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May 31, 2017

The Honorable Tom Price, MD, Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Price:

As a global organization with over 90,000 members in 185 countries, the International Society for Infectious Diseases (ISID) is committed to improving the care of patients with infectious diseases, the training of clinicians and researchers in infection, and the control of infectious disease around the world. Our programs emphasize the open sharing of health data and information, and the transfer of appropriate technology through training and education of health care professionals. ISID has been actively involved in responding to outbreaks of Ebola, Zika, avian influenza, SARS and other infectious diseases over the past thirty years, and we have learned that diseases know no borders. To protect the health of global populations, efforts to understand, prepare for, and prevent or respond to infectious diseases must also be global.

The Ebola outbreak in West Africa led to 11,325 deaths in Liberia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Mali, and the United States. While Ebola devastated the fragile economies in West Africa, it also cost the United States over 1 billion USD. The international outbreak of SARS in 2003 also caused widespread social disruption and eventually cost the global economy an estimated 54 billion USD. The World Bank projects that a global influenza pandemic may result in losses of 3 trillion USD. Considering the enormous potential for devastating human suffering and massive economic losses, ISID maintains that the cost of prevention is a prudent investment.

The United States has wisely made just such an investment over the past 50 years by supporting the Fogarty International Center. These outlays have proven to be both farsighted and pragmatic. Fogarty supports basic, clinical, and applied research, and brings together the best scientific minds to address critical global health problems such as pandemic response. Fogarty has sensibly managed grant programs that have

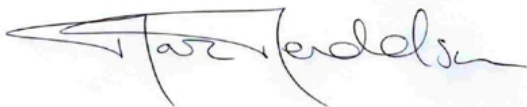
developed scientific expertise in under-resourced countries, ensuring there is local capacity to detect and address pandemics at their point of origin, contain outbreaks, and minimize their impact. By building and strengthening research capacity in those regions of the world that bear the greatest burden of infectious disease, Fogarty has made the world a safer place.

Medical science is moving forward on all continents. To build on research undertaken globally, American scientists must work collaboratively with their peers around the world. To ensure global health, doctors and public health practitioners must maintain close connections with their colleagues in every country. The Fogarty International Center has demonstrated its ability to cost-effectively foster these links through its research grant and training programs. The International Society for Infectious Disease urges you to support this important work and to advocate for the Fogarty International Center's continued funding.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jon Cohen".

Jon Cohen
President
International Society for Infectious Diseases

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marc Mendelson".

Marc Mendelson
President-elect
International Society for Infectious Diseases