

Our ref: OGM/GJ/CB/MT

26 March, 2012

GFAN  
c/o International Civil Society Support  
Van Diemenstraat 194  
1013 CP Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

Thank you for your letter of 5 March 2012 welcoming me as General Manager of the Global Fund. I am honored to serve in this capacity to help transform an organization that is doing such incredibly valuable work in the response to the three diseases. I appreciate your comments and recommendations and fully agree that the transformations we are implementing will go far beyond simply addressing bureaucratic systems and fiduciary controls. The innovations are designed to make the Global Fund the funder of choice once again for countries fighting the three diseases.

We have reorganized the Global Fund Secretariat and the new structure will allow us to become more responsive, agile and effective and will support simplified administrative processes and stronger financial management. The structural changes will also enable us to reconnect with our core mission of achieving results and to engage with partners including civil society regularly and effectively. These changes I can guarantee will significantly speed up disbursements to countries as we move to an approach tailored to the risk profile of each country and each grant.

As I announced in my first communication to the Board one of my top priorities this year will be to ensure that there are funding opportunities to access additional resources to fund interventions which will change the trajectory of these diseases. There are a few opportunities being considered and we will communicate information on our progress during our regular calls with your network. I am convinced, however, that for donors to recognize the Global Fund as the investor of choice we need to demonstrate rapid success in the core business of grant management.


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I have begun the process of implementing the new 2012-16 strategy. The reorganized Secretariat will have one Division responsible for designing the roll-out of this important work stream. We will aim at achieving a quantum leap in return on investment for the Global Fund's grants worldwide through geographic prioritization of investments, where we can gain the highest impact, and enhancing value-for-money of our interventions. Your recommendations and inputs on how to proceed in these areas will certainly be taken into account as we move forward.

Finally I fully share your suggestion about the need to rethink our communications and media strategy building on lessons learned. I will ensure that our new External Communication Team follows-up with you to explore your suggestions in this area.

Once again I want to thank you for your support and commitment to the work of the Global Fund. I appreciate the essential role played by civil society in the creation of the Fund, your tireless advocacy for the resources needed and your essential role as implementing partner of 40% of the programming at country level. I am committed to meeting as many of you as possible over the coming months in my travels to your countries.

With regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive-like script that is difficult to decipher. It appears to be a personal name or initials.