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**REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON IMPLEMENTING THE UNAIDS
PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS**

SUMMARY

This document informs the Executive Board about efforts to implement UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) recommendations. The recommendations are the result of extensive consultation and negotiation by the Global Task Team to identify how the United Nations system can achieve greater cohesion and effectiveness in our response to HIV and AIDS at the country level. The PCB developed these recommendations following strong pressure from donors and Member States to streamline and harmonize how United Nations agencies assist countries with the implementation of their national action plans on HIV and AIDS. The 2005 World Summit: High-Level Plenary Meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly in September reaffirmed the urgency of intensifying the response to AIDS by endorsing the recommendations, as have heads of United Nations agencies, and the boards of some cosponsors.

Decision proposed: paragraph 16.

Introduction

1. As a founding member of UNAIDS, UNESCO is one of 10 United Nations agencies working within the framework of the UNAIDS governing body, the Programme Coordinating Board (PCB). The PCB has representatives from 22 governments from all regions of the world, and observers from six of the 10 UNAIDS Cosponsors, and five non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including associations of people living with HIV and AIDS. The PCB attempts to ensure consistent, coherent and effective responses to HIV and AIDS in each country. The PCB holds a regular session once a year in Geneva, and in alternate years holds thematic sessions outside Geneva, as requested by its members.

Global Task Team

2. The Global Task Team (GTT) was established as part of the 9 March 2005 meeting in London called “Making the Money Work”, jointly hosted by the United Kingdom, France, the United States and UNAIDS with representatives from governments, civil society, United Nations agencies, and other multilateral and international institutions. The GTT was requested to review the global response to HIV and AIDS and to determine areas where the United Nations system could improve its support to country-led efforts. Over an 80-day period, the team, composed of representatives from 24 countries, developed recommendations.

3. The principles guiding the GTT included the importance of national ownership and tailoring responses to the specific needs of individual countries, as well as analysing the role of multilateral and international institutions. The creation of the GTT represents a new way of working in the United Nations system and a way to consolidate the principles of previous initiatives, including “The Three Ones”¹ and United Nations reform, into one set of recommendations.

Global Task Team recommendations

4. The recommendations seek to guide the process of reform that will allow the United Nations system to provide better support to countries, while avoiding competition and duplication, focusing on the following four areas:

- empowering an inclusive national leadership and ownership;
- alignment and harmonization;
- reform for a more effective multilateral response (including a proposal for the UNAIDS technical support division of labour);
- accountability and oversight.

5. The GTT proposed these recommendations, which the PCB endorsed at its June 2005 meeting. Furthermore, Heads of State and Government embraced these recommendations by endorsing them during the September 2005 World Summit: High-Level Plenary Meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly. Within this context, Secretary-General Kofi Annan directed the United Nations to establish joint United Nations teams on AIDS with joint programmes of support, which should reflect the division of labour among United Nations agencies, funds and programmes. The Executive Boards of UNFPA and UNDP have already endorsed the recommendations.

¹ One agreed HIV and AIDS Action Framework for coordinating the work of all partners.
One national AIDS coordinating authority, with a broad-based multisectoral mandate.
One agreed country-level monitoring and evaluation system.

Division of labour

6. A key part of the GTT's recommendations centres on establishing a **division of labour** among UNAIDS Cosponsors. In the report of the GTT, UNAIDS was called upon to clarify a division of labour within the United Nations system to improve and streamline assistance to countries in the implementation of national AIDS plans. This division of labour outlines how the United Nations system will provide technical support to requesting countries.

7. UNESCO will collaborate with other actors in the United Nations system through this division of labour in order to provide more clarity about the process of requesting and receiving technical support for the implementation of national AIDS plans. The objectives of this division of labour include a more efficient response. The division of labour is significant because it recognizes UNESCO as being a leader in the area of education and prevention, with a key contributing role in the areas of treatment, care and support, and addressing stigma and discrimination.

Lead organization and main partner designations and implications

8. UNESCO is the lead organization for HIV prevention with young people in education institutions, one of 17 areas recommended by the GTT for a clearer division of labour among UNAIDS Cosponsors.

9. The lead organization serves as a single entry point for government and other country stakeholders requiring support within a particular technical support area. The lead organization is responsible for coordinating and facilitating the provision of support, in conjunction with the main partners, informs the United Nations Theme Group on HIV and AIDS and the UNAIDS Country Coordinator of any requests for technical support, and then consults with main partners to determine who is most appropriate to provide the support within the shortest time-frame.

10. The lead organization directs global policy discussions regarding the particular area of technical support by defining support mechanisms, identifying gaps in provision of support at country level, advising country-level stakeholders and stimulating demand.

11. The implications are that UNESCO will:

- have the opportunity to strengthen regional approaches and partnerships in joint programming with sister United Nations agencies;
- continue to have an opportunity to influence how HIV and AIDS efforts take shape, particularly for education on HIV and AIDS which is one of the three core priorities for Education for All (EFA);
- be responsible for compiling data on technical support requests and for keeping the United Nations Theme Group abreast of the situation with regular, results-oriented reports; and
- face challenges within this new division of labour in countries where it may lack a permanent presence.

