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Infectious Diseases Society of America

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July 6, 2017

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General
World Health Organization
Avenue Appia 20
1211 Geneva 27
Switzerland

Dear Dr. Tedros,

The Infectious Diseases Society of America extends our congratulations on your election as Director General of the World Health Organization. We are impressed with your record in improving public health as Minister of Health in Ethiopia and as Chair of the Board of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, among other roles. We welcome the opportunity to be a resource to you and to work together to combat infectious diseases and improve health globally.

The Infectious Diseases Society of America represents more than 11,000 physicians and scientists devoted to patient care, prevention, public health, education, and research in the area of infectious diseases. IDSAs members share a passion for protecting and improving the health of individuals and communities in the U.S. and around the globe. Our members highlight and illustrate the value of ID physicians, and the critical roles they play in protecting and promoting public health, and driving biomedical research and innovation ensuring that patients receive safe and effective care.

Our members lead global HIV, tuberculosis, global health security and other research and response programs dealing with emerging infectious threats. IDSAs has had a longstanding concern with the threat of antimicrobial resistance and has recently been engaged with the United Nations and WHO efforts to strengthen and accelerate global responses to antimicrobial resistance and implementation of the Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance. IDSAs also plans to participate as a civil society organization in the WHO's Global Ministerial Conference on Ending TB in Moscow in November. IDSAs staff and members serve as advocates for U.S. leadership in global infectious disease research and responses.

We look forward to further collaborations with the WHO on antimicrobial resistance, HIV, tuberculosis and other infectious disease threats, and extend an offer to be a resource to you as you move forward with making your vision for the WHO a reality.

Sincerely,

William G. Powderly, MD, FIDSA
President, IDSAs