

Informative bulletin

Latin American Network of People Living With HIV or AIDS - RedLa+

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In this issue

The Golbal Fund announced its Fifth Funding Round.

An initiative to block new funding to the Global Fund by The United States is rejected.

Latin American activists report practices against life And health in a world campaign.

Ronda informativa

Colombia:
Modifying additions
to the Construction
Project is one
intersectional
response to sexual
and reproductive
health that
emphasizes in
STDs. HIV and AIDS

Bolivia requires advising and orientation to make their proposal

The Global Fund announced its Fifth Funding Round

Arusha (Tanzania), Global Fund - Round 5 to be approved in September 2005 following high-level sessions to pledge multiyear resources to the Global Fund . Following a high-level session with the Presidents of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda and the United Kingdom Secretary of State for Development, the Board of the Global Fund decided today to call for a fifth round of proposals in March, to be considered for approval by the Board in September.

The Chair of the Board, United States Secretary of Health and Human Services Tommy G. Thompson said of the decision, "The Board is proud to announce a 5th round of funding that will deliver critical aid in our fight against AIDS, TB and malaria. Today's unanimous decision reflects the Board's unwavering commitment to turning the tide against these diseases and ensuring the long-term viability and accountability of the Global Fund. I applaud all Board members for reaching a consensus that provides hope for the suffering while affirming the Fund's need to proceed with responsibility and fiscal prudence."

The Vice-Chair of the Board, Executive Director of the French non-governmental organization AIDES, Helene Rossert-Blavier, added, "A new round of proposals will ensure that the Global Fund continues to expand its funding. This will enable us to fulfill the hopes of millions of people around the world by providing more people with AIDS, TB and malaria treatment and increase prevention efforts."

Replenishment

At this meeting the British Secretary of State Hilary Benn joined the Heads of State in calling for an urgent launch to Round 5 and affirmed the intention of the United Kingdom to focus its 2005 Presidencies of the Group of Eight (G8) and the European Union (EU) on development and on Africa. As part of



Hilary Benn

that commitment, Benn offered that the UK would host a replenishment conference for the Global Fund in September 2005.

The call

The Global Fund calls for grant proposals, which are evaluated by an independent Technical Review Panel. Propo sa Is of high quality are recommended to the Board for funding. The Global Fund Board approves programs for two years with an option to renew funding for another three years if the programs achieve targeted results. Since it was created in January 2002, the Global Fund has committed \$3 billion in two-year grants to 128 countries.

Further information can be obtained from Patrick Bertrand, available in Arusha at +255 (0)745 317 702.

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The Global Fund uses a voluntary replenishment mechanism, whereby donors can make multiyear pledges to the Global Fund at replenishment conferences. The Board nominated UN Secretary General Kofi Annan as the Chair of the Replenishment Mechanism and the Director of the International Task Force on Global Public Goods, Sven Sandström, as Vice-Chair. The first replenishment mechanism will take place in 2005. An initial meeting will be held in Stockholm in March, with a final meeting in the UK in September, at which time donors will make new pledges to the Global Fund. Most, but not all, of the Global Fund's major donors will participate in this process./

An initiative to block new funding to the Global Fund by



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The United States is rejected

People living with AIDS condemn Bush's proposal

New York, Men's Health Crisis – Leaders and representatives from different PWA organizations expressed their rejection to an initiative by the United States government that seeks to suspend new funding to HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria programs run by the Global Fund and the World Health Organization (WHO).

In a press released dated November 18 th , they stated that the initiative is systematic to undermine the job done by the WHO and its efforts to allow that three million people in under development countries have access to HIV treatments by year end 2005.

They condemned the US government's position to the World Health Organization and its pre-qualifying process to review antiretroviral medication.

"We believe that the US government is seeking to draw control of global AIDS programs under its own leadership rather than supporting multilateral responses through the WHO and the Global Fund. The United States cannot go it alone in the fight against AIDS and must work in cooperation with the global community.", states the press release signed by 50 organizations worldwide, such as Latin American Network of People living with HIV/AIDS (RedLa+), Coalición Ecuatoriana de Personas que viven con vih/sida, la Coalición Nacional para Acceso a Tratamiento (Peru), el Grupo de Trabajo sobre Tratamientos del vih (Spain), National Forum of PWA Networks/Health Rights Action Group (Uganda), and Agua Buena Human Rights Association (Costa Rica), among others./Back to top

Latin American activists report practices against life And health in a world campaign

Santiago de Cali, RedLa+ - The International Coalition of Access to Treatment expressed their refusal to practices used during negotiations of the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the United States and Latin American countries.

In a document titled "World Campaign Against the Trade of Health and Life", that was released recently, the Coalition says that the United States pressures governments from under development countries to sign trade agreements that are not advantageous to the majority of the population.

Local sector concerns

It also states that Free Trade Agreements have generated concerns in different social sectors regarding its medium to long-term effects on health.

To back up this statement, an analysis published in the Ministry's Web page by Peru 's Health Minister Pilar Mazzetti Soler in the Ministry's Web page last August is cited. This document makes reference to the negative impacts of the FTA regarding access to medication, and it reports how such negotiations "inappropriately" include joining sanitary/health records with patents.



Pilar Mazzetti Soler

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Actions

The Coalition makes an urgent call to everyone, community groups, NGOs, social networks, unions, religious groups and any other social group, to express and support the exclusion of issues that affect public health from trade agreements.

In addition, it decided to call December 1 st (World Aids Day), as World Day Against the Trade of Health and Life and it calls on all organizations and people to join this campaign and to organize their activities to commemorate December 1 st with banners and signature collections.

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Colombia:

Modifying additions to the Construction Project is one intersectional response to sexual and reproductive health that emphasizes in STDs, HIV and AIDS

In recent days, the Global Fund published tree additions that modify and clear Reference Terms for this project and a document with frequently asked questions, in order to clear up questions by those interested in the process.

If you are interested in seeing these documents in the Spanish version, please send an e-mail to: secretariadoredla@hotmail.com / Back to top

Bolivia requires advising and orientation to make their proposal

La Paz, Red Bol+.- Although Bolivia's proposal was approved during the third round of calls by the Global Fund, RedBol+ is asking for advice to handle some situations that do not have appropriate answers.

RedBol+ requires advice and experience from those who have participated in presenting proposals to the Global Fund.

In a press release by RedBol+ several questions are posed such as: What to do in order for civil society or those people living with HIV/AIDS (PWA) in Bolivia can access funds that belong to the network, since when the proposal from this country was approved it was established that national networks of PWA would not be required to fulfill so many requirements? How will the Global Fund face the situation when they see that a large part of the funds went to some government programs and not to the civil society or those affected?

Daniel Ruiz Diaz, RedBol+'s National Secretary and member of the CCM in Bolivia, stated that because of the great number of requirements, all the proposals are not being worked on at the moment.

Lastly, RedBol+ estimates that the CCM should consider all the selection criteria of

the sub-receivers and invites civil society to express their opinions about the process.. / ${\tt Back\,to\,\,top}$

