

November 20, 2018

Alex Azar  
Secretary of Health and Human Services  
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Azar,

On behalf of the Global Health Council's Global Health Security Roundtable, Global Health Security Agenda Consortium, and many individuals and organizations signed onto this letter, we would like to thank the Administration for its leadership at the recent Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) Ministerial in Bali, Indonesia on November 7 and 8, 2018. Commensurate with this strong commitment, we advocate for robust funding to support the GHSA within the Administration's FY2020 budget request to Congress, and we look forward to the timely release of the Administration's Global Health Security Strategy.

In light of the dangerous outbreaks of Ebola in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's North Kivu region, we were pleased to see the U.S. delegation in Bali recommit to the activities and goals of the GHSA through 2024. These activities—building local capacity and improving capabilities to prevent, detect, and respond to future disease outbreaks—are exactly what is needed to address this current Ebola outbreak, and to make sure worldwide efforts to strengthen global health security succeed.

Because the weakest link in the global system for stopping outbreaks at the source poses a direct threat to America's health and national security, we were encouraged to see the importance of domestic and global health security investments reflected in the National Biodefense Strategy, released in early September. To complement these statements and to further clarify the future of U.S. global health security efforts, we respectfully request the timely release of the Global Health Security Strategy as required by Congress in the FY 2018 omnibus appropriations bill. We hope this strategy will include multi-year cost estimates for supporting the GHSA and an outline of how U.S. efforts to improve global health security around the world will continue over the next five years.

Finally, we believe it also vital for the U.S. government to commit sufficient resources to achieve bilateral and multilateral health security objectives. As you noted in your remarks to the GHSA Ministerial, "For the United States—and for many of our partners—[global health security] is a national security priority. ...the United States is ready and eager to do its part, by working hard domestically to be one of the 100-plus countries to help achieve the GHSA 2024 target." To achieve full implementation, and therefore, success in stopping future outbreaks of deadly infectious diseases, we call for the Administration to provide robust funding in the FY2020 budget request for global health security programs at the Department of Health and Human Services, including Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the U.S. Department of State.

We appreciate your continued support for global health security and the GHSA, and we look forward to working with you and other Administration officials to continue meaningful progress toward the finish line of a world that is genuinely safe and secure from global health threats posed by infectious diseases.

Sincerely,



Ashley Arabasadi  
Chair, Global Health Security Agenda  
Consortium (GHSAC)



Beth Cameron  
Vice President, Global Biological Policy  
and Programs, NTI  
Co-Chair of the Global Health Security  
Roundtable



Loyce Pace, MPH  
President and Executive Director, Global  
Health Council



Carolyn Reynolds  
Vice President for Policy and Advocacy,  
PATH  
Co-Chair of the Global Health Security  
Roundtable  
Deputy Chair, Global Health Security  
Agenda Consortium (GHSAC)

Organizations:

1. Abt Associates
2. Action on Smoking and Health
3. Advancing Synergy
4. American Academy of Pediatrics
5. American International Health Alliance
6. American Medical Student Association (AMSA)
7. American Society for Microbiology
8. American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene
9. Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)
10. Center for Biodefense and Global Infectious Diseases, Mexico
11. Center for Global Health Science and Security, Georgetown University
12. Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) US
13. Columbia University Working Group on Global Health Security

14. CORE Group
15. EcoHealth Alliance
16. Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation
17. Friends of the Global Fight Against AIDS, TB and Malaria
18. Global Health Council
19. Global Health Security Agenda Consortium
20. Global Health Technologies Coalition
21. Gryphon Scientific
22. Infectious Diseases Society of America
23. InterAction
24. International Medical Corps
25. International Rescue Committee
26. IntraHealth International
27. Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security
28. John Snow, Inc. (JSI)
29. Management Sciences for Health (MSH)
30. Medical IMPACT
31. Merck
32. Next Generation Global Health Security Network
33. Nuclear Threat Initiative
34. Partners In Health
35. PATH
36. Relief International
37. Resolve to Save Lives, an initiative of Vital Strategies
38. RTI International
39. Shot@Life
40. The American Heart Association
41. The G4 Alliance
42. The Hunger Project
43. Trust for America's Health
44. WaterAid

Individuals:

45. Jo Anne Bennett, RN, PhD
46. Thomas J. Bollyky, Senior Fellow for Global Health, Economics, and Development and Director of the Global Health Program, Council on Foreign Relations
47. Dr. Margaret Ellis Bourdeaux, Harvard Medical School
48. Katie Cretin, Senior Public Health Manager
49. Dr. Mohamed Gamal
50. Dr. Vin Gupta, Assistant Professor of Global Health, Officer in USAF, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation
51. Jamechia Hoyle, Chair, Next Generation Global Health Security Network
52. Bonnie Jenkins, PhD, Founder and Executive Director, Women of Color Advancing Peace, Security and Conflict Transformation
53. Gregory Koblentz, Director, Biodefense Graduate Program, Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University

54. Jeremy Konyndyk, Senior Policy Fellow, Center for Global Development
55. Yael Misrahi, MobileODT
56. John Monahan, Senior Fellow, Georgetown University
57. Stephen Morrison, Senior Vice President and Director, Center for Strategic International Studies' Global Health Policy Center
58. Andrew S. Natsios, Director, Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs and Executive Professor, Bush School of Government, Texas A&M University
59. Stephen H. Norwood
60. Gerald W Parker, DVM, PhD, Associate Dean for Global One Health, Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine
61. Muhammad Raza Hussain Qazi, Provincial coordinator WASH, Plan international
62. Margaret Andrews Rush, Partner, Gryphon Scientific
63. Wendy Taylor, Rockefeller Foundation Fellow
64. Audrey Thevenon, Program Officer, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
65. Madge Thomas, Senior Director, Global Policy & Government Affairs, Global Citizen
66. Judith Wasserheit, University of Washington
67. Taylor Winkleman, DVM, MPH, Deputy Coordinator, Next Generation Global Health Security Network
68. Jaime Yassif