03 Jul 2026

To:
Lady Roslyn Morauta, Chair of the Board, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
Bience Gawanas, Vice-Chair of the Board, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
Peter Sands, Executive Director, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
Fassika Alemayehu, Advocacy and Partnerships Lead, African Constituency Bureau

RE: Keeping African leadership and communities at the centre of the Global Fund's post-2027 direction and transition planning

Dear Lady Roslyn Morauta,
Dear Ms. Bience Gawanas,
Dear Mr. Peter Sands,
Dear Ms. Fassika Alemayehu,

As the Global Fund Advocates Network Africa (GFAN Africa), a regional civil society and community advocacy network campaigning for sustained investment in HIV, TB, malaria and community systems responses across the continent, we write to you ahead of the 55th Global Fund Board Meeting on 9–10 July 2026. As the Board considers the transition process and the future shape of the partnership, we bring three requirements, grounded in what this moment means for the African continent.

The current period is critical for planning Africa's transition. The longer transition timelines for many countries in the region are an advantage, if this window is used to plan appropriately and build sustainable, domestically owned health and community systems, rather than scrambling to fill gaps once support has already tapered. Decisions must be taken without delay to strengthen financing and capacity, engage communities and civil society as full partners in the response, and ensure that transition reflects genuine whole-of-country ownership that includes priorities from communities, civil society, and government.

We respectfully ask the Board for three considerations:

1. **Ensure transition planning for Africa is tailored to the specific context and risks on the continent, and clarify the place of civil society and communities within it.** The general transition framework does not answer the questions African advocates are asking. Will there be direct funding for civil society and community organisations through and beyond transition? What mechanisms will carry the community-led work that Global Fund grants currently sustain? Transition planning must also acknowledge, and be adapted to, the pressures faced in Africa,

such as escalating debt burdens, policy and legislative barriers, and weak and fragmented services, as well as compounding vulnerabilities, including climate change, conflict, and displacement. We ask for a transition plan that names the risks specific to African contexts and sets out, concretely, how these will be addressed, and how communities and civil society will be resourced to continue our work connecting vulnerable populations to services.

2. **Keep communities and community-led responses at the core of the HIV, TB and malaria responses.** The gains of the past two decades were built with communities as architects and now more than ever, we urge you to remain committed. Community health workers, peer networks, and key population-led organisations are essential to the Global Fund's mission and yet, most affected by today's constrained fiscal environments. Any transition that treats these actors as optional, or as the first line to be cut when budgets tighten, will cost lives and cost progress. We ask that community leadership be written into transition planning as a requirement, and that domestic financing strategies include adequately sustaining the community systems the Global Fund has helped build over the last two decades.

3. **Publish a clear consultation roadmap for a community emergency fund policy.** Communities and civil society need to engage while the policy is being shaped, not after it is settled. A roadmap that sets out when and how communities can contribute would let us bring evidence and lived experience into the process at the points where it can change the outcome. We ask for a genuine seat in the consultation, decision-making process, and operationalisation with special focus for key and vulnerable populations.

We welcome the appointment of the new Board Chair and Vice-Chair and encourage the Board's incoming leadership to continue to listen to the voices of communities and civil society. We, in particular, invite the new board leadership to engage with communities and civil society across Africa as we continue to navigate the rapidly evolving health financing landscape. African leadership in the partnership's governance should remain a priority, and we ask the Board to keep it visible in how decisions are made and who is at the table. GFAN Africa is committed to working with Global Fund leadership, Board constituencies, and key partners, including the African Constituency Bureau, to keep diverse community priorities, African leadership, country sovereignty, and long-term sustainability at the centre of the Global Fund's work through this period of change.

Sustainability requires predictable financing and long-term partnership so that countries can build resilient, domestically led health systems without putting our hard-won gains at risk. We continue to call on all donors to maintain their commitment to the Global Fund and to help close the remaining funding gap. Sustained investment in this partnership protects the progress made so far and gives countries the

runway to move toward greater self-reliance responsibly. We underline that health sovereignty and global solidarity are two expressions of the same commitment to a healthier, safer world.

As the partnership looks ahead to the Global Fund's post-2027 Strategy, we see an important opportunity to strengthen African ownership of health responses, reinforce sustainable and domestically led systems, and ensure that the voices of governments, civil society, communities, and affected populations across the continent meaningfully shape the future direction of the partnership.

We recognise the difficult decisions before the Board at this meeting and the attention these questions demand. We trust you will give adequate weight to these asks in your deliberations and look forward to the outcomes of the 55th Board Meeting. Our network remains ready to support the work of the Global Fund as much as we can.

In solidarity,

Global Fund Advocates Network Africa (GFAN Africa)