Sixteenth meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board
Jamaica, 14-15 December 2004

Decisions, Recommendations and Conclusions

Agenda item 1.1: Opening of the meeting and adoption of the provisional agenda

1. The Programme Coordinating Board adopted the agenda.

Agenda item 1.2: Confirmation of Officers

2. As decided at its 15th meeting, Canada was confirmed as Chair, Bahamas as Vice-Chair and Kenya as Rapporteur of the 16th meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board.

Agenda item 1.3: Statement of the Executive Director

3. In welcoming the Statement of the UNAIDS Executive Director, the Programme Coordinating Board:

3.1 notes with concern the increasing impact of HIV and AIDS in the Caribbean region, welcomes the various initiatives and examples of progress cited by the Executive Director and calls upon the international community, particularly national governments, to support a stronger and inclusive response to address the needs of those especially at risk of HIV exposure, including men who have sex with men, sex workers, mobile populations, injecting and other drug users, prisoners, youth, women and girls;

3.2 recognizes fully the exceptionality of AIDS, and therefore endorses the call to combine increased long-term investments in the response to AIDS with essential crisis management today. This exceptionality requires full funding of the response, innovative and radical strategies to strengthen the public sector, active engagement of the private sector, and enhanced community capacity and preparedness to address the epidemic. It also requires accelerating investment in preventive
technologies, such as the development of HIV vaccines and microbicides, promoting gender equality and empowerment of women, and ensuring that such investments are used effectively;

3.3 urges UNAIDS to continue to play a leadership role in making the “Three Ones” a reality, promoting harmonization, and encouraging responsible donor behaviour, long-term commitment and, for those who are willing, pooling of funds to assist countries in managing their responses to AIDS more effectively;

3.4 supports the commitment by UNAIDS to “make the money work” at the country level by, amongst other things, scaling up technical support, building capacity and promoting coordinated and comprehensive responses;

3.5 recognizes its own firmly established role as the prime global AIDS policy forum and, in order to strengthen its deliberations, requests the Bureau to consult with members on the issues of constituency functioning and the frequency and focus of meetings and to present recommendations to the 17th Programme Coordinating Board meeting in 2005; and

3.6 congratulates donors for their ongoing and increasing support to the response to HIV and AIDS and encourages them to review the resource needs of UNAIDS, including the Secretariat, to ensure it can fulfil its core mandate, including the provision of sufficient funding for the 2006-2007 biennium which will be reviewed in the 17th Programme Coordinating Board meeting;

Agenda item 2: Women, Gender and AIDS

4. Recognizing the increasing impact of AIDS on women and girls, the Programme Coordinating Board:

4.1 encourages UNAIDS to ensure that women and girls are meaningful participants and leaders in the response to AIDS;

4.2 calls for a stronger focus on the underlying gender, social, cultural and economic issues that affect women and girls, in global advocacy as well as in national and community responses to AIDS, through integration of these underlying issues into initiatives at all levels and ensuring analysis informs relevant programming and monitoring and evaluation;

4.3 urges UNAIDS to improve and intensify action related to women and AIDS, in particular through further development of the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS, as well as through greater involvement of a wider range of partners;
4.4 urges all HIV prevention and AIDS care and treatment programmes to disaggregate, analyse and report data by sex and age;

4.5 urges UNAIDS and the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS and all partners to integrate, as strong and robust components of their work, AIDS interventions with sexual and reproductive health and the promotion and protection of reproductive rights, as well as the right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, free of coercion, discrimination and violence;

4.6 encourages UNAIDS to build and promote innovative partnerships with women’s and girls’ organizations, in particular networks of HIV-positive women, and with groups that work with men and boys in an effort to reduce the impact of HIV and AIDS on the lives of women and girls—at local, country, regional and global levels;

4.7 calls for greater action to address the issue of gender-based and sexual violence, including in conflict- and post-conflict settings, recognizing the important role of men and boys as agents of change in this issue; and

4.8 recognizes that the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS was established during the existing biennium, and requests the Secretariat to examine ways to resource the initiative adequately from the existing core Unified Budget and Workplan and extrabudgetary resources, and to integrate it into the 2006-2007 biennium budget.

