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Subject: Ireland is negotiating on the Pandemic Treaty: How to avoid mistakes of the past

Dear Minister Coveney,

My name is XXX, I am your constituent and I would like to bring your attention to the ongoing pandemic treaty negotiations.

In December 2021, the World Health Assembly passed a resolution to set up a process for WHO Member States to negotiate a pandemic treaty so that countries can effectively, and equitably address future pandemics. Ireland is engaging in negotiations as an EU member state and through officials in the Department of Health working with Ireland's Permanent Representation to the UN in Geneva.

The negotiations on the pandemic treaty offer a key opportunity to ensure equity in global public health. It is crucial for this process to be transparent and inclusive of public interest civil society organisations. We request that the Minister for Health and the officials in the Department of Health representing Ireland in the treaty negotiations meet with Access to Medicines Ireland and Oxfam Ireland to discuss our treaty proposals.

We are putting forward proposals for a people-centred legal instrument with commitments and practical mechanisms for pandemic prevention, preparedness, response and recovery based on human rights and equity principles. These cover key issues that must be addressed in the treaty including: innovation and equitable access to vaccines, diagnostics, and treatments; sharing data and technology; building resilient health systems; transparency; and financing pandemic preparedness and response.

Sincerely,