

May 9, 2019

The Honorable Maryam Monsef, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada, K1A 0A6

CC: Right Honourable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development, Ms. Kamal Khera

RE: Renewing Canada's commitment - an early and bold pledge increasing Canada's commitment to the 6th Replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria by CDN\$65 million/year

Dear Minister,

On behalf of the twenty-seven undersigned Canadian civil society groups, we are writing at an important moment with an offer to help assert Canada's leadership. We are united in our call for **an early leadership pledge from Canada committing an increase of CDN \$65 million per year to the 6th Replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria**. We are mobilized to amplify Canada's renewed commitment to our fair share of the Global Fund investment case.

Canada has contributed US \$2.3 billion making it the 7th largest donor to the Fund. In 2016, Canada was the celebrated host to the most successful Global Fund Replenishment Conference yet. The success of the 5th replenishment was in large part a direct result of this government's political will and global leadership to end these three diseases as global public health threats, for good.

Today, we are calling on Canada to demonstrate its renewed commitment and global leadership in ending HIV, tuberculosis and malaria for good by making **an early and bold pledge of CDN \$1 billion to the Fund's 6th Replenishment, hosted by France in October 2019**.

The Global Fund is urging the international community to *Step Up the Fight* with a replenishment target of at least US \$14 billion for the 2020-2023 period. **A bold pledge of CDN \$1 billion represents approximately 5.3% of the Fund's base replenishment target – a share that is equivalent to Canada's 2016 contribution.** When broken down across the three year replenishment cycle, a CDN\$ 1 billion commitment amounts to a reasonable increase of **CDN \$65 million a year**— a pledge that remains consistent with Canada's 20% increase given over each past replenishment cycle.

A CDN \$1 billion pledge is Canada's fair share. The proportional increase is critical to sustaining the leadership position marked by Prime Minister Trudeau with his personal involvement in global outreach resulting in the tremendous success of the 2016 Replenishment in Montreal. An early pledge to the 6th replenishment from **Canada will send an important signal to other donor countries that HIV, TB and**

Malaria remain critical global health challenges that require urgent attention, particularly for vulnerable populations including women and girls in the poorest countries.

Canada's investments in the Global Fund are some of the **most positive and high-impact contributions that Canada makes in the health and well-being of people around the world**. In 2000, HIV, tuberculosis and malaria appeared to be unstoppable with devastating impact on efforts towards poverty reduction and improving global health for all. Since then, the world has fought back and Canada has had a leading role in this response. Canada joined with other governments, the private sector, civil society and communities affected by the three diseases to form the Global Fund. Since its inception, the Global Fund has directly contributed to saving 27 million lives around the world. Beyond lives saved, the Global Fund is a smart investment that yields US \$19 in health and economic gains for every dollar invested.

We are now at a critical moment in the history of these global epidemics, a moment that requires boldness – anything less will not stop us from sliding backwards and losing the tremendous gains made thus far in ending these preventable global diseases.

Canada's leadership is critical. As Canada prepares to host the world at Women Deliver in Vancouver in June, the time is right to send a clear signal, early, that Canada is a leader in the fight against the three diseases globally, particularly among women and girls.

As Canadian civil society ambassadors, **we urge Canada to meet the global need, contribute its fair share and demonstrate renewed commitment and leadership in the fights against HIV, TB and Malaria with an early pledge increase of CDN \$1 billion (CDN \$65 million/year) to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.** As civil society, we are committed to supporting the government in this smart investment and are available should a further briefing be helpful.

Sincerely the undersigned,

AIDS Committee of Ottawa
Canada Africa Partnership (CAP) Network
Canada-Africa Community Health Alliance (CACHA)
Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network (CAAN)
Canadian AIDS Society (CAS)
Canadian Council for International Co-Operation (CCIC)
Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
Canadian Society for International Health (CSIH)
Canadian Treatment Action Council (CTAC)
Coalition des organismes communautaires québécois de lutte contre le sida (COCQ-SIDA)
Global Fund Advocates Network (GFAN)
Grandmothers Advocacy Network (GRAN)
Healing Our Nations
Help Lesotho
Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development (ICAD)
International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO)

International Indigenous HIV & AIDS Community
LetsStopAIDS
Northern Healthy Connections Society
ONE Canada
Plan International Canada
Positive Living North: No khēyoh t'sih'en t'sehena Society
Regional HIV/AIDS Connection
RESULTS Canada
Steelworkers Humanity Fund
The Teresa Group
Women's Shelter Canada