



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

May 19, 2020

President Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mr. President:

As the World Health Organization (WHO) closes the World Health Assembly (WHA), we write to express our strong agreement with the points enumerated in your letter to WHO Director-General, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Gebreyesus, of May 18, 2020, which correctly states that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) wields undue influence within the organization. In addition to the points in that letter, we also wish to highlight the failure of the WHO to invite Taiwan to this year's WHA as further evidence of the CCP's undue influence.

As your letter points out, the CCP has waged an extensive misinformation campaign surrounding its response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Not only did CCP delay informing the world about key information regarding the virus, but the CCP has also taken drastic steps to stifle independent investigation surrounding the origins of the virus. The CCP refused entry to U.S. experts from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as early as January, and has continued to prevent the initiation of a credible international investigation. Undoubtedly, the CCP's failure to provide timely information on the transmissibility of the virus, and its undue influence to hide information at the WHO, cost lives and caused extreme hardship across the globe.

Unfortunately, this cover-up has been amplified by failures of leadership at the WHO, and especially by Director-General Tedros, who appears to have made it his personal mission to deflect criticism from Beijing. For this reason, a senior Japanese official aptly referred to the WHO as the "China Health Organization."

In contrast, Taiwan has been universally lauded for its handling of the pandemic. To date, only seven people in Taiwan have perished from this horrible disease. The world would clearly benefit from hearing from the health professionals who have achieved such a success. Yet the WHO, at China's bidding, routinely excludes Taiwan from events such as the current World Health Assembly. Taiwanese officials do not receive timely information from the WHO, and the WHO does not share Taiwan's credible information with Member States. Taiwan is also excluded from

the WHO's laboratory network, and its accurate statistics are lumped in with China's questionable data.

As its exemplary response to the current pandemic reveals, Taiwan has earned the right to participate in international organizations such as the WHO. In fact, its exclusion further demonstrates the dangerous sway that Beijing wields at the WHO. This nefarious influence is not new. For instance, in 2010, China and the WHO concluded a then-secret memo on how the WHO would exclude Taiwan. Also, the WHO unjustifiably rejected 130 out of Taiwan's 187 applications to take part in technical meetings during the ten years between 2009-2019. As the first session of this year's World Health Assembly closes today, Taiwan was once again excluded.

Particularly with global health and the health of the American people at stake, no one country should be able to dictate global health security policy, nor should a country with a strong track record on global health be excluded over the objections of the United States and our allies. Yet at Beijing's bidding, the WHO has done exactly that. In addition to the important points listed in your May 18, 2020 letter to the WHO Director-General, we respectfully suggest that you also consider including Taiwan's participation in the WHO as a criterion in determining the success of adequate reform of that international organization.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

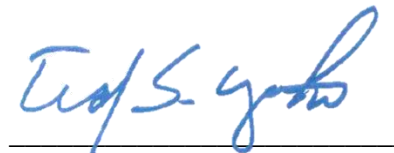
Sincerely,



Steve Chabot
Member of Congress



Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress



Ted S. Yoho
Member of Congress



Guy Reschenthaler
Member of Congress