SUPPORTING STATEMENTS

Better surveillance to map the magnitude of chronic respiratory diseases with reference to needy persons and the disadvantaged is required. Chronic respiratory diseases which are preventable, especially affect the elderly and children. *Global surveillance, prevention and control of chronic respiratory diseases: a comprehensive approach* should be a practical guide on the good principles which can be followed by patients and the public at large. I extend my greetings and felicitations to all those associated with this mission and wish the Global Alliance against Chronic Respiratory Diseases all success.

**A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**
Past-President of the Republic of India
Reaching a major goal like conquering chronic respiratory diseases is similar to a marathon run: it’s a big effort but with energy, knowledge, support and the will to win, it can be done. I am convinced that the Global Alliance against Chronic Respiratory Diseases will win the battle against chronic respiratory disease, which kills four million people a year.

Rosa Mota
Marathon runner and Olympic marathon champion, Portugal

I am happy to hear that the Global Alliance against Chronic Respiratory Diseases is now in place as a global team. As a team, each member will contribute his or her unique strengths, just like in football. Together, the Alliance’s teamwork will provide help to the hundreds of millions of people who suffer from chronic respiratory diseases, including those in my country who do not have access to essential treatments.

Edson Arantes do Nascimento, Pelé
Football legend, Brazil