



August 18, 2005

The Right Honourable Paul Martin
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Canada's contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS TB and Malaria (GFATM)

As a coalition of international development organizations, international humanitarian organizations, AIDS service organizations, trade unions, faith-based groups and human rights organizations, we are writing to encourage you to continue showing Canada's commitment to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS TB and Malaria (GFATM) by making a generous pledge at the GFATM Replenishment Conference taking place in London on September 5 and 6, 2005.

The GFATM is an innovative financing mechanism that has shown good results in a very short period of time. Programs funded by the GFATM are delivering an expansion of prevention and treatment services for HIV, malaria, and tuberculosis. To date, 130,000 people are receiving treatment for AIDS; 385,000 people have been treated for tuberculosis, and 1.35 million bed nets have been distributed or re-impregnated to prevent malaria.

This is clearly only the beginning. The global fund must be adequately financed if the long awaited scale-up of treatment and prevention of these diseases is going to become a reality. The GFATM has estimated that it requires about US\$2.9 billion in 2006 and US\$4.2 in 2007 to meet existing commitments and respond to new project requests. This is significantly more than what was required in the early rounds of funding, partly because there is a need to dramatically scale up the response to the three diseases, and partly because the Global Fund is now faced with renewing successful grants approved earlier at the same time as it is approving new proposals.

Canada has not yet announced its planned commitments for 2006 and 2007. From the pledges anticipated or announced to date, it appears that the GFATM is facing a shortfall of over US\$1 billion for each year. In addition, the Fund needs US\$700 million in 2005 to fund project renewals and Round 5 proposals. The impact of this shortfall will be that good quality projects addressing AIDS, TB and malaria will be turned away and the health of millions will continue to be undermined.

We urge Canada to contribute its fair share to the GFATM to help address the funding crisis. Canada contributes about 4% to other multilateral financing mechanisms such as the International Fund for Agriculture Development and the Global Environment Facility. We consider that our fair share of the cost of the GFATM would be about US\$150 million per year for 2006 and 2007, which represents 4% of the total GFATM needs.

The upcoming Global Fund Replenishment Conference in London, England takes place at a critical moment and will be the first test of the commitments made by Canada and other G8 countries at the Gleneagles meeting in July this year. The pledge to achieve universal access to HIV/AIDS treatment by 2010 will not be met unless funding for HIV/AIDS treatment is scaled up significantly and the GFATM receives the money it needs.

Canada has shown leadership in addressing AIDS, TB and malaria by being one of the founding members of the GFATM and the largest donor to the World Health Organization 3by5 initiative. We urge you to continue to show this commitment by ensuring that Canada contributes its fair share to the GFATM at the Replenishment Conference on September 5 and 6, 2005.

Yours truly,



Michael O'Connor
Executive Director
Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development



Kenneth V. Georgetti
President
Canadian Labour Congress



Gerry Barr
President CEO
Canadian Council for International Cooperation



Dave Toyce
President & CEO
World Vision Canada

On behalf of:

*AIDS Bow Valley
AIDS Calgary Awareness Association
AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton
AIDS Committee of Newfoundland &
Labrador (ACNL)
AIDS Committee of Toronto
Alliance for South Asian AIDS Prevention
(ASAAP)*

*Asian Society for the Intervention of AIDS
(ASIA)
Atlantic Centre of Excellence for Women's
Health
BC Persons with AIDS Society (BCPWA)
Canada-Africa Community Health Alliance
(CACHA)
Canadian AIDS Society (CAS)
Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network*

Canadian Society for International Health (CSIH)
Canadian Treatment Action Council (CTAC)
Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation (CWGHR)
CARE Canada
CECI – UNITERRA Program
Central Alberta AIDS Network Society
Christ Church Cathedral – HIV/AIDS Africa Support Group
Foster Parents Plan
International Action Committee of the Alberta Community Council on HIV
International Council of HIV/AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO)
KAIROS: Ecumenical Justice Initiatives

Northern AIDS Connection Society (NACS)
Peggy Frank
People to People AID Organization (Canada)
Positive Women’s Network
RESULTS Canada
Tanzania Education and Micro-Business Opportunity (TEMBO)
UNICEF Canada
United Church of Canada
USC Canada
Vancouver Island Persons Living with HIV/AIDS Society
VSO Canada
World University Services of Canada (WUSC)

Cc *Hon Aileen Carroll, Minister of International Co-operation*
 Hon Ralph Goodale, Minister of Finance
 Hon Pierre Pettigrew, Minister of Foreign Affairs