

[Your organisation's letterhead]

[Date]

[Recipient's name]

[Recipient's title]

[Address]

Subject: Request for Supporting a WHA Resolution on Rare Diseases

Dear [recipient's name with honorific],

I am writing to you on behalf of [insert your organisation's name], an organisation dedicated to [briefly describe your organisational mission, e.g., "supporting individuals and families affected by rare diseases"]. You may adapt this introduction based on the level of engagement you have had with them in the past], and a member of Rare Diseases International. We appreciate the Ministry of Health's efforts to improve public health in [country name] and the progress made in addressing the diverse healthcare needs of our population, including important steps towards achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) for all [Alternative sentence if your country has not moved very much on health initiatives: "We appreciate the Ministry of Health's role in maintaining and improving the health of our population, and we look forward to future initiatives in this space."]. [If your country has any specific achievements/milestones related to rare diseases such as a national strategy, disease-specific programs, or research grants, you may wish to add a sentence congratulating them on these steps as well.]

As you may already be aware, the WHO Executive Board (EB) has decided to recommend the adoption of the World Health Assembly (WHA) Resolution on Rare Diseases for 2025, entitled "Rare Diseases: A Priority for Global Health Equity and Inclusion" at WHA 76. There are currently 26 co-sponsor Member States: Egypt and Spain (co-leading), Brazil, Chile, China, Ecuador, France, Greece, India, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Pakistan, Palestine, Panama, Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Thailand, and Vanuatu. Following this outcome of the EB meeting, we are contacting you to seek your esteemed support for this WHA Resolution. The Resolution will be submitted for adoption by the WHA during their next meeting in May 2025.

Rare diseases, though individually infrequent, collectively affect more than 300 million people worldwide, leading to significant health, social, and economic challenges. In our country, [provide a statistic or brief description of the situation regarding rare diseases in your country, if available]. You will find enclosed a factsheet and a briefing note that explains in more detail the rare disease ecosystem, the persisting challenges faced by persons living with a rare

disease and their families, and how a WHA Resolution would lead to significant improvements for the rare disease community worldwide and at the national level.

The WHA Resolution on Rare Diseases will aim to address these challenges by requesting the Director General of the WHO to develop a Global Action Plan on Rare Diseases. Such a Resolution will align with the global health agenda on UHC and the WHO General Programme 14 and underscore the importance of international cooperation in overcoming the unique challenges of the rare disease community.

Following the decision of the EB and leading up to WHA 76, this represents a great opportunity to collaborate with the 26 co-sponsors in championing this Resolution. The Ministry of Health's support and active participation would greatly solidify rare diseases as a priority both nationally and globally, ensuring that persons living with a rare disease are not left behind in efforts to achieve UHC for all.

We are confident that with the Ministry's support, and in collaboration with the other co-sponsors, we can make significant progress in addressing the unmet needs of those affected by rare diseases. [\[Insert your organisation's name\]](#) and Rare Diseases International are committed to supporting these actions and are willing to collaborate with all co-sponsors to ensure the successful adoption and implementation of a WHA Resolution on Rare Diseases in 2025. We would like to propose a meeting with Minister of Health or officials from the Ministry to discuss [\[country's name\]](#)'s readiness to advocate for the adoption of a WHA Resolution on Rare Diseases in May 2025.

Thank you very much for considering our request. We remain at your disposal, and we look forward to the opportunity to discuss this further and explore ways in which we can work together to implement a WHA Resolution on Rare Diseases.

Yours sincerely,

[\[Your name\]](#)

[\[Your title\]](#)

[\[Your organisation's name\]](#)

[\[Email address\]](#)

[\[Phone number\]](#)

[\[Website URL\]](#)

Enclosures: [\[List any documents you are including with the letter, such as the fact sheet, briefing note, etc.\]](#)