Decisions, Recommendations and Conclusions

Recalling that all aspects of UNAIDS work are directed by the following guiding principles:

- Aligned to national stakeholders’ priorities;
- Based on the meaningful and measurable involvement of civil society especially people living with HIV and populations most at risk of HIV infection;
- Based on human rights and gender equality;
- Based on the best available scientific evidence and technical knowledge; and
- Promoting comprehensive responses to AIDS that integrate prevention, treatment, care and support.

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

1. Adopts the agenda.

Agenda item 1.2: Election of Officers

2.1 Elects Thailand as Chair, the United States of America as Vice-Chair, and Senegal as Rapporteur; and

2.2 Notes the membership of the NGO delegation for 2008.

Agenda item 1.3: Consideration of the reports of the eighteenth and nineteenth meetings

3. Adopts the reports of the 18th and 19th meetings of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board.

Agenda item 1.4: Report by the Chairperson of the Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations

4. Takes note with appreciation of the Report by the Chairperson of the Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations.

Agenda item 1.5: Report of the Executive Director

5. Taking note of the major trends in the epidemic, its impact and the response, including the key initiatives and achievements of UNAIDS over the last six months, as summarized in the Annual Report and Report of the Executive Director, the Programme Coordinating Board:

5.1 Requests that an independent evaluation of UNAIDS be carried out in order to reassess priorities, determine how to build on achievements and understand how UNAIDS can play a more effective role in the future in strengthening global coordination on HIV/AIDS and requests the Programme Coordinating Board Bureau, in consultation
with the Programme Coordinating Board members, to formulate the process, the mechanisms and terms of reference for this independent evaluation for submission to the 21\textsuperscript{st} Programme Coordinating Board meeting for approval;

5.2 Requests an independent assessment, building on existing studies, in consultation with UNAIDS, national stakeholders, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and other partners, to review and assess the sustainability of HIV/AIDS financing, and to prepare this for consideration at the 22\textsuperscript{nd} Programme Coordinating Board meeting; and

5.3 Acknowledging work being done by UNAIDS on a guidance note on HIV and sex work, recommends UNAIDS to continue consultation with relevant stakeholders, including affected groups, in developing this guidance.

Agenda item 1.6: Report by the NGO representative

6. Takes note of the Report by the NGO representatives and adopts the following recommendation contained therein:

6.1 Request UNAIDS and donors to support, and governments to incorporate, policies and resource programs that address the intersection between violence against women and HIV and AIDS as a component of their National AIDS Programs.


7.1 Endorses the strategies and approaches contained in the 2008-2009 Unified Budget and Workplan;

7.2 Approves the 2008-2009 Unified Budget and Workplan and the proposed distribution of those resources as follows: US$ 135 million to be shared among 10 Cosponsors; US$ 182 million for the UNAIDS Secretariat; US$ 147 million for interagency activities and US$ 5 million for a contingency fund for unexpected expenditures linked to the Unified Budget and Workplan;

7.3 Urges all countries to fully fund the 2008-2009 Unified Budget and Workplan in accordance with the principle of burden sharing;

7.4 Endorses the establishment of a mid-term review of the Unified Budget and Workplan to increase the flexibility of the Unified Budget and Workplan as outlined in paragraph 41 of the Unified Budget and Workplan document\textsuperscript{1};

7.5 Taking note of the planned Cosponsor Core, Supplemental and global/regional budgets as outlined in the 2008-2009 UBW, and taking note that the Cosponsors will also raise an additional estimated US$ 1.9 billion which is implemented by them at country level, requests greater transparency on these funding flows by reporting to the June 2009 Programme Coordinating Board meeting on what is being spent on HIV/AIDS at country level in the “One UN” pilot countries in support of the national response;

