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MESSAGE FROM LAURENT VIGIER



**President of Friends of
the Global Fund Europe**

2022: A YEAR OF UPHEAVAL

Alongside the Seventh Global Fund Replenishment, 2022 witnessed myriad events, in Europe and throughout the world, that intensified pre-existing obstacles on the path to meeting the financial goal set by the Global Fund for the next three years to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, strengthen health systems and prepare the world for future pandemics.

Russia invaded Ukraine on 24 February, inflaming political and economic tensions that continue to undermine national ODA budgets while imperilling the health system in Ukraine, an epicentre of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis. The Global Fund sprang into action as the very first shots were fired, supporting Ukrainian civil society organisations by providing the necessary health and humanitarian assistance, as it has done in other crisis-ridden countries and regions, through its emergency fund and specific programmes designed for challenging operating environments. Climate disasters – floods, hurricanes, droughts, heat waves, etc. – also grew in number and severity, underscoring the conviction that global development issues cannot be addressed in silos; rather, their interconnected nature must encourage collective approaches and actions in terms of solidarity and international cooperation.

SUSTAINED ADVOCACY FOR THE GLOBAL FUND REPLENISHMENT, WITH MANY CHALLENGES TO BE MET

On 23 and 24 February, five African countries – South Africa, Kenya, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Senegal – launched the Global Fund Replenishment campaign and publicised the Global Fund's investment case, with the unprecedented yet essential goal of raising at least USD18 billion for the 2023-2025 period.

Friends of the Global Fund Europe clearly recognised the need to respond to the Global Fund's appeal and meet the funding needs calculated. Our strategy and our advocacy vis-a-vis the donor countries in which Friends Europe operates were built around pursuit of this goal.

Throughout the year, we mobilised and worked closely with policymakers and other stakeholders to secure a significant increase in their contributions, aiming for a 30% average increase in pledges compared to the financial target of USD14 billion set for the Sixth Replenishment campaign.

This campaign took place in a context of palpable uncertainty, as the political environment in Germany, France and Italy was entering uncharted waters with national elections or the formation of new governments in all three countries. Moreover, the creation of the Pandemic Fund two weeks before the Global Fund Replenishment Conference accentuated the risk of a fragmented global health architecture. Despite these many complexities and thanks to steadfast advocacy in the countries where Friends Europe is active, the main European and G7 donors reaffirmed their support for the Global Fund at the Seventh Replenishment Conference, held in September in New York under the auspices of President Biden, announcing substantial increases in their contributions for the coming three years.

Overall, Friends of the Global Fund Europe vigorously welcomed the unprecedented amount of USD15.7 raised through this campaign. Nonetheless, more than USD2 billion must still be found, and we remain alert and active to provide the Global Fund with the financing it needs.

ONGOING DELIBERATIONS REGARDING THE GLOBAL HEALTH ARCHITECTURE

The COVID-19 pandemic reminded the world that health knows no borders and that the fight against communicable diseases requires coordinated mobilisation of financial resources, scientific expertise, and planning and implementation capacities – as is the case of the Global Fund – that go beyond issues directly related to health. Efforts to mobilise the international community on matters of prevention, preparedness and response to future pandemics have refocussed attention on the vital need for cross-cutting cooperation, at every level, to address development issues. Indeed, if we are to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 – assuming they are still achievable – we must act now, in a spirit of conviction, unity and solidarity. In the end, our overarching objective is and must be to strive for a better world, a world of peace for future generations. ●

FRIENDS EUROPE

8 March

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Friends of the Global Fund Europe produced a video in English and Italian to illustrate the Global Fund's contributions to the fight against gender inequalities in the field of health.



28 March

LAUNCH OF THE #WHATEVERITTAKES CAMPAIGN

In partnership with Aidsfonds and GHA, Friends Europe called on the EU to contribute €715 million to the Global Fund.

24 March

WORLD TUBERCULOSIS DAY

Friends Europe released a video in English, French, Italian, Spanish and German to make viewers aware of Global Fund programmes and the daily struggle of people affected by tuberculosis in Indonesia. In France, Friends Europe organised an event on the Global Fund's role in the fight against TB. In Germany, 300 decision-makers received a message from Friends Europe Vice-President Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul highlighting the Global Fund Replenishment campaign. In Spain, key decision-makers received a newsletter on the launch of the investment case, along with a document on the Global Fund's missions, strategy, and results.



25 April

WORLD MALARIA DAY

Friends Europe released a video in English, French, Italian, Spanish and German to make viewers aware of Global Fund programmes and the daily struggle of people affected by malaria in Niger. Friends Europe organised a high-level event in Germany, with the participation of the individuals profiled in the videos about the fight against tuberculosis in Indonesia, malaria in Niger and HIV in Malawi. In France, Friends Europe published an op-ed signed by more than 20 associations, and launched an appeal to newly re-elected President Emmanuel Macron in the daily newspaper *Le Monde*.



10 June

BOARD AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Friends Europe Board and Advisory Committee met to elaborate a strategy and action plan for the final weeks of the campaign leading up to the Global Fund Replenishment Conference.

