

## The Global Fund as an example of self-governance in the public health sector

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This session will present the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria as a model of self-governance in the global architecture to confront the three diseases and will highlight, in particular, the role of the Private Sector Constituency in the Board of the Global Fund.

### The governance structure of the Global Fund

The Board of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria has a unique governance structure as donor and implementing countries, non-governmental organizations and other civil society groups, the private sector and private foundations, as well as communities living with or affected by the diseases all share equal governance responsibilities. Both the donor and the recipient block each hold ten voting seats on the Board, while the World Health Organization, the World Bank, UNAIDS, and the Swiss government hold non-voting seats. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board are elected for a two-year term and their positions alternate between representatives of the donor voting group and the recipient voting group.

In April 2007, the Board of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria elected Mr. Rajat Gupta, the Board Member of the Private Sector as its new Chair and Elizabeth Mataka, who heads a Zambian AIDS non-governmental organization, as Vice-Chair. They have replaced, respectively, the Board member of the Latin America and Caribbean constituency and the Board Member of the constituency led by the European Commission. This election certainly represented a significant step further as it showed the high level of trust and partnership that has been developed over the years, and in particular between public and private sector, in such an international financial institution.

Established in 2001 as a non-profit foundation, the Global Fund is a financial mechanism rather than an implementing agency and is governed by a number of principles fully agreed upon by its stakeholders. The governing, administrative and advisory bodies of the Global Fund are several: the Board, the Partnership Forum, the Secretariat and the Technical Review Panel.

### The role of the private sector in the Board of the Global Fund

The Private Sector has held a seat in the Board of the Global Fund since its inception with the goal to progressively scale-up the level of engagement of private companies and business organizations in the fight against the three diseases. The Private Sector Constituency includes a very wide number of stakeholders representing private companies and business associations which share common goals despite their diverse background and business interests. Members of the Private Sector Constituency work together on policy, financial and implementation issues in close collaboration with other actors of the Global Fund (public donors, civil society organizations, private foundations and recipient countries which are the implementers of Global Fund grants). The Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria plays the role of focal point of this wide group of stakeholders through its Geneva-based office.

### Governance Structure of the Private Sector Constituency

The Private Sector Constituency designed a simple but effective governance structure based on balanced representation of all key private sector stakeholders that are willing and able to contribute, as well as flexibility to suite different levels of interest and resources. The governance structure also includes a broader Private Sector Constituency, an Advisory Group and a Board Delegation which interacts with other Board constituencies to share perspectives and build understanding of each other's needs.