

*Telephone line:* +4122 791 4654/4506

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The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions in Geneva, to Organizations of the United Nations system and to the other Nongovernmental Organizations dealing with matters pertaining to HIV/AIDS not represented on the Programme Coordinating Board (PCB).

UNAIDS has the honour to inform the aforementioned Missions and Organizations that the twenty-first meeting of the Board will be held from 17 to 18 December 2007 at the Geneva International Conference Centre, 17 rue de Varembé, Geneva. The main focus of the meeting will be an independent evaluation of UNAIDS, the Programme Performance Monitoring Framework and issues related to future Programme Coordinating Board meetings. The opening session will take place at 9h00 with registration starting at 8h15 on 17 December. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

UNAIDS wishes to draw the attention of the Missions and Organizations to the Modus Operandi of the PCB, which includes a provision allowing the Executive Director of UNAIDS, in consultation with the PCB Chairperson and upon receipt of a written application expressing a manifest interest, to grant observer status for PCB meetings to any Member State of any of the UNAIDS Cosponsoring Organizations, and any intergovernmental or nongovernmental organization. Observers shall make their own arrangements to cover expenses incurred in attending meetings of the PCB including any visa requirements. To facilitate logistical arrangements, applications for observer status, accompanied by a completed registration form (attached), must be received at UNAIDS by 15 November at the latest.

UNAIDS wishes to take this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions in Geneva, to Organizations of the United Nations system and to the Nongovernmental Organizations, the assurances of its highest consideration.

20 AVENUE APPIA  
1211 GENEVA 27  
SWITZERLAND

ENCL: (as mentioned)

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Tel +41 22 791 3666  
Fax +41 22 791 4187  
[www.unaids.org](http://www.unaids.org)