



## Communiqué

# The Global Response to AIDS: 'Making the Money Work'

## *The Three Ones in Action*

### Communiqué from the High-Level Meeting, 9 March 2005

Renewed commitment to strengthen the world's support to national responses to AIDS was agreed by leaders from donor and developing country governments, civil society, UN agencies, and other multi-national and international institutions at a meeting in London on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2005.

Our discussions addressed three key areas:

- A Financial Framework for AIDS funding for 2005-2007
- The "Three Ones"<sup>1</sup> principles' next steps to improve our collective support for nationally-led AIDS strategies
- Improving coordination among multilateral institutions and international donors

These followed our recent discussions in Paris in early March at the Second High Level Forum: Joint Progress Toward Enhanced Development Effectiveness, Harmonization, Alignment and Results, where the global AIDS epidemic called our attention to the urgent need to harmonize the increasing range of global actors within the broader agenda of partners.

Substantial progress has been made towards tackling the global AIDS epidemic over the past 20 years. Many are fully committed to action. However, despite these efforts the AIDS epidemic continues to pose an unprecedented threat to global progress and stability. A particular concern is the growing disproportionate impact of AIDS on

women and girls.

We know that countries most burdened by the AIDS epidemic are often the countries with the least capacity to respond. A particular challenge is the lack and retention of human resources capacity in key sectors (such as health, agriculture, education and industry) that are crucial for mounting an effective national response to AIDS. Building capacity in the most affected countries should therefore be a major focus. Priority should also go to enhancing the capacity of countries with concentrated and rapidly emerging epidemics to mount vigorous and comprehensive prevention, treatment and care efforts.

In the 'Making the Money Work' meeting, we noted a number of important international milestones in 2005, including:

- I. the International Development Association 14 Replenishment in February,
- II. the High-Level United Nations General Assembly Review of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS in June,
- III. the High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development in June,
- IV. the Millennium Development Summit in September,
- V. the Voluntary Replenishment Mechanism of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria in March and September,
- VI. and the international "Three by Five" target,

We reiterated our commitment to work towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the targets set by the UN General Assembly's *Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS*.

### The "Three Ones"

We reaffirmed our commitment to promoting and supporting the application of the "**Three Ones**" principles in the global, national and local response to AIDS, recognizing that their application will result in adaptations appropriate to each country and the situations and the institutions concerned. We affirmed that the development and adaptation of the "Three Ones" is intended to be a **consultative and iterative process** between donors, multilateral and country-level partners.

We noted the leading role of national governments in ensuring the **full implementation** of the "Three Ones" principles, reiterating the importance of national coordinating authorities being fully representative, (including government, civil society, vulnerable groups and the private sector) and allowing flexibility to encourage locally-developed solutions, including at the community level. We will work towards specific targets on implementation of the "Three Ones" in several countries<sup>2</sup>.

We recognized the **past and continuing leadership shown by civil society and the private sector** in the global, national and local response to AIDS and affirmed that all comprehensive and effective responses require adequate resourcing for civil society and guarantees of their full and equal participation in all planning, coordination, decision-making, implementation and monitoring. We also agreed that guidelines should be developed to ensure the **full involvement of civil society and the private sector** in the country-level implementation of the "Three Ones". These should include the agreement of terms of reference and operating procedures for the coordinating authorities to ensure full participation of civil society.

We urged, and committed to, further exceptional, decisive and well-coordinated action with effective and accountable implementation **at country level**, specifically:

- Reviewing our individual practices to accelerate the effective implementation of the “Three Ones”, particularly:
  - agreeing, respecting and enhancing **the role of the one coordinating multisectoral authority** with appropriate legal basis. This coordinating authority should be nationally owned and fully representative of all partners at country level, supported and resourced by the country and other partners as appropriate;
  - clarifying the links between **different coordinating and funding mechanisms** and the one coordinating authority to ensure a clear division of labour, and
  - to work together to find **specific instruments of harmonization and coordination** amongst ourselves, to enhance our collective action within one national coordinating authority.
- Supporting countries in ensuring **one fully costed action plan for AIDS** by the end of 2005, or at the earliest opportunity thereafter.
- Mandating UNAIDS<sup>3</sup> to facilitate efforts to develop and provide technical support for implementation of **one national monitoring and evaluation system** for national AIDS responses with a set of **standardised and multisectoral indicators** endorsed by all key stakeholders by the end of 2005 or the earliest opportunity thereafter, recognizing that the development of one national monitoring and evaluation system should contribute to a simplification and harmonization of surveillance and data collection at both national and local levels.
- Reviewing our policies and practices to deal with **workforce barriers** to an effective AIDS response, and acting together in support of country specific and inclusive medium to long term health workforce strategies and plans.

