



## PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD

**Fourteenth meeting**  
**Geneva, 26–27 June 2003**

*Provisional agenda item 5.2:*

### **Progress report on the UN System Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS 2001–2005**

#### **Executive Summary**

The UN System Strategic Plan 2001–2005 (UNSSP), guides the UN system response to HIV/AIDS. This document reports on the:

- mid-term UNSSP performance monitoring review aimed at documenting how the UN system adds value at global and country levels. The mid-term review will be undertaken in the second half of 2003 and situated within the UNSSP performance-monitoring framework endorsed by the PCB last year.
- updating of the UNSSP to ensure that the UN is responding to the current challenges and threats of the epidemic, contributing to the achievement of the goals of the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, and implementing PCB decisions subsequent to the five-year external evaluation of UNAIDS. Through the process of implementing the UNSSP, further improvements in clarifying the relative contributions of the UN system have been achieved. The driving forces for the updated plan include the strengthening of the UN's global and regional activities in support of country efforts; capitalizing on each UN agency's comparative advantage to catalyse greater multisectoral action; and strengthening UN's leadership and technical guidance role to ensure a more coherent, coordinated UN response.

#### **Action required at this meeting**

The PCB is invited to take note of the progress to date and actions under way with regard to the performance monitoring and updating of the United Nations System Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS (2001–2005).

## **United Nations System Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS (2001–2005)** **Progress report on performance monitoring and updating**

The UN System Strategic Plan (UNSSP) 2001–2005 guides the UN system response to HIV/AIDS over the five-year period, and establishes the critical linkages between the activities of 30 individual UN organizations towards the achievement of UN system objectives. In endorsing the UNSSP in June 2001, the PCB recommended that the following action be taken:

- “[...] a mid-term performance monitoring review documenting how the UN system adds value at global and country levels [...]” and
- “[...] updates to the UNSSP, ensuring greater relevance to country-specific needs [...] towards achieving the UNGASS goals [...] and monitoring and evaluation of UN’s actions in response to the epidemic”.

***Mid-term performance monitoring:*** Consistent with PCB’s direction, the UNAIDS Secretariat and the Cosponsor Evaluation Working Group developed an UNSSP performance-monitoring framework to assess the results of the overall UN system efforts at global and country levels. In 2002, the PCB endorsed the framework to monitor progress in achieving the UN system objectives and the goals in the Declaration of Commitment. The UNSSP’s mid-term review will be undertaken in the second half of 2003 and its results submitted to the UN Inter-Agency Advisory Group on AIDS (IAAG) and to the PCB in 2004.

***Updating the UNSSP:*** At the IAAG and the Cosponsors’ meetings held in early 2003, members agreed to update the UNSSP and submit it to the PCB at its meeting in June 2003. The update reviews the UN’s response to HIV/AIDS since 2001, charts progress and prospects for achieving the goals of the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, and for implementing the decisions of the PCB, following the five-year evaluation of UNAIDS. Within these parameters and with technical assistance from the UNAIDS Secretariat, many UN agencies have revised their individual plans, and the remainder will be revised over the course of this year; these constitute the basis for outlining an overview (in the update) of the UN’s collective efforts for the next biennium, irrespective of funding sources.

The updated plan further demonstrates the UN’s continued unique position as a key actor in the fight against HIV/AIDS, and its role as a neutral broker with multisectoral reach and expertise that is needed to help countries forge multisectoral responses. It also builds on the achievements of the UN system’s efforts to date, notably:

- strengthened commitment and capacity of the broader UN system to respond to HIV/AIDS;
- enhanced country-level capacity to respond effectively to HIV/AIDS;
- increased global awareness on HIV/AIDS;
- established normative frameworks in several key areas;
- effective mobilization of resources; and
- assistance to countries in accessing new resources.

Despite these achievements at global, regional and country levels, however, there remain significant impediments to bringing proven prevention, care, treatment, support and impact-

alleviation strategies to scale in every region. Capitalizing on each UN agency's comparative advantage, the updated UNSSP aims to:

- strengthen global and regional UN efforts in support of country-specific needs and plans;
- enhance efforts to sustain leadership at all levels and increase political commitment, as well as financial and human resources;
- strengthen national capacity and further catalyse multisectoral action;
- strengthen efforts to ensure that AIDS strategies are rooted in human rights and gender equity, and that they are informed by the broad participation of people living with HIV/AIDS and civil society;
- increase monitoring and evaluation activities;
- expand the response of the development sector in addressing HIV/AIDS, including in relation to food security, impact alleviation, orphans and vulnerable children, migrants and refugees, governance, condom programming, and education (especially for women and girls); and
- improve coordination, effectiveness, capacity-building and accountability of the UN's response to HIV/AIDS, including at country level.