

6th September 2019

H.E. Mr. Prayut Chan-o-cha
The Prime Minister
Government House Thanon
Nakhon Pathom,
Bangkok 10300
Kingdom of Thailand

Dear Prime Minister Prayut,

For the Fifth Replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) in 2016, the Kingdom of Thailand pledged **USD 4,500,000** to the Global Fund for the 2017 – 2019 allocation cycle and is also one of the few donor countries from Asia Pacific to the Global Fund which is also an implementing country of Global Fund grants. The Kingdom of Thailand has contributed **USD 18,999,891** to the Global Fund since its inception in 2002.

The Global Fund Advocates Network Asia-Pacific (GFAN AP) along with advocates, activists and representatives of communities living with, affected by, and/or vulnerable to the three diseases in Asia-Pacific sincerely appreciate the contributions from the Kingdom of Thailand to the Global Fund which has saved over 27 million lives and continue to build resilient and sustainable systems for health, promote and protect human rights, and advance gender equality.

We cannot get out of our minds how your contributions to the Global Fund have catalysed counterpart domestic resources contributions for health from implementing countries. The continuous support that donors provide to the Global Fund, sends the message that you do care about us, the fight against the three diseases, and improving the lives of those most impacted and vulnerable to them!

On Saint Valentine's Day this year, communities and civil society reached out to embassies of your country with Saint Valentine's Day cards, love letters and flowers to appreciate your contributions to the Global Fund so far and to urge you to increase your pledge and calling you to #LoveMoreGiveMore for the Sixth Replenishment of the Global Fund. This included the embassies in the countries of Republic of India, Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

We also extend our gratitude to the Ministry of Public Health of the Kingdom of Thailand and Dr Phusit Prakongsai, Acting Senior Advisor on Health Promotion at the Office of the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Public Health for his presence and address at an event hosted by the Embassy of Canada in Thailand in support of the Sixth Replenishment of the Global Fund on the 15th of August 2019, in Bangkok, Thailand.

The Kingdom of Thailand has made remarkable successes in its universal health coverage (UHC) policy and health development and has eliminated maternal-to-child transmission of HIV and is the first country with a generalized HIV epidemic to reach this milestone. Since the Declaration of Alma-Ata in 1978, the design of primary health care (PHC) in the Kingdom of Thailand has evolved significantly in response to the population's evolving health needs. The capacity of successive governments to respond to health transitions and engage the community has shaped the design of Thailand's PHC. The Global Fund priorities complement the Kingdom of Thailand's efforts to facilitate UHC for all. In addition to directly investing in HIV, TB and Malaria responses, the Global Fund spends over USD 1 billion per year on Health Systems Strengthening and contributes towards strengthening and sustaining community systems for effective advocacy and interventions leading to resilient and sustainable systems for health. Increased investments in the Global Fund will ensure that all these efforts are fast-tracked to achieve UHC for all.

This year, the Global Fund embarked on its Sixth Replenishment process to raise at least USD 14 billion which will help to save 16 million lives, cut the mortality rate from HIV, TB and malaria in half, and contribute towards stronger health systems by 2023. This is a fifteen percent increase from the Fifth Replenishment ask. Technical partners have estimated the total funding need for AIDS, TB and malaria at USD 46 billion annually of which, as

the Get Back on Track to End the Epidemics report¹ by the Global Fund Advocates Network (GFAN) estimates, at least USD 16.8 to USD 18 billion should be invested through the Global Fund for the Sixth Replenishment (2020-2022).

In 2015, World Leaders committed to achieve the by 2030, pledging to deliver health and well-being for all, to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC), and to build a more prosperous, equitable and sustainable world by leaving no one behind. In 2018, the development of the Global Action Plan and its framework united 12 health and development institutions under a common aim to accelerate progress towards SDG 3: Health and Well-being for all. With only 11 years more to 2030, it is crucial that we accelerate our actions in achieving SDGs.

Raising at least USD 14 billion for the Global Fund Sixth Replenishment will present us with an opportunity towards the acceleration of progress towards SDG 3 and UHC through strengthening systems for health; reinforcing health security; spurring domestic investment of USD 46 billion during the period 2021-2023; tackling inequalities in health including gender- and human rights-related barriers to access; and yielding a return on investment of 1:19 with every dollar invested.

Getting back on track to end the epidemics and delivering the broader SDG 3 targets will require all the actors involved, including multilateral and bilateral partners, governments, communities, civil society, and the private sector to raise their game, accelerate innovation, coordinate and collaborate more efficiently and execute programmes more effectively.

An increased and successful Replenishment will provide the Global Fund the ability to scale up its effective responses and get the world back on track to fight the three diseases!

Hence, we² want you to be our Hero!

Be a Global Fund Sixth Replenishment Hero and show us you care by increasing your Pledge to the Sixth Replenishment of the Global Fund from your previous pledge for the Fifth Replenishment!

Be a Hero among other donor countries and lead and rally the global donor community including private sector and private foundations to increase their pledges to the Global Fund Sixth Replenishment!

Be a Hero for sustainable development and for the Universal Health Coverage agenda by pledging full support for a successful Sixth Replenishment that enables the Global Fund to scale up its fight against AIDS, TB and Malaria in achieving the SDGs and building resilient and sustainable systems for health to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being and to leave no one behind!

We hope the Kingdom of Thailand will continue to be our Hero, Global Fund Champion and Contributor because...

#HeroesGiveMore
#AtLeast14Billion
#StepUpTheFight
#GetBackOnTrack

Global Fund Advocates Network Asia Pacific (GFAN AP)

GFAN AP is a platform of community and civil society advocates for a successfully resourced Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund). It supports community and civil society mobilisation in the areas of increased domestic financing for HIV, TB, and malaria; increased donor contributions towards the Global Fund; and ensuring that policy frameworks on health financing take into account community, rights, and gender issues. For more information, please visit, www.gfanasiapacific.org or contact Rachel Ong, Regional Coordinator at rachel.ong@gfanasiapacific.org or Niluka Perera, Communications and Coordination Officer at niluka.perera@gfanasiapacific.org

¹ Get Back on Track to End the Epidemics - <http://www.globalfundadvocatesnetwork.org/campaign/get-back-on-track/>

² This letter is supported by the following individuals, community-based and civil society organisations - <https://gfanasiapacific.org/2019/08/heroesgivemore-global-sign-on/>