

TREVOR A. HASSELL KA, MBBS, FRCP, FACC.
Physician and Cardiologist.

Woodside, Bay Street
St. Michael, Barbados
Phone: 246 429 5455
Fax: 246 436 6394
Email: thassell@caribsurf.com

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To: All with interest in the World Health Organization (WHO)
Subject: Support of Dr. Sania Nishtar's candidacy as Director General.

It is with pleasure that I write in support of the candidacy of Dr Sania Nishtar for the position of Director General of the World Health Organisation (WHO).

I have known Dr Nishtar for the past 20 years. I have since interacted with, and held discussions, on several occasions, with Dr Nishtar on global health issues, challenges and solutions, especially in the area of the prevention and control of NCDs viewed through the lens of civil society.

Since our first meeting, I have observed and followed many of the programmes, projects and initiatives carried out by Dr Nishtar, both internationally and in her home country of Pakistan.

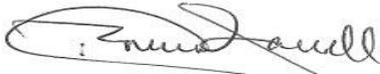
Dr Nishtar has distinguished herself by her significant contribution to global and national health, having been an advisor to the WHO on several occasions, served on many international and local national boards, been a member of the advisory board of recognised health journals, been well received and recognised as an keynote speaker, been a member of several committees involved in drafting global health declarations, published several scientific papers, produced book chapters, and produced a highly acclaimed book on the reforming of health systems which could be used as a model for developing countries.

Dr Nishtar has been, and remains, a major advocate for and a champion of civil society, recognising as she does the critically important role that civil society plays in contributing, in association with legislators and policymakers, to meaningful progress at

the national, regional and global level in achieving a better world; a more equitable, fair and just world, as reflected in the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Dr Nishtar, a global thought leader in health, brings to her candidacy as Director General of the WHO, a strong and impeccable national and international record of achievement and experience in several areas of international and national health. She has applied the effective use of health legislation and policy to enact change, brought about transformational change, established new institutions to address health issues, provided innovative solutions to new and old complex challenges with the application and commitment to good governance and management which are essential prerequisites for effective and sustained development and further growth of the WHO.

It is against this background and in this context that I support Dr Nishtar's candidacy for the position of Director General, anticipating as I do that should she be successful, she will provide from a people focussed civil society perspective, effective, visionary, highly accountable, guidance and leadership, as the WHO continues to seek to more effectively coordinate international health within the United Nations' system.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trevor A. Hassell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'T' and 'H'.

Sir Trevor A. Hassell.