The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions in Geneva, to Organizations of the United Nations system and to the other Nongovernmental Organizations dealing with matters pertaining to HIV/AIDS not represented on the Programme Coordinating Board (PCB).

UNAIDS has the honour to inform the aforementioned Missions and Organizations that the next meeting of the PCB will take place from 27 to 28 June 2006, at the International Conference Centre, Geneva (CICG), 17 rue de Varembé, Geneva. A copy of the provisional agenda is attached hereto. The opening session will take place at 9h00 with registration from 8h15 on 27 June. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

UNAIDS wishes to draw the attention of the Missions and Organizations to the Modus Operandi of the PCB, which includes a provision allowing the Executive Director of UNAIDS, in consultation with the PCB Chairperson and upon receipt of a written application expressing a manifest interest, to grant observer status for PCB meetings to any Member State of any of the UNAIDS Cosponsoring Organizations, and any intergovernmental or nongovernmental organization. Observers shall make their own arrangements to cover expenses incurred in attending meetings of the PCB including any visa requirements. To facilitate logistical arrangements, applications for observer status must be received at UNAIDS, Geneva, by 26 May at the latest.

UNAIDS wishes to take this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions in Geneva, to Organizations of the United Nations system and to the Nongovernmental Organizations, the assurances of its highest consideration.

ENCL: (as mentioned) Geneva, 25 April 2006