\textsuperscript{1} Paragraph 41 includes the following relevant text: “A mid term review of the Unified Budget and Workplan will be carried out following the first year of operation of the biennium. The review will be coordinated by the Secretariat and will take into account developments since the Unified Budget and Workplan was approved by the Programme Coordination Board including emerging priority issues and actual and anticipated fundraising and implementation.
7.6 Recommends UNAIDS to integrate into the Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Framework indicators to measure how UNAIDS work contributes to strengthening the One UN pilots;

7.7 Recommends UNAIDS to provide greater clarity on the division of labour by demonstrating, in accordance with relevant actions contained in the Global Task Team Assessment Report, in the Unified Budget and Workplan mid-term review the complementarity of agencies' activities in their support to the national response and when they are working for the same outputs;

7.8 Approves the authority of the Executive Director of UNAIDS to increase or decrease funds by up to 10% between Principal Outcomes of the Unified Budget and Workplan, subject to the conditions outlined in paragraph 41 of the Unified Budget and Workplan Document²;

7.9 Decides that the Executive Director be given the discretion to programme and disburse funds received by way of contributions over and above the level of the approved Unified Budget and Workplan, subject to the following conditions:

a. The amount of funds to be programmed and disbursed under discretionary authority shall not exceed 10% of the approved budget;

b. The funds shall be used only for activities in priority areas as set out in the Strategic Framework or for investments in, or support for, the Principal Outcomes and Key Outputs as identified in the Unified Budget and Workplan;

c. The Executive Director shall submit his proposal for the use of the funds to all Members of the Programme Coordinating Board through its Bureau, who will ensure its conformity with the above criteria. Any proposal shall be deemed approved if no written objection to the proposal is received by the Bureau within a period of 14 days from the date of notification of the proposal;

d. The use of the funds under the Executive Director’s discretionary authority should be reported to the 22nd meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board; and

e. The Programme Coordinating Board will review the experience with this procedure at the end of three years.

7.10 Takes note of the interim financial management information for the 2006–2007 biennium and the financial update as at 30 April 2007;

7.11 Encourages donor governments and others to release their contributions towards the Unified Budget and Workplan for 2006–2007 as soon as possible, if they have not already done so;

7.12 Requests that the 2010-2011 Unified Budget and Workplan include stronger linkages between investment and results and that it is accompanied by a prospective Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the budgetary period;

² Paragraph 41 includes the following relevant text: “The Executive Director may increase or decrease resources between Principal Outcomes, subject to the following conditions:

a. Transfers are allowed up to a maximum of 10 per cent of the amount budgeted for the Principal Outcome;

b. Transfers exceeding 10 per cent should only occur following consultation with the Committee of Cospersoning Organizations, and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Programme Coordinating Board;

c. Transfers may occur as part of a mid-term review exercise or as otherwise deemed necessary by the Executive Director.”
7.13 *Further requests* mid-term progress reports on the implementation of the Unified Budget and Workplan and that the report be an item on the agenda of the Programme Coordinating Board meeting;

7.14 *Recommends* UNAIDS to identify potential efficiencies that may come from working in a more harmonized way, so that any savings made can be reinvested into the programme; and

7.15 *Requests* the UNAIDS Secretariat to report to the 22nd Programme Coordinating Board meeting on the case for and implications of moving to a four-year Unified Budget and Workplan.

**Agenda item 3.1: UNAIDS and UN Reform**

8. *Endorses* the recommendations of the paper “UNAIDS and UN Reform” (document UNAIDS/PCB(20)/07.12):

   a. Current coherence efforts should be informed by the UNAIDS experience;

   b. The Global Task Team recommendations need to be accelerated and championed as a contribution to UN reform;

   c. UNAIDS should have a full role in “one UN” country pilots;

   d. UNAIDS to urgently review accountability mechanisms and establish incentives to promote joint working, programming and participation in the One UN pilots;

   e. The integrity of UNAIDS must be maintained through the piloting of the UN reform process; and

   f. UNAIDS should continually document its contributions to greater UN coherence and contribute fully to the realization of delivering as one (One budget, One leader, One plan, One house) in the pilot countries where it has a presence, and provide a detailed report on its participation in the One UN country pilot for a Programme Coordinating Board meeting in 2008.

