The President,  
The World Health Assembly  
World Health Organization  
Geneva, Switzerland

Dear President,

We write to endorse the candidacy of Dr. Sania Nishtar for the post of Director-General, World Health Organization, at the forthcoming election during the World Health Assembly.

Dr. Nishtar has served as a founding and continuing member of the Steering Committee of the Emerging Markets Symposium at Green Templeton College, Oxford since its creation in 2008.

As fellow members of the Steering Committee we have worked closely with Dr. Nishtar on eight symposia on human welfare in emerging markets, most of which have directly or indirectly addressed issues of healthcare and public health. We have had numerous opportunities to benefit from her knowledge and expertise, her incisive, and insightful spoken interventions, her superb writing skills, her commitment to equitable healthcare and public health services, her belief in technological and organizational innovation and her collegial and empathetic personality.

We believe she would be an inspirational leader and an imaginative, tireless and highly effective manager of the World Health Organization in what is bound to be a critical phase in its global mission.

We strongly commend Dr. Nishtar to the Executive Board of WHO and the World Health Assembly.

Signed by the Chairman and members of the Steering Committee of the Emerging Markets Symposium:

H.E. Shaukat Aziz former Prime Minister, Pakistan (Chairman)  
Sir George Alleyne Director Emeritus, the Pan American Health Organization  
Dr. Peter Bourne former Assistant Secretary-General, The United Nations Organization  
Dr. Suman Bery former Chief Economist, Royal Dutch Shell Corporation  
Dr. Tsung-Mei Cheng Co-founder, the Princeton Conference  
Professor Michael Earl former Pro Vice-Chancellor, The University of Oxford  
Professor Saul Estrin Professor, Department of Management, London School of Economics  
Dr. Serra Kirdar Life Fellow, St Antony’s College, Oxford  
Professor Alexandre Kalache co-President, ILC Global Alliance and President, ILC, Brazil  
Professor K. Srinath Reddy