



An independent watchdog of the Global Fund, and publisher of *Global Fund Observer*

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## Global Fund Round Table 2: Overview

### **SCALING UP TO MEET THE NEED: Overcoming barriers to the development of bold Global Fund-financed programs and national strategies**

How can implementers of programs funded by the Global Fund (GF) significantly increase the scale of their operations? This is the core question that invited leaders from around the world will tackle at the second independently-run *Global Fund Round Table* (RT) meeting.

#### **Background**

Each Round Table focuses on a single big-picture issue regarding which innovative and collaborative action is needed not just by the GF, but also by other players. Each meeting consists, in effect, of a private conversation between about twenty leaders representing government, civil society and multilateral agencies. Participants discuss the problems and possibilities of the chosen topic, seeking to achieve consensus on creative ways forward. Participants attend in their personal rather than official capacities, and agree not to reveal "who said what". For each Round Table it is possible – though obviously not certain – that the discussions will have a subsequent impact on the policies and procedures of the Global Fund and others.

The first Round Table, RT1, in January 2007, discussed how to ensure that implementers of programs funded by the GF have access to adequate and appropriate technical support. The meeting, attended by Peter Piot (head of UNAIDS), Mark Dybul (head of PEPFAR) and other leaders, had a significant impact on the subsequent thinking of the organizations represented.

#### **Universal access**

In 2005, G8 leaders pledged to come "as close as possible to universal access to treatment [for HIV/AIDS] for all those who need it by 2010." Today, only about one in four people in developing countries who need HIV treatment have access to it, and only one in five people globally have access to appropriate HIV prevention. In partial response, the GF Board agreed in April 2007 that it expects the Fund to at least triple in size by 2010, and it agreed not just to provide financial support to countries that develop good program-based proposals but also to fill funding gaps in strong independently-reviewed national strategies.

However, although the need for treatment and support services for people impacted by the three pandemics worldwide is enormous, the demand, as expressed in technically sound proposals to the Global Fund, is at present significantly less.

As a senior official in one developing country put it, the situation in each country with regard to scaling up to meet the need is equivalent to when a large group of people must use a bus to undertake a crucial journey. If the bus is too small, or it goes too slowly, or it takes a wrong turn, or its mechanical problems are not fixed, or it is badly driven, it won't reach its destination in time. Simply pouring in more fuel (money) won't resolve these problems. Government and other players in the countries involved must deal with all the issues if the journey is to succeed.

#### **RT2 topic – Scaling Up to Meet the Need**

**Accordingly, RT2, the second Round Table, will focus on how developing countries can "scale up to meet the need", developing and effectively implementing bigger and better programs and national strategies, funded by the Global Fund, that will get them closer to universal access by 2010.**

RT2 participants will discuss three main topics:

- (a) What factors at the country level are preventing adequate scale-up to meet the need? Is it that some national leaders assign an insufficiently high priority to the fight against the three pandemics? Is it that many countries have weak health systems with limited capacity? Is it that partners do not always provide (or are not always asked to provide) effective, appropriate and adequate technical support?
- (b) What factors at the Global Fund level are preventing adequate scale-up by the countries? Is it that some of the GF's rules are too burdensome? Is it that the proposal forms are too complex? Is it that the Technical Review Panel is too strict or is inconsistent?
- (c) What could/should be done about these factors? Should national leaders give greater attention to the needs and possibilities? Should the GF actively encourage countries to develop bolder programs and strategies? Should the GF specify how many people it would like to receive treatment and prevention services as a result of GF funding, and how best to achieve this?

### **RT2 Invitees**

RT2 invitees will be mostly from developing countries – including senior people from governments, NGOs, the private sector, the GF Board and Secretariat, and multilateral agencies. Participants will include Elizabeth Mataka, GF Vice-Chair; Michele Moloney-Kitts, Assistant Coordinator of PEPFAR; Jonathan Broomberg, former Chair of the GF's Technical Review Panel; and Christoph Benn, GF Director of External Relations. For further details, see the next page.