23-24 February

LAUNCH OF THE GLOBAL FUND REPLENISHMENT CAMPAIGN

The Global Fund held the preparatory meeting for its Replenishment Conference and introduced its investment case. At the same time, Russia invaded Ukraine. A Friends Europe newsletter about the launch of the Replenishment campaign and related challenges went out to more than 200 decision-makers and allies in France, and nearly 700 in Germany.

31 May

LUXEMBOURG'S INITIAL PLEDGE TO THE GLOBAL FUND

Friends Europe participated in the organisation of a high-level event in Luxembourg, at which the country pledged €11.7 million.

20 May

INITIAL PLEDGE BY GERMANY TO THE GLOBAL FUND

Germany announced a €1.2 billion contribution to the Global Fund for the 2023-2025 cycle.

6-9 April

AFRAVIH, MARSEILLE

Friends Europe organised a symposium entitled: "Seventh Global Fund Replenishment: perspectives for funding and leading the fight against AIDS through 2030", with more than 150 people attending the event.

22 June

POLICY PAPER ON PPPR

Friends Europe and its partners presented their policy paper on pandemic prevention and preparedness to the Italian Senate.

ACTIVITIES IN 2022

29 July - 2 August

INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE, MONTREAL

Italian television station RAI TV accompanied Friends Europe to the conference, where it broadcast six special reports, each reaching 5 to 6 million viewers. On 28 July, Friends Europe France organised a symposium on the role of the Global Fund in crisis contexts and the organisation's contribution to health system resilience.

8 September

HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ORGANISED BY FRIENDS EUROPE IN GERMANY

Germany announced an additional €100 million to supplement the €200 million increase already pledged, bringing the total pledge for the 2023-2025 period to €1.3 billion.

18 September 2022

ALL FRIENDS EVENT IN NEW YORK

In collaboration with Friends of the Global Fight (US) and Friends of the Global Fund Japan, Friends Europe organised a side event in New York on the role of the Global Fund in crisis situations.



26-28 June

G7 IN GERMANY

In the run-up to the G7 Summit in Berlin, five Friends Europe Board members co-authored an op-ed published in *Politico*.

18-21 September

7TH GLOBAL FUND REPLENISHMENT CONFERENCE

The Replenishment Conference was held in New York, in the framework of the United Nations General Assembly and under the auspices of US President Joe Biden. At this conference, France pledged €1.596 million, the European Union €715 million and Spain €130 million.



15 November

ITALY PLEDGES TO THE GLOBAL FUND

During the G20, Italy pledged to contribute €185 million to the Global Fund.

15-17 November

GLOBAL FUND BOARD MEETING

The Board of the Global Fund welcomed the outcome of the Seventh Replenishment, which amounted to USD15.7 billion (compared to the USD18 billion required).

15 December

SECOND PLEDGE FROM LUXEMBOURG TO THE GLOBAL FUND

Luxembourg announced an increase in its contribution to the Global Fund, bringing it to a total of €15 million for the 2023-2025 period.

20-21 December

BOARD AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Friends Europe Board and Advisory Committee met for two days of discussions on the implementation of the Global Fund strategy and changes to the global health architecture.

1 December

WORLD AIDS DAY

Friends Europe published an informational graph emphasising the need to ensure continued resource mobilisation for the Global Fund. This message was further sent, in French, to 250 decision-makers and allies in France, and in Spanish to some 50 decision-makers and allies in Spain. In Germany, 220 policymakers received a card signed by Friends Europe Vice-President Heidemarie Wiczorek-Zeul thanking them for their commitment to the Global Fund. The Italian Ministry of Health published, on its own website, Friends Europe's video aiming to make viewers aware of Global Fund programmes and the daily struggle of people affected by HIV in Malawi.





CUMULATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS AND PLEDGES TO THE GLOBAL FUND

CUMULATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS AND PLEDGES FOR THE LAST TWO GLOBAL FUND REPLENISHMENTS FROM COUNTRIES IN WHICH FRIENDS EUROPE IS ACTIVE

DONOR COUNTRY In descending order according to cumulative contributions	CURRENCY	CUMULATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS up to and including 2022 **	PLEDGE during the 6 th Global Fund Replenishment Conference for the 2020-2022 period *	PLEDGE as part of the 7 th Global Fund Replenishment campaign for the 2023-2025 period*	PLEDGE as part of the 7 th Global Fund Replenishment campaign for the 2023-2025 period USD EQUIVALENT
FRANCE	EUR	6,051	1,296	1,596	1,586
GERMANY	EUR	4,382	1,000	1,300	1,292
EUROPEAN COMMISSION	EUR	2,797	550	715	710.4
ITALY	EUR	1,177	160	185	183.8
SPAIN	EUR	637	100	130	129.2
BELGIUM	EUR	302	15	30	29.8
LUXEMBOURG	EUR	53	9.2	15	14.9

CUMULATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS AND PLEDGES BY OTHER MAJOR DONORS FOR THE LAST TWO GLOBAL FUND REPLENISHMENTS

