USAID STATEMENT for LIVES IN THE BALANCE SUMMIT
CO-HOSTED BY THE PARTNERSHIP FOR MATERNAL NEWBORN AND CHILD
HEALTH (PMNCH), CORE GROUP AND UHC2030
December 11, 2020

COVID-19 RESPONSE AND PRIORITIES FOR MATERNAL, NEWBORN AND CHILD
HEALTH AND NUTRITION PROGRAMMING

USAID has committed $1.3 billion to the global fight against COVID-19. This funding, provided by U.S. taxpayers, is saving lives by improving public health education; protecting healthcare facilities; and increasing laboratory, disease-surveillance, and rapid-response capacity in more than 100 countries.

USAID delivers more than just funds. It delivers expert technical assistance, training, capacity building, health systems strengthening, and life-saving diagnostics and treatment. For decades, the United States has been the world's largest provider of bilateral assistance in global health -- putting countries across the world in a better position to respond to this dangerous pathogen.

USAID offers a robust variety of assistance options for countries responding to COVID-19. USAID's assistance to each country is tailored to their capacity and needs. Our assistance comes in many forms, just a few examples include:

- **Ventilators:** Through the generosity of the American people and the innovation of American private industry, USAID is providing this needed medical technology to help critically ill patients across the world.

- **Case management:** USAID helps countries strengthen clinical care while minimizing the risk of onwards transmission to others.

- **Infection prevention and control:** USAID helps countries prevent and control infections in health-care facilities.

- **Laboratory strengthening:** USAID helps countries prepare laboratory systems for large-scale testing of COVID-19.

- **Points-of-entry public health screening:** USAID helps countries implement emergency plans to screen people arriving at countries’ various points of entry, such as airports and land-border crossings.

- **Risk communications:** Communications to provide the public with reliable, verifiable information to keep everyone informed about how to protect themselves and each other.

- **Medical Oxygen:** The United States Government, through USAID, is providing $18 million to support oxygen activities for 11 affected countries in the global fight against COVID-19.
COVID-19 mitigation strategies are disrupting essential services, including antenatal care, facility-based delivery, and immunization programs. In response, USAID has identified the following approaches to support countries to prevent transmission of COVID-19 and help ensure families can access the health care they need. This includes:

- **Prevent transmission of COVID-19** in maternal and child health and nutrition and other essential service delivery by strengthening water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in healthcare facilities and infection prevention and control.
- **Provide targeted technical assistance** to countries to identify alternative approaches to safely deliver essential maternal and child health and nutrition programs.
- **Support robust monitoring and evaluation** of COVID-19 response efforts for maternal and child health and nutrition programs.

For decades, the United States has been the world's largest provider of bilateral assistance in health. Since 2009, American taxpayers have generously funded more than $100 billion in health assistance and nearly $70 billion in humanitarian assistance.

The U.S. Government (USG) as a whole has allocated $20.5 billion for the development of vaccines and therapeutics, preparedness efforts, and other foreign assistance.

In addition to this direct funding from the U.S. Government, our All-of-America approach is helping people around the world to confront the ongoing pandemic. Through the generosity of American private businesses, non-profit groups, charitable organizations, faith-based organizations, and individuals, Americans have now provided more than $4.9 billion in donations and assistance globally for COVID-19 response, more than any other nation.

END OF STATEMENT – 12/2/2020