

6<sup>th</sup> September 2019

H.E. Mr Stefan Löfven  
Prime Minister  
Prime Minister's Office  
Herkulesgatan 17  
SE 103 33 Stockholm  
Kingdom of Sweden

Dear Prime Minister Löfven,

For the Fifth Replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) in 2016, the Kingdom of Sweden pledged **SEK 2,500,000,000** to the Global Fund for the 2017 – 2019 allocation cycle. 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 Sweden 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 continuous support that 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 14 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 India, Republic of Indonesia, Italian Republic, Japan, Republic of Korea, Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, United Republic of Tanzania, Kingdom of Thailand, Ukraine, Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Republic of Zimbabwe.

Gender equality and women's empowerment are top focus areas of Swedish foreign and development policy, and the Kingdom of Sweden was the first country to implement a Feminist Foreign Policy in 2014 which features sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) as one of six objectives and prioritizes women and girls' participation in preventing and resolving conflicts. Global Fund priorities complement the Kingdom of Sweden's Aid Policy Framework where the Global Fund not only invests in the global HIV, TB and malaria response and health systems but its investments also promote gender equality and addresses human rights barriers through its grants. The Global Fund insists on the meaningful engagement of women throughout the design and implementation of the programmes it funds, which is crucial for 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 also support comprehensive sexuality education and programmes to address gender-based violence and provides funding for education and economic empowerment programmes for adolescent girls and young women, who are disproportionately affected by HIV. Increased investments in the Global Fund will ensure that all these efforts are fast-tracked to achieve SDGs, gender equality and health equity.

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 report<sup>1</sup> by the Global Fund Advocates Network (GFAN) estimates, at least USD 16.8 to USD 18 billion should be invested through the

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

Global Fund for the Sixth Replenishment (2020-2022). This will demand that all donors raise their level of investment with at least 15 percent.

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, we 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 Sweden 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](http://www.gfanasiapacific.org) or contact Rachel Ong, Regional Coordinator at [rachel.ong@gfanasiapacific.org](mailto:rachel.ong@gfanasiapacific.org) or Niluka Perera, Communications and Coordination Officer at [niluka.perera@gfanasiapacific.org](mailto:niluka.perera@gfanasiapacific.org).

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