

Civil Society Forum of the IHP and related initiatives (IHP+)

Geneva, May 23, 2008

Carol Nawina Maimbolwa NYIRENDA, TALC Zambia,
UNITAID Board member representing
Communities of people living with Tuberculosis,
HIV and Malaria



Background of UNITAID

- IDPF was launched on 19 September 2006
- Hosted and administered by WHO-Geneva
- 5 founding members: Brazil, Chile, France, Norway and the United Kingdom. (more countries joining – plus 18 african countries)
- UNITAID's mission is to contribute to scale up access to treatment for HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis for people in developing countries by leveraging price reductions of quality drugs and diagnostics and accelerate the pace at which they are made available.
- GOVERNANCE – Executive Board – Secretariat – Consultative Forum

CSO Participation on UNITAID Board

- UNITAID pays all costs for participation in the global coordination mechanism
- It has made specific commitments to people living with the diseases from the south as well as NGOs from the North, about the logistics of enabling them to participate (CSO negotiated terms)
- Pre meetings
- Technical Advisors – TB, HIV and malaria
- Consultative Forum: serves as platform for debate, advocacy, fundraising and inclusion of new members, provides feedback on non-binding recommendations and agreements

CSO Participation on UNITAID Board

- Same level in the board with donor countries: speaking time – receiving documents, notifications, meetings, conference calls
- Management of CSO delegation not driven by UNITAID board and/or secretariat, but by the constituency itself (independent selection panel process, TORs and KPIs)

- **CSO Participation on UNITAID Board**
 - The UNITAID board is mindful of asking the communities for reality checks about representations made by international health organizations
 - GF mandates the participation (with equal voting power) of CSO including people living with the diseases in the CCM (IHP should do likewise with the country health teams).

CSO Participation on UNITAID Board

- Civil society is managing to do policy work at the global/central level (UNITAID board) but still needs to do more at national level

Conclusion

- What are IHP+s plans around meaningful involvement of CSO (country teams)?
- Effective health cannot happen without the involvement of those you are trying to help – need analysis, prioritization, and real life relevance.