

12 February 2009

The Honorable Jim Flaherty
Minister of Finance, Canada

The Honorable Shoichi Nakagawa
Minister of Finance, Japan

The Honorable Christine Lagarde
Minister of the Economy, Finance and
Employment, French Republic

The Honorable Alistair Darling
Chancellor of the Exchequer, United
Kingdom

The Honorable Peer Steinbrück
Minister of Finance, Federal Republic of
Germany

The Honorable Timothy Geithner
Secretary of the Treasury, United States of
America

The Honorable Giulio Tremonti
Minister of Economy and Finance, Italian
Republic

Dear Honorable Ministers of Finance,

Please accept this letter on behalf of international civil society groups, health organizations, and faith-based groups regarding the current funding gap faced by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. We urge G7 nations to take a leading role in closing this gap by pledging new money to the Global Fund, which is, according to many public health experts, the most innovative, far-reaching, results-driven health financing mechanism in the world.

As you meet this week in Italy, we ask you to take up this issue and ensure that the promise of the Global Fund is kept.

We look forward to your response about the G7 plans to continue the growth of the Global Fund to ensure that millions of people around the world have access to life-saving treatment, prevention, and care.

Thank you.

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Republic

Dear Honorable Finance Ministers:

We, the undersigned, write as global health civil society groups, advocates, and researchers from around the world to urge the governments of the G7 to move immediately to fill the funding gap faced by the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

This year, the Global Fund is scaling up with bigger and higher quality proposals and just approved the largest funding round ever. The Global Fund provides a quarter of all international financing for AIDS globally, two-thirds for tuberculosis, and three-quarters for malaria. In 2009 and 2010, the Fund will continue this huge success and expects that \$8 billion will be needed to fully fund all approved programs.

This success meets the world's hopes—but donor funding has not yet caught up, leaving a \$5 billion gap in pledges from donors. In this time of economic crisis, developing countries are hit hard - and investments in AIDS, TB, and malaria are essential to the well-being of nations. The diseases already have a huge impact on developing countries. Loss of productivity due to tuberculosis drains \$16 billion from the annual incomes of the world's poorest communities, while resource needs to fight the disease are estimated to be \$4.2 billion in 2009. The economic impacts of malaria are estimated to cost African countries \$12 billion per year in lost GDP; compare that to \$3.4 billion needed to prevent such losses. Finally, AIDS threatens to reduce GDP in African countries by up to 2.6%.

We must keep investing in these countries and particularly in initiatives that get proven returns; the Global Fund provides value for money invested with its results-driven programming and its transparent and accountable funding structures.

Since its inception in 2001, the Global Fund estimates that it has been responsible for:

- Providing anti-retroviral treatments (ARVs) for 2 million people living with HIV/AIDS
- Detecting and treating 4.6 million cases of infectious TB
- Distributing 70 million insecticide-treated bed nets and 74 million malaria drug treatments

We remind global leaders that the Global Fund has always been demand driven. The Board of the Global Fund determined that if more country demand led to more, better proposals deserving of funding, additional resource mobilization would be needed (see the Global Fund Board of Directors decision on the Size of the Global Fund, GF/B15/DP16). All G7 countries are represented on the Board of the Global Fund and have agreed in principle to “mobilize the resources necessary to meet increased demand expressed in the submission of quality proposals to the Global Fund.” 2010 is the halfway point to the date set to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and is thus an important time to mark progress and increase efforts to make sure that the promises made to the people of the world are kept.

The know-how and ability to run successful programs that will save lives has been ramped up in developing countries. It is now time for leaders of the G7 to ramp up their commitments to meet that demand and to ensure that the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria has the resources to continue saving millions of lives.

We urge the G7 Finance Ministers and their representatives in Rome to commit to fully funding the Global Fund and to bring new pledges to the table at April’s Global Fund replenishment meeting in Spain.

Respectfully,

The Abhinav Bharat Foundation, India
Action Against Aids, Germany
Action Group for LGBT "Testosteron," Ukraine
Action Health Incorporated, Nigeria
ACT UP - New York, USA
ACT UP Paris, France
ACT UP - Philadelphia, USA
Adolescent Health and Information Projects (AHIP), Nigeria
Advocates for Youth, USA
Africa Action, USA
Africa Japan Forum (AJF), Japan
African Council of AIDS Service Organizations (AfriCASO), Senegal
African Services Committee, USA
Afrika Initiative e.V., Germany
Afro Global Alliance, Ghana & Nigeria
AGIHAS, Latvia
Agua Buena Human Rights Association, Costa Rica
Aid for AIDS International, USA
AIDES, France
AIDS Action Europe, The Netherlands
AIDS ACTION NOW, Canada
AIDS-CARE-WATCH Campaign, Thailand
Aids Fond, The Netherlands
AIDS Fondet, Denmark
AIDS Foundation East-West, The Netherlands
The AIDS Institute, USA
AIDS Policy Project, USA

AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA), USA
 AIDS Rights Alliance for Southern Africa (ARASA), Namibia
 All-Ukrainian Charitable Foundation "Coalition of HIV Service Organizations," Ukraine
 All-Ukrainian Network PLWH, Ukraine
 Ambassadors of Change, Kenya
 American Jewish World Service, USA
 American Medical Student Association, USA
 American Thoracic Society, USA
 Americans for Informed Democracy, USA
 Anonymous AIDS Association, Hungary
 Argentinean Network of Women Living with HIV/AIDS, Argentina
 Artists for a New South Africa, USA
 Asia Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health (APCOM), Thailand
 Asociación de Ayuda al Sero Positivo (ASEPO), Uruguay
 Associação Abraço, Portugal
 Association Nationale de Soutien aux Séropositif et Malades du Sida au Burundi (ANSS),
 Burundi
 The Association of People Living with AIDS in Kenya (TAPWAK), Kenya
 Association "Pozityvus Gyvenimas," Lithuania
 Association for Reproductive and Family Health, Nigeria
 Bangladesh Manobadhikar Sangbadik Forum (BMSF), Bangladesh
 Beijing Aizhixing Institute, China
 "BelSet antiAIDS" (Belorussian AIDS Network), Belarus
 Body Positive, New Zealand
 Brightson Kyapula of Twafwilishe Chambishi Community Centre Organization, Zambia
 Brot für die Welt (Bread for the World), Germany
 Burkina Faso Council of ASOs (BURCASO), Burkina Faso
 Burundian National Network Against AIDS, Burundi
 Byelorussian Public Union Positive Movement, Belarus
 Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network, Canada
 The Canadian Treatment Action Council (CTAC), Canada
 Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD), United Kingdom
 The Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI), India
 Catholic Health East, USA
 Center for Economic Governance and AIDS in Africa (CEGAA), East and Southern Africa
 The Center for Health Education, Prevention and Research (CHEPAR), Cote d'Ivoire
 The Center for Health Policy and Innovation, Canada
 Center on Mental Health and HIV/AIDS, Tajikistan
 Center for the Right to Health, Nigeria
 Center for Sustainable Health and Development, India
 China Global Fund Watch Initiative, China
 Christ Soldiers Foundation, Ghana
 Christian Aid, United Kingdom
 Christian Medical Association of India (CMAI), India
 CHRISTUS Health, USA
 Civil Society Action Team (CSAT), Southern & Eastern Africa
 Club des Amis Damien (CAD), The Democratic Republic of the Congo
 The Coalition of Asia Pacific Regional Networks on HIV/AIDS (7 Sisters), Thailand

Coastal Development Partnership (CDP), Bangladesh
Coastal Organization for Prevention and Care of TB in Kenya (COPCAT), Kenya
Community Initiative for TB, HIV/AIDS and Malaria, Zambia
Consortium to Respond Effectively to the TB/HIV Epidemic (CREATE), USA
Cordaid, The Netherlands
La Corporación Chilena de Prevención del SIDA-ACCIONGAY, Chile
CSAT HUB Middle East and North Africa (ALCS), Morocco
Czech AIDS Help Society, Czech Republic
David and Lois Rees Hospital, India
The Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation, South Africa
Developing Country-NGOs Delegation to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria Board
of Directors, Senegal
DEPRO-SPACE, Cameroon
Development Initiative for Community Enhancement (DICE), Nigeria
Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, Germany
Disciples Overseas Ministries, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Switzerland
Division of Global Health Equity, Brigham & Women's Hospital, USA
Dominican Sisters of Hope, USA
East European and Central Asian Union PLWH
Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (EAA), Switzerland
EMPOWER, India
Essential Action, USA
Estonian Network of PLWH, Estonia
Eurasian Harm Reduction Network, Lithuania
European AIDS Treatment Group (EATG), Belgium
European Alliance Against Malaria, Belgium
Fair River International Association for Development (FARIAD), Ghana
Family Health International, USA
Family-In-Need Trust of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe
F.O.C.U.S., USA
The Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR), USA
Foundation Positive Women of the World, The Netherlands.
French HIV/Aids Treatment Activist Coalition TRT-5, France
Friends Fiduciary Corporation, USA
FSG Communications Ltd., United Kingdom
FUTURE WITHOUT AIDS, Ukraine
Gambian Network of AIDS Support Societies (GAMNASS), The Gambia
GESTOS, Brazil
Global Action for Children, USA
Global AIDS Alliance, USA
Global Health Advocates, France
Global Health Advocates, India
Global Health Advocates, Switzerland
Global Health Council, USA
Global Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ,
Switzerland
GlobalSIDA, Spain
GlobeMed, USA

