

END MALARIA COUNCIL

Central



December 13, 2016

Mr. António Guterres
United Nations Secretary-General-Designate
2 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Guterres,

Please accept my warm congratulations on your appointment by the UN General Assembly as Secretary-General. Your appointment comes at what is, in many ways, a pivotal time – when billions of people around the world so deeply need, and must count upon, a strong United Nations. Your leadership will thus have a critical and lasting impact for generations to come.

The development challenges facing so many countries and individuals challenge each of us to step up our efforts to deliver the sustainable development goals. In particular, I believe that the progress we have had in combatting malaria over the past years – saving more than six million lives since 2000 – must be accelerated. Wiping out this single disease will have far-reaching economic, social and health benefits – especially for the poorest communities and countries. Yet the obstacles we face – competing priorities, political instability, drug resistance, to name just a few – are significant. Eradicating malaria will not happen without renewed leadership, focus and commitment.

It is for this reason that Bill Gates and I decided to form the End Malaria Council. This group, co-chaired by us and composed of committed leaders from government and business, includes H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, H.E. Idriss Déby Itno, H.E. Jakaya Kikwete, Mrs. Graça Machel, Mr. Luis Alberto Moreno, and Mr. Aliko Dangote. The Council will work to ensure that malaria eradication remains high on global and regional agendas, with strong political will and financing commitments. We will also support the introduction of new technologies that can accelerate the path to ending this deadly disease once and for all.

The Council will be meeting for the first time from 19:00-21:00 on January 19th in Davos, Switzerland, in a closed-door, off-the-record session. Bill and I would be honored if you would join us for ten to fifteen minutes at the beginning of the session as our special guest, to greet the Council and share your perspective on the importance of leadership on malaria in the context of the Sustainable Development

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Goals. Your presence would be incredibly influential as we set out to establish the highest level of ambition possible for the group's work over the coming years.

Thank you for considering our invitation. I look forward to working with you and your team in your new role, and hope that you can join us in Davos.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ray", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ray Chambers
UN Secretary General's Special Envoy
for Health in Agenda 2030 and for Malaria

cc: Bill Gates
Co-Chair
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation