May 9, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

The second Global COVID-19 Summit, to be co-hosted by the United States, Belize, Germany, Indonesia and Senegal on May 12th, is a critical and increasingly rare opportunity to resource the fight against a pandemic that has taken more than 15 million lives.

The failure so far of the United States and Congress to commit substantial new financial resources ahead of the Summit will make it more challenging to draw ambitious investments from other nations and organizations. This lack of new financial resources makes it even more important that the United States commit its full political resources to the Summit, and do everything it can to secure meaningful contributions from partners worldwide.

Your personal leadership is essential to the success of this Summit. There is no substitute for the President of the United States presiding with world leaders to address a great challenge.

We fear that if you delegate rather than embrace this responsibility, the Summit will fall far short of its goals, contributing to a longer pandemic and preventable deaths.

We urge you to lead personally the Global COVID Summit.

Sincerely,

Public Citizen
Oxfam America