Esteemed Director General,

I sincerely hope you and your loved ones are healthy and well.

As I appreciate your crucial role in advancing the well-being of European citizens, I would like to provide you with updated information regarding Johnson & Johnson’s efforts and collaborations in the fight against antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Today, we are proud to join with more than 20 leading pharmaceutical companies to collectively invest nearly $1 billion through a new AMR Action Fund to bring 2-4 new antibiotics to patients by the end of the next decade. This is largest collective venture ever created to address AMR, and a powerful demonstration of the industry’s commitment to solve this problem. As a founding partner, Johnson & Johnson is committing $50 million to the Fund.

AMR is a public health emergency. It has the potential to render diseases that are relatively easy to treat today virulent, threatening developed and developing nations alike. Left unchecked AMR could significantly eclipse the health challenge posed by COVID-19. That’s why we are taking collective and decisive action in the face of this predictable and preventable health security threat, and we are proud to stand with our peers against this growing global threat.

Together, our industry can make a far greater impact than any single company.

Through the AMR Action Fund, which is expected to be operational by the fourth quarter of 2020, we will support research of innovative new antibiotics that are addressing the highest priority public health needs, as defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), including the most-resistant bacteria and life-threatening infections. As a part of these investments, the Fund will also provide technical support to portfolio companies.
giving them access to the deep expertise and resources of large pharmaceutical companies, to strengthen and accelerate antibiotic development. The AMR Action Fund will bridge innovative candidates in the pipeline through the challenging later stages of drug development, ultimately providing governments time to make the necessary reforms to enable a sustainable antibiotic pipeline.

Our participation in the fund builds on Johnson & Johnson’s long-term commitment to develop and responsibly deploy innovative technologies and treatments to combat the growing threat of AMR on multiple fronts, exemplified in our comprehensive approach to treating drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB). DR-TB is responsible for one-third of all AMR-related deaths and is the world’s only airborne drug-resistant infection. As part of our comprehensive 10-year initiative to fight TB, we are working with partners to broaden access to bedaquiline for drug-resistant TB and accelerate R&D to discover next-generation treatments.

"Johnson & Johnson is proud to join with more than 20 distinguished partners to launch the $1 billion AMR Action Fund. This is the largest collective venture ever created to address AMR. As a founding partner, we are committing $50 million to the Fund, which aims to bring 2 to 4 new, much-needed antibiotics to market by the end of the next decade."

For more information, please don’t hesitate to reach out to us.

As always, our team remains available to answer any questions you may have and we remain relentlessly committed to working together for a healthy Europe.

Sincerely,