DONOR COUNTRY In descending order according to cumulative contributions	CURRENCY	CUMULATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS up to and including 2022 **	PLEDGE during the 6 th Global Fund Replenishment Conference for the 2020-2022 period *	PLEDGE as part of the 7 th Global Fund Replenishment campaign for the 2023-2025 period	PLEDGE as part of the 7 th Global Fund Replenishment campaign for the 2023-2025 period USD EQUIVALENT
UNITED STATES	USD	23,174	4,680	6,000	6,000
UNITED KINGDOM	GBP	4,550	1,400	1,000	1,176
JAPAN	USD	4,307	840	1,080	1,080
CANADA	CAD	4,089	930	1,209	905
BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION	USD	3,000	760	912	912
SWEDEN	SEK	13,506	2,850	3,000	274
NETHERLANDS	EUR	1,156	156	180	179
NORWAY	NOK	10,037	2,040	2,000	193
AUSTRALIA	AUD	1,036	242	266	177

*in millions

** Including contributions to the COVID-19 Response Mechanism

PAN-EUROPEAN ACTIVITIES

BUILDING A SHARED VISION TO ADDRESS KEY GLOBAL CHALLENGES



The particular structure of Friends of the Global Fund Europe, active in six European countries with a governance system that involves experts and political figures of 10 different European nationalities, allows the organisation to transcend national concerns in its deliberations and action.

2022: OUR INVOLVEMENT IN THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE SEVENTH GLOBAL FUND REPLENISHMENT WENT ALONG WITH AN INDISPENSABLE DISCUSSION ON ITS ROLE IN RISING TO KEY GLOBAL HEALTH CHALLENGES

The members of the Friends Europe Board of Directors and Advisory Committee met several times over the year to debate, analyse the situation and guide the Secretariat in its strategy with a view to addressing the key issues in global health. Their expertise in the context of Friends Europe's pan-European and national events has provided immense added value. In this Replenishment year, the changing global health landscape in the wake of Covid-19 continued to drive international debates and discussions at the European level. Deliberations largely focussed on the contribution of the Global Fund, through its partnership with national players, to the fight against major pandemics, as well as to efforts to strengthen health systems and heighten their resilience in the face of political, environmental and health crises. This reflection was structured around two main questions:

- 1 - What lessons can be learned from the Global Fund's model and experience to address major worldwide challenges?
- 2 - What role should the Global Fund play in global health in the future?

SPEAKING OUT AND PROVIDING A PLATFORM TO ADDRESS EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS' GLOBAL HEALTH CONCERNS

In 2022, Friends of the Global Fund Europe's pan-European activities focussed on three themes, identified as priorities to address the concerns of European donors in the context of the Global Fund's Seventh Replenishment.



In January, prior to the launch of the Global Fund's campaign for the Seventh Replenishment, Friends Europe organised a webinar to illustrate the benefits of the Global Fund in incorporating community health workers into community systems, a major focus of its new strategy.

1. The role of communities in health systems

We began by noting the partnership model, unique in the field of global health, that the Global Fund has succeeded in implementing with communities over the past 20 years, and the efforts made to persuade governments to recognise and integrate community players into health systems as participants in the design, implementation and evaluation of public health programmes.

2. Preparing for and responding to future pandemics

We then reflected on the notion of preparedness for future pandemics: How is this concept defined? What priority activities does it cover? How does it relate to the urgent needs of addressing current pandemics in the most affected countries? What role can and should the Global Fund play?



In March,, following the launch of the Global Fund's investment case, Friends Europe organised an exchange of views to put into perspective the role and place of the Global Fund in prevention, preparedness and response to future pandemics.

3. The Global Fund's exceptional capacity to adapt to crises

Finally, in partnership with Friends of the Global Fight and Friends of the Global Fund Japan, our sister organisations in the United States and Japan respectively, we cited the examples of Ukraine, Sri Lanka and Mali at an event in New York on the eve of the Global Fund Replenishment Conference to highlight the Global Fund's exceptional capacity to adapt to political, humanitarian, environmental and health crises.



The event, attended by civil society actors from implementing countries, American and French parliamentarians, as well as a representative of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, demonstrated broad stakeholder support for the campaign and the role of the Global Fund.

Friends organisations developed a virtual study tour to showcase the Global Fund's malaria programmes in Niger, TB programs in Indonesia and AIDS programmes in Malawi. The video, produced for Friends Europe in English, French, German, Italian and Spanish, was used at advocacy events in different countries, as well as to observe World TB Day, World Malaria Day and World AIDS Day.

MAKING OUR VOICE HEARD – AND EXPANDING OUR AUDIENCE

Members of our Board of Directors and Advisory Committee also spoke out against the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the health and humanitarian risks that the war would surely generate.

In this Replenishment year, they further spoke up ahead of the G7 meeting in Berlin to demonstrate the importance of continuing to mobilise alongside the Global Fund not only to fight diseases, but also to strengthen health systems and prepare for future pandemics. In the run-up to the Global Fund Replenishment Conference, they once again stressed the urgent need of bolstering international solidarity and investing in multilateralism through inclusive, effective and transparent institutions such as the Global Fund that produce proven and measurable impacts.

STRENGTHENING VISIBILITY AMONG OUR TARGETS

Friends Europe has worked to strengthen its online visibility by increasing the regularity and frequency of written and visual publications on its website and social networks. Friends Europe's audience on select media has gradually grown to include decision-makers, CSOs and international organisations, as well as experts in health, development and human rights.

