

Unitaid Executive Board Meeting 35th Session 17-18 June 2020 Organised via videoconference

Resolution n°4

Mandate and Process for Unitaid's involvement in the Access to COVID Technologies Accelerator

Recalling WHO's declaration of a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on Novel Coronavirus on 30 January 2020 and the World Health Assembly Resolution on COVID-19 of 18 June 2020 (A73/CONF./1 Rev.1);

Recognizing the need to support a global coordinated response to the current unprecedented global health crisis, involving the development of new and effective health tools to address COVID-19, including vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics, together with measures to ensure the global equitable access to these products as quickly as possible;

Recalling Unitaid Executive Board Resolution n°5-2020-e on support for measures for the global response to COVID-19, and Resolution n°7-2020-e on the funding of new grantees in the response to COVID-19 indicating the Executive Board's decision to fund specific actions in the global response to COVID-19;

Recalling the information sessions of the Executive Board of 7 April, 30 April, 13 May and 27 May 2020, when the Secretariat provided updates on its support to the global response to COVID-19, including measures to address the impact of the pandemic in Unitaid's project portfolio and the further exploration of potential areas of intervention;

Acknowledging the launch on 24 April 2020 of a global collaboration to accelerate the development, production and equitable access to new COVID-19 diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines; (the Access to COVID Technologies Accelerator, or ACT-A); and the leading role now played by Unitaid across the ACT-A's work;

Acknowledging the need to continue managing and safeguarding the current Unitaid portfolio of projects related to its core mandate, the Executive Board requests the Secretariat to continue looking for adaptive solutions to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on the active portfolio and the investment plan;

The Executive Board reiterates its full support for Unitaid's involvement in the global response to COVID-19, acknowledging the potential for Unitaid's funding model and expertise to contribute to the development of critical health tools and support interventions that increase equitable access to medicines and diagnostics. In particular, the Board supports maintaining Unitaid's key role within the ACT-A, namely co-convening the Therapeutics Partnership, coleading on market readiness issues in the Diagnostics Partnership of the ACT-A and participating in the Health System Connector;

The Executive Board hereby endorses the document entitled, "Process to manage new COVID-19 investments" (UNITAID/EB35/2020/6), noting that the principles detailed therein will apply to all further COVID-19 investments in support of ACT-A, regardless of whether they are funded through the COVID-19 Bridge Funding Mechanism (detailed in document UNITAID/EB35/2020/13) or additional funding contributions received for COVID-19.

The Executive Board also hereby authorizes the Executive Director to commit funding subject to compliance with the process in document UNITAID/EB35/2020/6 together with, as relevant, the guiding principles and criteria for additional contributions set out in document UNITAID/PSC20/2018/4/REV1.

The Board requests the Secretariat to report regularly on the implementation of this decision, together with Unitaid's involvement in the ACT-A, and the impact of COVID-19 on its project portfolio.

Marisol Touraine

Chair of the Unitaid Executive Board

Date: 18, 05 60