

June 18, 2015

The Honorable Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President Obama,

We commend you for your leadership on improving the health of women and children and for making the goal of ending preventable child and maternal deaths a priority of the U.S. government. We thank you for ensuring that this issue was prominently featured at the U.S.-Africa Leaders' Summit in August.

Last year, we welcomed the United States' commitment to "Accelerate Action in Africa" and expand our collective efforts to save lives in the region. This included the commitment to develop and launch a health financing framework by Mother's Day 2015. We want to congratulate and thank you and the leadership of USAID for meeting this commitment.

As we head into the Financing for Development Conference in Addis Ababa and the third anniversary event of A Promise Renewed in India, we believe that a visible, public launch of the financing framework at the White House and the one year progress report on *Acting on the Call: Vision to End Preventable Child and Maternal Deaths* will show world leaders, Congress, and the American public that the U.S. is serious about ending preventable child and maternal deaths and has taken vital steps towards making this vision a reality. The financing framework provides a menu of options that can help countries be financially sustainable – a key topic at the Addis conference.

As you may know, members in both the House and Senate are developing a bold plan to dramatically accelerate the reduction of preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths, including provisions that would strengthen and expand innovative financing. It's clear that the momentum from the U.S.-Africa Leaders' Summit has continued through today and we believe a public announcement by the Administration of the EPCMD financing framework will continue that important dialogue and inform Congress as they potentially consider legislative strategies building upon it.

We are committed to working with you, the White House, our colleagues at USAID, and country leaders in ensuring that the world is moving forward towards meeting the bold goal of ending preventable child and maternal deaths in a generation.

Thank you again for your commitment to creating a brighter future for the mothers and children around the world.

Sincerely,

