



SIXTEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Director-General

**Fourth Supplementary Report:
Endorsement by boards of UNAIDS ¹
Cosponsors of the UNAIDS Programme
Coordinating Board decisions on the
Global Task Team recommendations**

I. Background

1. This report presents, for endorsement by the Governing Body, the recommendations of the Global Task Team on Improving AIDS Coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors.
2. The Global Task Team (GTT), composed of representatives of 24 countries and institutions, was created at a meeting held on 9 March 2005 to review the global response to AIDS. The meeting agreed on the need to strengthen coordination, alignment and harmonization, in the context of UN reform, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, ² and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Of particular importance is the application of the “Three Ones” principles ³ to improve coordination at country level.
3. The final report of the GTT was presented to the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) in June 2005. It made a set of recommendations to accelerate the response to AIDS and improve its effectiveness, under four main headings:
 - empowering inclusive national leadership and ownership;
 - alignment and harmonization;

¹ Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS.

² Statement adopted by Development Cooperation Ministers and Agency Heads at the meeting of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, Paris, April 2004.

³ The “Three Ones” are: One agreed HIV/AIDS Action Framework for the work of all partners at country level; One National AIDS Coordinating Authority with a broad-based multisectoral mandate; and One agreed mechanism for monitoring and evaluation.

- reform for a more effective multilateral response; and
- accountability and oversight among multilateral institutions and international donors.

4. The ten key recommendations cover the following areas (full text available):

- national mechanisms to drive implementation and provide a basis for the alignment of external support;
- macroeconomic policies and budgetary frameworks to support national responses;
- alignment of external support to national strategies, policies, systems, cycles and plans;
- a progressive shift from project to programme financing, better links to broader development processes such as Poverty Reduction Strategies, and harmonization of programming, financing, and reporting;
- closer UN coordination on AIDS at country level through the establishment of joint UN teams on AIDS;
- joint UN system and Global Fund⁴ problem-solving mechanism to overcome implementation bottlenecks at country level;
- clarification of the division of labour among multilateral institutions;
- increased financing for technical support;
- country-led reviews of the performance of multilateral institutions, international partners and national stakeholders; and
- strengthening of national monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and structures that facilitate oversight and problem-solving.

5. At their last meeting in June 2005, the PCB welcomed the GTT recommendations and agreed on the way forward as follows:

- endorse the full set of Global Task Team recommendations;
- request UNAIDS Cosponsors and the Secretariat to implement recommendations – within the specified time frame – that relate to the work of the Joint Programme;
- urge boards of other multilateral institutions to endorse recommendations; and
- urge bilateral organizations to endorse and implement the alignment and harmonization arrangements in the recommendations.

⁴ Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

II. Progress on the endorsement and implementation of the Global Task Team recommendations

6. The executive boards of UNDP, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF, the World Bank and the Global Fund have endorsed the recommendations. The UN General Assembly welcomed and supported the Global Task Team's work in the 2005 World Summit outcomes. The remaining UNAIDS Cosponsors (ILO, UNESCO, UNHCR, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the World Food Programme (WFP) and WHO) have indicated that the GTT recommendations will be tabled for endorsement by their respective boards between March and June 2006.
7. At the PCB meeting in June 2006, Cosponsors will report back on the implementation of the recommendations. Substantial progress has already been made. UNAIDS and the Global Fund have developed implementation plans for 26 distinct actions, and these plans are rapidly being put into practice. Particular emphasis is being placed on efforts to implement the recommendation for the establishment of joint UN teams on AIDS to improve the effectiveness of national responses. The related harmonization arrangements recommended by the GTT are being addressed through the UN Consolidated Technical Support Plan for AIDS and Division of Labour. This plan also establishes a more coherent basis for determining the most appropriate providers among the UNAIDS Cosponsors and Secretariat of the technical support required by countries.

III. The role of the ILO

8. The ILO has been a Cosponsor of UNAIDS since October 2001. From 1 July 2005 until 30 June 2006, under the leadership of the Director-General, the ILO is chair of the UNAIDS Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations (CCO). The chairmanship of the CCO has provided the ILO with the opportunity to situate HIV/AIDS in the context of the Decent Work Agenda, and encourage a collaborative response among the Cosponsors to scaling up national responses to HIV/AIDS through the world of work.⁵ The outcome of these efforts is reflected in the higher profile of HIV and AIDS as a workplace issue, and the greater involvement of tripartite constituents in global and national HIV/AIDS activities.
9. The GTT recommendations are in line with existing policies of the ILO on HIV and AIDS, and with the programme planned for the Office in the framework of the Programme and Budget for 2006-07. Drawing on its mandate, and as the lead agency for the world of work, the ILO will contribute to the implementation of the recommendations in the following ways:
 - support to joint UN teams on AIDS in developing and implementing the UN programme, in particular by ensuring that the national multisectoral response to HIV and AIDS includes the world of work;
 - support to country teams to develop and sustain human capacity, in particular by mobilizing the social partners and enhancing their capacity to contribute to national efforts;
 - support to country teams to integrate HIV and AIDS in national development frameworks and in relevant policy and legislation, especially labour laws;

⁵ HIV/AIDS and the Decent Work Agenda: Responding to need, GB.288/ESP/3.

- intensification of prevention efforts and increased access to treatment, care and support at enterprise level (in the public and private sectors) and through workplaces to the community; and
- strengthen the HIV and AIDS response in the UN workplace.

10. *The Governing Body may wish to endorse the recommendations contained in the final report of the Global Task Team, and the related decisions of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (set out in the appendix).*

Geneva, 8 March 2006.

Point for decision: Paragraph 10.

Appendix

Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) (27-29 June 2005)

Decisions, recommendations and conclusions

Agenda item 2: Report of the Global Task Team on Improving AIDS Coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors

7. Welcoming the rapid, high-level and highly participatory work of the ad hoc Global Task Team on Improving AIDS Coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors, the Programme Coordinating Board:
 - 7.1. endorses the complete set of recommendations contained in the 14 June final report of the Global Task Team noting the central importance of country ownership;¹
 - 7.2. requests the UNAIDS Secretariat and Cosponsors – and invites the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria – to develop action plans and to implement the Global Task Team recommendations and maintain the momentum created by the Global Task Team, within the specified time frames;
 - 7.3. urges the governing bodies of UNAIDS Cosponsors, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and other multilateral institutions to consider and endorse the Global Task Team recommendations;
 - 7.4. urges all other international partners to consider and, whenever possible, implement the alignment and harmonization arrangements detailed in the Global Task Team recommendations;
 - 7.5. requests the UNAIDS Secretariat and Cosponsors, in cooperation with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and other relevant development partners, to report on progress in the implementation of Global Task Team recommendations at a special session in the June 2006 Programme Coordinating Board meeting;
 - 7.6. urges UNAIDS to promote the full participation of civil society at the country and global levels in implementing the recommendations of the Global Task Team; and
 - 7.7. encourages the UNAIDS Secretariat to lead a rapid and inclusive process – including civil society – ahead of the September 2005 Global Fund Replenishment Conference for the expansion and refocusing of UNAIDS Programme Acceleration Funds so they enable the UN system and others to scale up the provision and facilitation of technical support.

Explanatory note to section 7: The PCB recognizes that the implementation of the Global Task Team recommendations would have to be within the framework of national laws, as well as regulations and policies of the governing bodies of multilateral organizations and international institutions. The PCB also notes that a move toward a programme-based approach includes coordinated parallel financing and pooled funding.

¹ http://data.unaids.org/Publications/IRC-pub06/JC1125-GlobalTaskTeamReport_en.pdf