Goodwill Aid, Ghana
Grandmothers of Alberta for a New Generation (GANG), Canada
GULI SURKH, Tajikistan
Guyana Human Rights Association, Guyana
Harlem United, USA
Harm Reduction Coalition, USA
Harvard Global Health & AIDS Coalition, USA
Health Action International (HAI), Africa
Health Alliance International, USA
Health Bridge Consulting International, Canada
Health Connections International, The Netherlands
The Health & Development Networks (HDN), Global
Health GAP (Global Access Project), USA
Health Insurance Fund, The Netherlands
Health Triangle, Zambia
Health Workforce Advocacy Initiative (HWAI), Global
Hélène de Beir Foundation, Belgium
HIV-Foundation / The Finnish AIDS Council, Finland
HIV Medicine Association, USA
HIV-Sweden, Sweden
Hiv Vereniging, The Netherlands
HIVictorious, Inc., USA
Hong Guang Alliance (HGA), China
Housing Works, USA
IDH-ONL, Bolivia
Initiative for Community Development, Nigeria
Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development (ICAD), Canada
Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility, USA
International AIDS Society, Global
International Children's Palliative Care Network, South Africa
International Civil Society Support, The Netherlands
The International Community of Women Living with HIV and AIDS (ICW), United Kingdom
The International Community of Women Living with HIV and AIDS (ICW), USA
International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO), Canada
International HIV/AIDS Alliance, United Kingdom
International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine (ICF), Ukraine
International Treatment Preparedness Coalition in Eastern Europe and Central Asia
Interact Worldwide, United Kingdom
International Women's Health Coalition, USA
Instituto de Cooperación Social (INTEGRARE), Spain
Italian League for Fighting Aids, Italy
Jamaican Network of Seropositives, Jamaica
Japan AIDS and Society Association (JASA), Japan
Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Association (JATA), Japan
JAZAS (Association against AIDS), Serbia
Jerusalem AIDS Project, Israel
Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs, USA
Jubilee USA Network, USA

Kara Counseling and Training Trust, Zambia
Kazakhstan's Union of PLWH, Kazakhstan
KNCV Tuberculosis Foundation, The Netherlands
L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center, USA
La Liga Colombiana de Lucha Contra el Sida, Colombia
Latin American and the Caribbean Council of Aids Services Organizations (LACCASO), Brazil
Latin American Global Health Foundation, Colombia
League of PLWH of Republic of Moldova, Moldova
Legal Assistance Centre, Namibia
Lithuanian Positive Group, Lithuania
Malaria Consortium, United Kingdom
Maryknoll AIDS Task Force, Global
Medecins Sans Frontières, France
Mennonite Central Committee Washington Office, USA
Mercy Investment Program, USA
Missionary Oblates Justice and Peace Office, USA
Mosaic Training, Service and Healing Centre for Women, South Africa
Mozambican Treatment Access Movement (MATRAM), Mozambique
National AIDS Trust, United Kingdom
National Association of People Living with AIDS (NAPN), Nepal
National Empowerment Network of PLHA in Kenya (NEPHAK), Kenya
National Organization for Social Development (NOSD), Pakistan
National TB Programme, Ghana
National Youth Coalition on SRR, Sri Lanka
Naz Foundation International, India
Network Access to Essential Medicines (RAME), Burkina Faso
Network of Zimbabwean Positive Women (NZPW+), Zimbabwe
New Jersey Medical School Global Tuberculosis Institute, USA
NGO TB Consortium India (NTC), India
Northwest Coalition for Responsible Investment, United States
Norwegian Church Aid, Norway
OHAfrica, Canada
Ohionia Foundation for Development (OFUD), Nigeria
Ontario HIV Treatment Network (OHTN), Canada
Osservatorio Italiano sull'Azione Globale Contro l'AIDS, Italy
Oxfam International
OXFAM Japan, Japan
Partners in Health, USA
Patients not Patents, Inc., USA
Penitentiary Initiative, Ukraine
Physicians for Human Rights, USA
Planned Parenthood Federation of Nigeria (PPFN), Nigeria
PLUS, Coalition Internationale Sida, France
PLWHA Europe
Population Action International (PAI), USA
Population Services International (PSI), Romania
Population Services International (PSI), USA
Positive Action Foundation Philippines, Inc., Philippines

