

# PRESS RELEASE

United Nations Development Programme



## First UNDP/Global Fund Country Level Donor Meeting Successfully Sheds Light on Sudan's Progress in Public Health

**Khartoum, 20 April 2011** Ambassadors from Global Fund donor countries, UN agencies representatives, the Undersecretary of the Federal Ministry of Health, the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) Secretariat, and heads of national programmes for AIDS, TB and Malaria, gathered for the first country-level Global Fund donor meeting in Sudan Tuesday afternoon. The purpose of the meeting was to share the successes of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/Global Fund with the Global Fund donors while better acquainting them with the GFATM programmes and goals, after being on the ground for five years in Sudan



UNDP Country Director, Mr. Claudio Caldarone, spoke about the key achievements in the fight against the 3 diseases, such as efforts, spearheaded by the Ministry of Health and National Malaria Control Programme that have resulted in a huge reduction in the malaria transmission and death related to the disease.

*(From right to left Mr. Claudio Caldarone UNDP Country, Undersecretary of the Federal Ministry of Health Isameldin Mohammed Abdallah and WHO Representative Mr.) Anshu Banerjee)*

“In 2001 the estimated morbidity rate for malaria in Sudan was 23% and the mortality rate was 0.5%. Most recent estimates from the 2009 malaria prevalence survey showed that the morbidity rate decreased to 6% while the mortality rates dropped to 0.35%,” Mr. Caldarone explained.

Since 2003, UNDP partnered with Global Fund to manage their grants in 26 countries around the world, with special conditions such as having recently come out of conflict, to safe guard their investments. One of the main goals of this partnership is to develop the capacity of governments in the countries where UNDP is the initially identified Principal Recipient of Global Fund Grants, so that they can manage future grants directly.

The Undersecretary for the Federal Ministry of Health, Dr. Isameldin Mohammed Abdallah, expressed confidence about the sustainability of the 3 disease programmes in the future, once the Government of Sudan will be requested to manage the grants directly. Meanwhile Dr. Anshu Banerjee, the Representative of World Health Organization (WHO), the largest Sub-Recipient of Global Fund grants, referred to the contribution of the Global Fund in increasing access to health services and improving the quality of Sudan's health system.

A presentation with a vivid collection of photos from the Global Fund supported activities shed light on the details of impact of the Global Fund grants, in terms of prevention, treatment and care.

Many interesting points were raised about transparency and accountability during the panel discussion that closed the meeting. The Japanese Ambassador thanked UNDP for the successful management of the grants and transparency.

Mr. Khalid Alamelhoda from the CCM Secretariat issued an open invitation to the diplomatic community saying "You are welcome to attend the CCM meetings and visit any of our sites".

The Global Fund Secretariat, in Geneva, has stated that as of December 2010, developing country projects and programmes, fully or partly supported by funds channeled through the GFATM, have saved 6.5 million lives by providing AIDS treatment for 3 million people, anti-tuberculosis treatment for 7.7 million people and the distribution of 160 million insecticide-treated nets for the prevention of malaria globally. Of those numbers nearly 12 million people were successfully treated from uncomplicated malaria in Sudan, while 2.6 million insecticide-treated nets for the prevention of malaria were distributed throughout the country. A total of 103,000 people received TB treatment in Sudan and more than 1 million Sudanese youth were reached in- and out-of-school, through HIV behavior change communication programmes.

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