PARTNERSHIP WITH SISTER ORGANISATIONS FRIENDS OF THE GLOBAL FIGHT (UNITED STATES) AND FRIENDS OF THE GLOBAL FUND JAPAN

As part of the Global Fund Replenishment campaign, it was important for the different regions of the world advocating for a fully replenished Global Fund to speak with one voice before world leaders and major donors. We thus had to ensure global resonance for the issues we wanted to highlight, as well as activities carried out at key periods of the year.

We produced joint advocacy and communication tools, adapted to take account of national specificities, aimed at raising awareness among decision-makers and stakeholders of the role and needs of the Global Fund in each country where Friends organisations operate. ●



GERMANY

2022, A COMPLETE REVISION OF GERMANY'S PRIORITIES



On 26 April in Berlin, Friends Europe organised a high-level event with the Global Fund, BMZ and three advocates from Malawi (Grace Ngulube), Indonesia (Meirinda Sebayang) and Rwanda (Nooliet Kabanyana) who came to share their perspectives on the fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, respectively..



During Friends Europe's high-level meeting in September, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Svenja Schulze (on stage, at the centre of the photo), announced a €100 million top-up to the German contribution to the Global Fund.



**Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul,
Vice-President in charge
of Germany**

“The global health politics of 2022 show how Russia’s attack on Ukraine is not only devastating the livelihoods of Ukrainians and the European stability architecture, but also generating terrible ripple effects on the progress of the SDG agenda. We must not allow the SDGs to become another victim of the war against Ukraine, and we have to fulfil our obligations, mobilising the necessary financing and preventing the constitution of new blocs”.

In the wake of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, the full scope of the effects generated by the attack became increasingly clear and led to a complete revision of Germany’s G7 agenda and overall foreign policy concerns. Additionally, considerable financial efforts were made to mitigate the effects of an anticipated energy crisis. On 22 March, Friends Europe learned that these revised priorities would also affect the German Global Health agenda: the intended contribution to the Global Fund was set at €630 million – a 37% reduction compared to Germany’s 2019 contribution.

INTENSE ADVOCACY TO ADDRESS FEARS OF A MASSIVE CUT TO GLOBAL FUND RESOURCES

Friends Europe and allied civil society organisations initiated a series of advocacy activities. Some of these actions were already in the pipeline, while additional operations were implemented in response to the severity of the challenge. The pre-planned activities included a parliamentary meeting in March to introduce the investment case, and a high-level event in April. Additional activities involved several calls and e-mails to BMZ leadership and the Chancellery, as well as direct contacts with key parliamentarians and their staff. The situation nonetheless appeared dire, as Germany’s Finance Minister tried to maintain a policy of fiscal austerity despite – or because of – the looming crisis. We knew that Germany’s 37% cut was already starting to dissuade other donors from preparing ambitious pledges. Friends Europe also explored various channels to persuade the United States government, as the host of the Replenishment, to put pressure on German authorities.

A MOBILISATION THAT HAS BORNE FRUIT

The first sign of optimism came with a revision of the government’s draft budget in May. On 20 May, Germany’s Minister for Development, Svenja Schulze, announced that the government was planning (subject to parliamentary approval) a contribution of €1.2 billion to the Global Fund. While this number fell short of the desired 30% increase, it remained a welcome departure from a scenario of a G7 President slashing its Global Fund contribution. This change also allowed Friends Europe colleagues in other countries to encourage more ambitious pledges from other donors.

Friends Europe determined that a 30% increase from the G7 President would offer strategic leverage for attempts to persuade other donors. Nonetheless, we also recognised that additional cash contributions would be impossible to achieve, for both political and procedural reasons. A nominal pledge of €1.3 billion could only be achieved by persuading the German Development Ministry to announce a €100 million debt swap programme.

Over the summer, Friends Europe carried out an advocacy campaign, spearheaded by Vice-President Wieczorek-Zeul, in favour of this addition to the German pledge. These efforts ultimately bore fruit.

At an event co-organized by Friends Europe on 8 September, Development Minister Svenja Schulze announced the German pledge of €1.3 billion, consisting of a €1.2 billion cash contribution and €100 million in debt-for-health conversion programmes. ●



Italian television station RAI filmed the various events and protests that took place during the AIDS Conference in Montreal.

ITALY

STRENGTHENING ITALY'S COMMITMENT IN AN UNCERTAIN POLITICAL CONTEXT



Italian TV journalist Laura Berti interviewed Andriy Klepikov, Executive Director of Public Health Alliance in Ukraine, at the AIDS Conference in Montreal.



Friends Europe participated in the creation of a health guidance document on pandemic prevention and preparedness that was presented in September at the Italian Senate.



Stefano Vella,
Vice-President in charge of Italy

“We must build on what we have learned over the past 20 years, and especially the wealth of experience gained by the Global Fund. The Global Fund’s experience in recipient countries will be essential in guiding the work of the Pandemic Fund”.

In 2022, with the world still in the grip of Covid-19, Italy, as G20 President, ensured that preparedness for future pandemics was on the agenda for this event, announcing a reform of the global health architecture. Two orientations stood out for Friends Europe’s work in Italy: sharing perspectives and views on the concept of global health with representatives of Health and Finance Ministries involved in preparatory work for the G20, and positioning the Global Fund as a key player in the upcoming reforms.

As a Replenishment year, 2022 brought debates on prevention, preparedness and response to future pandemics into greater relief, a process that culminated with the creation of the Pandemic Fund in September. Our advocacy work thus gained in intensity, following the guidelines set out the previous year.

