NGO Leaders: Global Fund Champions Proactive Measures against Fraud

Ottawa, September 19, 2011 – A report released today by the Independent High Level Panel of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is a welcome reaffirmation of the Global Fund's commitment to transparency and accountability. The Panel's report, commissioned by the Global Fund, provides a sobering analysis of some problems that had come to light and called for better fiduciary and oversight mechanisms to protect resources and help provide assurances to donors.

Documenting Unprecedented Success

The report stresses that the Global Fund has achieved an unprecedented level of success and results in the fight for global health over the past 9 years. As a result of the Fund's work, affected countries and communities have gone from a state of despair and hopelessness, to fighting the spread of the three diseases and alleviating suffering. Thanks to the Global Fund, developing country governments are also changing the way they deliver healthcare for the better and are much more accountable for the quality of the services they provide.

Setting the Framework for even Greater Results

The Panel's report also provides tough but necessary recommendations to the Global Fund business model, but also represents a great opportunity to help prepare the Global Fund for the challenges and opportunities of the coming years. The report's recommendations are central to the Fund's drive to transform itself from an emergency response mechanism to one that effectively channels resources in a sustainable way to fight infectious diseases and to strengthen its impact. The report has come up with sound recommendations: some of which are already being implemented, and others that will be put into practice quickly as the Global Fund stands ready to act under the guidance of their board.

In a statement issued today, Simon Bland, Chair of the Global Fund's Board, welcomed the findings and recommendations: "The panel's report provides a great opportunity to sharpen the focus of the Global Fund and make it fit for the future. We commissioned the panel to give us an honest, hard look at the institution from the outside and that is exactly what we have got. As an organization we are totally committed to making the necessary changes to strengthen oversight, improve impact, value for money and sustainability. "

As it maintains its strong focus on delivering results, upholding high standards for financial management and audit, and renews its commitment to aggressively pursue corruption and mismanagement, the Global Fund remains a model to be championed in the fight against the major infectious diseases affecting the world's poorest communities. It is a model that has been proven to be an efficient use of our Canadian aid dollars and Canadian support remains essential in ensuring that the successful impact of the Global Fund continues.

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Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development

Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
World Vision Canada
Make Poverty History
Care Canada
Dignitas International
Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network
Bracelet of Hope
CIHR Canadian HIV Trials Network
Canadian Treatment Action Council
Canadian Society for International Health
Canadian AIDS Treatment Information Exchange (CATIE)
Canadian Association for HIV Research