



Department
for International
Development



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Rt Hon Dr Andrew Murrison MP
Minister of State

Supporters of the ONE campaign regarding the 2019 replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and malaria.

10 July 2019

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and malaria replenishment.

The UK Government agrees that the Global Fund has had remarkable success since its inception, helping to save 27 million lives since 2002. The number of people dying from AIDS, TB and malaria each year has been reduced by one third in countries where the Global Fund invests, testament to the unique partnership you highlight between donors, governments, the private sector and civil society.

Despite these great achievements, the Sustainable Development Goal 3 targets in low income countries for HIV, TB and malaria are off track. More than 2.5 million people combined died from these three diseases in 2017. Millions of cases of tuberculosis continue to go undetected, undiagnosed, and untreated. Progress on malaria is stalling, and HIV infection rates remain worryingly high, particularly among adolescent girls and young women in sub-Saharan Africa. This is a human tragedy and an affront to gender equality. It also has worrying implications given the huge growth in this demographic predicted in the next few decades. Antimicrobial resistance, too, threatens to undermine almost two decades of progress on the three diseases.

A full replenishment of the Global Fund, alongside increased domestic resource mobilisation and smarter working, will be key to getting us back on track to end the epidemics by 2030, as called for in the Sustainable Development Goals. The Global Fund will also have a key role to play in contributing to universal health coverage by strengthening health systems and ensuring that no one is left behind. That is why we are pledging up to £1.4 billion to the Sixth Replenishment of the Global Fund, as announced by the Prime Minister at the G20 in June 2019, representing a more than 15% increase on our previous commitment.

The UK is proud to be a world leader on global health, not only through this commitment to the Global Fund, but also through our other bilateral and multilateral programmes including Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance whose replenishment we look forward to hosting in 2020. Tackling infectious diseases will remain an essential part of our work to defeat poverty and ensure healthy lives and wellbeing for all as a strong, outward-facing Global Britain.

Dr Andrew Murrison MP
Minister of State