

## Press statement

### **UNAIDS welcomes appointment of new Executive Director of the World Food Programme**

**Geneva, 8 November 2006** – The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) welcomes the appointment of Josette Sheeran as Executive Director of the World Food Programme (WFP).

Ms. Sheeran has served as the United States Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business and Agricultural Affairs since August 2005, responsible for economic issues including development, trade, agriculture, finance, energy, telecommunications and transportation. Ms Sheeran also serves on the High-Level United Nations Panel on System-wide Coherence in the areas of development, humanitarian assistance and the environment.

“UNAIDS welcomes the appointment of Ms Sheeran as Executive Director to our cosponsor, the World Food Programme and looks forward to strengthening collaboration further on the issue of AIDS and its links to food security and hunger,” said UNAIDS Executive Director, Dr Peter Piot.

The World Food Programme has been a UNAIDS Cosponsor since 2003. WFP is the world’s largest humanitarian agency. It helps poor households affected by hunger and AIDS by using food aid and other resources to address prevention, care and support. WFP’s food assistance helps keep parents alive longer, enables orphans and vulnerable children to stay in school, permits out-of-school youth to secure viable livelihoods and enables tuberculosis patients to complete their treatment. WFP works in partnership with governments, other United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and communities and helps people — regardless of their HIV status — who lack adequate food to secure nutrition and food security.

#### **Contact**

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