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PRESS RELEASE

**New Report Shows World Can Avert More than
\$47 Billion in Treatment Costs and Save Millions of Lives
Through Global Fund Investments
*Cost of Inaction is Calculated and Released
Ahead of Global Fund Replenishment***

Amsterdam – A new report - “*Cost of Inaction*” - released today makes the case for world leaders to fully replenish the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. Officials at the Geneva-based Global Fund have calculated that they require \$15 billion USD over the next three years to begin bringing the three big global pandemics under control.

The report adds to recent research in the *New England Journal of Medicine* and other publications indicating that, with adequate investments, the global community can defeat these three infectious diseases and relieve tremendous suffering around the world. The new report also explains the cost of inaction, and the tremendous losses that may be caused if the fight against these three deadly diseases if funding is not secured.

“There are three compelling factors that make this a unique opportunity to fight and defeat these diseases,” said Mark Dybul, Executive Director of the Global Fund. *“We have the experience to know how to fight them effectively, we have new scientific tools, and we understand the epidemiology of these diseases better than ever. We can make a transformative difference, and if we do not act now, the costs will be staggering.”*

On a conference call to release the report, Joanne Carter, the Executive Director of RESULTS Educational Fund in the US, called attention to why this 4th replenishment of the Global Fund is so critical: *“We are at the tipping point in the fight against HIV, TB and malaria and the ultimate goal we all share to defeat these three diseases is a very real possibility. Besides the humanitarian and moral case for a fully replenished fund, this report makes the undeniable value for money and economic rationale for scale-up, now.”*

Lucy Chesire, a Kenyan-based TB and HIV advocate who represents communities affected by the three diseases and is a spokesperson for the “Here I Am” campaign added that *“The humanitarian and moral case for fighting HIV, TB and malaria are clear. What the Cost of Inaction report adds to the debate is a demonstration of the negative financial impact if we do not increase our investments in the Global Fund now.”*

The report shows that if funding for the Global Fund were to flat line, not only would there be severe humanitarian consequences – such as 3.9 million HIV infections which could be averted in the 2014-2016 (GF

replenishment period) – but that in the long-run these avoidable infections will cost us nearly triple the amount currently needed with lifetime treatment costs as high as \$47 billion USD.

In addition to Mark Dybul and Lucy Chesire, Ray Chambers the United Nations Secretary General's Special Envoy on Financing the Health Millennium Development Goals and For Malaria also participated in the virtual launch of the report.

Key findings in the report:

If global funding were to flat-line there would be:

AIDS:

- 2.6 million new HIV infections every year, of which 1.3 million could be averted through scale-up
- In total 3.9 million HIV infections in 2014-2016 and \$47 billion USD of costs throughout the lifetimes of those avoidable people whose infections could have been avoided through scale-up

TB:

- 3 million less people will be treated for TB and 1 million lives would be unnecessarily lost
- If we don't treat TB now for as little as US\$ 30 per patient, we end up with uncontrollable Multi Drug Resistant TB in the future that can cost up to 1000 times more

Malaria:

- The consequences for inadequate funding for malaria will be 196,000 lives lost per year and 430 million malaria cases that could have been prevented
- This represents a loss of US\$ 20 billion in increase in GDP.

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