

29 April 2021



Hon. Boris Johnson
Presidency of the G7
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Jonathan Black
G7 Sherpa
Cabinet Office
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RE: COVID-19 OXYGEN CRISIS – ROLE OF THE G7

On behalf of civil society for the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-Accelerator), motivated by the current oxygen crisis in India, Brazil and surging oxygen needs in Turkey, Argentina, Ukraine and many other low- and middle-income countries, we are writing to request urgent action to tackle mass deaths due to oxygen deprivation.

Six major companies producing oxygen are based in G7 countries, notably Linde Group (UK), Air Liquide (France), Messer Group (Germany), Air Products (USA), SOL Group (Italy), and TNSC (Japan). We urge the G7 through your Presidency to mobilise these companies immediately to deploy urgent supplies to India in an act of global solidarity, and then to help other countries at risk of oxygen shortages procure the supplies they need.

In addition to this, we are deeply concerned that logistical barriers are preventing the entry of essential medical equipment such as liquid oxygen, oxygen plants, and concentrators into some of the most affected states, and we call upon the G7 to engage in urgent international coordination meetings to solve these logistical issues.

We are hearing from civil society in India that there is also a severe shortage of skilled personnel to tend to patients during this unprecedented surge in cases and oxygen shortages. We have seen examples of skilled personnel participating in missions to support countries struggling with overload, and call upon the G7 to facilitate not just the supply of essential oxygen supplies, but also make an offer to the Indian government of essential manpower that can help reduce deaths in the immediate term.

Following a successful mobilisation to help India avert more deaths from lack of access to oxygen, we call upon the G7 to focus on the next set of countries at risk of oxygen shortages to prevent a repeat of the tragedy unfolding in India.

Your urgent action on this will prevent tens and thousands of premature deaths.

We appreciate your urgent action and await your response to this letter.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fifa A Rahman'.

Dr Fifa A Rahman
Permanent Civil Society Representative for the ACT-Accelerator Facilitation Council
Affiliated to Health Poverty Action (UK)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Ngola O'witi'.

Peter Ngola O'witi
Community Representative to the ACT-Accelerator Facilitation Council
Wote Youth Development Projects (Kenya)

CC to: Indra Mani Pandey
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221 Global Signatories – Organisations and Individuals

Access to Medicine Foundation
Action against AIDS Germany
Action for Global Health
Advocacy Network Africa (AdNetA)
Africa Union ECOSOCC Kenya National Chapter
Afrihealth Optonet Association [CSOs Network]
Age NI
Age Without Borders
Ageing with Pride
Alliance for Public Health
Amnesty International
Association For Promotion Sustainable Development
Association for Support and Information to Relatives and Patients with Pneumonia-NEUMOAI
BLOSSOM TRUST
Blue Diamond society
Bolder Australia
Brazilian Society of Geriatrics and Gerontology
Brazilian Society of Geriatrics and Gerontology - Rio de Janeiro Section (SBGG-RJ)
CARE Consortium Sri Lanka
Caritas Norway
Center for Grassroots Community Education and Development
Centre for Youth Empowerment and Civic Education (CYECE)
Centro de Envejecimiento Universidad Isalud
Chennai CAB- Stream Trail-II
Civil Society Human and Institutional Development Programme - CHIP
Coalition Plus
Community Enlightenment and Development Initiative
Concern Health Education Project
Congolese Children of the Future
Consolation East Africa
Cordaid
Dínamo Editora
Diversity and Solidarity Trust Sri Lanka

Dr Uzo Adirieje Foundation (DUZAFFOUND)
Eastern Africa National Networks of AIDS & Health Services Organization (EANNASO)
Emonyonye Yefwe International
Envelhecer
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Escola Paulista de Medicina
Fondation Joseph The Worker/ Structure Lazarienne
Food for the Hungry UK
Friends of the Global Fight Against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
Frontline AIDS
Fundamental Human Rights & Rural Development Associatio
Global Fund Advocates Network (Global)
Global Fund Advocates Network Asia-Pacific
Global Minnesota
Global Network of People living with HIV (GNP+)
Good Health Community Programmes
Hall and Prior
Health GAP
Health, Education and Literacy Programme (HELP)
ILC Argentina President
ILC Global Alliance
ILC-Brazil
ILC-D
International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics President's elect
International Federation on Ageing
International Longevity Centre - South Africa
International Longevity Centre Brazil
International Longevity Centre Canada
Kenya AIDS NGOs Consortium (KANCO)
Khair al Kuwait Charity Organization
KHANA-Cambodia
Kindernothilfe
LHL International
Lifebox
Malaria Free Mekong
Maryknoll Sisters
Medical Mission Institute Würzburg
Meera Foundation
Minnesota USA Expo
Most At Risk Populations' Society in Uganda (MARPS In Uganda)
Muslim Family Counseling Services

National Academy of Medicine - Brasil
National Disability and development forum (NDF) Pakistan
National Transgender Network Sri Lanka
Nelson Mandela TB HIV Community Information CBO
Network of African People Living with HIV West Africa
Norwegian Church Aid (Act alliance)
Norwegian People's Aid
Papw
PATH
Rainbow TB forum
Results Australia
Results Canada
RESULTS UK
Rural Community Development Society
Rural development Orginzation
Rural Education and Economic Development Society
Sacred Heart Community
Save the Children UK
SCARJoV
SCI Foundation
SHAD
Society for Community Action Process (SCAP) Balochistan
Society for Conservation and Sustainability of Energy and Environment in Nigeria (SOCSEEN)
Step Towards Empowerment of Pupil
STOPAIDS
Swaziland Migrant Mineworkers Association (SWAMMIWA)
TB Alert
TB Europe Coalition
TB Proof
TENE ALIMA ESSOH-AMP AFRIQUE
The George Institute for Global Health, India
The George Institute for Global Health, UK
The John A Hartford Foundation
The Nature Network Group Resource Center-Kenya
Tim Africa Aid Ghana
Treatment Action Group (TAG), United States
Value Health Africa
Women Advocates for Vaccine Access (WAVA) Nigeria
Worldwide Hospice Palliative Care Alliance
Young Out Here Sri Lanka

Signatories – Individuals

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