



Mr. Gabriel Jaramillo  
General Manager  
The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria  
Geneva Secretariat  
Chemin de Blandonnet 8  
1214 Vernier  
Geneva, Switzerland

May 8, 2012

Dear Mr. Jaramillo,

We, the undersigned organizations, urge the Global Fund to provide clarity on how it will maintain and expand the implementation of rights-based HIV programs targeting sexual and gender minorities as the institution's reorganization is finalized.

The global HIV epidemic has had a disproportionately heavy burden on sexual and gender minorities, with data showing that men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender communities are especially hard hit. Despite this, these communities have largely not been prioritized with targeted funding in the global HIV response<sup>1</sup>. Where funding sources do exist, recent research indicates that intended HIV investments for MSM undergo attrition at the country-level due to a range of structural barriers, including homophobia<sup>2</sup>.

The Global Fund has a long history of constructive action on these issues: In May 2009, the Global Fund's Strategy in Relation to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identities (SOGI Strategy) was approved by the Board<sup>3</sup>. This strategy is intended to help ensure that investments more effectively reach men who have sex with men, transgender populations, male, female, and transgender sex workers, and women who have sex with women – all with a strong emphasis on evidence-based programs rooted in human rights<sup>4</sup>. In 2010, the MARPs Reserve was established as a mechanism to ensure targeted funding for these populations and people who inject drugs<sup>5</sup>. The Board initially approved US\$ 200 million over five years, of which US\$47 million was awarded in Round 10 for HIV programming in 41 countries over 2 years.

We applaud the work of the Global Fund Secretariat and Board to emphasize portfolio management in the recent reorganization and enshrine human rights as part of the new Global Fund Strategy. However, it remains unclear how the SOGI strategy will be implemented moving forward or who is responsible for that work. A plan that operationalizes the goals of the strategy is desperately needed to ensure the Global Fund's long term success against the three diseases.

We request a public update on the following issues:

1. Leadership on the SOGI Strategy within the Global Fund – who is responsible for implementing the strategy, monitoring progress and reporting?
2. MARPs Reserve – How will the Global Fund build upon and replicate the success of the MARPs Reserve to stimulate demand from countries for programs for these populations?
3. Human rights – How will the human rights components of the Global Fund's strategy be implemented and monitored, particularly those related to non-discrimination, gender equality, accountability and service delivery? (See especially points 25, 73, 74 and 75 in the Global Fund 2012-2016 Strategy).

We look forward to continuing to work in a collaborative manner with the Global Fund to achieve these goals, and stand ready to provide support to the process. Should you have any questions, please feel free to be in touch with Krista Lauer, Senior Policy Advisor at the Global Forum on MSM & HIV (MSMGF) at [klauer@msmsgf.org](mailto:klauer@msmsgf.org).

Sincerely,

{List of signatory organizations follows}

Advocates for Grass Root Empowerment AGE, Nigeria  
Advocates for Youth, United States of America  
African Men for Sexual Health and Rights (AMSHeR), South Africa  
Agrupación Nefertiti, Chile  
Aibai Culture & Education Center, China  
AID FOR AIDS, International  
AIDES, France  
AIDS Action Foundation, Saint Lucia  
AIDS and Rights Alliance for Southern Africa (ARASA), Namibia  
Aids Fonds, Netherlands  
AIDS United, United States of America  
AIDS-Fondet/The Danish AIDS Foundation, Denmark  
Akahata, Argentina  
American Jewish World Service, United States of America  
APNSW, Thailand  
ARC, Antigua and Barbuda  
Asociación ALFIL, Ecuador  
Asociación Humanitas de Costa Rica, Costa Rica  
Asociación Silueta X, Ecuador  
Association La Brique, Togo  
Astitva - An organisation for the Support & Development of Sexual minorities, India  
Belize Alliance Against AIDS, Belize  
Blue Diamond Society, Nepal  
BSWS, Bangladesh  
Cambodian Center for Human Rights, Cambodia  
Centre for Health Policy and Innovation, Canada  
Centre for Popular Education and Human Rights, Ghana  
Chengdu Tongle Health Counseling Service Center, China  
Child Advocacy Solidarity Trust, Zimbabwe  
CIPAC, Costa Rica  
C-NET+ Collaborative Network for Persons Living with HIV, Belize  
Colectivo SerGay de Aguascalientes A.C., Mexico  
COLECTIVO TRANS LAS DIVAS, Bolivia  
Coalition of LGBTI Liberian and Allies (CLA), Liberia  
Collectif Arc En Ciel, Mauritius  
communication for Social change (CSC), Ghana  
Community Access National Network, United States of America  
CONCEPTO VIH-SIDA e ITS A.C., Mexico  
dance4life, Netherlands  
David Ostrow & Associates, United States of America  
Destiny Foundation, United States of America  
Drodrolagi Movement, Fiji  
European AIDS Treatment Group (EATG), Belgium  
Espoir Vie-Togo, Togo  
Foundation HE+HIV, Suriname  
Friends of GF LAC, Argentina  
Fundación Nimehuatzin, Nicaragua  
GALZ, Zimbabwe  
Gay Men's Health Crisis, United States of America  
GAYa NUSANTARA, Indonesia  
GENDERDOC-M, Moldova  
Global Developmental Corps, South Africa  
Global Forum on MSM & HIV (MSMGF), United States of America  
Grassroots Initiative for Youth and Elderly Dev.Organizaton (GIYEDO), Tanzania