Agenda item 3: Intensifying HIV Prevention

5. Welcoming the action taken on the decision of the 15th Programme Coordinating Board in June 2004 for UNAIDS to develop a revitalized prevention strategy, the Programme Coordinating Board:

5.1 acknowledges the progress made to date on the development of a strategy to intensify HIV prevention and reiterates its support of the underpinnings of the strategy based on the Global HIV/AIDS Strategy, endorsed by the Board in Rio de Janeiro in 2000, and on the 2001 UNGASS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS;

5.2 requests UNAIDS to take the feedback and inputs provided by PCB members into consideration and engage in further consultations among PCB members, UNAIDS Cosponsors and a wide range of other partners, including national
governments and civil society, in order to strengthen the strategy;

5.3 requests UNAIDS to ensure that the prevention strategy is clearly based on evidence, integrated with global and national prevention, care and treatment initiatives, and grounded in a human-rights approach that specifically addresses the needs of those especially at risk of HIV exposure, including women and girls, youth, men who have sex with men, injecting and other drug users, sex workers, people living in poverty, prisoners, migrant labourers, people in conflict- and post-conflict situations, refugees and internally displaced persons;

5.4 recommends that the strategy has clear links to sexual and reproductive health programmes as important entry points for HIV prevention;

5.5 recognizes that stigma and discrimination are major barriers to effective HIV prevention and encourages UNAIDS to address stigma reduction in the strategy, including by advocating for the adoption, strengthening and enforcement of antidiscrimination measures at country level;

5.6 encourages UNAIDS to include in the strategy a comprehensive, evidence-based approach to HIV prevention, treatment and care among prisoners as well as among injecting and other drug users that includes reducing the transmission of HIV; and

5.7 endorses the process proposed by UNAIDS for the development of the strategy and requests UNAIDS to submit the strategy to the PCB at its meeting in June 2005.

Agenda item 4: Report of the field visits

6. The Programme Coordinating Board expresses its appreciation to the Government of Jamaica for the support it has provided in the organization of the field visits.

7. The Programme Coordinating Board takes note of the report from the field visits covering: health sector response to HIV/AIDS in West Jamaica by the Western Region Health Authority; edutainment of the Ashe Caribbean Performing Arts Foundation; care, support and prevention programmes for marginalized groups of the Jamaica AIDS Support; and dissemination of the “National policy for HIV/AIDS management in schools”.

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Agenda item 5: Other matters

5.1 Update on the Unified Budget and Workplan 2006-2007

8. Noting with satisfaction the progress made in preparing the Unified Budget and Workplan (UBW) 2006-2007 the Programme Coordinating Board:

8.1 expresses its support for the strategic orientation of the UBW 2006-2007 and its overall thrust to support countries in scaling up their response to HIV/AIDS;

8.2 welcomes the inclusion of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Food Programme in the UBW 2006-2007, which each bring specific new strengths to the UNAIDS response, alongside the confirmed strong action by the existing Cosponsors and the UNAIDS Secretariat; and

8.3 also expresses its support for innovations in the UBW 2006-2007 to enhance results-based management, accountability and reporting, including the identification of the aggregated “principal results” and the “key results” to which each Cosponsor and the Secretariat are accountable.

5.2 Progress on the “Three Ones”

9. Taking note of the report on Global and Country Level Progress on the Three Ones, the Programme Coordinating Board:

9.1 expresses support for UNAIDS efforts to promote the harmonization of donor support and stakeholder participation in national AIDS responses around the Three Ones principles;

9.2 encourages UNAIDS to continue its leadership role in engaging the support of governments, civil society organizations, the private sector, bilateral and multilateral agencies in the implementation of the “Three Ones” principles; and

9.3 requests an update at the 17th PCB on progress in promoting and implementing the “Three Ones” principles.

5.3 Update on the World AIDS Campaign

10. The Programme Coordinating Board notes with satisfaction the refocused and enhanced World AIDS Campaign in support of the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS.
11. Noting the need for coordinated and increased advocacy in support of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, the Programme Coordinating Board:

11.1 further encourages UNAIDS to support the World AIDS Campaign as a vehicle for civil society to participate meaningfully in the fulfilment of the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, including engaging the United Nations System and public and private sector partners so that the World AIDS Campaign is adequately supported; and

11.2 requests governments to support the goal of the World AIDS Campaign and to increase efforts to raise the visibility of the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS.

Agenda item 6: Next meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board

12. The Programme Coordinating Board reconfirms the decision of the 14th meeting that the 17th Programme Coordinating Board meeting be held on 28-29 June 2005. The Programme Coordinating Board also confirms that the meeting will be held in Geneva, Switzerland.

Agenda item 7: Adoption of Decisions, Recommendations and Conclusions

13. The Programme Coordinating Board expresses deep appreciation to the Government and people of Jamaica for hosting its 16th meeting, and adopts the decisions, recommendations and conclusions of the 16th Programme Coordinating Board meeting.