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Dear Friends,

2019 marked a major milestone for GAHP—our incorporation as a Swiss not-for-profit foundation. We could not have done it without your support, the support of the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation and Freshfields Bruckhaus Derringer LLP, and the extraordinary efforts of Denis Gobet at Gobet Legal, LLP.

As we begin the new decade with new funding and new teammates in place, we have ambitious plans to continue to motivate global action to tackle pollution and health problems. And we close out an old decade feeling refreshed, hopeful and invigorated—our hard work is truly starting to pay off.

Seven countries have completed Health and Pollution Action Plans (HPAPs), and we have received requests for a dozen more. The Lancet Commission on Pollution and Health continues to be picked up in global media, and our December Pollution and Health Metrics report provided Burden of Disease data at the country and regional level for the first time—highlighting the challenges all countries have ahead of them. We also published a paper showing that modern pollution—that stemming from urbanization and industrialization—continues to be underfunded, receiving up to 10 times less development aid than other major health crises. These findings underscore the work yet to be done to raise the issue higher on the global development agenda. Last but not least, we began engaging with various G20 engagement groups, bringing our data and arguments to preeminent think tanks, city governments, academia and civil society organizations, with the goal to increase to critical mass national and international support for this important agenda.

We will continue this work in 2020 and beyond, of course with the aim to establish GAHP as a credible independent actor, but more importantly to expand resources available to our low- and middle-income country members, and to expand our HPAP program and its implementation in more countries.

To say we look forward to the challenges ahead is an understatement. Millions of children, men and woman are being exposed to dangerous levels of pollution every day. Together we can mobilize a global response. We look forward to more successes in 2020.

Thank you for being on this journey with us.

Sincerely,

Richard Fuller
Chair of the Board
Richard Fuller
Chair of the GAHP Board,
Founder and CEO of Pure Earth

Vilma Morales
Vice Chair of the GAHP Board,
formerly at the Ministry of Environment of Peru

Hossam Abou Zeid
Founder, Abou Zeid Foundation

Orkhan Bayramov
Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Azerbaijan

Jacques Mader
Independent global health professional, formerly with the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation

M.J. Nolan
Treasurer and Board member of Sustainable World—Air Quality Asia

John Pwamang
Acting Executive Director, Environmental Protection Agency of Ghana

Raymond Ruyoka
Reproductive Health Uganda

Douglas Webb
Manager in HIV, Health and Development Practice at UN Development Program

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Acting Executive Director

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SENIOR ADVISORS

Jill Hanna
Karti Sandilya
Karen Mathiasen
Lilian Corra
ABOUT GAHP

The Global Alliance on Health and Pollution (GAHP) is a collaborative body made up of more than 60 members and dozens of observers that advocates for resources and solutions to pollution problems.

GAHP was formed because international and national level actors/agencies recognize that a collaborative, multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral approach is necessary and critical to deal with the global pollution crisis and resulting health and economic impacts.

GAHP was formed in 2012 by Pure Earth, the World Bank, UNEP, UNDP, UNIDO, Asian Development Bank, the European Commission, Ministries of Environment and Health of many low- and middle-income countries to address pollution and health at scale. GAHP incorporated as a foundation in 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland.

GAHP’s overall goal is to reduce death and illness caused by all forms of toxic pollution, including air, water, soil and chemical wastes especially in low- and middle-income countries. These efforts will contribute to achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals related to pollution, particularly on Health (Targets 3.4 and 3.9).
GAHP focuses its efforts in two main areas:

1. **ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS RAISING**

Building public, technical and financial support to address pollution globally by promoting scientific research, raising awareness and tracking progress, including:

- Robust and Collaborative Global Response to Toxic Pollution
- Research and Metrics
- Civil Society Activation
- Global Initiatives
  —Children’s Global Lead (Pb) Initiative
  —Clean Air Harvest initiative
  —Other initiatives—hazardous wastewater management, toxic sites, others.

2. **COUNTRY-SPECIFIC SUPPORT**

Assisting low- and middle-income countries to prioritize and address pollution and problems including:

- Health and Pollution Action Planning
- Solutions Planning and Resource Mobilization.
INCORPORATION IN SWITZERLAND AS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT FOUNDATION

2019 WAS A MILESTONE YEAR FOR GAHP

Through the generous support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and Freshfields Bruckhaus Derringer LLP, and the extraordinary efforts of Denis Gobet at Gobet Legal, LLP, GAHP incorporated as an independent not-for-profit foundation in Geneva, Switzerland. This process culminated over a year of detailed preparation and consultation with members and observers.

