

## Memorandum of Understanding

### UNICEF and the Global Fund on AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria on Alignment of Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health Interventions

1. THIS MEMORANDUM confirms our commitment, as the Executive Directors of our two organisations, that the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (the Global Fund), will work together in a coordinated way to allow the governments in the countries that we operate in respectively ("Programme Country Governments") and related beneficiary communities to achieve the elimination of new HIV infections among children due to mother-to-child transmission and to keep mothers and children living with HIV alive, and also achieve further reductions in malaria deaths. To achieve these goals, we will work together to maximize efficiency and effectiveness of Global Fund investments in its recipient countries through improved alignment of Global Fund grants (on the one hand) and broader UNICEF efforts to improve maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health (on the other).
2. We will do this by encouraging Programme Country Governments to take maximum advantage of the opportunities presented by the Global Fund's Strategy 2012-2016 and its innovative New Funding Model formally launched in March 2014. The New Funding Model is designed to maximize the impact of strategic investments by the Global Fund in combating HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria. Key features of the New Funding Model include funding application through the submission of a concept note developed by the Country Coordinating Mechanism ("Concept Note") in each of the Global Fund recipient countries, as part of an iterative process towards aligning Global Fund investments to national strategies; enhanced predictability of funding through determining upfront the funding envelope available to each country through the Global Fund; and more active engagement of the Global Fund Secretariat with development partners in developing and implementing grants.
3. The purpose of our collaboration referred to in this Memorandum is to help Programme Country Governments to secure additional basic maternal and child health commodities and make them available in a way that complements the Global Fund's HIV and malaria commodity investments. The commodities concerning maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH) include equipment as well as the following supplies: (a) Pre-natal interventions for pregnant women such as the provision of micro-nutrients (e.g., iron and folic acid), administering of tetanus vaccination, offering of syphilis screening and treatment, and deworming interventions; and (b) Neonate and child interventions such as diagnosing pneumonia, administering of appropriate antibiotics for pneumonia, and administering oral rehydration salts and zinc for diarrhea (as part of integrated case management at the front-line level). Such commodities will be selected on a country-specific basis and may vary by country, district and local situation.
4. Our respective technical teams have identified five specific steps for us to collaborate on as follows:

**FIRST**, UNICEF and the Global Fund technical teams will jointly identify countries where HIV and malaria commodity investments for pregnant women, mothers and infants are not aligned with basic MNCH commodity investments at the national or sub-national level. The major focus will be on Global Fund High Impact Countries in Africa and Asia; however this does not exclude other countries. Both UNICEF and the Global Fund will encourage the Government in each of these identified countries (a) to review and if necessary revise national strategies (including national strategies with regard to delivery systems) to maximise opportunities for aligning those investments so they can deliver integrated packages of care and support; and (b) to support the development of Concept Notes which align and integrate HIV, tuberculosis and malaria programming for mothers and children (on the one hand) with MNCH programming (on the other). The Global Fund will do this particularly through its country dialogue and grant-making processes; UNICEF will do this through attendance and participation in the

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country dialogue and active engagement with the Country Coordinating Mechanism. At country level, the Global Fund will be represented by the Fund Portfolio Manager of the respective country.

**SECOND**, UNICEF will be available, within the framework of its existing programmes of cooperation and without the need for additional funding to meet the associated costs, to support any Government that wishes to undertake the review and revision of national strategies referred to in point FIRST above, and to support any Government that wishes to develop Concept Notes which align and integrate HIV, tuberculosis and malaria programming for mothers and children (on the one hand) with MNCH programming (on the other).

**THIRD**, UNICEF will use its best efforts to mobilise the funding needed for Governments to purchase MNCH health supplies and equipment identified in national strategies and Concept Notes developed or revised as part of the collaboration referred to in this Memorandum. In some cases UNICEF may be in a position to meet these costs itself as part of its existing programmes of cooperation and from existing budgets. UNICEF will also make its procurement services modality available to Governments that wish to procure these inputs through UNICEF using funds mobilised directly by the Government.

