

Our Ref: OED/MD/DM/HF/NH/SI/2017.02.02-Venezuela

## **Board Members of RVG+ Network of Positive People Venezuelan**

Geneva, 02 February 2017

Dear Colleagues,

We'd like to take this opportunity to clarify our previous letter of 18 January 2017, which did not fully describe the Global Fund's work with partners or potential to assist in a response in Venezuela.

The Global Fund has been following the developments and remains very concerned about the effect of the current crisis on the people of Venezuela, the public health system, and on HIV, TB, and malaria.

We are working closely with the leadership of Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and UNAIDS as the agencies best placed to lead the response to this crisis. The Global Fund has never operated a country grant in Venezuela and therefore must work behind these lead organizations, particularly because the government has not requested health assistance.

As previously stated, the Global Fund Board has established clear eligibility requirements on which countries can apply for grants and these are weighted towards countries with the highest disease burden and the lowest economic capacity. Venezuela remains ineligible for a country grant.<sup>1</sup>

However we are collaborating with our colleagues at the PAHO, UNAIDS and other partners on the ground to assess ways in which we could potentially assist in a response. Specifically, the Global Fund would consider any requests for assistance from partners who are leading in the response for:

- Access to competitive pricing for emergency procurement of commodities which (while requiring a Board exception) could support a short-term to response with regards to essential commodities for HIV, TB and malaria;

---

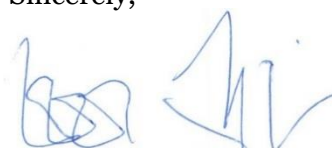
<sup>1</sup> The Global Fund's eligibility policy (which was approved by the Board in April 2016), requires countries to be eligible for at least two consecutive determinations/years in order to be eligible to receive an allocation of funding and that to determine income classification the Global Fund uses an a three-year average of GNI per capita.

- Longer-term support through a multi-country malaria grant to provide support to address the regional consequences of Venezuela's increasing malaria rates;
- Other needs that the Global Fund can provide within our mandate and resources.

In addition, the Global Fund has negotiated prices for ARVs through our framework agreements and PAHO is accessing these competitive prices to procure ARVs for its member countries, including Venezuela.

We will continue to closely monitor the situation and work with the lead agencies. We stand ready to consider requests any specific requests for assistance.

Sincerely,



Norbert Hauser  
Chair of the Board



Mark Dybul  
Executive Director