HIV Young Leaders Fund, United States of America  
Hiv-Danmark, Denmark  
HIVOS, Costa Rica  
Housing Works Inc., United States of America  
Icebreakers Uganda, Uganda  
ICHANGE CI, Cote D'Ivoire  
ICS, Vietnam  
India HIV/AIDS Alliance, India  
Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development, Canada  
International Center for Advocacy on Rights to Health (ICARH), Nigeria  
International Center for Research on Women, United States of America  
International Centre for Youth Development Information Communication Technology, Nigeria  
International Federation of Red Cross, Switzerland  
International Planned Parenthood Federation, United Kingdom  
ISHTAR-MSM, Kenya  
JaNP+, Japan  
KANHNHA, Cambodia  
Lawyers League for Minorities, Nigeria  
LGBT-centre "Donbas-SocProject", Ukraine  
LGBT Forum Progress, Montenegro  
Men Against AIDS Youth Group, Kenya  
Mens Empowerment Network, Fiji  
MoKexteya, Mexico  
Movimiento Homosexual de Lima (MHOL), Peru  
Naz Foundation International, India & United Kingdom  
New Horizon Foundation, Pakistan  
NGO "Kyrgyz Indigo", Kyrgyzstan  
Nigerian Men for Sexual health and Reproductive Rights (NIMSHer), Nigeria  
Northern Childcare Voluntary Organisation, Ghana  
Northern Youth network, Malawi  
Observatorio Centroamericano VIH, Costa Rica  
Observatorio de Género y Equidad, Chile  
Observatorio Latino / AID FOR AIDS International, United States of America  
Okaloosa AIDS Support & Informational Services Inc (OASIS), United States of America  
Ontario HIV Treatment Network, Canada  
Oogachaga Counselling and Support, Singapore  
OSE, Lebanon  
Pacific Rainbows Advocacy Network, Fiji  
PEMA Kenya, Kenya  
Penitentiary Initiative, Ukraine  
PLUS Coalition Internationale Sida, France  
positive frontiers, United States of America  
PRIDE In Action, Jamaica  
PT Foundation, Malaysia  
Public Information and Need of Knowledge NGO, Armenia  
Queer Alliance Nigeria, Nigeria  
Queer Youth Uganda, Uganda  
Réseau des Organisations Nationales de Lutte contre le SIDA (RONALSI), Central African Republic  
Rainbow-Ethiopia MSM Initiative, Ethiopia  
RAY Youth Consortium, Kenya  
RedTraSex, Latin America and Caribbean  
REDVIHDA, Bolivia  
SÃ DA VIDA, Peru  
Safe Pulse of Youth, Serbia

Serbian Association for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRH Serbia), Serbia  
Sexual Health Clinic Cairns, Australia  
SGRainbow, Singapore  
SIDACTION, France  
Sigma Research London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom  
Spectrum Uganda Initiatives Inc, Uganda  
Stop AIDS in Liberia (SAIL), Liberia  
Swaziland Positive Living (SWAPOL), Swaziland  
Tanzania Network of Women living with HIV and AIDS, Tanzania  
Tanzania Assistance for Laws Awareness and Development Organisation (TALADO), Tanzania  
Terre des Jeunes du Burundi, Burundi  
Thanh Danh Consultancy of Research and Development LTD Company, Vietnam  
The Eagles for Life, Kenya  
The Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP), United Kingdom  
The Initiative for Improved Male health, Nigeria  
Traveschile, Chile  
UK Consortium on AIDS and International Development, United Kingdom  
Unidad de Atención Sicológica Sexológica y Educativa para el Crecimiento Personal A.C., Mexico  
United and Strong Inc., Saint Lucia  
United Belize Advocacy Movement, Belize  
Victorian AIDS Council/Gay Mens Health Centre, Australia  
Vietnamese Community Mobilization Centre for HIV/AIDS Control, Vietnam  
WA Gender Project, Australia  
We For Civil Equality NGO, Armenia  
WhyCantWeGetMarried.Com West Africa Chapter, Sierra Leone  
Women Against Rape Inc., Antigua and Barbuda  
World Foundation for Medical Research and Prevention, United States of America  
Young Mothers Support Group, Uganda  
Youth Against AIDS, Kenya  
Youth for Health center, Mongolia  
Youth LEAD, Thailand  
Yugoslav Youth Association Against AIDS - Youth of JAZAS, Serbia

Cc: Mr. Simon Bland, Chair of the Board

Cc: Minister Mphu Ramatlapeng, Vice Chair of the Board

Cc: Members of the Board, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

1. The Global Forum on MSM & HIV (MSMGF). 2011. An Analysis of Major HIV Donor Investments Targeting Men who have Sex with Men and Transgender People in Low and Middle-Income Countries. <http://www.msmgf.org/files/msmqf/publications/globalfinancinganalysis.pdf>
2. amfAR. Achieving an HIV Free Generation for Gay Men and Other MSM. 2012. [http://www.amfar.org/uploadedFiles/amfar.org/In\\_The\\_Community/Publications/MSM-GlobalRept2012.pdf](http://www.amfar.org/uploadedFiles/amfar.org/In_The_Community/Publications/MSM-GlobalRept2012.pdf)
3. The Global Fund Strategy in Relation to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identities (SOGI) [www.theglobalfund.org/documents/core/strategies/Core\\_SexualOrientationAndGenderIdentities\\_Strategy\\_en/](http://www.theglobalfund.org/documents/core/strategies/Core_SexualOrientationAndGenderIdentities_Strategy_en/)
4. Seale, A., Bains, A., and Avrett, S. Partnership, sex, and marginalization: Moving the Global Fund sexual orientation and gender identities agenda. Health and Human Rights. 2010 Jun 15;12(1):123-35.
5. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Dedicated Reserve Fund for Round 10 HIV/AIDS Proposals for Most At Risk Populations (MARPs) Information Note. <http://tinyurl.com/8yw39vz>