

UNAIDS WELCOMES THE EU-US SUMMIT STATEMENT ON HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND TB

Geneva, 25 June 2004 – UNAIDS strongly welcomes the statement on HIV/AIDS, Malaria and TB made today by the European Union and United States of America at their summit in Dublin. The AIDS epidemic is the greatest humanitarian and development challenge of our era requiring an urgent and sustained global response.

UNAIDS particularly commends the agreement on supporting the United Nations General Assembly Special Session Declaration on HIV/AIDS and the summit's statement on paragraph 6 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration on TRIPS, dealing with ensuring availability of medicines for those most in need.

UNAIDS applauds the reiteration of support on the part of the European Union and the United States for greater harmonization of funding to bolster national AIDS responses. This is a key element of the initiative known as the "Three Ones" which is aimed at increasing coordination of the AIDS response on both a national and international level. Such support is an important step in reinforcing the agreement on the "Three Ones" made by sixteen major donors in Washington DC in April 2004.

UNAIDS reaffirms its commitment to strengthen further its collaboration with and support to the European Union and the United States of America in responding to the AIDS epidemic.