December 15, 2017

Update December 2017

Subject: Follow-Up on 17 November Rome High-Level Dialogue

Dear Participants of the Rome Consultation,

We would like to thank you again for your contributions to the highly constructive High-Level Dialogue on Scaling Up Early Diagnosis and Treatment of Children and Adolescents on 17 November and for the efforts many of you are already undertaking to carry forward the commitments of the Action Plan that was adopted at the meeting.

We are pleased to inform you that the Action Plan was made public on World AIDS Day (1 December) and profiled in web stories by the meeting organizers. They can be found online at:

Rome Action Plan: http://www.pedaids.org/page/-/Rome Action Plan 2017.pdf

Caritas: https://www.caritas.org/2017/12/progress-for-hiv-positive-children/

 $EGPAF: \underline{http://pedaids.org/blog/entry/taking-action-on-better-treatment-for-children-living-with-hiv}\\$

PEPFAR: https://www.pepfar.gov/press/releases/2017/276171.htm

UNAIDS:

http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/presscentre/featurestories/2017/november/20171117_vatican

WCC-EAA: http://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/range-of-organizations-commit-to-improve-hiv-diagnosis-and-treatment-for-children-and-adolescents

WHO: http://www.who.int/hiv/mediacentre/news/paediatric-hiv-rome-meeting/en/

We would also like to briefly inform you about how we are planning to put in place Action 37, in which we commit as co-chairs of the <u>AIDS Free Working Group</u> to monitor implementation of the commitments. A small project management (PM) team, co-led by WHO and EGPAF and including representatives from PEPFAR and the faith-based community, will support the AIDS Free co-chairs to ensure systematic follow-up and communication on the Action Plan. The PM team will actively track progress on all commitments, engage in bilateral conversations as needed, and communicate consistently

with Rome Dialogue participants. The PM team will provide updates during the AIDS Free Working Group's monthly meetings, a summary of which will be circulated to the broader group of stakeholders. Webinars will also be organized on a quarterly basis to ensure effective dissemination of information and foster continued dialogue among Rome Dialogue participants. At any time, we would welcome your updates on steps taken to meet the Action Plan commitments or news on related developments. With this in mind, we hope that ALL stakeholders will be able to report on their individual progress during the first webinar to be scheduled in late March/early April (exact date will be communicated shortly).

We look forward to your continued engagement in this process, which we are certain will lead to meaningful improvements for children living with HIV.

We will be in touch early in the new year to inform you on the next steps. In the meantime, we wish you a wonderful holiday and a very happy and healthy 2018.

Gottfried, Msgr. Bob, and Chip