**Agenda item 3.2: Results of the Review of NGO/Civil Society participation in the Programme Coordinating Board**

9. *Takes note* of the Results of the Review of NGO/Civil Society participation in the Programme Coordinating Board and *adopts* the following recommendations contained therein:

   9.1 *Endorses* the establishment of an independent communication and consultation facility (CF) to strengthen the NGO participation and support effectiveness of NGO country-level voices in the Programme Coordinating Board policy dialogue, and *requests* that the CF be supported by the UNAIDS Secretariat;

   9.2 *Requests* the UNAIDS Secretariat to provide appropriate financial support towards the further development of the recommendations in the Review of NGO/Civil Society participation in the Programme Coordinating Board;

   9.3 *Agrees* to review the participation of the NGO Programme Coordinating Board Delegation in the Programme Coordinating Board within no more than five years; and
9.4 Decides to discuss, at the 22nd Programme Coordinating Board meeting, the forward looking mechanisms for achieving increased involvement of civil society in the Programme Coordinating Board.

Agenda item 3.3: UNAIDS role in strengthening global coordination on AIDS and development of the Programme Coordinating Board

10. Decides that:

a. Programme Coordinating Board meetings will consist of a decision making segment and a thematic segment;

b. Requests the UNAIDS Secretariat to elaborate a paper, for the next Programme Coordinating Board meeting, on the format and potential resource needs of the thematic segment, including the possibility of enabling the segment to become an effective venue for policy debate, engaging all relevant key players, including, occasionally, high level participation in a way that avoids duplication with existing high level events;

c. Programme Coordinating Board meetings should be held twice a year in principle. However, the second meeting in the odd years should be held only when there is a substantive need and with the financial and administrative possibility to do so. In this regard, the Programme Coordinating Board may decide in an even year to cancel the second meeting during the following, odd, year;

d. Key partners will be invited to participate in the thematic segment in a well structured and recognized way. A meaningful and relevant discussion on critical thematic policy matters has to include all relevant partners, such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, People living with HIV/AIDS, private sector, foundations, research and academia, etc;

e. Before a final decision on modalities for meetings outside Geneva, the UNAIDS Secretariat is requested to provide a thorough analysis of holding meetings in Geneva or outside of Geneva and present it to the 21st Programme Coordinating Board meeting;

f. Further development of informal networks will be explored to facilitate a better interaction in between Programme Coordinating Board meetings;

g. The constituency system for Member States should be strengthened to improve the quality of participation and representation at Board meetings. Recognizing that such improvement primarily rests with Member States, the Programme Coordinating Board Bureau will play an active role in this context;

h. The UNAIDS Secretariat will also facilitate support to constituencies and strengthen its outreach activities;

i. The Chair will play an active role in ensuring balanced representation in the drafting group;

j. A drafting group will not normally be held in parallel with the plenary;

k. The Unified Budget and Workplan will be further developed to enable it to be a strategic tool for division of responsibilities and other governance matters within UNAIDS, the Secretariat and the ten co-sponsors. The Unified Budget and Workplan should include incentives for action and collaboration;
i. Funds allocated to co-sponsors will be linked to specific outputs and a release of funds should be performance-based. The Unified Budget and Workplan should clearly identify expected results and responsible actors;

m. Programme Coordinating Board decisions will include clear language on who is responsible for their implementation, and also a time frame and identified reporting mechanisms;

n. Systematic coordination among relevant partners at country level needs to be strengthened - within UNAIDS (Secretariat and co-sponsors), with other UN agencies and with other development partners, multilateral and bilateral, and also with national authorities;

o. To synchronize with the ECOSOC process, the Chair/Vice-Chair will be elected for one calendar year, starting the term on 1 January of each year;