CHAMPIONING A GLOBAL FUND REPLENISHMENT COMMENSURATE WITH NEEDS TO END THE CURRENT PANDEMICS AND PREPARE THE WORLD FOR FUTURE PANDEMICS

The communication work we carried out in partnership with the Italian network RAI TV during the International AIDS Conference in Montreal in July was precisely along these lines: don’t forget about AIDS and other pre-existing diseases, and take advantage of the experience and lessons learned from the fight against AIDS to respond to Covid-19 and prevent future health threats. This collaboration led to the prime-time broadcast of six special reports, each reaching 5 to 6 million viewers. In collaboration with our academic and civil society partners, we prepared a global health guidance document which was distributed during an event at the Italian Senate. 2022 also saw several interactions with decision-makers and health ex-

perts at the Italian Prime Minister’s Office and the Ministry of Economy and Finance, providing the chance to present the Global Fund’s investment case and advocate for a dramatic increase in the Italian contribution. Despite the complexity of the political situation, with general elections taking place a few days after the Replenishment Conference last September, Prime Minister Meloni committed to increasing Italy’s contribution to the Global Fund by 15% for the 2023-2025 cycle.

We firmly believe that the activities we implemented and the close contacts we have had and continue to maintain with key decision-makers, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Cooperation Agency and the Ministry of Finance, with which we interact constantly even now that the G20 is over, were fundamental in ensuring the Italian government’s support for the Global Fund in 2022.

The creation of the Pandemic Fund in September 2022 was an important step in restructuring the global health architecture and preparing for future pandemics. Actively involved in this subject since it first emerged in 2022, we will continue to track developments in the field, striving to ensure that the Global Fund is recognised as one of the instruments best suited to receive this financing. ●

EUROPEAN UNION

SUSTAINED ADVOCACY THROUGHOUT THE MOBILISATION CAMPAIGN



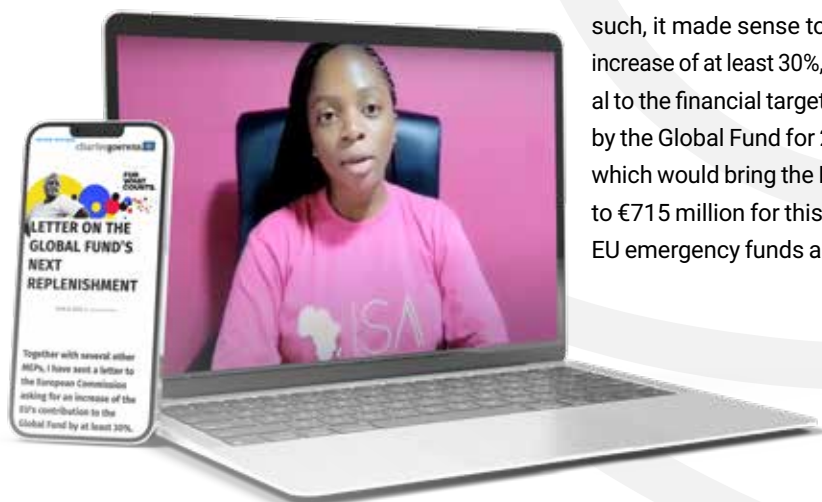
As part of World Malaria Day, Olivia Ngou, a Cameroon-based advocate, called the EU to increase its pledge to the Global Fund by 30%

Throughout 2021, the European Union stood out as a leader in global health, both through its active contribution to the Covid-19 response initiatives ACT-A and COVAX, and with the creation of HERA (European Health Emergency Response and Preparedness Authority), the new pandemic preparedness and response agency that set the stage for the Global Fund's 2022 Replenishment. At the Sixth Replenishment Conference, held in France in 2019, the European Union pledged €550 million for the 2020-2022 period. As such, it made sense to call for an increase of at least 30%, proportional to the financial target calculated by the Global Fund for 2023-2025, which would bring the EU's pledge to €715 million for this new cycle. EU emergency funds appeared as

a potential source for this additional financing. However, this budget having been frozen due to the Covid-19 crisis and the war in Ukraine, the request for a 30% increase posed a challenge. The only way forward was to engage EU decision-makers at the highest level in the Parliament and the Commission, convincing them of the importance of this increase. It also became essential to emphasise the global health debate among the various European policy structures, continuing to advocate for a strengthening of global health policies and an increased development budget.

SUSTAINED ADVOCACY AND GROWING ENGAGEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COMMISSION THROUGHOUT THE MOBILISATION CAMPAIGN

Since the beginning of 2022, considerable effort has been dedicated to disseminating information around the Global Fund's new



Publications launched as part of the #WhateverItTakes campaign to call for a 30% increase of the EU contribution to the Global Fund.



Charles Goerens,
Vice-President for European
institutions, Belgium
and Luxembourg

"This year has seen many crises, generating humanitarian, political and health consequences that could have sparked debate in the European Union around increased dedication to the Global Fund. However, thanks to sustained advocacy and strengthened relationships at the highest level between Friends Europe and key decision-makers, the European Union has once again shown itself to be a leader on global health issues".

strategy and investment case, through informal conversations with key players in EU institutions as well as circulation of documents.