12. UNESCO is a main partner in supporting responses to HIV and AIDS at the country level in eight areas. These eight areas are:

- (i) HIV and AIDS, development, governance and mainstreaming, including instruments such as poverty reduction strategy papers, and enabling legislation, human rights and gender;

- (ii) support to strategic, prioritized and costed national plans, financial management, human resources, capacity and infrastructure development, impact alleviation and sectoral work;
- (iii) HIV and AIDS workplace policy and programmes, private-sector mobilization;
- (iv) provision of information and education, condom programming, prevention for young people outside schools and prevention efforts targeting vulnerable groups (except injecting drug-users, prisoners and refugee populations, which are covered separately);
- (v) overall policy, monitoring and coordination on prevention;
- (vi) dietary and nutrition support;
- (vii) addressing HIV among displaced persons-refugees and internally displaced persons; and
- (viii) strategic information, knowledge sharing and accountability, coordination of national efforts; partnership-building advocacy, and monitoring and evaluation, including estimation of national prevalence and projection of demographic impact.

13. The implications of being a main partner are that UNESCO will be presented with an opportunity to strengthen regional approaches and partnerships in joint programming with sister United Nations agencies, and to continue work it is already supporting.

14. UNESCO has been actively engaged in the development of the GTT recommendations, and will support their full implementation. The recommendations highlight UNESCO's comparative advantage in relation to other stakeholders, and present new opportunities for strengthened collaboration with a variety of partners.

15. The Annex contains the agreed-upon division of labour.

Proposed draft decision

16. The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Having examined document 174 EX/7,
2. Welcoming efforts undertaken by the UNAIDS PCB, Cosponsors and Member States to identify how the United Nations system can achieve greater cohesion and effectiveness in the response to HIV and AIDS at the country level, within the context of United Nations reform efforts, through the development of recommendations by the Global Task Team (GTT),
3. Requests the Director-General to ensure that UNESCO assumes the leading role for HIV prevention for young people in education institutions, as outlined in the UNAIDS Technical Support Division of Labour and that its efforts at the country level are in line with the GTT recommendations that have been endorsed by the UNAIDS PCB and the World Summit in 2005;

4. Invites the Director-General to assure adequate resources for UNESCO to meet its responsibilities as a lead organization and main partner within the framework of the UNAIDS Technical Support Division of Labour;
5. Further invites the Director-General to keep the Executive Board regularly informed of developments related to its role as a UNAIDS Cosponsor and lead organization.

Technical support areas	Lead Organizations	Main Partners
1. STRATEGIC PLANNING, GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT		
HIV/AIDS, development, governance and mainstreaming, including instruments such as PRSPs, and enabling legislation, human rights and gender	UNDP	ILO, UNAIDS Secretariat, UNESCO, UNICEF, WHO, World Bank, UNFPA; UNHCR
Support to strategic, prioritized and costed national plans; financial management; human resources; capacity and infrastructure development; impact alleviation and sectoral work	World Bank	ILO, UNAIDS Secretariat, UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, WHO
Procurement and supply management, including training	UNICEF	UNDP, UNFPA, WHO, World Bank
HIV/AIDS workplace policy and programmes, private-sector mobilization	ILO	UNESCO, UNDP
2. SCALING UP INTERVENTIONS		
<i>Prevention</i>		
Prevention of HIV transmission in healthcare settings, blood safety, counselling and testing, sexually-transmitted infection diagnosis and treatment, and linkage of HIV prevention with AIDS treatment services	WHO	UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO
Provision of information and education, condom programming, prevention for young people outside schools and prevention efforts targeting vulnerable groups (except injecting drug users, prisoners and refugee populations)	UNFPA	ILO, UNAIDS Secretariat, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNODC, WHO
Prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT)	UNICEF, WHO	UNFPA, WFP
Prevention for young people in education institutions	UNESCO	ILO, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, WFP
Prevention of transmission of HIV among injecting drug users and in prisons	UNODC	UNDP, UNICEF, WHO, ILO
Overall policy, monitoring and coordination on prevention	UNAIDS Secretariat	All Cosponsors
<i>Treatment, care and support</i>		
Antiretroviral treatment and monitoring, prophylaxis and treatment for opportunistic infections (adults and children)	WHO	UNICEF
Care and support for people living with HIV, orphans and vulnerable children, and affected households.	UNICEF	WFP, WHO, ILO
Dietary/nutrition support	WFP	UNESCO, UNICEF, WHO
<i>Addressing HIV in emergency, reconstruction and security settings</i>		
Strengthening HIV/AIDS response in context of security, uniformed services and humanitarian crises	UNAIDS Secretariat	UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, UNFPA
Addressing HIV among displaced populations (refugees and IDPs)	UNHCR	UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, UNDP
3. MONITORING AND EVALUATION, STRATEGIC INFORMATION, KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND ACCOUNTABILITY		
Strategic information, knowledge sharing and accountability, coordination of national efforts, partnership building, advocacy, and monitoring and evaluation, including estimation of national prevalence and projection of demographic impact	UNAIDS Secretariat	ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, WFP, WHO, World Bank
Establishment and implementation of surveillance for HIV, through sentinel/population-based surveys	WHO	UNAIDS Secretariat