**[Date]**

**[Member of Parliament's Name]**

**[Parliamentary Office]**

**[Address]**

**[City, State, Zip Code]**

**Subject**: It Is Time for Action - Invest in Universal Health Coverage Now

Dear **[Hon./Your Excellency] [Member of Parliament’s/Head of State’s Name]**,

As [an organization] committed to ensuring access to quality essential health services for everyone, we are writing to urge you to work with the government to take concrete steps to implement the Political Declaration that was adopted at the UN High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in September 2023.

The global situation is dire: according to the 2023 UHC Global Monitoring Report, 4.5 billion individuals – more than half of the world’s population – lack access to essential health services, and 2 billion people face financial hardship in doing so. These aren’t just numbers; they represent the daily struggle of billions of people around the world who are denied the right to health, well-being, and dignity. This distressing state, which spans all regions and most countries, underscores the urgent need to invest in universal health coverage and protect people against financial hardship due to out-of-pocket health costs.

By adopting the Political Declaration at the UN High-level Meeting on UHC in September 2023, countries reaffirmed their commitment to accelerate progress towards achieving Health for All, recognizing that meeting the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 is critical. Now is the time to translate this commitment into concrete actions. Our future is at stake.

Moreover, the World Health Organization (WHO) has identified climate change as humanity's biggest health threat. Yet, the majority of countries have not addressed climate risks or introduced climate resiliency in their health policies and planning. This is deeply concerning. The impact of climate change on health is already being felt and will only worsen if we do not take action now.

On this Universal Health Coverage Day on 12 December, we urge you to take action to protect the fundamental right to health. Specifically, we ask that you to:

1. **Champion political leadership for UHC:** Ensure that everyone, everywhere has access to the health services they need, without facing financial hardship. This is a moral imperative and a smart investment that will pay dividends in the form of a healthier, more productive population.
2. **Adopt enabling laws and regulations:** Recognize the critical link between health and climate change and ensure that health considerations are central to climate change strategies. This includes building climate-resilient health systems and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the health care sector.
3. **Invest in UHC:** Prioritize primary health care – with a focus on vulnerable communities – as it can deliver 90% of essential health services. With primary health care, our health systems can be better prepared to prevent and respond to health emergencies thanks to sufficient health workers, lab and data capacity, and basic services that can more rapidly detect and respond to outbreaks while continuing to deliver essential services.
4. **Strengthen the health and care workforce:** Invest in the training and retention of health workers, including by addressing existing shortages, and ensure decent pay and working conditions – with a focus on community health workers – to ensure they are equipped to deliver high-quality health care.
5. **Institutionalize social participation in decision-making:** Ensure people have a say in the laws and policies that affect their health and well-being, as this is the best way to ensure their needs are addressed and to build trust in public action.
6. **Increase transparency and accountability:** Make data on UHC and the health impacts of climate change publicly available. This will allow us to track progress and improve accountability.

We encourage you to refer to the [Action Agenda from the UHC Movement](https://www.uhc2030.org/un-hlm-2023/action-agenda-from-the-uhc-movement/), which provides action-oriented policy recommendations to strengthen resilient and equitable health systems, advance UHC and health security, and deliver on the commitment to achieve health for all by 2030.

We are the [youth] of your constituency, and we are the future. We deserve a future where we are all physically and mentally healthy – flourishing together on a healthy planet.

We trust that you will take our concerns seriously and act decisively. Thank you for your attention to this critical issue and for your continued service to our nation.

Sincerely,

**[Your Full Name]**

**[Your Contact Information]**

**[Your Signature, if sending a hard copy]**