

14 July 2022 UD2022/10067

Ministry for Foreign Affairs Minister for International Development Cooperation

## Dear Global Fund Advocates Network members,

Regarding your letter dated June 22, 2022, I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude for your deep engagement and commitment to our mutual goals of fighting against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and fighting for better health for all, including sexual and reproductive health and rights.

On July 13, I had the pleasure to announce Sweden's planned pledge of 3 billion SEK to the Global Fund for the 7<sup>th</sup> replenishment for 2023–2025. With this contribution, Sweden will remain a leading donor in relation to our size, and thereby reaffirms our deep commitment to the Global Fund's lifesaving objectives.

As you know, Sweden is and remains one of the leading contributors of ODA relative to our economy and remains committed to allocating 1% of gross national income for development assistance. This enables continued ambitious development aid in the future. Even with in-donor refugee costs excluded from the aid budget, Sweden remains one of the largest donors in the world.

We are currently witnessing an exceptional humanitarian and refugee crisis caused by Russia's aggression against Ukraine, and the displacement of millions of Ukrainian nationals throughout Europe. Sweden and many other countries have responded swiftly to support Ukrainians in need. In accordance with the OECD-DAC approved model applied by the Swedish Government, a portion of the official development assistance (ODA) has been reserved to cover increased in-donor refugee costs. The final amount that will be allocated to in-donor refugee costs will be determined by the

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Postal address: SE 103 39 Stockholm Street address: Gustav Adolfs torg 1 E-mail: foreign.registrator@gov.se number of people, mostly women and children, seeking protection in Sweden, and the extent of ODA-eligible costs for these.

As you note in your letter, the Government revised its earlier decision on June 7 this year and recommitted 1.3 billion SEK for development cooperation. In total, Sweden is budgeting SEK 57.3 billion for official development cooperation this year. The recommitted 1.3 billion SEK will facilitate Sweden's important support to civil society and our support for democracy, human rights, and sustainable development.

Sweden looks forward to a successful 7<sup>th</sup> Global Fund replenishment this year. As you so clearly outline in your letter, the importance of the Global Fund is as great as ever.

Sincerely,

Matilda Ernkrans

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