

TIMES ONLINE

From The Times

September 22, 2007

Fighting disease

Sir, Aids, TB and malaria are responsible for more than six million deaths each year and have a devastating social and economic impact on millions more. Increased resources and political will are needed to win the war against these diseases. The Replenishment Conference of the Global Fund to Fight Aids, TB and Malaria next week provides an unprecedented opportunity for the UK Government to demonstrate both.

The Global Fund has proven to be one of the most effective mechanisms for combating the three diseases. Since its establishment in 2002, the Global Fund has saved more than two million lives. By getting more people treatment, and by preventing future infections, the Global Fund could help to save up to 50 million lives by the year 2010.

To match demand, the Global Fund set itself the target of tripling its size to \$6-8 billion by 2010 – a target agreed by G8 leaders this summer. The Global Fund is now calling on donors to help realise this goal.

The UK has played a leading role in mobilising global commitment to tackling TB and malaria and achieving universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support for HIV and Aids. To meet the current challenge, the UK would have to triple its contribution to £700 million over the next three years.

We call upon Gordon Brown to keep the UK a leader for global health by pledging at least £700 million at the Replenishment Conference next week. We also call upon other donor nations to follow this example in keeping the promises made to those affected by Aids, TB and malaria.

ANDREW MITCHELL, MP, Shadow Secretary of State for International Development

LYNNE FEATHERSTONE, MP, Liberal Democrat Shadow International Development Secretary

STEPHEN O'BRIEN, MP, Shadow Health Minister and Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Malaria Group

NEIL GERRARD, MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Aids

ANDREW GEORGE, MP, Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Global Tuberculosis

SHEILA DAVIE, Executive Director, Results UK

KEN BLUESTONE, Chair, Stop Aids Campaign

SUNIL MEHRA, Executive Director, Malaria Consortium

[Contact our advertising team](#) for advertising and sponsorship in Times Online, The Times and The Sunday Times.

© Copyright 2007 Times Newspapers Ltd.

This service is provided on Times Newspapers' [standard Terms and Conditions](#). Please read our [Privacy Policy](#). To inquire about a licence to reproduce material from Times Online, The Times or The Sunday Times, click [here](#). This website is published by a member of the News International Group. News International Limited, 1 Virginia St, London E98 1XY, is the holding company for the News International group and is registered in England No 81701. VAT number GB 243 8054 69.