

Dr Alvaro Bermejo  
Director General  
International Planned Parenthood Federation  
4 Newham's Row  
LONDON UK SE1 3UZ

Ms Rana Abu Ghazaleh  
President  
International Planned Parenthood Federation  
C/O 4 Newham's Row  
LONDON UK SE1 3UZ

Dear Dr Bermejo and Ms Abu Ghazaleh,

We write to express our continued support for IPPF's work to move forward with the commitments made at the General Assembly (GA) meeting in New Delhi in December 2019.

Global conditions have changed significantly in the short period of time since the GA. The COVID-19 pandemic poses a range of unique challenges for all of us. However, we consider it is important for the Federation, its staff and members worldwide, that the governance reforms stay on track as agreed in New Delhi.

We recognise that there are a range of critical steps to give full effect to the reform agenda. In particular, we recall that the next Governing Council meeting, scheduled for 15-17 May, is a key event.

In New Delhi, it was agreed that the May GC meeting would take the necessary steps to formally dissolve the GC body and approve regulations and policies that would enable the Board of Trustees (BOT) arrangement to commence. It is important that this process moves ahead as agreed, to maintain confidence in the reform agenda and the organisation more broadly. We expect that there are appropriate technologies and approaches that IPPF could utilise to ensure the GC process is possible under current conditions. Many of our respective global partners are continuing business in this way.

For donors, the GC process and transition to the BOT is important to our due diligence assessments which underpin our ability to continue core and non-core funding. It is also clearly important to our consideration of funding for the reform process specifically.

We wish to express our thanks and appreciation to all GC members who have provided strong support for the organisation over the years, and for its new direction. All involved in the process are to be commended. We particularly appreciate the strength shown in making the decision to transition to a new arrangement and hope that the GC members will find new ways in which to continue support for IPPF in the future. This will not necessarily be an easy step, but it is an essential one.

We appreciate your follow up on this matter and look forward to continuing our collaboration with IPPF over 2020.

Sincerely

Cecilia Scharp  
Assistant Director General  
Department for International Organisations  
and Policy Support Sida

Alexander Schulze  
Head - Division Global Programme Health  
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Ms. Satu Santala  
Director General  
Department for Development Policy  
Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland

Dr. Annette van Edig  
Head of Division Health, population policy, social protection  
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

Peter Shackleton  
Unit Manager – Multilateral; Pacific and Development Group  
New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Joris Jurriëns,  
Head health and aids division  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs the Netherlands

SUMI Manabu  
Director, Global Health Policy Division  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan

Kate Wallace  
Assistant Secretary Global Health Policy Branch  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia

Trine Rask Thygesen  
State Secretary for Development Policy  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark

Wenche Fone  
Director Department for Civil Society and the Private Sector  
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation

Dana Hovig  
Director, Global Development and Population  
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

Joshua Tabah  
Director General  
Health and Nutrition  
Global Affairs Canada

