

Telephone line: +4122 791 4654/4506

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The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions in Geneva, to Organizations of the United Nations system and to the other Nongovernmental Organizations dealing with matters pertaining to HIV/AIDS not represented on the Programme Coordinating Board (PCB).

UNAIDS has the honour to inform the aforementioned Missions and Organizations that the twenty-third meeting of the Board will be held from 15 to 17 December 2008 at the Geneva International Conference Centre, 17 rue de Varembé, Geneva. A copy of the provisional agenda is attached hereto. The meeting will include a thematic segment devoted to the relationship between UNAIDS and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria: issues of relationships with the international technical support architecture and public private partnerships. The meeting will begin at 09h00 on 15 December and is expected to finish at 18h00 on 17 December. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided for the plenary sessions in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish, and the breakout sessions for the thematic segment in English and French.

UNAIDS wishes to draw the attention of the Missions and Organizations to the Modus Operandi of the PCB, which includes a provision allowing the Executive Director of UNAIDS, in consultation with the PCB Chairperson and upon receipt of a written application expressing a manifest interest, to grant observer status for PCB meetings to any Member State of any of the UNAIDS Cosponsoring Organizations, and any intergovernmental or nongovernmental organization. Observers shall make their own arrangements to cover expenses incurred in attending meetings of the PCB including any visa requirements. To facilitate logistical arrangements, applications for observer status, accompanied by a completed registration form (attached), must be received at UNAIDS by 15 November at the latest.

UNAIDS wishes to take this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions in Geneva, to Organizations of the United Nations system and to the Nongovernmental Organizations, the assurances of its highest consideration.

20 AVENUE APPIA
1211 GENEVA 27
SWITZERLAND

Tel +41 22 791 3666
Fax +41 22 791 4187
www.unaids.org

ENCL: (as mentioned)

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