

Statement

UNAIDS welcomes new Global Fund Board Chair and Vice-Chair

Geneva, 26 April 2007 – The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) welcomes the election of Rajat Gupta, former managing director of McKinsey & Company, as new Chair of the Board of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and the election of Elizabeth Mataka, who heads a Zambian AIDS organization, as Vice-Chair.

“Turning to the private sector and to civil society to lead its Board is a real indication of the Global Fund’s commitment to both accountability and social justice. We welcome all efforts in this direction as we all work together to make the money work for people on the ground,” said Dr Peter Piot, Executive Director of UNAIDS.

Mr Gupta is a senior partner and former managing director of McKinsey & Company, a global management consulting firm, where he has been serving since 1973. Ms Mataka has worked in the field of HIV for the past 16 years and currently serves as Executive Director of the Zambia National AIDS Network (ZNAN). She has broad experience in policy development, having been a member of the Zambia National AIDS Council since inception and serving on various other Boards.

Elections took place at the fifteenth Board Meeting of the Global Fund. UNAIDS and its Cosponsors the World Health Organization and the World Bank hold non-voting seats on the Board.

Contact

Sophie Barton-Knott | UNAIDS Geneva | +41 22 791 1697 | bartonknotts@unaids.org

UNAIDS is an innovative joint venture of the United Nations, bringing together the efforts and resources of the UNAIDS Secretariat and ten UN system organizations in the AIDS response. The Secretariat headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland—with staff on the ground in more than 80 countries. Coherent action on AIDS by the UN system is coordinated in countries through UN theme groups, and joint programmes on AIDS. UNAIDS’ Cosponsors include UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, ILO, UNESCO, WHO and the World Bank. Visit the UNAIDS Web site at www.unaids.org