August 1, 2018

Chief, Chemicals and Health Branch Economy Division
United Nations Environment Programme
11-18, Chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland

Director, Public Health and Environment
Department of Public Health, Environmental and Social Determinants of Health
World Health Organization
20, Avenue Appia
CH-1211 Geneva 27 Switzerland

To Whom It May Concern:

The NYU School of Medicine’s Department of Pediatrics, specifically its Division of Environmental Pediatrics, endorses the goal and objectives of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint and wishes to be considered a Partner in the work of the Lead Paint Alliance.

The mission of researchers in the Division of Environmental Pediatrics, part of the Department of Pediatrics at NYU Langone Health, is to protect children from environmental hazards. Our faculty lead targeted research projects to identify chemicals in the environment that contribute to chronic childhood conditions such as asthma, diabetes, obesity, and an elevated risk of cardiovascular disease. These conditions, among others, affect an increasing number of children worldwide. We also document the health and economic costs of failing to implement policies that reduce childhood exposures to harmful environmental chemicals and prevent related disease.

Our faculty have led environmental pediatrics research initiatives on four continents, and we have advised local, national, and international leaders on how to effectively shield children from harm. We believe that a coordinated program of clinical care, research, and policy is needed to achieve this goal.

We will continue our leadership and support of the Alliance in documenting disease burden and social costs of childhood exposure to lead, and advising regarding the leading sources of lead exposure, specifically paint. Our website documenting country-specific costs has been widely used by the global health community and is housed on the Division’s web page.
We understand that this letter of intent is not legally binding, and that a copy of this letter requesting to become an Alliance partner and the name of NYU Langone Health's Department of Pediatrics and its Division of Environmental Pediatrics will be listed on the Lead Paint Alliance web site (www.unep.org/noleadinpaint).

Sincerely yours,

Catherine S. Manno, M.D.
Pat and John Rosenwald Professor and Chair
Department of Pediatrics

Leonardo Trasande, M.D., MPP
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