p. A long-term planning of the election of the officers of the Programme Coordinating Board is suggested;

q. Further ways should be explored to improve and streamline coordination between ECOSOC and the Programme Coordinating Board on relevant matters, including electoral matters and Cosponsor participation, in the spirit of ‘One UN’ initiatives; and

r. Furthermore:
   • Interactive discussions will be encouraged rather than prepared statements and texts;
   • A preliminary list of participants will be distributed prior to the meetings and updated just prior to and during the meetings; and
   • More frequent briefing sessions and open consultation processes will be organized by the Secretariat.

**Agenda item 4.1: Report on the progress on follow-up support to countries in their national target setting towards universal access**

11.1 Requests the UNAIDS Secretariat, in collaboration with the Cosponsors, to develop and endorse an accountability and reporting mechanism for UNAIDS to deliver on the recommendations in the Universal Access Assessment Report and present a progress report on its utilization at the June 2008 Programme Coordinating Board;

11.2 Requests the UNAIDS Secretariat to monitor progress towards the goal of universal access by providing regular assessment of the status of countries’ integrated plans and their financing as part of the annual monitoring of the epidemic;

11.3 Agrees that a transparent and inclusive in-country process to develop and validate national plans for scaling up towards universal access, building on existing sectoral processes, is needed. This process must be harmonized with, but not exclusive to, the Global Fund Independent Review Mechanism;

11.4 Emphasizes the importance of technical support in implementing national strategies, and supports UNAIDS’ efforts to further define its role as a clearing house, building on its Technical Support Facilities, the Global Implementation Support Team, the Division of Labour and other mechanisms to bring more coherence to this process;
11.5 Requests that, in line with the Policy Guidance to address Gender Issues, UNAIDS includes addressing gender inequality as a fundamental requirement towards the goal of Universal Access;

11.6 Requests UNAIDS to provide clearer direction and awareness-raising on universal access, and to support national processes that include civil society, especially key populations, to validate ambitious and comprehensive targets and incorporate them into costed national plans by the end of 2007;

11.7 Requests UNAIDS and Co-sponsors, as a matter of priority, to work at the national level to assist governments to bring Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission guidelines in line with the World Health Organization Revised Guidelines; and pay particular attention to the provision of sustained treatment to HIV positive mothers and members of their families;

11.8 Requests the international community to significantly increase investment in basic tuberculosis control programs in line with the World Health Organization and Stop TB Partnership as the key to preventing the further development and spread of drug-resistant tuberculosis, and dedicate considerable additional resources to fill the long-term global financing gaps for tuberculosis and HIV; and

11.9 Further requests the UNAIDS Secretariat and Co-sponsors, as a matter of priority, to work at the national level to assist governments to scale up HIV prevention among injecting drug users, in line with the decisions of the Programme Coordinating Board on the UNAIDS Policy Position Paper on Intensifying HIV Prevention.

Agenda item 4.2: Presentation of policy guidance to address gender issues

12.1 Urges Governments, donors and UNAIDS to significantly expand efforts to address inequality and inequity between men and women, gender based violence including sexual and physical abuse of women, girls and boys, and harmful gender-based practices and social and cultural norms as major drivers of the HIV epidemic, including through increased and better coordinated funding to national programs and civil society partners;

12.2 Welcomes the findings of the gender assessments and requests UNAIDS to further develop and finalize the draft guidelines in consultation with Governments, donors, the UN system, global HIV initiatives, civil society and all relevant stakeholders, focusing on concrete actions to achieving gender equality and equity in national HIV responses;

12.3 Requests that the finalized guidelines be presented to the Programme Coordinating Board at its first meeting in 2008 with a costed action plan for their dissemination and implementation at the country level;

