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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515-0509**

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June 22, 2010

# Help Leverage U.S. Funding to Fight Global HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis & Malaria

Co-sign Letter Calling for Three Year Pledge to the Global Fund

Dear Colleague,

I urge you to join me in signing the attached letter to President Obama encouraging him to make a three-year commitment of at least \$6 billion to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. This pledge would be consistent with the bipartisan *Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008* and help achieve the goals of the President's Global Health Initiative.

This fall international donors will gather to make three-year funding commitments as part of the Global Fund's replenishment process. As the founding contributor and largest donor to the Global Fund, a strong pledge from the United States will help to leverage additional contributions from other donor nations. Historically, every \$1 from the U.S. has been matched by \$2 from other sources.

As a demand-driven, country-led, accountable, performance based model, the Global Fund is on the leading edge of the best practices and principles of effective foreign aid. Recent mid-year results announced this June indicate that the Fund has provided support for anti-retroviral HIV/AIDS treatment for 2.8 million people, while 7 million people have been treated and tested for tuberculosis, and 122 million bed nets have been distributed to prevent malaria. With strong support from the U.S. since the Global Fund's inception in 2003, these efforts have saved 5.7 million lives altogether.

By providing a three-year pledge of \$6 billion for the fiscal years 2012-2014, we can achieve still greater results, and challenge the international donor community to do their part. On behalf of the millions of beneficiaries of Global Fund support and the millions still in need of life-saving health services, I urge you to join me in the effort.

If you would like additional information or would like to sign on, please contact Christos Tsentas of my staff at 5-2661, or [Christos.Tsentas@mail.house.gov](mailto:Christos.Tsentas@mail.house.gov).

Sincerely,

Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER



July XX, 2010

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

As Members of Congress who strongly support U.S. leadership to end the pandemics of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria we urge your Administration to make a three-year commitment to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria of no less than \$6 billion for fiscal years 2012, 2013, and 2014, in addition to any proposed bilateral funding. This level of funding for the Global Fund is consistent with the bipartisan *Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008* and the Global Health Initiative.

To date the Global Fund has placed 2.8 million people on lifesaving antiretroviral HIV/AIDS treatment, 7 million individuals with tuberculosis have been indentified and placed on treatment, and 122 million bed nets have been distributed to the field to protect the lives of millions, especially women and children. As an example of the power of Global Fund grants, Rwanda has experienced a 64 percent decline in cases of malaria in children and a 66 percent decline in related deaths since 2004. And the situation in Rwanda is not unique.

The Global Fund is currently in its Third-Voluntary Replenishment cycle whereby most donor countries will make a pledge to the Global Fund for the next three years. As the largest contributor to the Global Fund, the U.S. has a critical opportunity to show global leadership in this successful multilateral organization, and ensure that the Fund continues to achieve lasting, country driven results in fighting these three pandemics. While we are well aware of the tough economic times the U.S. is experiencing, many of the countries affected by these three diseases, which kill approximately 5 million people a year, are also exponentially affected by the economic crisis. The crisis exacerbates poverty, furthering the decline of fragile societies.

While the United States is the largest donor to the Global Fund, and the leader in global health worldwide, we must not and should not take on this fight alone. Providing funding to the Global Fund ensures that our tax dollars extend even further, as other donors, both public and private, match funding by contributing more than two dollars for every one dollar the U.S. provides. More importantly, the Global Fund builds capacity at the local level by financing critical health programs while insisting that countries and communities meet measurable benchmarks for which they are accountable. In short, the Global Fund saves lives, and drives a value system that promotes good governance, accountability, and endeavors toward building a stronger, more sustainable society.

Many Global Fund donors look to the United States when determining their contributions. Providing a three-year pledge of \$6 billion would leverage additional resources from other

donors and send a very important signal to other countries that the U.S. is committed to working with its international partners to combat these three diseases. In addition, the increase in the U.S. contribution contemplated by a multiyear commitment to the Global Fund is consistent with your Administration's funding target and goals for the Global Health Initiative, and is critical to the success of our bilateral global health programs.

The Global Fund estimates that if the United States provides \$6 billion over fiscal years 2012-2014, then by 2015 we will have helped to:

- Provide 1.7 million HIV positive people with AIDS medicines;
- Support 1.5 million treatments for patients suffering from TB,
- Distribute 43 million bed nets to people at risk of malaria,
- Supply 240,000 pregnant women with services to prevent mother to child transmission,
- Support 1 million orphans and vulnerable children (OVC's).

Finally, we recognize that multi-year pledges must also include caveats that indicate that any funding would be subject to yearly Congressional appropriations. However, we strongly believe that it is in the best interest of the United States to make a multiyear pledge in order to leverage funding from other donors and gain additional support as we work to empower countries. This investment will help build futures, save lives, and strengthen goodwill between the U.S. and our friends, allies, and partner countries throughout the world.

We urge you to make a strong commitment to supporting the Global Fund and we look forward to working with you to ensure that the promise of the bipartisan Lantos-Hyde Act is fully achieved.

Sincerely,

CC: The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State  
The Honorable Eric Goosby, U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator  
The Honorable Peter Orszag, Director Office of Management and Budget