Resolution n°11
Additional innovative funding mechanisms

Following its resolution EB6/5, UNITAID Board thanks the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the support it provided for the successful preparation of an implementation plan on innovative funding mechanisms.

The Board notes that the VSC would contribute amounts in addition to those raised by the air tax levy.

The Board acknowledges the potential described in the plan, and decides to support the principle of a Voluntary Solidarity Contribution (VSC) scheme as described in the document EB7/2008/9/1. In this respect, the Board notes the proposals to:

- allocate a provisional amount of 9,070,000 USD (6,000,000 Euros) for the implementation of the abovementioned scheme for the first year of implementation, and subject to update and satisfactory performance, to give "green light" for the allocation of 12,100,000 USD (8,000,000 Euros) for the second phase of the second year of implementation;

- request the nomination of Dr. Bernárd Salomé as Director in charge of the VSC scheme implementation;

- request the UNITAID Secretariat together with the director of the VSC Scheme to prepare and conclude an agreement with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) for hosting of the team in charge of the VSC scheme;

- encourage the creation of a Foundation dedicated to the implementation of the VSC scheme, as outlined in the document EB7/2008/9/1. The Board instructs the Secretariat to explore the scope for cooperation between UNITAID and this Foundation;
- request the UNITAID Secretariat together with the director of the VSC Scheme to seek an agreement for an appropriate temporary support team, in order to negotiate and operationalize the hosting agreement; This temporary team will be tasked as well to maintain the critical momentum with the already committed GDS partners on the IT-solution. This temporary agreement will last until the hosting arrangement has been operationalized at the latest November 2008. A formal reporting of progress to the UNITAID Board will be performed by the director of the VSC Scheme at the expiration of the 8 months period.

The Board requests a proposal containing appropriate justification with a view to approval by a teleconference before April 10, 2008.

The Board asks the director of the VSC Scheme to report regularly and as deemed necessary on the progress achieved in the implementation of the VSC scheme, and in particular:

- on a trimestrial basis to UNITAID Secretary;

- at each meeting of the Steering Committee as established by the Executive Board during its 7th session;

- at each Executive Board meeting.

Philippe Douste-Blazy