

Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean Sixty-first session Provisional agenda item 7(b) EM/RC61/11 Rev.1 September 2014

# Nomination of a Member State to the Board of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

## Introduction

1. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is a major financing institution founded in 2002 to scale up the global response to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Up to 2014, the Global Fund approved 1114 proposals worth US\$ 30.4 billion through its application Rounds 1 to 10. Out of these, 100 proposals worth US\$1.7 billion were approved for the eligible countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region: Afghanistan, Djibouti, Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Morocco, Pakistan, Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan<sup>1</sup>, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Yemen. Among the approved grants for the Region, 31 grants were for HIV/AIDS care, 40 were for tuberculosis and 26 were for malaria. Two countries are also benefitting from the Global Fund through its health systems strengthening component.

2. In 2014, the Global Fund changed its funding model, moving from a project-based funding approach (rounds system) to a more streamlined model better aligned with national strategic plans.

3. This new funding model aims to be faster, more flexible and predictable so that countries can make a bigger impact on the three diseases. A major change is that eligible countries are notified of their funding allocation and then can submit their funding proposals at flexible times in line with their national strategic plans and budgets. The total amount of funding allocated for the Region is US\$ 896 million.

4. From the Eastern Mediterranean Region, the countries eligible to apply for the new funding model are Afghanistan, Djibouti, Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq (transitional funding only), Morocco, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Yemen.

## 2. Regional representation on the Global Fund Board

5. The Global Fund has an international board comprising representatives of donor and recipient governments, nongovernmental organizations, the private sector (including businesses and foundations) and affected communities. Key international development partners also participate on the Board. The Eastern Mediterranean Region of WHO has a voting seat on the Global Fund Board.

6. The elected Board member serves as a voting member on the Global Fund Board and is responsible for representing the position of the Region in Board meetings and for casting votes on all Board decisions. The vote is considered as the position of the Eastern Mediterranean Region constituency.

7. The Board member and alternate member are elected by Member States at the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean.

8. Previous sessions of the Regional Committee have made the following decisions related to selection and nomination of Member States in the Global Fund Board.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> South Sudan was a member of the Eastern Mediterranean Region until May 2013.

- In 2004, the Fifty-first Session of the Regional Committee nominated Morocco to serve on the Global Fund Board for a three-year period 2004–2006, replacing Yemen (Decision no. 4). It was decided that Pakistan would continue to serve on the Board until 2005. It was also agreed that three other eligible countries would be supported by the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean to attend the Board meetings as observers.
- In 2005, the Fifty-second Session of the Regional Committee nominated Djibouti to serve on the Global Fund Board for a three-year period 2006–2008, replacing Pakistan (Decision no. 3.) Jordan was nominated to serve as an alternate, replacing Morocco, for a three-year period 2006–2008.
- In 2008, the Fifty-fifth Session of the Regional Committee nominated Yemen to serve on the Global Fund Board for a three-year period 2009–2011. Palestine was nominated to serve as an alternate for a three-year period 2009–2011.
- In 2011, the Fifty-eighth Session of the Regional Committee nominated Sudan to serve on the Global Fund Board for a three-year period 2012–2014. Morocco was nominated to serve as an alternate for a three-year period 2012–2014.

9. In summary, the composition of regional representation on meetings of the Global Fund Board was as follows.

### 1st Board meeting (January 2002) – 9th Board meeting (November 2004)

Board Member: Pakistan Alternate: Yemen Focal Point: Pakistan

#### 10th Board meeting (April 2005) – 11th Board meeting (September 2005)

Board Member: Pakistan Alternate: Morocco Focal Point: Pakistan

## 12th Board meeting (December 2005) – 17th Board meeting (April 2008)

Board Member: Djibouti Alternate: Jordan Focal Point: Djibouti

#### 18th Board meeting (November 2008) – 25th Board meeting November 2011)

Board Member: Yemen Alternate: Palestine Focal Point: Yemen

## 26th Board meeting (May 2012) – 31st Board meeting (March 2014)

Board Member: Sudan Alternate: Morocco Focal Point: Sudan

## 3. Regional representation on the Global Fund Board committees

10. In 2011, the Board endorsed a new committee structure as part of the reforms of the governance system. Each committee has delegated authority from the Board to perform decision-making, advisory and oversight functions in specific areas. The three committees are as follows.

a) Strategy, Investment and Impact Committee (SIIC), whose purpose is to provide oversight of the strategic direction of the Global Fund while ensuring optimal impact and performance of investments in health.

