**Sample Advocacy Letter for a Coalition**

Dear AAA (insert name of policy/decision maker):

The undersigned are leaders of several of the largest and most influential civil society patient- based advocacy organizations in BBB (insert country). We are writing to seek your support for creating a dedicated, virtual, and ongoing mechanism for dialogue between our advocacy organizations and policymakers such as yourself.

As you may know, our collective organizational efforts have been unprecedented to help meet the needs of non Covid-19 patients suffering from life-threatening diseases and requiring ongoing treatment and care during lockdown. We have provided Covid-19 education to communities at risk, we have helped patients navigate the health system to access needed care, and we continue to support patients with their emotional and mental health needs during these difficult times.

As we look forward to a post-pandemic "new normal" in our country, we propose that civil society patient associations and government officials establish a more formal way of meeting virtually for open dialogue and collaboration on a regular basis. The impact of the pandemic demonstrates the importance of various sectors working together. Our patient-based organizations are eager to share with you and with other officials our collective experience on the challenges ahead.

We think a formal mechanism for an ongoing dialogue would be good for patients and good for government. First, our patient advocacy organizations are an increasingly trusted resource for educating the public and patients about policy proposals being considered, or about how a new approved policy will impact the patient community. Second, a shared communication venue with policymakers offers government agencies and other authorities the opportunity to be more transparent, responsive, and efficient, all of which are hallmarks of good health governance. Third, a shared space for regular communication can add important legitimacy for all parties involved. It can help change public perceptions regarding government indifference and help raise awareness of the value of civil society and civic participation.

If you agree, our organizations would be happy to share with you a more specific proposal for further discussion and consideration. Please contact XXX (insert name of contact) via email (insert email) or phone (insert phone) in response to this letter or with any questions as you consider our proposal.

Sincerely,

(Name)
(Organization)
(Signature)

...repeat number of signatories as necessary...