

GLOBAL WATER 2020

Official Statement on the U.S. Withdrawing from WHO

Global Water 2020 opposes the decision by the Trump Administration to officially withdraw from the World Health Organization (WHO). As the leading global public health organization during a global pandemic, WHO provides the expertise and leadership that are critical to ensuring a coordinated and effective response to COVID-19. The solutions to COVID-19 can come from anywhere, so the U.S. government needs to collaborate everywhere. Member States and the global health community must continue to provide the support and resources that WHO needs in order to bring this pandemic to an end and work to prevent the next one.

Global Water 2020 works closely with WHO to ensure that health care facilities around the world have access to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), a critical need during the COVID-19 pandemic, and this work will be undermined without U.S. participation in WHO. In the midst of the pandemic, WHO also remains committed to eradicating polio; tackling other health concerns such as HIV, TB, cholera, Ebola, and neglected tropical diseases; and strengthening health systems in low- and middle-income countries to prevent future outbreaks.

Global Water 2020 calls on the U.S. Congress to oppose this decision to withdraw and to demonstrate continued U.S. leadership in global health by supporting WHO.