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23 December 2017 - "UNICEF is a critical partner in our effort to improve the world's health, particularly in the drive to protect its most vulnerable women and children," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

"I very much look forward to work with Ms Fore towards reaching the agenda 2030 goals. At the same time, I wish to extend my own deepest thanks to my friend and colleague Tony Lake for his exceptional commitment and leadership."

WHO and UNICEF work together at a variety of levels - from collaborations on global reports on maternal and child health issues to on-the-ground partnerships to improve children's health, such as immunization against deadly diseases like polio and measles. The two organizations have recently, for example, cooperated on massive campaigns to protect children from cholera, in Bangladesh and Yemen.

"Ms Fore has an impressive array of experience and expertise. She will be a great asset to the international health and development community," added Dr Tedros.