Positive Families Network, Kenya
 Positive Initiative (PCF), Kyrgyzstan
 Positive Life, Mongolia
 Positive and Living Squad (PALS), Zambia
 Positive Malaysian Treatment Access & Advocacy Group (MTAAG+), Malaysia
 Prevention Point Pittsburgh, USA
 Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH), Kenya
 Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH), USA
 "Progress" Social Research Public Union, Azerbaijan
 Progressio, United Kingdom
 Protecto sol Philadelphia, USA
 The Providence Fund, USA
 Public Health Program/Soros Foundation, Moldova
 Public Organization on AIDS Fight, Azerbaijan
 Public Organization "SPIN Plus" (Community of People Living with HIV and Drug-addicted People), Tajikistan
 Public Personalities Against AIDS Trust, Zimbabwe
 Public Union of PLWH "Ishonch va Hayot," Uzbekistan
 Rafiki Rehabilitation Programme, Kenya
 Real World, Real People, Armenia
 Red Argentina de Personas Positivas (REDAR POSITIVA), Argentina
 Refugees Community Services (RCS), South Africa
 Region VI Coalition for Responsible Investment, USA
 Rehabilitation and Prevention of Tuberculosis (RAPT), Zimbabwe
 Reseau Burundais des Personnes Vivant avec le VIH/SIDA, Burundi
 Reseau National des Personnes Vivant avec le VIH Sida (RENIP+), Niger
 RESULTS Canada, Canada
 RESULTS Educational Fund, USA
 RESULTS Japan, Japan
 RESULTS UK, United Kingdom
 The Romanian Angel Appeal Foundation, Romania
 Royal Emeg Foundation, United Kingdom
 Russian Harm Reduction Network (RHRN), Russia
 SAfAIDS, South Africa
 Safe Nepal, Nepal
 The San Francisco Foundation, USA
 School Sisters of St. Francis, USA
 Seeking Waste Solutions through Alternatives (VIKALP), India
 Senderos Asociación Mutual, Colombia
 Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS), USA
 The Siberian Alternative Center, Russia
 Siec Plus, Poland
 Sikh Council on Religion and Education (SCORE), USA
 SISAL, Madagascar
 Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, USA
 Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Central Leadership, USA
 Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother, US and Caribbean
 Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston, USA

Sisters of St. Joseph of Springfield, USA
Sisters of Mercy Regional Community of Detroit, USA
Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia, USA
Social Help & Research Organization (SHRO), Pakistan
Society "Association HIV.LV," Latvia
Solidarity and Action Against the HIV Infection in India (SAATHII), India
Southern Africa Treatment Access Movement (SATAMo), Southern Africa
Speranta Terrei, Moldova
Stop AIDS Alliance, Belgium
Stop AIDS Campaign, United Kingdom
STOP AIDS NOW!, The Netherlands
Stop Aids Slovenija, Slovenia
Stop TB, Canada
Stop TB Italia, Italy
Stop TB Partnership Japan, Japan
Stop TB and HIV/AIDS, The Gambia
Students for Global Health at Harvard Medical School, USA
Student Global AIDS Campaign (SGAC), USA
Student Stop AIDS Campaign, United Kingdom
Swami Vivekanand Cultural Foundation, India
Swiss Centre for International Health of the Swiss Tropical Institute, Switzerland
Target TB, United Kingdom
TB Alert, United Kingdom
TB Survival Project
TB Voice Network, Ghana
Tearfund, United Kingdom
Tianjin Aids Home, China
Treatment Action Campaign, South Africa
Treatment Action Group, USA
Twaasuka Home Based Care, Zambia
Uganda Medical Association, Uganda
UK Ukrainian AIDS Response, United Kingdom
UNAIDS PCB NGO Delegation
UNICEF UK, United Kingdom
Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, USA
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, USA
United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries, Switzerland
United Church of Christ Wider Church Ministries, Switzerland
University Coalitions for Global Health, USA
Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk, USA
U.S. Positive Women's Network, USA
VSO International, United Kingdom
Walden Asset Management, a Division of Boston Trust & Investment Management Company,
USA
We For Civil Equality, Armenia
Women-Health-Development (FESADE), Cameroon
Women's Center, Georgia
World AIDS Campaign, Netherlands/South Africa

World Care Council, Democratic Republic of the Congo
World Care Council, India
World Vision, India
World Vision International, United Kingdom
Yunan Daytop Village for Drug Abuse, China