

## PRESS STATEMENT

### **UNAIDS commends United States' commitment to achieving an AIDS-free generation**

*UNAIDS welcomes new plan and calls for leveraging the unprecedented alignment of global priorities in the AIDS response*

**GENEVA, 29 November 2012**—The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) welcomes the unveiling of the *President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Blueprint: Creating an AIDS-free Generation*, by United States Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. The *Blueprint* builds on the remarkable results that have been achieved to date and sets a bold course for the future. The new US plan of action focuses on four critical pillars: saving lives, smart investments, shared responsibility and driving results with science.

A new consensus for action has emerged in the AIDS response. Chairperson of the African Union Commission Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma attended the launch of the *Blueprint* and voiced her support for the US efforts. In July this year, the African Union Commission, in strong collaboration with UNAIDS adopted a new *Roadmap on shared responsibility and global solidarity for AIDS, TB and Malaria response in Africa*, a further example of the strong global commitment to prioritizing HIV.

"Never in the history of the AIDS response have we been so aligned in our priorities, our mutual respect and in our shared motivation for results," said Michel Sidibé, Executive Director of UNAIDS. "We must commit to immediately bring countries and resources together—to close the capacity gap between where we are today and where we must be tomorrow."

To get to an AIDS-free generation faster, smarter and better, UNAIDS and stakeholders will help ensure that technical assistance capacity is strengthened in countries, with a focus on finding practical solutions to specific country-level obstacles.

Building on the theme of shared responsibility in the *Blueprint*, UNAIDS is calling for a new partnership paradigm focused on: One country ownership plan, one smart investment plan and one mutual accountability plan.

There are 1000 days to reach the Millennium Development Goals and the 2015 targets of the UN Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS that include eliminating new HIV infections among children and keeping their mothers alive.

"Today we have the political will and the science, now we must build the capacity to reach everyone in need of HIV services," said Mr Sidibé. "To do this it is essential that the AIDS response is fully funded and that the resource gap is closed."

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#### **Contact**

UNAIDS Washington | Annemarie Hou | tel. +41 79 500 2123 | [houa@unaids.org](mailto:houa@unaids.org)

UNAIDS Geneva | Sophie Barton-Knott | tel. +41 22 791 1697 | [bartonknotts@unaids.org](mailto:bartonknotts@unaids.org)

## **UNAIDS**

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) leads and inspires the world to achieve its shared vision of zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths. UNAIDS unites the efforts of 11 UN organizations—UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, UN Women, ILO, UNESCO, WHO and the World Bank—and works closely with global and national partners to maximize results for the AIDS response. Learn more at [unaids.org](http://unaids.org) and connect with us on Facebook and Twitter.