United States Senate

ARMED SERVICES

HOMELAND SECURITY

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

BUDGET

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

February 11, 2020

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus Director-General World Health Organization Avenue Appia 20 1211 Geneva 27 Switzerland

Dear Dr. Tedros:

As the world continues to grapple with the threat of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus, I urge the World Health Organization (WHO) to make every effort to keep people of all nations informed and protected.

While there are reports the virus has infected more than 40,000 people globally, I do not trust Communist China to coordinate in a transparent and efficient manner when it comes to combatting the threat of the virus. I am calling on the WHO to do its own in-depth analysis on the extent of the Coronavirus. We need to know exactly how many cases are confirmed, where they are confirmed, fatality rates, and where and how the virus is being transmitted. We also need to know how long the virus can persist on inanimate surfaces so we can ensure that products and produce coming from China are not harmful to our citizens. I urge you to do this review as quickly and thoroughly as possible so we can get an up-to-date picture of the extent of the threat we face. This information will ensure that all nations have the accurate information needed to protect their citizens.

I am also gravely concerned about China's efforts to isolate Taiwan when it comes global health. The WHO continues to exclude Taiwan from its membership, meetings, and information. Taiwan, especially in the face of the Coronavirus, must be allowed full participation in the WHO to protect their citizens, and I implore you to make every effort to support Taiwan.

Communist China cannot be trusted with truthfully representing critical information about the Coronavirus. An independent analysis must be done immediately to protect the scientific integrity of the research data for epidemiologists and other researchers. I look forward to hearing from you as we work together to do everything in our power to contain infection cases and stop the spread of the Coronavirus.

Sincerely,

Rick Scott

United States Senator