

8 April 2005

Dear Colleague,

I am delighted to provide you with a further update on the follow up to our meeting in London on March 9th “The Global Response to AIDS: ‘Making the Money Work’ The Three Ones in Action”.

The Global Task Team on Improving Coordination among multilateral institutions and international donors

As previously communicated, the Task Team is co-chaired by Lennarth Hjelmaker, Special Ambassador on HIV/AIDS of Sweden, and Michel Sidibe, Director of Country and Regional Support, UNAIDS Secretariat. Following a meeting hosted by the co-Chairs in Geneva on 4 April, the membership and terms of reference of the Task Team and its three working groups (Harmonisation of Programmes and Financing, Harmonisation of Technical Support, and Harmonisation of Monitoring and Evaluation) have now been finalised. Discussion papers for the working groups are expected to be completed by the end of April, and the first meetings of these groups and the Task Team itself are being scheduled for early May. As mandated in March 9th Communiqué, a report of the Task Team will be distributed in early for broader discussion and consultation.

Working Group on Financial Framework for AIDS Funding

The Working Group is co-chaired by Rob Moodie, Chief Executive Office, Victoria Health Promotions, Australia and Paul De Lay, Director of Evaluation, UNAIDS Secretariat. A steering committee to provide oversight for this work has been established.

The Steering Committee’s first meeting will take place on 15 April in Geneva and will consider a number of issues including the underlying assumptions on predicted programme coverage, as well as how to assess programmatic capacity constraints and the investments needed to address them. The Steering Committee will also decide upon and appoint the members of a Resource Needs Technical Working Group. Made up of a small number of technical experts, it will advise the Steering Committee on more technical suppositions.

A progress report will be provided by May 9th, as agreed at the March 9th meeting in London, and will focus on the assumptions that should then underline continuing work on developing resource needs estimates for AIDS.

Finally, we are looking at ways the UNAIDS Secretariat can report back on the work of both the Global Task Team on the Financing Working Group, possibly at the end of June. I will write to you separately next week with further information, and will of course, keep you fully updated on progress over the coming months.

Thank-you for your continued support and participation in these two important initiatives.
I look forward to continuing to work with you

Kind regards

Peter Piot