In May 2019, GAHP held a stakeholder meeting to discuss and agree on a proposed organizational and governance structure, which includes the Board of Directors, the GAHP Council and the Secretariat. Government representatives from Cambodia, Ghana, Peru, Senegal, Sweden, and Thailand contributed their insights, as well as participants from UNICEF, UN Environment, World Bank, and NGOs including Clean Air Asia, Air Quality Asia, Educar Consumidores, Environment and Security Center of Mongolia, Pure Earth and Reproductive Health Uganda, among others. Registration documents were submitted in September, and GAHP was officially incorporated in December. Over the next two years, GAHP will complete its transition away from Pure Earth, which will continue to host the Secretariat until the end of 2021.
The first of these, *Pollution Knows No Borders*, documents the growing transboundary pollution threat, showing how pollution travels in the air and water, and through food and products in the global supply chain. The report was launched on January 8 at a global briefing held simultaneously in New York and London. A series of interactive data visualizations from Carnegie Mellon’s CREATE Lab was unveiled to illustrate the flow of toxins. The launch was accompanied by a global outreach campaign, including two petitions that together gathered close to a thousand signatures. The petitions were delivered to leaders at UNEA 4 in Nairobi, Kenya in March 2019, where GAHP and Pure Earth led a Green Tent panel on lead poisoning and the informal used lead-acid batteries recycling and manufacturing industry. The event drew nearly 30 participants, including government and NGO representatives. The presentation was so well received that GAHP and Pure Earth was invited to conduct the same briefing during the BRS Conference of Parties in Geneva in May 2019.

2019 also marked the publication of the *Pollution and Health Metrics: Global, Regional and Country Analysis* report, which used 2017 Global Burden of Disease data from IHME to update the findings of *The Lancet* Commission on Pollution and Health. Central to the report was a ranking of pollution deaths on a global, regional and country level, which drew widespread national and international attention. The accompanying social
media campaign successfully reached over 70,000 individuals across the world. Over 1,500 people engaged with GAHP’s outreach campaign by sharing posts, liking posts, commenting, following GAHP, or clicking on the listed websites. The public engagements were positive and supportive, meant to amplify GAHP’s key messages.

Many local publications pulled data from the Pollution and Health Metrics Report to emphasize the impact of pollution on health in their region. Countries with publications that covered regional impacts include Serbia, the UK, India, Thailand, Pakistan, Nigeria, and Vietnam, to name a few. The findings of the Report were also picked up by major international news networks including the BBC, New York Times, Bloomberg, Forbes, and The Guardian.

In 2019 GAHP also published an analysis showing that modern pollution—stemming from urbanization and industrialization—continues to be underfunded, receiving up to 10 times less development aid than other major health crises including TB, HIV/AIDS, and malaria. *Rethinking Aid Allocation: Analysis of Official Development Spending on Modern Pollution Reduction* was published in the Annals of Global Health, a leading peer-reviewed global health journal.

Last but not least, in 2019, GAHP received approval from editorial staff at *The Lancet* to provide an update on the 2017 *Lancet* Commission on Pollution and Health. Funded through the generous support of the Swedish Ministry of Environment, the *Lancet* update will review most recent data on the global burden of disease from pollution, draw attention to lead pollution in particular, and develop a set of metrics for long-term tracking of progress on pollution. The report is projected to be published in spring 2021.
Following the spring 2019 stakeholder discussions on incorporation, in late August GAHP began efforts to advocate for inclusion of pollution and health in the G20 process, through connection with various G20 engagement groups (T20—Think Tank 20; C20—Civil Society 20; U20—Urban) as well as direct outreach to country G20 Sherpa teams, including Canada, Japan, USA and Saudi Arabia.

To this end, GAHP held remote/virtual meetings with the G20 Sherpa teams in Japan and Canada to present to them the data and findings from *The Lancet* Commission. Informal discussions were held with the US Sherpa office, as well as the Saudi Embassy in Washington, D.C. Both Canada and Japan were very interested in the topic and introduced GAHP staff to
their peers in UK and Saudi Arabia Sherpa teams. These efforts resulted in an invitation to GAHP to participate in the T20 process, including an invitation to submit a policy brief extract on the topic and findings/recommendations of *The Lancet* Commission, and to participate in the in-person meetings in January 2020 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Additionally, GAHP’s session proposal to the C20 was accepted for March 2020 (subsequently postponed until October 2020 due to COVID19). The U20 also invited GAHP to be a key knowledge partner for the Nature-Based Solutions Task Force regarding air, water, and soil quality in urban areas, along with other partners such as Inter-American Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, and The Nature Conservancy. GAHP will be able to promote solutions to pollution and health through each of these G20 engagement groups.

