Global Fund Advocates Network Asia-Pacific
66/5, 33 Tower, Sukhumvit 33 Road
Klongtoey Nua, Wattana, Bangkok 10110
Thailand

6th September 2019

Hon Dr Jane Ruth Aceng
Minister of Health
Ministry of Health
Plot 6, Lourdel Road, Nakasero
P.O Box 7272, Kampala
Republic of Uganda

Dear Minister Aceng,

For the Fifth Replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) in 2016, Republic of Uganda pledged **USD 1,500,000** to the Global Fund for the 2017 – 2019 allocation cycle becoming one of the few implementing countries from the African Region which is also contributing to the fight against the three diseases through the Global Fund. The Global Fund Advocates Network Africa (GFAN Africa) and 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 Africa and Asia-Pacific appreciate the contributions from the Republic of Uganda 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 other 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, GFAN Africa worked with communities and civil society to reach out to embassies in the Republic of Uganda of People's Republic of China, Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, French Republic, Republic of India, Ireland, Italian Republic, Republic of Kenya, Republic of Korea, Kingdom of Norway, State of Saudi Arabia, Republic of South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America with Saint Valentine's Day cards, love letters and flowers to appreciate their contributions to the Global Fund so far and to urge them to increase their pledges and calling them to #LoveMoreGiveMore.

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[1] 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).

To get back on track for the fight against the three diseases we need to step up total funding to at least USD 83 billion for the next three-year cycle for 2020 – 2022, an increase of USD 17 billion where most of the increase will come from increased domestic funding.

The Global Fund's Investment Case for the Sixth Replenishment projects that domestic funding for programmes to fight HIV, TB and malaria over the period 2020 – 2022 will grow to USD 46 billion, an increase of 48 percent over the current cycle. As such, it is crucial that national governments take proactive steps towards sustainably increasing domestic resources for health and towards the three diseases. This also means taking concrete steps towards fulling the commitment of the Abuja declaration on allocating at least 15% of the annual national budget to improve the health sector.

Encouraging and stimulating domestic investments in health is an essential component of the Global Fund's move towards sustainable health programmes in all the countries where the partnership invests and its Sustainability, Transition and Co-Financing Policy[2] aims to support countries as they move towards domestically funded systems for health and responses to HIV, TB and malaria through providing tools to engage new partners and funding sources within the country with a goal of creating broader opportunities for fundraising.

In 2015, World Leaders committed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (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[3] 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 especially from the African Region and lead and rally the global donor community including private sector and private foundations to increase their pledges to the Global Fund Sixth Replenishment and announce early pledges!

1 Get Back on Track to End the Epidemics - http://www.globalfundadvocatesnetwork.org/campaign/get-back-on-track/
2 https://www.theglobalfund.org/media/4221/bm35_04-sustainabilitytransitionandcofinancing_policy_en.pdf
3 This letter is supported by the following individuals, community-based and civil society organisations - https://gfanasiapacific.org/2019/08/heroesgivemore-global-sign-on/

Be a Hero and ensure an increase of domestic resources for health of 5% of GDP over the next 3 years in the Republic of Uganda!

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 Republic of Uganda will continue to be our Hero, Global Fund Champion and Contributor because...

#HeroesGiveMore
#AtLeast14Billion
#StepUpTheFight
#GetBackOnTrack

Global Fund Advocates Network Africa (GFAN Africa)
GFAN Africa is a continent wide social movement that demands health for all by recruiting, connecting and mobilizing health advocates (individuals and organizations) to communicate the urgent need for a fully funded Global Fund to defeat HIV, tuberculosis and malaria as epidemics. GFAN Africa also leads civil society and communities in efforts towards advocacy for Governments to increase allocation of domestic resources for health. We seek to maximize impact of investments in health and to save lives. For more information, please contact Angela Muathe, Communications & Advocacy Manager at angela@wacihealth.org.

Civil Society for Malaria Elimination
Civil Society for Malaria Elimination (CS4ME) is a global network of civil society organizations and communities contributing to malaria elimination and ensure that communities are at the center of malaria programs. CS4ME advocates for more effective, sustainable, people-centred, rights-based, equitable, and inclusive malaria programmes and calls for greater accountability, political will and action, resource investments, and sense of urgency to eliminate the disease and prevention of reintroduction. For more information, please visit www.cs4me.org or Contact Olivia Ngou, Global Coordinator at olivia.ngou@cs4me.org.

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.