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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 twenty-seventh meeting of the Board will be held from 6 to 8 December 2010 at the Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG), rue de Varembe 17, Geneva. The meeting will include a thematic segment on the last day (8 December) to address the following theme: Food and nutrition security and HIV: how to ensure food and nutrition security are integral parts of HIV programming. The opening session will begin at 09:00 on 6 December with registration starting at 08:15. The meeting is scheduled to finish at 18:00 on 8 December 2010. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish and for the thematic segment in English and French.

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, accompanied by a completed registration form (attached), must be received at UNAIDS by 15 November 2010 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.

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