

The World Needs WHO Now More Than Ever

President Donald Trump's announcement that the U.S.—the largest sponsor of the World Health Organization—has decided to suspend funding to the body in the midst of COVID-19 pandemic is unfathomable and unjustified.

Now is not the time to reduce WHO resources or any other humanitarian organization in the fight against the virus. This is the time for the global community to work together. Tackling COVID-19 requires strong international leadership, guided by a sense of shared responsibility and solidarity. This virus knows no borders and is having a devastating impact on communities and health systems around the world causing numerous deaths and untold disruption.

Now more than ever, the world needs the World Health Organisation.

To echo the words of Germany's foreign minister, Heiko Maas, the World Health Organization is one of the best investments. WHO is working round the clock to analyse data, provide advice, coordinate with partners, help countries respond, increase supplies and manage expert networks. The critical work of the WHO in slowing this pandemic cannot be overemphasised. The WHO is coordinating scientists, physicians, funders and manufacturers to help speed up the availability of a vaccine against COVID-19.

All attacks, politically motivated or otherwise, on WHO and its Director General, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus is dangerous and will cost lives.

Now is the time for unity. Now is the time to save lives.

