**FOURTH**, UNICEF will continue to assist Programme Country Governments to make MNCH commodities including those purchased within the overall framework of the collaboration referred to in this Memorandum – available to relevant beneficiaries, either as inputs for the Government's programme of cooperation with UNICEF or as part of the Government's stand-alone programming.

**FIFTH**, the Global Fund and UNICEF will, on an urgent basis, review existing key performance indicators to include broader measures of MNCH; jointly develop monitoring and evaluation tools and modalities, building on existing ones, as necessary; and make use of those tools and modalities – so as to make sure that we, as the Executive Directors of our two organisations, have accurate and current information about the implementation of this collaboration, the results achieved, and challenges to achievement of results. In addition, in order to promote support for this initiative and promotion of public health goals among beneficiary communities and other stakeholders, UNICEF will make sure that all information about this collaboration, starting with this Memorandum, is at a minimum available on the public internet website maintained by the UNICEF field office in each programme country where this collaboration is pursued.

These five steps will be developed more precisely as we begin this collaboration and will be set out in joint work plans. Additional operational arrangements for this collaboration are set out in the Attachment to this Memorandum.

5. In order to ensure widest possible appreciation of our collaboration and to maximize the chances of success, the Global Fund designates UNICEF as one of the key partners in Programmes for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health.

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6. Finally, recalling the importance of capturing the benefits of this collaboration at the earliest possible time, we agree to meet again a year from now to take stock of our collaboration and explore a possible continuation of this collaboration beyond the end of 2015.

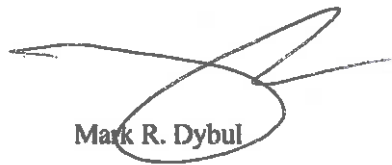
SIGNED AT UNICEF Headquarters, New York THIS 14th DAY OF APRIL, 2014



Anthony Lake

Executive Director

United Nations Children's Fund



Mark R. Dybul

Executive Director

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS,  
Tuberculosis and Malaria

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#### **ATTACHMENT**

##### **Coordinator**

- The Executive Directors of UNICEF and the Global Fund will each nominate coordinators from their respective organizations for this collaboration, and such coordinators will be the principal focal points for our two organisations with regard to this collaboration. If either of us changes its coordinator, the changing party will let the other party know, in writing, as soon as possible.

##### **Joint Work Plans**

- No later than April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014, we will finalise the first joint work plan for this collaboration, for the period from then until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014, together with a companion joint work plan for the period from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015, as soon as possible after we agree to continue. These joint work plans will cover each of the substantive areas of this collaboration. They will identify specific countries and territories where UNICEF and the Global Fund plan to work together. We have already agreed that the first countries where we will work together are Global Fund High Impact Countries in Africa and Asia; however this does not exclude other countries. The joint work plans will be living documents and will be updated as we learn more through this collaboration.
- UNICEF is a field-based organisation, primarily working in country to realise the local government's development agenda. UNICEF's contribution to this collaboration will be realised by UNICEF field offices, where such involvement is in line with an approved programme of cooperation between UNICEF and the government of the relevant country and is approved by the head of the relevant UNICEF office. UNICEF's regional and headquarters offices will provide general support to UNICEF field offices in this regard.

##### **Costs and Responsibilities of UNICEF and the Global Fund as Part of this Collaboration**

- We will each meet our own costs of this collaboration, unless we agree otherwise in a particular case through a separate written agreement. Each of our two organisations will each be fully responsible for what it does as part of this collaboration; this includes being responsible for the actions of our respective staff, representatives, agents, consultants, and others.

##### **Resolving Disagreements**

- If we have disagreements about this collaboration, we will solve them through amicable discussions. Any disagreements that cannot be resolved this way will be referred to the Executive Directors of UNICEF and the Global Fund, together, for a final decision.

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