, Washington National Cathedral	Washington, DC
Anwar Khan	President, Islamic Relief USA	Alexandria, VA
Walter Kim	President, National Association of Evangelicals	Charlottesville, VA

Santiago “Jimmy” Mellado	President and CEO, Compassion International	Colorado Springs, CO
Ruth Messinger	Global Ambassador, American Jewish World Service	New York, NY
Bishop Carlos Simão Matsinhe	Interim Presiding Bishop, Anglican Church of Mozambique and Angola	Maputo, Mozambique
Russell Moore	Public Theologian, Christianity Today	Carol Stream, IL
Paul Osteen, MD	Associate Pastor, Lakewood Church	Houston, TX
Bishop Luke Pato	Bishop, Anglican Diocese of Namibia	Windhoek, Namibia
Sheikh Dr. Shaban A. Phiri	Secretary General, The Islamic Supreme Council of Zambia	Lusaka, Zambia
Samuel Rodriguez	Lead Pastor, New Season; President/CEO, National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference; Author, “From Survive to Thrive” Executive Producer, “Breakthrough” Movie	Sacramento, CA
Rev. Dr. Gabriel Salguero	Pastor, The Gathering Place President, The National Latino Evangelical Coalition	Orlando, FL
Edgar Sandoval, Sr.	President and CEO, World Vision US	Federal Way, WA
Mr. Carlos Sanvee	Secretary General, World Alliance of YMCAs	Geneva, Switzerland
David Saperstein	Director Emeritus, Reform Action Council of Reform Judaism	Washington, DC
Simran Jeet Singh	Visiting Professor, Union Seminary	New York, NY
The Rev. Adam Russell Taylor	President, Sojourners	Washington, DC
Anthony N. Vance	Director of Public Affairs, Baha’is of the United States	Washington, DC
Mr. Jose Varghese	International Secretary General, Y’s Men International	Geneva, Switzerland