### Financial Framework

The AIDS epidemic is a complex and evolving challenge. The global response must therefore be equally dynamic and flexible. We recognized that costing estimates for the AIDS response require constant monitoring and regular reviews. As countries increase their capacity to monitor the flow and use of funds, and as donor coordination increases, methods to track the flow of funds will need to adapt. We appreciated that the analysis within the financial framework for AIDS is *work in progress*, and noted that UNAIDS will provide annual updates on resource needs and flows.

Noting the current and expected contributions from donors, we urged that funding be mobilised to narrow the three year shortfall, which is currently estimated by UNAIDS to be a minimum of \$8 billion (an additional \$1.3 billion in 2005, \$2.3 billion in 2006, and \$4.6 billion in 2007 above current forecasts)<sup>4</sup>, through:

- Continued commitment from national leaders of **low-income countries** maintaining or, where possible, increasing contributions to AIDS, from domestic commitments.

- Commitment from national leaders of **middle-income countries** to increasing contributions to AIDS from domestic commitments.
- **International donors** committing to fulfil pledges and mobilise significant additional funding, including through a successful outcome of the Global Fund Replenishment mechanism and other donor conferences for developing countries.

We noted the call by UNAIDS, based on present projections, that more than 20 billion US dollars will be needed annually to mount a far-reaching and inclusive global response by 2008.

We agreed to the formation of a **Working Group**, to be facilitated by UNAIDS, and representing donors, national governments, civil society, the private sector, and technical partners, which will continue preliminary work and provide technical justification of financial resources needed within 60 days, taking into account appropriate assumptions and methodologies and considering resources required for the development of adequate health sector and related human and institutional resources.

#### Improving coordination among multilateral institutions and international donors

We recognized that the multiplicity of processes, both among bilateral donors and multilateral agencies not only increases transaction costs, but often compromises the ability of countries to develop effective AIDS programmes. We recognized the need to embed effective “Three Ones” approaches for AIDS responses into the broader country development strategies (for example, Poverty Reduction Strategies) which will also enhance efforts to improve overall aid effectiveness.

We committed, within the framework of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness to:

- **Reviewing our AIDS policies, procedures and practices by the end of 2005**, with a view to streamlining, simplifying and further coordinating and harmonising our support to national AIDS responses, in order to reduce the burden placed on the managerial and technical capacity of countries by the multiplicity of donors. It is critical that investment of enhanced resources be informed by evidence of what works.
- **Agreeing to the formation of a Global Task Team**, representative of all stakeholders, and to be facilitated by UNAIDS, to make recommendations within 80 days, for discussion at the time of the UN General Assembly meeting in June to review the Declaration of Commitment on:
  - the **current status** of coordination and harmonization, and
  - options for **further coordination, particularly within the multilateral system**, to resolve areas of duplication and gap in the global response to AIDS.
  - **how the multilateral system can streamline, simplify and further harmonize AIDS procedures and practices** with a view to improving the effectiveness of country-led responses and reducing the burden placed on the managerial and technical capacity of countries.

- Agreeing that the recommendations will **be presented for endorsement to the relevant multilateral institutions**, and will inform the replenishment process of the Global Fund and other AIDS financing opportunities.

As the global response to AIDS enters a new phase of scaling up AIDS programmes, we are committed to working further to ensure our policies and practices respond to and anticipate the evolving challenges of the AIDS epidemic. The commitments we make in 2005 are critical to increasing our collective impact on the epidemic, and saving lives.

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<sup>1</sup> Agreed at a high-level meeting in April 2004, the “Three Ones” are **One** agreed HIV/AIDS Action Framework that provides the basis for coordinating the work of all partners, **One** National AIDS Coordinating Authority, with a broad-based multisectoral mandate, and **One** agreed country-level Monitoring and Evaluation System.

<sup>2</sup> As set out in the background paper “Making the Money Work” The Three Ones in Action, A High Level Meeting, 9 March 2005

<sup>3</sup> UNAIDS refers to the ten Cosponsors and Secretariat that make up the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS

<sup>4</sup> The Global Response to AIDS: “Making the Money Work” Background Paper, Resource Needs for an Expanded Response to AIDS in Low and Middle Income Countries, 9 March 2005