Parallel to these efforts, GAHP held remote/virtual or in-person meetings to advocate for adoption of the recommendations from the 2017 *Lancet* Report with more than 16 donor agencies/departments including:

- Global Affairs Canada
- Fonds Francais de L’Environment Mondial
- US Agency for International Development
- Agence Francais de Developpment
- Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development
- Swedish Ministry of Environment
- The World Economic Forum
- World Health Organization
- Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation
- Japanese International Cooperation Agency
- Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- French Ministry of Environment
- Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
- Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- European Parliament
- World Bank

In addition to presenting data, findings and recommendations from *The Lancet* Commission, advocating for inclusion of pollution and health in donor programming, and inviting these agencies to participate in GAHP, these meetings and presentations focused on the increase in particular of the Burden of Disease from lead pollution, which in 2018 doubled from 500,000 to 1 million deaths due to the inclusion of data from one country alone—India.
HEALTH AND POLLUTION ACTION PLANS (HPAPs)

In 2019, GAHP continued to support Health and Pollution Action Plans (HPAPs) in low- and middle-income countries.

The GAHP HPAP process works to build political awareness, will, and demand for addressing pollution and health problems at the national level. It also aims to increase the supply of resources to address the prioritized health problems.

The HPAP engages a cross-section of relevant government agencies (Environment, Health, Development, Industry, Transport, Mines, and Finance), as well as agencies such as the World Bank, UNEP, UNDP, and donors. The aim is to break down barriers to action, as pollution is not typically prioritized within national budgets or ministries. Further, it brings a variety of donor agencies to the table and helps stakeholders to identify which agencies can take on priority pollution problems, including technical and financial assistance, especially where national sources of revenue are insufficient. The process also coordinates with existing efforts within countries, such as development plans/strategies and relevant chemicals and wastes projects, to ensure their activities are included and taken into account.

In 2019, GAHP members Pollution Control Department of Thailand and Pure Earth finalized the Thai HPAP, and UNIDO assisted the governments of Ghana (including GAHP member Ghana Environmental Protection Agency), Kyrgyzstan, the Philippines (including GAHP member Department of Environment and Natural Resources—DENR) and Tanzania to finalize their HPAPs, bringing the total number of
completed HPAPS to seven. GAHP and Pure Earth also initiated HPAPs with relevant government partners in Senegal (including GAHP members Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Health) and Central Kalimantan Indonesia, with the support of the Oak Foundation and USAID. Additionally, several new countries submitted requests to begin the HPAP process. This initiative is supported by country-level data analysis compiled by *The Lancet* Commission on Pollution and Health.

Follow up to the above HPAP process in 2020 will work to ensure that countries that finalized their HPAPs take action and mainstream pollution and health in relevant national policies, and that supply of financial and technical resources to address priority pollution problems starts to flow.
In November 2018, Madagascar became the first country to complete a GAHP Health and Pollution Action Plan (HPAP), which was validated by the national government and officially adopted as policy by the Ministries of Health and Environment.

Following the HPAP adoption, in 2019, the Malagasy rallied to end this crisis by partnering in the Solve Pollution network, in which GAHP and several GAHP members, including the Global LPG Partnership and Pure Earth are participating, to implement Madagascar’s Health and Pollution Action plan. When funded, this five-year plan will enable Madagascar to reduce exposure to pollution and improve health, changing the course of Madagascar’s future, leading the way for other countries to solve pollution. Encouragingly, a proposal to fund this work submitted to the MacArthur Foundation was ranked as one of the highest-scoring projects in its 100&Change competition for a $100 million grant to help solve one of the world’s most critical social challenges. The project, Overcoming Madagascar’s Number 1 Killer: Pollution, is now featured on the Bold Solutions Network, a searchable online database that allows donors to search for top solutions.

The Solve Pollution Network connects organizations experienced in addressing pollution, including GAHP and Pure Earth, with a consortium of researchers at Indiana University and others who can provide key insights into targeting health improvement. In partnership with government, academic, civil society, and community leaders in Madagascar, this coalition brings together the critical expertise and commitment needed to build lasting solutions.
In 2019, GAHP received key support from the Governments of Sweden (Ministry of Environment) and Switzerland (Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation). Additional cost share and in-kind support was provided by Pure Earth and the UN Industrial Development Organization, including funds from US Agency for International Development (USAID), the European Commission (EC), and the Oak Foundation. GAHP also received pro bono support from Freshfield Bruckhaus Deringer LLP and Gobet Legal. The below presented breakdown does not include all administrative and program management costs in 2019, nor should it be considered a financial statement, as until the end of December 2019, GAHP remained a project of Pure Earth.

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>LANCET COMMISSION DISSEMINATION AND ADVOCACY WORK</td>
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<td>GAHP INCORPORATION</td>
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<td>HPAP PROJECTS</td>
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<td>MANAGEMENT, COMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER PROJECTS</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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