



Prime Minister's Office
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

21 August 2024

Dear Prime Minister,

Congratulations on your appointment as Prime Minister.

As a membership organisation of numerous global health- and climate-focused NGOs, and the official convenor of global health civil society with the UK Government, we welcome your appointment as leader of the UK's Government. We look forward to working with you to regain Britain's global reputation on global health equity and tackling climate change.

This past decade the world has seen a decline in global health outcomes – exacerbated by climate change and the conflicts in Ukraine, Sudan and the Occupied Palestinian Territories. Additionally, multiple underlying social determinants have deepened existing negative global health outcomes. At this halfway point to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) target date, it is vital that the UK renews its leadership to achieve SDG3 and ensure healthy lives for all.

In recent times, we have witnessed missed opportunities to highlight the importance of Global Health Equity. The current Pact of the Future omits any reference to global health and both sets of outcomes from the Nutrition for Growth Summit and recent COP Summits failed to integrate ambitious visions for building resilient, inclusive health systems and achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) globally. Lessons from decades of vertical health programmes have not been learned and acted upon and there has been insufficient action on cross-sectoral collaboration to address the social and environmental determinants of health, nor the changes needed in the health financing architecture to enable this collaboration.

Disadvantaged communities continue to face significant disparities in accessing healthcare and related services, coupled with increased exposure to health risks and global conflict, including the wars in Ukraine, Sudan and Occupied Palestinian Territories. This was highlighted by the vaccine inequity seen during the Covid-19 pandemic. Realising sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for women and adolescent girls has been an ongoing challenge, which the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic further compounded.

Your leadership as Prime Minister is critical for improving global health equity for years to come. The upcoming High-Level Meeting on Anti-Microbial Resistance, Summit of the Future and COP29 provide distinct opportunities for this government to demonstrate commitments to renewing global relationships and practical pledges that will improve global health.

Additionally, as we near the end of the UK's current global health strategy (ending in 2025), now is a prime moment to consultatively develop a comprehensive, cross-government Global Health Equity Strategy in 2025, linking the Government's ambitions on women and girls, climate/net zero and health and clearly outlining how the UK seeks to regain its place on the international stage.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with you to ensure everyone has access to the healthcare they need.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katie Hussey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katie Hussey
Director

On behalf of the Action for Global Health Network