

July 28, 2015

Ms. Fabiola Riccardini  
Italian National Institute of Statistics (Istat)  
Via Cesare Balbo, 16  
00184 Rome  
Italy

Dear Ms. Riccardini:

As partners working to end the poverty, exclusion and ill health caused globally by Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), we are writing to you in your role, as a co-chair of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), to ask for your support for the inclusion of a global NTD indicator within the SDG indicator list.

We are concerned that a failure to include NTDs in the **global** indicator list would be an enormous mistake given the fact that NTDs are an early indicator of basic access to health care, systems are in place to collect relevant NTD data, and advancements made in the control and elimination of NTDs have received global support with the passage of the 66<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly [resolution](#) on NTDs in 2013.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon has stressed that 'Poverty reduction and the elimination of NTDs go hand-in-hand'. Ultimately, addressing NTDs advances the health, equity and human rights of 1.4 billion people at risk of NTDs. To ensure the continued focus and support of NTDs and the investments into the improvement of more than a billion lives, we propose the following indicator for **SDG 3/target 3.3** reflecting language endorsed by the World Health Organization and the NTD community:

***Number of people requiring interventions against NTDs by 2030***

We acknowledge the importance of a concise framework, but we believe that the above indicator will increase the opportunity to fully realise the potential of target 3.3 through robust comprehensive monitoring alongside implementation strategies.

Honouring the call to *leave no one behind*, we respectfully request that as a co-chair of the IAEG-SDGs you support and promote the inclusion of a global NTD indicator, within the ongoing negotiations of the proposed SDG indicator list.

Should you have any questions or wish to schedule a meeting to discuss this item further, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Helen Hamilton with the UK Coalition against Neglected Tropical Diseases at [hhamilton@sightsavers.org](mailto:hhamilton@sightsavers.org) or Ms. Michelle Brooks with the Global Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases at [michelle.brooks@sabin.org](mailto:michelle.brooks@sabin.org).

With kind regards,

On behalf of:

**Bernhard Nocht Institute**

Prof. Dr. Jürgen May, Chairman of the Board, Deutsches Netzwerk gegen vernachlässigte Tropenkrankheiten (DNTDs)/German Network against Neglected Tropical Diseases

**Children Without Worms**

Dr. David Addiss, Director

**Christoffel Blindenmission (CBM)**

Prof. Dr. KH Martin Kollmann, Member of the Board, Deutsches Netzwerk gegen vernachlässigte Tropenkrankheiten (DNTDs)/German Network against Neglected Tropical Diseases

**Global Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases**

Dr. Neeraj Mistry, Managing Director

**Helen Keller International**

Kathy Spahn, President and Chief Executive Officer

**Imperial College London, Schistosomiasis Control Initiative**

Prof. Alan Fenwick O.B.E., Director

**International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations (ILEP)**

Tanya Wood, Chief Executive Officer

**International Podoconiosis Initiative**

Prof. Gail Davey, Founder

**Leprastichting / Netherlands Leprosy Relief (NLR)**

Jan van Berkel, Director

**The Leprosy Mission England and Wales**

Sian Arulanantham, Head of Programmes Co-ordination

**The Leprosy Mission International**

Geoff Warne, General Director

**Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine**

Professor David Molyneux

**London Centre for Neglected Tropical Disease Research**

Professor Sir Roy Anderson, Director  
Professor Simon Croft, Management Board Member

**London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine**

David Mabey, Professor of Communicable Diseases

**Malaria Consortium**

Alex Hulme, Advocacy Manager

**Narud e.V.**

Aziz Lamere, Member of the Board, Deutsches Netzwerk gegen vernachlässigte Tropenkrankheiten (DNTDs)/German Network against Neglected Tropical Diseases

**NTD Non-Governmental Development Organization Network (NNN)**

Kim Kaporc, Chair

**Orbis**

Carla Jauregui, Head of Institutional Relationships

**Partnership for Child Development**

Francis Peel, Senior Communications Manager

**Porridge and Rice**

Ken Surridge, Chair

**Sabin Foundation Europe**

John Cummins, Board Chair

**Sasakawa Memorial Health Foundation**

Dr. Etsuko Kita, Chair

**Sightsavers**

Dr. Caroline Harper, Chief Executive Officer

**Tropical Medicine Centre of Excellence of the University of Tübingen**

Dr. Carsten Köhler, Member of the Board, Deutsches Netzwerk gegen vernachlässigte Tropenkrankheiten (DNTDs)/German Network against Neglected Tropical Diseases

**UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases**

Jeremy Lefroy, Chair

**UK Coalition against Neglected Tropical Diseases**

Helen Hamilton, Chair

**Uniting to Combat Neglected Tropical Diseases**

Dr. Julie Jacobson, Chair of Stakeholders Working Group

**vfa – Die forschenden Pharma-Unternehmen in Deutschland/German Association of Research-based Pharmaceutical Companies in Germany**

Harald Zimmer, Senior Manager International Affairs

**WaterAid**

Margaret Batty – Director, Global Policy and Campaigns

cc: Members of the IAEG-SDGs