



## CONCEPT NOTE

### **4<sup>th</sup> INTER-AGENCY MEETING ON COORDINATION AND HARMONIZATION OF HIV/AIDS, TB AND MALARIA STRATEGIES ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA, 12-14 MARCH 2012**

#### ***Theme “Boosting the HIV, TB and Malaria response through Accountability”***

#### **I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

1. Continental and regional institutions need to be coordinated in order to effectively support Member States to follow-up on commitments and to adequately address challenges in HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria programmes. Development Partners and the United Nations, continues support national, regional and continental actions on Universal Access, however these efforts require more coordination, harmonisation and alignment. Thus, a Forum for Coordination and Harmonization of joint efforts was initiated to improve coordination among Multilateral Institutions and International Donors.

2. The third Inter-Agency Meeting on Coordination and Harmonization of HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria Strategies held in 2009 under the theme ***“Progress Towards Achievement of Abuja Call for Universal Access to HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria Services by 2010: The Final Push for Action”*** identified priority actions that would accelerate universal access to HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria Services by 2010 and the MDGs by 2015.

3. In addition, a political declaration with a strong African position was adopted to intensify efforts to eliminate HIV and AIDS. Another commitment made by the General Assembly’s in June 2011 was to ensure that there were no new infections, discrimination or zero death related to HIV by 2015.

Further, the General Assembly’s Declaration and the UN Security Council Resolution 1983 of June 2011 reemphasized that women and girls remain the group most affected by HIV/Aids, posing the disproportionate burden of HIV/ AIDS on women and girls a persistent obstacle and challenge to gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. The Security Council recognized the strong link between the risk of exposure to HIV and gender-based violence, sexual violence and conflict related sexual violence and urged Member States, United Nations entities, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders to increase their support to national health systems and

civil society networks to provide sustainable services to victims of violence living with HIV, particularly in conflict and post-conflict settings.

The fourth Inter-Agency Meeting on Coordination and Harmonization of HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria will now be held against the backdrop of significant developments in the renewed fight against HIV/AIDS, Malaria and TB.

4. Following the most significant development of 2011; the decision of the Global Fund to cancel the 11<sup>th</sup> round of financing, the meeting will have profound effect on the fight against the three diseases. The fourth Inter-Agency Meeting will examine the impact of this decision on AU and UN Member States and how to mitigate the impact.

5. In addition, the outcome of the Busan, South Korea meeting on aid effectiveness in December 2011, emphasized strengthening partnerships between donors and recipients and improving coordination in order to achieve maximum impact of development assistance in light of dwindling resources. Therefore during the Inter-Agency meeting, the Busan Outcomes and implications in the fight against HIV/AIDS, Malaria & TB need to be considered.

## **II. OBJECTIVES OF THE 4<sup>th</sup> INTERAGENCY MEETING**

6. The main objectives of the 4<sup>th</sup> Inter-Agency Meeting include :
- (i) To review progress and challenges encountered in implementing the recommendations and agreed actions of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Inter-Agency Meeting on Coordination and Harmonization (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, October 2009);
  - (ii) To take stock of the implementation of the Declaration/Decision of the 15<sup>th</sup> AU Assembly (Kampala, Uganda, July 2010) and decide the next steps;
  - (iii) To discuss health financing specifically funding HIV/ AIDS, TB and Malaria in the context of global financial crisis;
  - (iv) To determine the concrete support of the partners to AIDS Watch Africa (AWA) in order to make it functional;
  - (v) To ensure synergy among existing mechanisms (RCM for example) for the entire health systems both at national & global levels; ensuring a focus and strategies for effective outreach to particularly affected groups, such as women and girls and victims of violence, especially survivors of conflict related sexual violence.

- (vi) To disseminate the AU calendar of Events for 2012/2013 and consider synergies with partners.

### III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

7. This 4<sup>th</sup> Inter-Agency Meeting is expected to result in:
  - (i) An Assessment of Progress made in implementation of the recommendations of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Inter-Agency Meeting, and elaboration of plans for better coordination and harmonization of efforts by stakeholders;
  - (ii) The determination/specification of the next steps for the implementation of the Declaration/Decision of the 15<sup>th</sup> AU Assembly (Kampala, Uganda, July 2010)
  - (iii) The development and completion of a concrete proposal to support AWA and make it fully functional;
  - (iv) The establishment of New funding mechanisms and accountability for HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria programs in Africa;
  - (v) The development of participatory mechanism for M&E of commitments including data collection with revised indicators for the “Abuja Call”;

### IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

8. The three-day meeting is planned for 12-14 March 2012 and will be co-organized by the AU Commission, UNECA, UNAIDS and its Co-sponsoring Agencies. Accordingly, representatives of the African Union Commission, UNECA, UNAIDS, UNICEF, WHO and UNFPA constitute the Organizing Committee. In addition, the representatives of the Global Fund, Roll Back Malaria, ALMA, World Bank, AfDB and other key players in the fight against HIV/AIDS, Malaria & TB would be invited to participate at the fourth meeting.

9. The 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting will be organized as follows:

**12-13 March 2012: Meeting of Experts**

**14 March 2012: Meeting of Regional Directors/ Executives for Africa**

10. Invited participants and experts will be drawn from the AU and its organs and programmes, Health, HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria focal points of RECs and RHOs, relevant UN Agencies and a few other International Organizations; and Regional NGOs and CSOs actively involved in the control of HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria in Africa.

## **V. DOCUMENTATION: WORKING / REFERENCE**

11. Deliberations will be based on the most recent commitments and updates reflected in the documentation listed below:

- M&E Indicators Reference Guide;
- Draft African Plan Towards Elimination of HIV New Infections Among Children by 2015 and Keeping their Mothers Alive;
- Outcomes of the 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the AU Assembly;
- AIDS Watch Africa Revitalization documents;
- AU Common Position on HIV/AIDs April 2011;
- UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/65/277: Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS, June 2011;
- Global Plan Towards Elimination of New Infections among Children by 2015 and Keeping their Mothers Alive;
- Busan Partnership For Effective Development Cooperation Fourth High Level Forum On Aid Effectiveness, Busan, Republic Of Korea, 2November - 1December 2011.

## **VI. WORKING LANGUAGES:**

12. Simultaneous interpretation will be done in English and French during the Meeting. The main working documents will also be available in the two languages.

## **VII. CONTACT PERSONS/ADDRESS**

13. Additional Information could be obtained from the following focal points:

### **A. AU COMMISSION**

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## **B. UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

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## **C. UNAIDS**

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## **VIII. BUDGET/ TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

14. While most participants will be sponsored by their Agencies/ Organisations, some participants may access sponsorship through prior arrangements with the UN Co-organisers.