

From: Peter Daszak <ecohealthalliance.org>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 12:20 AM EST
To: Peter Daszak <ecohealthalliance.org>
CC: JMHUGHE <rcolwell>; Saif, Linda <>; William B. Karesh <ecohealthalliance.org>; Hume Field <ecohealthalliance.org>; Hongqing Li <ecohealthalliance.org>; Alison Andre <ecohealthalliance.org>; Aleksei Chmura <ecohealthalliance.org>
Subject: Invitation to act as a signatory on a Statement of Support for Scientists and Health Professionals of China Combatting 2019-nCoV
Attachment(s): "Statement of support 2019nCoV China Final 020920.docx", "Signatory list for Statement of support 2019nCoV China 020920.docx"

Dear Fellow Scientists and Colleagues,

Like most of you, I've been following the events around the emergence of 2019-nCoV in China very closely and have been dismayed by the spreading of rumors, misinformation and conspiracy theories on its origins. Some of these are now specifically targeting scientists and health professionals with whom we've all collaborated for many years, and who have been working extremely hard to fight this outbreak and share data with unprecedented speed, openness and transparency. These conspiracy theories threaten to undermine the very global collaborations that we need to deal with a disease that has already spread across continents. They have been condemned by many of you, including today by the WHO DG, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

Drs. Linda Saif, Jim Hughes, Rita Colwell, William Karesh and Hume Field have drafted a simple statement of support for scientists, public health and medical professionals of China fighting this outbreak (attached), and we invite you to join us as the first signatories (a full list of invited signatories is also attached). If you agree, we will add your name and affiliation, and make this letter public, with a sign-up webpage for others to show their support. I will also personally present this at my plenary lecture during the International Congress on Infectious Diseases (ICID) conference in Malaysia in just under two weeks, with the goal of sending our message directly to the region under most pressure from this outbreak. We will also circulate a copy of the letter in Mandarin so that our Chinese colleagues are directly communicated with.

I sincerely hope you can join us in this statement. If you agree to add your support, please reply-all to:

- a) confirm your support** (a simple 'yes' is fine);
- b) confirm your full name and affiliation** exactly as you would like these to appear on the statement

Thank you for your consideration and support of the scientific and public health community around the world!

Yours sincerely,

Peter

Peter Daszak
President

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ecohealthalliance.org

EcoHealth Alliance leads cutting-edge scientific research into the critical connections between human and wildlife health and delicate ecosystems. With this science, we develop solutions that prevent pandemics and promote conservation.