Statement of Interest for Board Membership at Health Systems Global

I am writing to express my keen interest in joining the Board of Health Systems Global (HSG). My extensive background in health policy and systems research (HPSR), alongside a steadfast commitment to enhancing global health systems, aligns profoundly with HSG's mission and strategic goals.

Over the past decade, my career has been dedicated to bridging the gap between health research and practical implementation across several leadership and governance roles. Currently, as a Senior Policy Analyst at the Public Health Agency of Canada and an adjunct professor at both McGill and McMaster Universities, I bring a wealth of experience in health policy analysis and education. My academic credentials, including a PhD in Health Policy from McMaster University and a Master's in Healthcare Management from McGill, have equipped me with a deep understanding of the complexities of global health challenges and the transformative potential of strategic policy interventions.

My board-level experience is extensive. I currently serve as a Board Member for Doctors Without Borders Canada, where I contribute to setting strategic directions and ensuring that governance structures support our mission effectively. This role has honed my skills in strategic decision-making and governance within a complex international framework.

Significantly, my involvement with HSG as an active member since 2015 and as the Chair of the Translating Evidence into Action Thematic Working Group since 2021 has given me direct insights into the Society's strategic priorities and operational challenges. My efforts have been focused on mentoring emerging voices in global health, facilitating skill development, and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration to enhance HPSR's impact on health systems strengthening.

At Evidence Aid and during my tenure with the World Health Organization, I worked on projects that advanced the production and dissemination of critical research, particularly in emergency disaster management and resilient health systems. These experiences underscore my capability to contribute effectively to HSG's goals of promoting HPSR and reinforcing its role at both regional and global levels.

I am particularly drawn to HSG's values of equity, diversity, and inclusiveness, and I am eager to help the organization navigate the ever-evolving landscape of global health through innovative and participatory approaches. My vision for HSG is to continue expanding its influence and effectiveness by leveraging collective expertise and fostering partnerships that are critical for sustainable global health improvements.

Thank you for considering my application.

Warm regards,
Ahmad Firas Khalid, MD, PhD