



FRIENDS
OF THE GLOBAL FIGHT
AGAINST AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND MALARIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

President Obama Requests \$1 Billion for Global Fund in FY2011 Budget While Overall Global Health Budget Increases, Request for Global Fund Raises Concerns

Washington D.C., February 1, 2010 – Today the Obama Administration released its budget request for fiscal year 2011. The budget includes allocations for new resources toward existing global health programs and details the Global Health Initiative (GHI), which is designed to create stronger, more sustained health outcomes in resource-poor countries. The budget also includes \$1 billion for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. This amount is \$50 million less than what the President signed into law for the Global Fund in FY2010.

“Particularly during this difficult financial time, Friends of the Global Fight welcomes President Obama’s investments in global health and thanks the Administration for recognizing the critical role of global health as part of its overall development strategy,” said Natasha Bilimoria, President of Friends of the Global Fight. “A key tactic of GHI’s strategy is to strengthen and leverage partners – including multilaterals such as the Global Fund – to reach its goals. The Global Fund currently anticipates receiving viable grant funding requests for FY2011, however, that will significantly exceed what the Administration’s budget request contains. Fully funding the Global Fund provides the U.S. with an important opportunity to leverage global efforts so that countries can continue to successfully lead their own fight against the three diseases and strengthen their health systems.”

Seven years ago, the U.S. government made the founding \$200 million pledge to the Global Fund. Today, with grants from numerous donors worth \$18 billion in 144 countries around the world, the Global Fund has quickly become the world’s leading global public health financier, providing one-quarter of all international HIV/AIDS spending and nearly two-thirds of all tuberculosis and malaria spending. At the end of 2009, Global Fund-supported programs had provided AIDS treatment for 2.5 million people and anti-tuberculosis treatment for six million people. Some 108 million malaria drug treatments were also delivered. The Global Fund is a critical partner of the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI). In-country, these initiatives work closely together to support low-income countries striving to achieve health and development goals.

“In just eight years, the Global Fund has saved the lives of more than five million women, men and children,” said Bilimoria. “As the Administration embarks on the Global Health Initiative, the Global Fund should be a key partner, not only to bring much-needed prevention and treatment programs to 144 countries around the world, but also to ensure that the U.S. achieves maximum impact for every dollar invested. We look forward to working with the Administration and Congress to align the U.S. government’s global health strategy and contribution with the dramatic need reflected on the ground.”

FRIENDS OF THE GLOBAL FIGHT AGAINST AIDS, TUBERCULOSIS AND MALARIA

Friends of the Global Fight works to end the worldwide burden of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. We educate, engage and mobilize U.S. decision makers to support the Global Fund, the world’s largest public health financier. For more information about Friends of the Global Fight, visit www.TheGlobalFight.org.

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