### **Venue, dates, and other practicalities**

RT2 will be held one hour from Johannesburg, South Africa, from 2-4 April 2008. In late March, Aidspace will send invitees and other interested parties a draft white paper entitled "*Scaling Up to Meet the Need: Overcoming barriers to the development of bold Global Fund-financed programs and national strategies.*" This draft will include anonymous quotes about the primary barriers to scaling up (gathered by Aidspace in interviews with RT2 invitees and with selected other leaders); an analysis and evaluation of relevant policies, practices and plans by the GF and partner institutions; and proposed recommendations for action. At RT2, participants will discuss the issues informally and candidly, seeking innovative but workable new approaches, and suggesting improvements to the draft white paper. Aidspace will then finalize and publish the white paper.

### **Vice Chair's initiative**

Elizabeth Mataka, the Vice Chair of the Global Fund Board, is leading an independent but related initiative on this issue. She will participate in RT2 and will then, as appropriate, draw upon the Aidspace white paper in the course of discussions that she plans to hold with various parties regarding possible new initiatives, policies or practices by the Global Fund and its partners.

**Steering Committee:** The Round Tables are overseen by a Steering Committee that is entirely independent of the Global Fund and of the other major agencies:

- Dr. Alex Coutinho (Former CEO, TASO, Uganda; former Vice Chair, GF TRP)
- Mabel van Oranje (International Advocacy Director, Open Society Institute)
- Dr. Steve Radelet (Senior Fellow, Center for Global Development)
- Peter van Rooijen (Former GF Board member representing Developed Country NGOs)
- Dr. Suwit Wibulpolprasert (Senior Advisor, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand. Former Vice Chair, GF Board. Former Acting Chair, UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board.)
- Dr. Ngaire Woods (Director, Global Economic Governance Programme, Oxford University)

**RT Secretariat:** Aidspace, which is based in Kenya and is publisher of *Global Fund Observer*, serves as RT Secretariat, with particular involvement by Bernard Rivers ([rivers@aidspan.org](mailto:rivers@aidspan.org)) and Angela Kageni.

**Sponsorship:** The cost of RT1 and RT2 has been entirely underwritten by Dr. Albert Heijn, former CEO of the Albert Heijn supermarket chain and of Royal Ahold NV. Dr. Heijn and his wife Monique Heijn-Everwijn Lange, who have long been interested in HIV/AIDS issues, hosted RT1 at their country estate in England.

## **RT2 Participants**

RT2 participants will be as follows:

<b>Participant</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Country in which based</b>
Peter van Rooijen ( <i>Moderator</i> )	Former board member, GF	Netherlands
Dr. Christoph Benn	Director of External Relations, GF Secretariat	Switzerland
Dr. Agnes Binagwaho ( <i>Attendance not yet confirmed</i> )	Executive Secretary, National AIDS Commission, Rwanda	Rwanda
Dr. Brian Brink	Alternate private sector GF board member	South Africa
Dr. Jonathan Broomberg	Former Global Fund TRP Chair	South Africa
Ruwan de Mel	GF senior staffer in charge of compiling suggestions for renewal and simplification of the GF architecture.	Switzerland
Dr. Peter Figueroa	CCM Chair and Director of National HIV Program, Jamaica	Jamaica
Dr. Akudo Anyanwu Ikemba	CEO, Friends of the Global Fund Africa	Nigeria
Dr. Bobby John	President, Global Health Advocates	India
Angela Kageni	Programme Coordinator, Aidspace	Kenya
Elizabeth Mataka	Vice Chair, Global Fund board	Zambia
Bernard Mendy	Gambia CCM Chair	Gambia
Michele Moloney-Kitts	Assistant Coordinator, PEPFAR	USA
Sisonke Msimang	Open Society Institute	South Africa
Dr. Gorik Ooms	Executive Director, MSF (Médecins Sans Frontières), Belgium	Belgium
Bernard Rivers	Executive Director, Aidspace	Kenya
Dr. As Sy	Director, Partnerships and External Relations, UNAIDS; former Global Fund Director of Operational Programs & Country Support	Switzerland
Dr. Esther Tallah	Manager, Cameroon Coalition for the fight Against Malaria (CCAM)	Cameroon
Dr. Michael Tawanda	Regional Advisor, Swedish/Norwegian Regional HIV/AIDS Team for Africa, Lusaka	Zambia
Enid Wamani	Vice Chair, Uganda CCM, and Coordinator, Malaria and Childhood Illness NGO Secretariat, Uganda	Uganda
Tal Sagorsky	Liaison to the Vice Chair of the Global Fund Board	Zambia
Lois Njuguna	Admin Manager, Aidspace	Kenya