



Washington DC 02 April 2008—The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS praises U.S. House of Representatives passage of the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde U.S. Global Leadership on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008.

The global response to AIDS requires a strong, sustained commitment from the United States and other nations across the world. Today, the U.S. House sent a strong message that the United States will continue to be a global leader in addressing this devastating epidemic.

In addition to critical funding for AIDS prevention, treatment and care efforts, UNAIDS is pleased that the U.S. House adopted key principles critical to moving forward including advancing a truly global effort supported by bold new investments; moving from an “emergency” to a “sustainability” strategy; and maximizing effectiveness of investments through partnership and coordination.

With more than 32 million people living with HIV worldwide, it is important that all countries support accelerated and sustained funding. Past and current investments are working. For example, more than 2.5 million people have access to HIV treatment with new encouraging data expected soon. HIV prevalence among young pregnant women (15-24) attending antenatal clinics has declined since 2000 and 2001 in 11 of the 15 most affected countries.

We can prevent both new infections and early deaths if we remain committed to scaling up essential HIV prevention, treatment, care, and support efforts worldwide.

UNAIDS praises this critical bipartisan vote of support and hopes that the U.S. Senate will join the House in taking action soon.

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