



IFAD
INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
Executive Board – Seventy-Third Session

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**COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE SECRETARIAT OF THE
JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)**

1. The Executive Board is invited to note that IFAD intends to establish a cooperation framework with the Secretariat of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).
2. In accordance with Article 8, Section 2, of the Agreement Establishing IFAD, the Executive Board is requested to authorize the President to negotiate and finalize a cooperation agreement between IFAD and the UNAIDS Secretariat along the lines of similar agreements already signed between IFAD and other institutions. The text of the agreement to be negotiated and concluded will be submitted to the Executive Board for its information at a subsequent session.
3. Relevant background information on the UNAIDS Secretariat is attached as an annex.

SECRETARIAT OF THE JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

Mission. The mission of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS is to lead, strengthen and support an expanded response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic that will:

- prevent the spread of HIV;
- provide care and support for those infected and affected by the disease;
- reduce the vulnerability of individuals and communities to HIV/AIDS;
- alleviate the socio-economic and human impact of the epidemic.

The seven cosponsoring organizations include: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank.

The Secretariat of UNAIDS supports, promotes and documents the role of UNAIDS as the leading advocate for an urgent, coordinated and comprehensive response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The Secretariat seeks to fulfil its role by providing high-level leadership and coordination, urging rapid political and social mobilization related to the epidemic and providing high-quality information in pursuit of these objectives.

Activities. As response to the epidemic expands, the Secretariat seeks to support a growing range of partners with a strong emphasis on country-led processes. Specific activities include:

- development and dissemination of sound strategies and approaches to prevent new HIV/AIDS infections and alleviate the impact of the epidemic on households, communities and various social sectors;
- provision of technical and institutional support and information needed to respond effectively to the epidemic;
- support to strengthening of HIV/AIDS-related planning, policy coordination and strategy development within the UN system, including support to national leadership and coordination mechanisms; and
- international and national advocacy for an expanded response to the epidemic.

Governing body. The UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) acts as the governing body of UNAIDS and is comprised of 22 member states elected by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and with regional distribution (five African states, five Asian, two Eastern European, three Latin American and Caribbean, and seven Western European and other states).

Each of the UNAIDS cosponsors are permanent members and have the right to full participation in the PCB, but without the right to vote.

Five non-governmental organizations (NGOs) – three from developing countries and two from the developed countries or countries with economies in transition – are invited to participate in meetings of the PCB, but without the right to vote. Each NGO represents one of five regional areas: Africa, Asia/Pacific, Europe, Latin America/Caribbean and North America.



UNAIDS Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations (CCO). The CCO allows cosponsors to regularly consider matters of major importance to UNAIDS and to provide input into its policies and strategies. The CCO comprises representatives of the seven UNAIDS cosponsors and the UNAIDS Secretariat.

Establishment. The UNAIDS Joint Programme was established by ECOSOC through its resolution 1994/24. The programme has been operational since 1 January 1996. Early in that year a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNESCO, WHO and the World Bank, the six original cosponsoring organizations. In March 1999 UNDCP became the seventh cosponsor. The programme is administered by the UNAIDS Secretariat in Geneva.

Finance. The budget for UNAIDS during the period 2000-2001 totals USD 140 million, of which USD 85 million covers the budget for the UNAIDS Secretariat. The Secretariat's next biannual budget, covering the period 2002-2003, will remain at the same level, while the total UNAIDS budget will increase to USD 190 million.

Collaboration with the UN system. While the Secretariat works in close collaboration with its cosponsors, it has also entered into collaboration agreements with other UN system organizations, including the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO); the International Labour Organization (ILO); the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM); and the Department of Peace-Keeping Operations (DPKO).

Intergovernmental and NGO relations. The UNAIDS Secretariat works in partnership with governments, NGOs and the business sector.

Secretariat headquarters. The Secretariat of UNAIDS is based in Geneva, Switzerland.

Staff. The UNAIDS Secretariat has 129 professional posts, 71 posts in country and inter-country offices and 58 posts in Geneva.