09/26/12 - UNITAID Civil Society Delegations Seek Contact Group Members

UNITAID is an international drug-purchasing facility, intervening for market impact to scale up access to prevention, diagnostic, and treatment products for HIV and AIDS, TB and malaria in developing countries. UNITAID raises money through a combination of taxes on airline tickets and long-term government funding. UNITAID is also a vehicle to encourage follow-on innovation, to ensure medicines are available in formulations and combinations that are best suited to the target populations and treatment conditions in developing countries.

For more information on UNITAID, please see www.unitaid.eu

The Civil Society (CS) delegations to UNITAID Board are the two Board seats representing communities affected by HIV/AIDS, TB or malaria, and NGOs involved in the global fight against these diseases, on the Board of UNITAID. Communities and NGOs on the Board choose to work together a great deal, but constitute two distinct delegations, each with its own voice and strengths.

In addition, the CS delegations to UNITAID also sit on the Board of the **Millennium Foundation for Innovative Finance for Health**, a fundraising initiative established by UNITAID.

The CS delegations' Contact Group is the main group for civil society representatives interested in following key issues at UNITAID and the Millennium Foundation, organised by the delegations. Members of the CS delegations' Contact Group will receive regular updates on the activities of the UNITAID Civil Society delegations (e.g. meeting communiqués), be invited to attend teleconferences discussing key UNITAID issues, and have the opportunity to participate in document review process and attend pre-Board meetings. Full Terms of Reference for the Contact Group are attached.

If you are interested in joining the CS delegations' Contact Group, please email the Liaison Officer, Leila Zadeh at LZadeh@oxfam.org.uk . Please outline in your email if you are an NGOs or Communities representative, your country of residence and name of the organisation you work for (where applicable), and your areas of interest and expertise in the field of HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria. Please also confirm in your email that you have read the attached TOR, and will commit to maintaining

confidentiality around all Board/Committee meeting documents.

Current UNITAID Delegations Members:
Nelson Otwoma (National Empowerment Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Kenya, Communities Board Member)
Gracia Violeta Ross Quiroga (Bolivian People Living with HIV and AIDS, Communities Alternate Board Member)
Kim Nichols (African Services Committee, NGOs Board Member)
Tido von Schoen-Angerer (Médecins Sans Frontières, NGOs Alternate Board Member)
Leila Zadeh (Liaison Officer, Civil Society Delegations to UNITAID)