**UN High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage (UN HLM UHC) in 2023**

Dear *[insert name],*  *[Date]*

In September 2019, at the first United Nations High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage (UN HLM UHC), all UN member states at the highest political level endorsed the most ambitious and comprehensive political declaration on health to date. **In September 2023, a second UN HLM on UHC will be held in New York, during the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).**

Targets set by the 2019 political declaration included:

* Progressively covering 1 billion additional people with health coverage, with a view of covering all people by 2030;
* Reversing the trend of rising catastrophic out-of-pocket health expenditure and eliminating impoverishment due to health-related expenses by 2030.

These targets on universal health coverage (UHC) - defined as everyone, everywhere, having access to quality health services without financial hardship – were off-track already before the COVID-19 pandemic struck. Weak health systems allowed COVID-19 to spread rapidly and globally, and left millions of people unable to access essential health services during the pandemic. According to the latest global monitoring report on UHC, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated and weakened health systems and financial protection even further.

Strong, equitable, and resilient health systems and UHC are a precondition not only for health security. Strong health systems also ensure that essential health services are available to everyone, everywhere, during pandemic times and beyond.

As outlined in the modalities resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly (August 2021), a **one-day High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage in September 2023** will bring together the President of the UNGA, the Secretary General of the UN, the Director-General of the WHO, and the President of the World Bank Group, as well as all member states and eminent champions of UHC.

**We call on you to commit to the highest political level participation at the UN HLM on UHC in September 2023.**

We look forward to further sharing and discussing with you actionable commitments that will strengthen health systems, based on a primary healthcare approach, and deliver on health security goals and universal health coverage - and health for all.

Yours sincerely,

*[Name]*