#WHATEVERITTAKES

Together with AIDSFONDS and Global Health Advocates, Friends Europe launched the #WhateverItTakes campaign following publication of the Global Fund investment case. The three organisations disseminated their arguments in favour of an increase of at least 30% in the EU pledge. In addition, another persuasive position paper was drafted and disseminated among decision-makers detailing 20 years of close links and cooperation between the Global Fund and the European Commission. Friends Europe also seized the opportunity presented by World Malaria Day to launch a video with Olivia Ngou, a Cameroon-based advocate for malaria action, reminding viewers that a child dies of malaria every minute and calling on the EU and Commissioner Urpilainen to increase the EU pledge to the Global Fund by 30%. Commissioner Urpilainen responded to this appeal by recalling the indispensable role of the Global Fund in addressing the needs of children affected by malaria and the strong support the Global Fund has always enjoyed from the European Union. In June, together with our Vice-President Charles Goerens, five key MEPs sent a letter to Commissioner Urpilainen and President Von der Leyen to push for an increase of the EU pledge to the Global Fund.

The various advocacy efforts undertaken contributed significantly to the EU's commitment to increase its contribution by 30%, pledging €715 million to the Global Fund for the 2023-2025 cycle. ●

LUXEMBOURG

Luxembourg considers development cooperation a key pillar of its "3D" approach to foreign policy (diplomacy, development and defence), and therefore actively engages with multilateral organisations. Today, Luxembourg's Official Development Aid (ODA) budget comes to 1.02% of Gross National Income, well above 0.7% target, making the Grand Duchy an ODA champion.

The country has been an essential supporter of the Global Fund since its inception and stands out as one of the Global Fund's largest donors per capita. In early 2019, it was the first country to pledge for the Global Fund's Sixth Replenishment, covering the 2020-2022 period. The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg announced a pledge of €9.2 million, a 15% increase over the previous Replenishment.

In 2022, relations with Luxembourg appeared stronger than ever. On 31 May, Friends Europe facilitated a high-level event bringing together Peter Sands, Executive Director of the Global Fund, Minister for Cooperation and Development Franz Fayot and Friends Europe Vice-President Charles Goerens. At this event, Luxembourg committed to increasing its contribution following the presentation of the Global Fund's investment case, pledging €11.7 million for the 2023-2025 cycle. At the end of the year, Luxembourg announced an increase in its contribution for this same period, bringing it to a total of €15 million. ●



FRANCE

PERSISTENT ADVOCACY AMID POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY



The Friends Europe symposium in Montreal attracted 160 people and provided an opportunity to highlight the role of the Global Fund and communities in the fight against HIV and initiatives to strengthen health systems in crisis situations. The event further served as a venue to for France to welcome all the French nationals attending the international conference in Montreal.

In 2019, as host of the Global Fund's Sixth Replenishment Conference, French President Macron pledged to increase France's contribution by 20% for the 2020-2022 cycle, maintaining the country's position as the second-largest contributor to the Global Fund and reaffirming its leadership in the fight against the three diseases.

In 2022, several factors complicated Friends Europe's advocacy efforts championing an increase in France's contribution to the Global Fund. On the one hand, a precarious economic context in Europe due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, together with high inflation, intensified budgetary pressure on French ODA. Meanwhile, presidential and legislative elections in the spring of 2022 led to a political environment rife



The symposium at the AFRAVIH conference brought together representatives from the French government, the Ministry of Health of the Democratic Republic of Congo, international and civil society organisations, as well as health professionals, before an audience of 150 people. Speakers focussed on presenting the Global Fund's investment case, identifying the resources – financial and otherwise – needed to end AIDS by 2030, and discussing France's support for the Global Fund. Friends Europe invited two French MPs to this conference, where they met with stakeholders in the fight against AIDS.

Friends Europe published a full-page ad in the daily newspaper *Le Monde* to mark World Malaria Day, which fell the day after the presidential election, calling on the French government to increase its contribution to the Global Fund.

with uncertainty in the weeks and months preceding the Global Fund Replenishment Conference. Consequently, increasing the French contribution to the Global Fund in the context of the Seventh Replenishment campaign was formidable task.

COLLABORATION WITH ALL STAKEHOLDERS IN FRANCE AND INTERNATIONALLY IN SUPPORT OF THE GLOBAL FUND

Friends Europe organised several meetings between decision-makers and representatives of civil society, the scientific community and the Global Fund.

These encounters included two major events in support of the Global Fund's Replenishment campaign: a symposium in the framework of the AFRAVIH Francophone HIV conference in Marseille in April, and another seminar in the run-up to the "AIDS 2022" international conference held in Montreal in July. Both events provided an opportunity to present the role of the Global Fund partnership in the fight against pandemics, the drive to strengthen health systems and initiatives to prepare for future pandemics, while exposing the organisation's financial needs. They also offered the chance to highlight the vital role of communities and to discuss France's long-established and ongoing support for the Global Fund.