12.4 Requests UNAIDS to mainstream gender equality and equity targets and indicators into all programme planning and review tools, including the UBW performance monitoring and evaluation framework, the AIDS Strategy Action Plan Service Self-Assessment Tool, the guidance on Joint AIDS Programme Reviews and the Country Harmonization and Alignment Tool;

12.5 Welcomes the announcement to strengthen the gender capacity in the UNAIDS Secretariat and encourages the Co-sponsors to have at least one dedicated gender and HIV officer at senior levels to achieve the gender related Unified Budget and Workplan outcomes;

12.6 Requests UNAIDS to clarify further the specific sectoral gender responsibilities of each cosponsor and the secretariat with a view to developing more coordinated and strategic
technical support for national AIDS responses, and to report back to the Programme Coordinating Board at its first 2008 meeting; and

12.7 Requests UNAIDS to explore with donors and funding mechanisms the development of gender criteria by which to assess HIV proposals and encourage governments and civil society to include gender-related components.

**Agenda item 4.3: Report of the Global Task Team Independent Assessment**

13.1 Adopts the recommendations contained in the Report of the Global Task Team Independent Assessment (document UNAIDS/PCB(20)/07.9) and acknowledges their cost implications as outlined in the annex to the report;

13.2 Requests the UNAIDS family to take forward its management response to the recommendations in 13.1; and

13.3 Requests the Programme Coordinating Board Bureau to establish a reference group for oversight and implementation of the recommendations in 13.1.

**Agenda item 4.4: UNAIDS Collaboration with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria**

14.1 Requests UNAIDS to work with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to revise and update their Memorandum of Understanding redefining and, in light of the changed landscape, updating the areas and modalities of their cooperation and present this to their respective boards for approval. Equally it will be essential that they develop a shared follow-up system for the purposes of accountability;

14.2 Requests the UNAIDS Secretariat, in collaboration with national stakeholders, Cosponsors, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and other partners, to develop criteria and procedures for the establishment of an Independent Review Mechanism for national strategic plans that will validate plans as eligible for international funding;

14.3 Requests the UNAIDS Secretariat, in close collaboration with national AIDS authorities, the UNAIDS Cosponsors and other partners in the AIDS response, to intensify efforts as a clearing house for providing access to effective technical support to accelerate scaling-up;

14.4 Requests UNAIDS to facilitate the governance of Global Fund to Fight AIDS Tuberculosis and Malaria grants for the AIDS response through support to Country Coordinating Mechanisms, and alignment of these mechanisms with the overall coordination of the national response to AIDS;

14.5 Requests UNAIDS to report on concrete steps that it should take to increase the success rate of AIDS treatment, care and prevention proposals submitted to the Global Fund, to further the goal of universal access as well as the goal of increased resource mobilization and report back to the 23rd Programme Coordinating Board meeting; and

14.6 Agrees that quality of interventions for prevention, care and treatment, as well as quality of technical support, be a theme at a future Programme Coordinating Board meeting.
Agenda item 5.1: Results from the Geneva and field staff survey and report on follow-up

15. Takes note of the paper ‘Results of the Geneva and field-based staff opinion survey and report on follow-up (document UNAIDS/PCB(20)/07.13).

Agenda item 5.2: Statement by the representative of the UNAIDS Secretariat Staff Association

16. Takes note of the statement by the UNAIDS Secretariat Staff Association.

Agenda item 6: Any other business

17.1 Decides that the 21st meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board will be held in Geneva in December 2007 to approve the process, mechanisms and terms of reference for the evaluation of UNAIDS; the exact date will be decided by the Programme Coordinating Board Bureau and communicated to the Programme Coordinating Board;

17.2 Further decides that the 22nd Programme Coordinating Board meeting will be held in Geneva in mid 2008, the exact date will be considered by the Programme Coordinating Board Bureau in consultation with the Secretariat; and

17.3 Recommends that prevention, diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis among people living with HIV, and how UNAIDS can work with the TB communities, be included as one of the thematic issues at a future PCB.