

## Press statement

### UNAIDS welcomes call for \$30 billion to the AIDS response

**Geneva, 30 May 2007** – The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) applauds today’s announcement by United States President George Bush regarding his intention to extend and expand the U.S. government’s investment in the global AIDS response.

The announcement calls for a \$30 billion commitment over five years (2009-2013)—which could nearly double current funding for President Bush’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), launched in 2003.

“The U.S. has demonstrated exceptional leadership on AIDS,” said Dr Peter Piot, UNAIDS Executive Director. “We look forward to continuing our work with the Bush Administration, the U.S. Congress, and the AIDS community in shaping the most robust extension of this plan possible. This continued U.S. leadership sends a very strong message around the world that the global AIDS response must be accelerated and sustained,” added Dr Piot.

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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](http://www.unaids.org)