



UNAIDS Second Independent Evaluation
Oversight Committee

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From the Oversight Committee Chair
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Dear Stakeholders,

In order to keep you informed and involved, I plan to send periodic updates on Oversight Committee (OC) activities, events, and progress on the Second Independent Evaluation of UNAIDS. The Evaluation has started and the Report will be discussed at the 25th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) in December 2009.

The OC, created by the PCB to oversee the Evaluation, has ten independent Members representing a cross-section of UNAIDS stakeholders. The five women and five men on the Committee are from Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, South America, and Eastern and Western Europe. Their combined experience covers all areas of UNAIDS activities, as indicated in their attached biographies. A Cosponsor Liaison Official has been designated to work with the Committee. The OC is supported by an independent, two-person secretariat.

The OC held their first meeting on 27-28 May 2008 where the main output was the Terms of Reference for selecting and contracting a team or consortium to carry out the Evaluation. To ensure independence and conformity with UN standards of international competitive bidding, the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) has been contracted to assist the OC in this process. The Request for Proposal (RFP) has now been posted on www.unops.org, which is linked to www.unaids.org. The closing date to receive bids is 30 June 2008.

In addition to practical matters, such as roles and responsibilities and working methods, the OC spent considerable time on ways to communicate with and consult stakeholders throughout the Evaluation period. As a start, we have established the following channels:

- Telephone and fax numbers for the OC Secretariat as indicated on the letterhead.
- A webpage on the UNAIDS website for notices and documents. Click on <http://www.unaids.org/en/AboutUNAIDS/IndependentEvaluation/>.

- Email address to the OC Secretariat for direct communication with the OC at IndependentEval2@unaids.org.
- Distribution of information through UNAIDS mailing lists and communication facility.

The Inception Report, due in early September 2008, and the Draft Evaluation Report, due in May 2009, are two significant stages in the Evaluation that require special efforts for consultations with stakeholders. The OC, in coordination with the Cosponsor Liaison Official, and the UNAIDS Secretariat, will seek ways for meaningful consultations on the documents. Your suggestions will also assist the OC.

I am honoured to be the Chair of a dedicated and committed group working towards an Evaluation that is independent, well-informed and carried out to a high standard. The Evaluation findings will help to guide the decisions needed to position UNAIDS for strategic future programming in its ever-changing environment. But we do need the participation and support of stakeholders in the process.

Please let us have your comments and suggestions at IndependentEval2@unaids.org

Catherine Hodgkin
Chair
Oversight Committee
Second Independent Evaluation of UNAIDS