

23rd April, 2008

Global Health Priorities for the Civil G8 Dialogue, 2008 in Kyoto, Japan

Global health issues are one of the biggest challenges in development. G8 countries have a critical role to play in supporting the achievement of the health MDGs. This is why we think health issues should be a constant, permanent agenda item for future G8 summits. In addition, the G8 should create a clear mechanism to monitor progress on past and future commitments and annually report on them.

FIRST WE WANT TO BEGIN WITH PAST COMMITMENTS

The fight against HIV/AIDS, TB, and Malaria is making progress but we have only just begun. We are very worried that G8 may abandon its effective focus on these diseases and will not fulfill its commitments.

Therefore we demand the full \$60 billion in *new, additional funding* promised at the 2007 G8 summit and an action plan of *how much* will be paid by *which country* on *what timeline* and a plan for predictable and sustainable future funding.

This \$60 billion figure should be time-specific over the next 2 to 3 years and must be a part of achieving the commitments already agreed to by G8 countries:

- The Global Plan to Stop TB,
- Universal Access on HIV/AIDS by 2010,
- Scaling up for impact for malaria interventions,
- A fully funded Global Fund at a \$6-8 billion annual level

ON NEW COMMITMENTS

We welcome the fact that new and critical items are being brought to the agenda this year.

First, we want to address MDGs 4 and 5. We can save more than 6 million lives of mothers, newborns, and children. We can ensure universal coverage of the basic services needed for achieving MDGS on maternal and child mortality by 2015 for a cost of \$10.2 billion annually.

We welcome the G8 agenda item on water and sanitation as it is critical to achieving the other MDGs and is extremely cost-effective intervention--\$1 gets a \$9 return. The G8 should commit to establishing a global plan of action based on facilitating and coordinating national plans. This should include establishing a high-level task force, reporting annually, and a commitment that no credible national plan should fail for lack of finance.

HEALTH SYSTEMS

Strong health systems are key to reach all of these targets. This is why they need additional funding commitments—and money committed for other targets should not replace that.

We call on the G8 to reassert their commitment at the Gleneagles summit to promote free access to primary healthcare and mention specifically their will to support the removal of user fees in particular for the most vulnerable people such as pregnant women and children.

We also demand that training, deployment and retention of qualified health workers is prioritized and funded. Vague conversations about health systems that do not have any targets or funding levels are insufficient. **Urgently, we urge G8 to take their responsibility to increase at least 4.25 million additional health workers globally, including 1 million for Africa.**

FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS

- On the \$60 billion commitment made last year on HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria and strengthening health systems which countries will be putting up money and on what timeline? Will you announce this at the G8 meeting?
- Will the G8 make a firm commitment to ensure that \$ 10.2 billion is available each year for maternal and child health and that there is a plan to achieve water and sanitation MDGs?

This Statement was adopted by:

The Participants of the Break-Out Session for Global Health, Kyoto, the 23rd April 2008

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