



April 13, 2020

Steven Mnuchin  
Secretary of the Treasury  
U.S. Treasury Department  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Secretary Mnuchin:

As international organizations that work in more than 100 countries on the humanitarian and economic crisis being caused by coronavirus, we write to ask for your leadership because coronavirus anywhere is a threat everywhere.

Specifically, at the upcoming “Spring Meetings” of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (“IMF”), we ask you to take two important steps to save millions of lives and keep hundreds of millions from falling into poverty around the world:

- First, we urge you to support a major issuance by the IMF of Special Drawing Rights (“SDRs”) for coronavirus response. We understand that most G20 countries are supportive of SDRs in this time of crisis. But the United States has not yet voiced its support. As US humanitarian and anti-poverty organizations, this is of deep concern.
- Second, we urge you to support debt relief for countries in crisis. We are deeply concerned that averaging across 46 countries, debt payments this year will be 400% of their health budgets.

This week may be the most important meeting of finance ministers in generations. It is without doubt a moment when the world expects political leaders to deliver a global financial response to our global crisis. Taking these two steps would make funding available at scale to governments to spend on health care and to prevent an economic catastrophe for the most vulnerable. We urge you to demonstrate US leadership in this moment.

While some of us are reaching out to you separately on debt relief, we are united in these concerns and collectively hopeful for your leadership to protect the globally vulnerable in this crucial moment for our world.

Sincerely,

David Beckmann  
President  
Bread for the World

Michelle Nunn  
President and CEO,  
CARE USA

Samuel A.  
Worthington  
CEO  
Interaction

David Miliband  
President and CEO  
International Rescue Committee

Gayle Smith  
President and CEO  
The ONE Campaign

Beth deHamel  
Interim CEO  
Mercy Corps

Abby Maxman  
President and CEO  
Oxfam America

Janti Soeripto  
President and CEO  
Save the Children USA