- b) Finance and Operational Performance Committee (FOPC), whose purpose is to provide oversight of the financial management of Global Fund resources and ensuring optimal performance in the operations.
- c) Audit and Ethics Committee (AEC), whose purpose is to provide oversight of the internal and external audit and investigation functions of the Global Fund, and adherence to standards.

11. The committees play a very important role in shaping decisions that are made by the Board. Strong regional participation is needed in these committees in order to represent the Region effectively in Global Fund policy-making. Applications for the committees are reviewed by the Global Fund Board and the Coordinating Group (committees Chair and Vice-chair), and the Board approves the members. The term of office is two years.

12. The Region is currently represented on the Strategy, Investment and Impact Committee of the Global Fund Board. The Region was represented until 2013 on the Finance and Operational Performance Committee.

13. The committee member from the Region is elected by Member States at the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean. Elected committee members participate in the committee and represent the interests and position of the Region during committee decisions.

14. Previous sessions of the Regional Committee have made the following decisions related to selection and nomination of committee representatives in the Global Fund committees.

- In 2008, the Fifty-fifth Session of the Regional Committee nominated Iraq to serve on the Policy and Strategy Committee.
- In 2011, the Fifty-eighth Session of the Regional Committee nominated the Islamic Republic of Iran to serve on the Policy and Strategy Committee (renamed the Strategy, Investment and Impact Committee), and the Syrian Arab Republic was nominated to serve on the Finance and Audit Committee (renamed the Finance, Operational Performance Committee) for a two-year period 2012–2013.

## 4. Selection of new regional representatives to the Global Fund Board

15. The term of the current regional member of the Global Fund Board and alternate member will expire in December 2014. The term of membership for the Strategy, Investment and Impact Committee expired in 2013 and the deadline for applications was in January 2014. A nomination from Sudan was sent and was selected during the 31st meeting of the Global Fund Board in March 2014. The term of membership for the Finance and Operational Performance Committee also expired in 2013 and a nomination was sent from the Islamic Republic of Iran which was not selected.

16. Current regional membership on the Global Fund Board and its committees is as follows.

- Sudan serving as Board member
- Morocco serving as Alternate Board member
- Sudan serving on the Strategy, Investment and Impact Committee

17. The Regional Committee is requested to nominate two new representatives to serve as member of the Global Fund board and alternate member of the Global Fund Board. The term of the Board member and alternate starts in January 2015 and ends in December 2017. The term of membership of the Strategy, Investment and Impact Committee started in March 2014 and ends in March 2016.

18. The following criteria are proposed for selection of new representatives from the Region to the Global Fund Board and committees.

- New representatives can be selected from any country of the Region. However, since only 12 countries are currently eligible to seek Global Fund financing, it is recommended to select new representatives from among countries that: a) are eligible to the Global Fund financing; and b) have experience in receiving this financing.
- In addition, it is recommended that selection be made from among eligible countries that have not yet been represented on the Board and committees.
- For committee membership, individuals should possess the necessary skills and experience to represent and speak on behalf of the constituency and have in-depth knowledge of the committee-related issues.

### 5. Identifying a delegation for the regional constituency at the Global Fund Board

19. In order to facilitate engagement of the regional constituency in the Global Fund's governance processes, Member States are requested to identify a delegation. The delegation participates, where possible, in the Board meetings and advises and makes recommendations to the Board member and alternate member as part of the process of developing a regional position before the Board meetings. It is recommended that the delegates are from countries eligible for Global Fund financing and with experience in receiving Global Fund financing. Each Member State is requested to identify a delegate.