

Global Fund's Statement in support of the UN Multistakeholder Hearing for the UN High-level Meeting on PPR
May 15, 2023

Key Messages for Member States to Consider for the Political Declaration on PPR:

- To be effective and sustainable, efforts to strengthen PPR should also include the fight against TB and the pandemics of today, including HIV and malaria, as the most strategic way to build resilient health systems and countries' capacity to respond to multiple pathogens and confront future pandemic threats.
- Long-term investments in strengthening health systems, including community systems, are a foundation for effective pandemic preparedness and a prerequisite to deliver equitable access to medical countermeasures when a new pandemic hits.
- Given our role in providing rapid grant financing during the COVID-19 crisis to the magnitude of US\$5 billion, our large-scale pooled procurement capabilities and focus on equitable and affordable access to medical countermeasures, the Global Fund is poised to play a critical role in the new medical countermeasures platform that is taking shape.
- We urge Member States to commit to ensuring long-term funding to multilateral institutions such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, which is already investing one-third of its resources in core PPR capacities in low- and middle-income countries. The future global health architecture must leverage the capabilities of existing global health entities in delivering health access and equity.

Additional perspective from the Global Fund on scaling up equitable pandemic preparedness and response capabilities:

- As a multilateral organization focused on fighting the greatest pandemics of our time, the Global Fund is uniquely placed to support countries to prevent, prepare for, and respond to pandemics. To be effective and sustainable, efforts to enhance PPR should also include the fight against existing infectious diseases and ensure equitable access to medical countermeasures.
- We have found through twenty years of experience fighting HIV, TB and malaria that the best way to prepare for future pandemics is by effectively fighting the pandemics of today and using those efforts to strengthen health systems.
- As the largest multilateral provider of grant funding for health systems, the Global Fund plays a central financing role in the pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response ecosystem. In health systems and PPR investments, the Global Fund strategically focuses on building critical functions of the health and PPR systems for achieving UHC consistently in the long-term (through multiple funding cycles) and improves the maturity of these systems. The focus areas

where the Global Fund has unique strengths include CHWs/HRH, Laboratory systems, M&E systems, Supply chain, Surveillance, and Oxygen systems. Its focus, consistency, and long-term financing is unique to the Global Fund.

- The Global Fund demonstrated its capacity to provide rapid grant financing during the COVID-19 crisis. We awarded close to US\$5 billion to ensure equal access to medical countermeasures to fight COVID-19 and make broader health system investments, including support for community health workers.
- Beyond our COVID-19 response, during our current 2021-2023 grant cycle, we are investing another US\$5 billion in formal and community health systems in low- and middle-income countries through our core grants, building core functions for pandemic preparedness and enabling systems to get ready to deliver medical countermeasures at scale.
- There are massive synergies between PPR investments and investments in fighting existing infectious diseases such as HIV, TB and malaria. We're talking about the same lab workers, diagnostic machines, supply chains, primary health care facilities, disease surveillance capabilities, and community health workers. Investing smartly to create multi-pathogen capabilities and surge capacity on top of disease-specific investments will enable countries to build pandemic preparedness in a cost-efficient manner.
- Given the Global Fund's capabilities in large-scale pooled procurement and focus on equitable and affordable access to medical countermeasures, the Global Fund is poised to play a critical role in the new medical countermeasures platform that is taking shape. It is critical that the MCM platform is flexible and inclusive, that it has *equity* at its core, and that it delivers for the poorest countries and most vulnerable populations. Furthermore, it must include meaningful civil society and community participation. The Global Fund partnership is evidence in itself of the power of working hand in hand with advocates.
- The three UN High Level Meetings on health this year provide an opportunity to foster greater integration of efforts to end the major pandemics of today like TB, to enhance PPR, and to make progress toward UHC. The Global Fund embodies this integration by serving as the key grant financing mechanism for donors to support low- and middle-income countries to accelerate all three agendas.