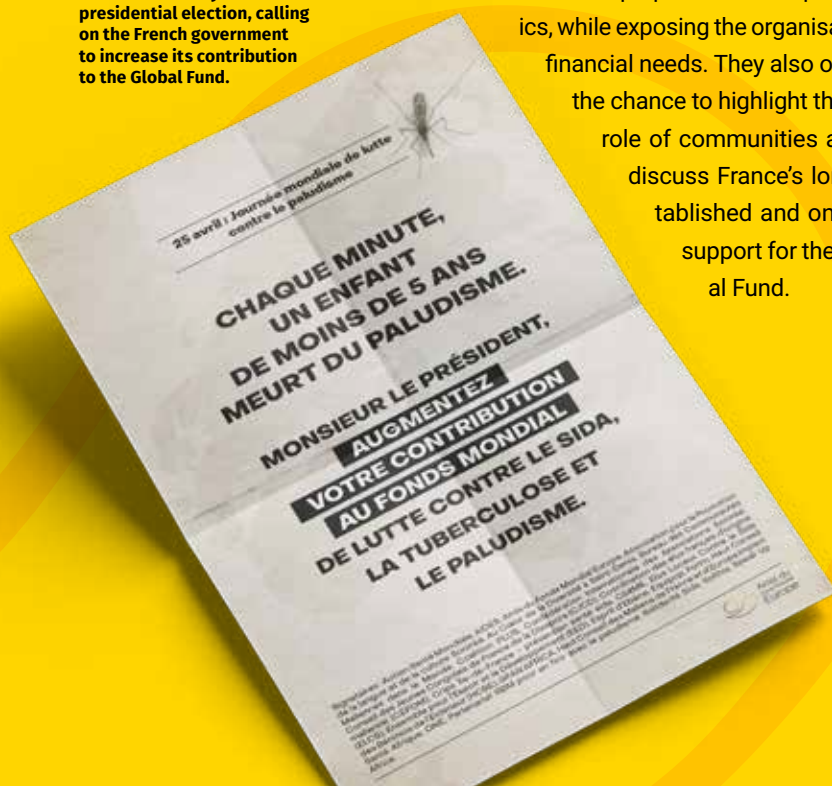
Friends Europe also worked alongside French and French-speaking civil society organisations to publish the Appeal for Solidarity calling on governments, including France, to significantly increase their contributions to the Global Fund. Signed by more than 700 leading figures in the Francophone world, it was published on the *Journal du Dimanche* website and supported by Yannick Noah, a Franco-Cameroonian performing artist and former tennis player.

On 25 April, the date of Emmanuel Macron's inauguration for his second term of office, which coincided with World Malaria Day, Friends Europe published an advertisement in the newspaper *Le Monde* to draw the President's attention to the fact that a child under the age of five dies of malaria every minute. A collective op-ed appeared on the web version of the same newspaper.

AN UNPRECEDENTED INCREASE IN FRANCE'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GLOBAL FUND AND CONTINUED MOBILISATION

President Macron's announcement of a €1.6 billion contribution to the Global Fund at the September Replenishment Conference in New York was unprecedented. It was accompanied by an equally unparalleled increase in the share earmarked for L'Initiative, from 9% for the previous cycle to 20% (i.e. from €116 million to €319.2 million) for the 2023-2025 cycle.

Advocacy in support of the Global Fund, an organisation whose values and principles are reflected in its governance and at all stages of its action cycle, and whose impact extends well beyond the 50 million lives saved since its creation, will continue in preparation for the Eighth Replenishment Conference to be held in 2025. ●



FOCUS ON: THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

3 QUESTIONS TO RICHARD HORTON



**Editor-in-Chief of *The Lancet*
and member of the Friends
of the Global Fund Europe
Advisory Committee**

WHAT MOTIVATES YOUR INVOLVEMENT WITH FRIENDS EUROPE? HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE ROLE AND CONTRIBUTION OF THE EXPERTS ON THE ADVISORY COM- MITTEE WITHIN FRIENDS EUROPE?

My motivation for being a passionate advocate for Friends Europe is two-fold.

First, the absolutely central importance of the Global Fund for delivering the right to health and health equity for some of the most disadvantaged communities in the world. The World Health Organisation is, of course, a critically important multilateral agency that serves Member States. But WHO is not an implementing health institution. By contrast, the Global Fund is without doubt the most effective delivery mechanism we have in global health today. Its investments have averted millions of premature deaths from AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. But the Global Fund goes much further, and this is my second reason for being such an ardent supporter of Friends Europe. The Global Fund's investments have also contributed to strengthening country health systems. This health system strengthening role of the Global Fund has become increasingly important in an era of Universal Health Cov-

erage and, now, pandemic preparedness. Future global health security depends on individual health security, which, in turn, depends on Universal Health Coverage. The Global Fund is therefore a vital instrument for pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response. For both of these reasons, the world needs a strong Global Fund. But the demands on partners to support an ever-growing number of global health initiatives means that the Global Fund exists in a highly competitive landscape. Friends of the Global Fund Europe plays an important role, I hope, in promoting the successes of the Fund. I believe we also provide a useful means to communicate constructive feedback to the Global Fund's leadership. We live in complex and dangerous times. All of us on Friends Europe's Advisory Committee want to help in every possible way to sustain the Global Fund's achievements into the future. One last personal comment: I come from a country that has, let's say, sent ambivalent messages about its commitment to European institutions. Being passionate about contributing to Friends Europe is a tangible way of showing Europe that it still has many UK friends.

“When a government invests in the Global Fund, ministers can literally hold in their hands the bed nets, antiretrovirals, and anti-malarial and anti-tubercular diagnostics and treatments that they are paying for—interventions that directly save lives. There are few investments in global health that have such immediate life-saving consequences”.

