



Implementing the “three ones”: Consultation 25 April 2004 - Washington, D.C.

Concept Note

Summary

With significantly increased resources being devoted to the global AIDS epidemic, there is a growing recognition of the need for greater coherence and collaboration between donors.

The proposal is for UNAIDS to host a meeting of international donors to agree how best to refine their funding priorities and approaches in ways that can maximise their collective impact in responding to AIDS. In addition, given the growing resources being allocated to AIDS, it is important to ensure that national accountability and responsibility is respected and enhanced.

This consultation follows work conducted by UNAIDS, the World Bank and the Global Fund to fight AIDS Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) to facilitate greater synergy between different actors working on AIDS at the country level and is being directly supported by the British Government following their Call for Action in 2004.

The consultation will be organized to coincide with the IMF and World Bank Development Committee meetings (on the 25 April), which would allow for attendance by both finance and development officials at ministerial level.

Objective and approach

The aim of the consultation is to reach agreement between donors on *how to* reconcile differing donor perspectives and approaches in responding to AIDS, with a focus on how donor efforts can support the following principles, the “three ones”: (i) One agreed AIDS Action Framework that drives alignment of all partners; (ii) One national AIDS authority, with a broad-based multisectoral and multistakeholder mandate; and (iii) One agreed country-level monitoring and evaluation system. These principles were identified recently through a process at global and country levels initiated by UNAIDS in cooperation with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria and the World Bank.

The approach will be based on a process of preparatory dialogue with international donors, in order to identify issues of convergence and explore possible conflicting positions. The outcome of these preparatory steps will constitute the main input to the consultation.

Goals

At the conclusion of the consultation, the leading international donors present would :

- Confirm the “three ones” principles as essential elements for a harmonized response;
- confirm the “exceptionality” of AIDS as a unique emergency issue, requiring special considerations with regard, among others, to budget ceilings, additionality of external inputs, speed of the response, risk preparedness, broad mobilisation and accountability; and
- agree on steps towards convergence in external support to M&E, including also how specific roles of multilateral agencies and partnerships can be supported.

Attendees

The list of attendees should include major international donors (not limited to the public sector), including Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Nordic countries, UK, US, etc., the World Bank and the Global Fund. The Gates Foundation as the pre-eminent private sector funder of AIDS development would also be invited. In addition, relevant developing countries already attending the World Bank Development Committee would also be invited to participate.

The preparatory process

The preparatory dialogue will be facilitated by UNAIDS, as well as through regular bilateral channels. In order to advise on issues arising through the preparatory process and assist in identifying key issues to receive priority attention in the consultation, a reference group of participants (5-6) will be established. Drafting and review of the input document for the consultation could be done through electronic communication, and if necessary face-to-face meetings of the reference group.

Dr. Sigrun Mogedal, Senior Policy Adviser to the UNAIDS Executive Director, will provide strategic advice for implementing the project and facilitate the preparatory process.

Next Steps

UNAIDS, as the Secretariat for the meeting, has implemented a schedule of consultations and is liaising with the World Bank on logistical arrangements

Agreement on how the alignment achieved can be concretely applied to country situations will be an important next phase.

UNAIDS EXO
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