

6th September 2019

H.E. Mr Pedro Sanchez
Prime Minister
The Prime Minister's Office
Complejo de la Moncloa
28071 Madrid
Kingdom of Spain

Dear Prime Minister Sanchez,

Since the inception of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) in 2002, the Kingdom of Spain has contributed **USD 724,223,382** to the fight against the three diseases. 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 Spain since the establishment of the Global Fund in 2002 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 support from donors including yourself 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 13 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 People's Republic of Bangladesh, Republic of Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of India, Italian Republic, Japan, Republic of Korea, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, United Republic of Tanzania, Kingdom of Thailand and Ukraine.

The 'Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation 2018 – 2021' outlines seven priorities, all linked to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and include good health and well-being, quality education, gender equality and peace, justice, and strong institutions among others. Gender equality and the reduction of inequalities are cross-cutting sectors of the Kingdom of Spain's development assistance and at the core of the Kingdom of Spain's political vision. Support to governance and civil society, including for women's rights, is the largest sector for the Kingdom of Spain's bilateral official development assistance (ODA). Global Fund priorities and impact are aligned with the Kingdom of Spain's ODA priorities where the Global Fund not only invests in the global HIV, TB and malaria response, its investments also promote gender equality and addresses human rights barriers to accessing health services, through its grants. In addition, the Global Fund insists on the meaningful engagement of women throughout the design and implementation of the programmes it funds and has a strong focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and also contributes towards strengthening and sustaining community systems for effective advocacy and interventions leading to resilient and sustainable systems for health. Global Fund grants support comprehensive sexuality education and programmes to address gender-based violence and also provides funding for education and economic empowerment programmes for adolescent girls and young women, who are disproportionately affected by HIV. Civil society participation and multi-stakeholder engagement is at the core of the Global Fund decision-making and implementation model, making it an effective governance model for the SDG era. Increased investments in the Global Fund will ensure that all these efforts are fast-tracked to achieve good health and well-being, quality education, gender equality and peace, justice, and strong institutions among others. Investing in the Global Fund will accelerate our progress towards universal health coverage and many of the objectives and targets of the 2030 Agenda as a whole.

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. 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 SDGs 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 pledging to the Sixth Replenishment of the Global Fund!

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 Spain 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/>