



THE FAITH-BASED COALITION FOR  
**THE GLOBAL FUND**  
to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

February 24, 2022

Chairwoman Rosa DeLauro  
2413 Rayburn HOB  
Washington DC 20515

Senator Patrick Leahy  
437 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Ranking Member Kay Granger  
1026 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Richard Shelby  
304 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Chairwoman Barbara Lee  
2470 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Chris Coons  
218 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Ranking Member Harold Rogers  
2406 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Lindsey Graham  
290 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro, Ranking Member Granger, Chairwoman Lee, Ranking Member Rogers, Senator Leahy, Senator Shelby, Senator Coons, and Senator Graham:

As leaders of faith around our country, we commend you as the stewards of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees and Subcommittees on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs (SFOPS) for your unwavering support of the life-protecting work of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Given the heightened needs of those most vulnerable to AIDS, TB, malaria, and inevitable arising pandemics, we ask that you allot \$2.0 billion in Fiscal Year 2023 to the Global Fund—a clarion call to other donors as the U.S. hosts the Global Fund Replenishment this fall.

Since its inception in 2002, the Global Fund and its partners have saved more than 44 million lives. In that time, the death rates for AIDS, TB and malaria have been reduced by more than half in countries where the Global Fund invests.

Yet COVID-19 has caused enormous stresses to health systems and community health workers, curbing progress against AIDS, TB and malaria. For the first time since the Global Fund was established, headway against the three diseases has gone backwards. In 2020, HIV prevention services declined by 11%, HIV tests declined by 22%, one million fewer people were treated for TB, and malaria testing dropped by 4% relative to 2019.

These disruptions would have been markedly worse for the poor and marginalized had not the Global Fund acted speedily in establishing its COVID-19 Response Mechanism. The Global Fund is the largest provider of the non-vaccine components of the COVID-19 response, including oxygen, PPE, tests and therapies—without which vaccines alone cannot defeat emerging variants.

The Global Fund is particularly worthy of investing trust and treasure in making paramount the initiative of implementing countries, the voice and needs of affected populations and community health workers, and constant collaboration with private enterprise, civil society, and importantly, vital faith-based groups.

An increase for the Global Fund to \$2.0 billion for FY23 would do three things:

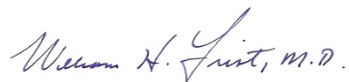
First, it would battle back and reignite progress against AIDS, TB and malaria—to end them as epidemics.

Second, it would take advantage of the Global Fund’s now clear strengths for building pandemic preparedness with its deep relationships with local government and civil society partners in 120 countries and track record of bolstering health systems, local caregivers and reliable supply chains.

Third, with the U.S. hosting the Global Fund’s triennial replenishment, boosted investment would vividly appeal to other donors to step up and meet the moment with us. We’ve seen other nations match the U.S. 2 to 1 due to canny provisions in law capping U.S. funding at 33% of all Global Fund contributions. The U.S. increase you led for the last replenishment in 2019 spurred similar 15% or greater increases from France, the UK, Germany, the European Commission, Canada and Italy.

We urge you to continue your leadership in efforts to defeat the three epidemics, overcome COVID-19 as impediment to that progress, and help countries of the South prepare resiliently for pandemics that emerge. We pray that you keep faith with those who due to poverty, neglect, or discrimination are so in danger of pandemics old and new cutting short their precious lives.

Sincerely,



Senator Bill Frist, MD  
Chairman, Advisory Board, 2030 Collaborative

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Jason Cullum Dr. Larry Cuthill Rev. John Daniels David Dark, PhD	Lead Pastor, Christ’s Church Senior Pastor, Glenwood Presbyterian Church Pastor, First United Methodist Church Author, Professor of Religious Studies, Belmont University	Jacksonville, FL DeLand, FL Missoula, MT Nashville, TN

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