2022 WAS MARKED BY THE GLOBAL FUND REPLENISHMENT CAMPAIGN/CONFERENCE, AND MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS IN GLOBAL HEALTH. HOW HAS THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELPED FRIENDS EUROPE TO ADDRESS THESE ISSUES?

The Advisory Committee of Friends Europe begins from a position of unconditional commitment to the work of the Global Fund. But we always want to see the Global Fund do the best it can to adapt to the increasing-

ly complex landscape that is global health today.

Pandemic preparedness, the climate crisis, and antimicrobial resistance are just three challenges that did not exist on the scale they do now when the Global Fund was first launched. What should be the Fund’s response to these new challenges? One extreme reaction might be to ignore them entirely and to continue to focus exclusively on its mandate around the three diseases. Another extreme reaction could

be to throw out its original mandate and to reinvent itself as a broad global health fund. Neither of these extremes, in my view, would be a sensible response. The Fund needs to adapt continuously, but carefully.

The role of the Advisory Committee, I think, is to open a dialogue with the Fund and the Fund’s partners, to listen to countries and their experiences, to weigh the advice of experts, and to ask questions, all with the aim of strengthening the future replenishment “ask” of the Global Fund. The more that partners believe in the purpose of the

Fund, the more they see the Fund responding to the gravest of global health threats, the more they will view the Fund as a credible organisation worth their investment.

WHAT ROLE DO YOU SEE FOR FRIENDS EUROPE IN THE FUTURE?

My hope for the future is that Friends Europe can play an ever-stronger part in making the case to partners for supporting the Global Fund. After completion of the Seventh Replenishment, Friends Europe is currently beginning to ask some interesting questions about its role. How can we help the Fund ensure it has the highest-quality data concerning the health impacts of its investments? How can we articulate a stronger European voice on issues pertaining to the Global Fund? What can we do now to begin planning for the Eighth Replenishment? What should be the differentiating narrative of that Replenishment? These are huge questions. I think we are all excited about the future part Friends Europe and its Advisory Committee can play. ●



ABOUT FRIENDS OF THE GLOBAL FUND EUROPE

Friends of the Global Fund Europe is an independent not-for-profit organisation founded in April 2005, under the high patronage of the President of the French Republic, to engage with Europe's political and institutional decision-makers, public opinion, the media, civil society organisations and the private sector with the aim of fighting against AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, and more specifically mobilising support for the Global Fund.

Its actions seek to raise public awareness of global health issues, and specifically of the three epidemics. Its work includes political advocacy to support investment of the international community in the Global Fund and in the programmes it supports, with the ultimate objective of eradicating three of the most devastating pandemics affecting developing countries.

Our objectives

Raising awareness among governments, policymakers, civil society, public opinion and the media as regards challenges in combating the three pandemics globally, and in terms of their contribution to global health;

- Informing stakeholders on the strategy, action and results achieved by the Global Fund, as well as on its funding sources and contribution to the fight against the three epidemics, and to reinforcing health systems;

- Supporting and increasing financial resources dedicated to fighting the three pandemics, through the Global Fund in particular, and promoting innovative funding for development and global health;
- Mobilising public- and private-sector stakeholders as well as encouraging the development of public – private partnerships in favour of global health and in the fight against the three pandemics.

Our principles and values

Friends Europe shares the founding values of the Global Fund: a partnership focusing on performance and the quality of results, accountable advocacy, equity and transparency in all its operations.

Partnership

Our actions concentrate on the fight against the three diseases and on the work of the Global Fund, both of which are part of the global health debate, and on the need to strengthen national health systems.

They involve interested public or private partners from the political sphere or civil society, regardless of their methods of intervention in the field of public health.

Performance and quality of results

Our actions range from research to programme implementation and evaluation and aim to clearly identify the various issues in the fight against the three pandemics, the roles of international organisations and their partners in this endeavour, and more generally to promote global health.

Accountable advocacy

Our actions involve all partners to encourage the expression of their ideas and opinions on the fight against the three pandemics and to foster debate and confrontations that have beneficial effects on the conception and implementation of innovative actions in favour of the fight against the three diseases.

Equity and transparency

Our actions promote access to treatments, access to care for the most vulnerable people, including women and children, and more generally a rights-based approach. They also intend to demonstrate the impact of actions against the three pandemics in terms of reinforcing community-based health systems, governance structures, as well as their positive social outcomes on education, the economic well-being of individuals and families, the private sector and national economies at large, but also as regards gender equality, capacity-strengthening for women and the protection and security of populations. ●



The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

Created in 2002, the Global Fund, which succeeded the Therapeutic Solidarity Fund created by President Jacques Chirac in 1997, is a partnership between governments, civil society, the private sector and people affected by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis or malaria that channels international resources to invest strategically in programmes to end the three epidemics and strengthen health systems in low- and middle-income countries. Since its inception, programmes supported by the Global Fund partnership have saved more than 50 million lives and reduced deaths from AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria by half. The Global Fund invested more than USD55.4 billion between 2002 and June 2022 through country-led programmes in more than 120 countries, while ensuring that the programmes it finances are linked to national health programmes.



GOVERNANCE 2022

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