

## Dear All,

Welcome to the first newsletter for members of the Inter-Agency Task Team on Children and HIV and AIDS. Through this newsletter we will provide regular updates on work of the IATT and additional information that may be relevant for IATT members.

If you have questions about any of the items below or when you want to contribute any item for the next IATT newsletter (scheduled for beginning January 2008), please contact me at [adewagt@unicef.org](mailto:adewagt@unicef.org).

Also, please note the new IATT website at: [www.unicef.org/aids/index\\_iatt.html](http://www.unicef.org/aids/index_iatt.html).

There you can find reports of previous meetings (including the Global Partners Forum on children affected by HIV and AIDS), terms of reference of the various IATT working groups and other information and documents relevant to our work.

We are looking forward to receiving your response and suggestions on this first issue of the newsletter.

Arjan de Wagt, IATT Secretariat

## Updates by the Inter-Agency Task Team on Children and HIV and AIDS Steering Committee

### IATT Steering Committee meeting 25-26 September 2007, Boston, USA

The steering committee of the IATT on Children and HIV and AIDS held a meeting on 25-26 September in Boston. Regional IATT Representatives from Asia, Africa and Latin America and Caribbean were also in attendance. This was the first face-to-face steering committee meeting since the expanded IATT met in Washington in April 2007.

The main decisions taken at the meeting include:

- The fourth Global Partners Forum (GPF) on children affected by AIDS will be held in November 2008. The GPF will bring together policy makers from governments, bi-laterals and non-governmental organizations.
- The Joint Learning Initiative on Children and HIV and AIDS (JLICA) and the IATT steering committees agreed to enhance cooperation and

coordination. A joint JLICA/IATT meeting will be convened in 2008 to discuss Global Partner's Forum strategy, and reach consensus on the set of evidence-based policy recommendations the group will put forward to the GPF later in the year.

- The IATT committed to providing technical support as needed to various regional IATT meetings held in 2008. The regional meetings will include further defining regional strategies and directions which will be fed back to the global IATT and the GPF.
- The six IATT working groups will finalize production of programming guidance by mid-2008, and share this with the expanded IATT leading up to the GPF.
- A discussion paper specifically prepared for the meeting on targeting HIV/AIDS resources for orphans and vulnerable children was reviewed.

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# Inter-Agency Task Team (IATT) on Children and HIV and AIDS

It was agreed that an IATT position paper on the subject will be prepared in advance of the planned regional meetings for further discussion.

- A synthesis paper will be developed and presented to the 2006 GPF based on the outcomes of the IATT working groups, the regional meetings and JLICA findings.

Additional Information:

- Discussions with WFP are ongoing to explore the possibility of setting up a new IATT Working Group on Food and Nutrition support for children affected by AIDS (see more information below).
- The IATT will continue to work with the IATT on PMTCT and pediatric HIV care on programming guidance

to improve access to health care services for orphans and vulnerable children and with the IATT on young people and HIV to produce programming guidance on issues around prevention of HIV among adolescent orphans and vulnerable children.

## IATT Steering Committee members

During its meeting in Washington the IATT agreed to adjust the selection criteria for the IATT Steering Committee members. Now Working Groups will be nominating a representative (not necessarily the Working Group's Facilitator) to serve on the IATT Steering Committee. The IATT constituencies (NGOs, donors and UN agencies) that are not equally represented on the IATT Steering Committee will have

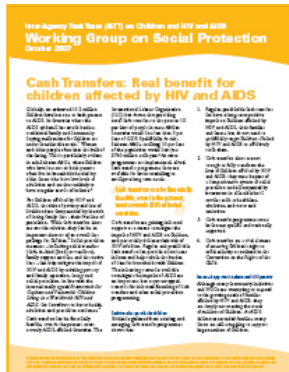
an additional representative. As a consequence the composition of the Steering Committee has somewhat changed and is now as follows:

- Aaron Greenberg, Better Care Network, [agreenberg@unicef.org](mailto:agreenberg@unicef.org)
- Arjan de Wagt, UNICEF, [adewagt@unicef.org](mailto:adewagt@unicef.org)
- Kirk Felsman, USG, [kfelsman@usaid.gov](mailto:kfelsman@usaid.gov)
- Mary Eming Young, World Bank,

[myoung3@worldbank.org](mailto:myoung3@worldbank.org)

- Ronnie Lovich, SCF-US, [rlovich@savechildren.org](mailto:rlovich@savechildren.org)
- Simon Heap, Plan International, [simon.heap@plan-international.org](mailto:simon.heap@plan-international.org)
- Justine Sass, UNESCO, [j.sass@unesco.org](mailto:j.sass@unesco.org)
- Stuart Kean, World Vision, [stuart.kean@worldvision.org.uk](mailto:stuart.kean@worldvision.org.uk)
- Will Aston, DFID, [w-aston@dfid.gov.uk](mailto:w-aston@dfid.gov.uk)

## News from the working groups



The Working Group on Social Protection has just finished a paper on "Cash Transfers: Real benefit for children affected by HIV and

AIDS". The paper shows that cash transfers can be financially feasible, even in the poorest, most severely AIDS-affected countries. And argues that social protection, including cash transfers, must be prioritised as an essential basic service alongside investments in healthcare, education, water and sanitation, to make a difference for the most vulnerable children. You can download the document at [www.unicef.org/aids/index\\_iatt.html](http://www.unicef.org/aids/index_iatt.html).

## Updates from recent meetings

19-20 July 2007, Rome, Italy

### Informal Expert Consultation on Food Security and Nutrition for Children and HIV and AIDS

UNICEF and WFP co-hosted an informal expert consultation on issues related to the food security and nutrition needs of children affected or infected by HIV and AIDS. The agenda of the expert consultation was based on a WFP/UNICEF review paper titled "Food Security and Nutrition: Meeting the Needs of Orphans and Vulnerable Children Affected by HIV and AIDS in Africa" by Kara Greenblott and Kate Greenaway. The paper examined published and unpublished literature, and interviewed programme staff from many organisations involved in food and nutrition support. The main findings of the review paper were presented earlier at the IATT meeting in Washington (see: [www.unicef.org/aids/files/OVC\\_IV\\_Food\\_Security\\_and\\_Nutrition\\_-\\_Kara\\_Greenblott\\_and\\_Kate\\_Greenaway.ppt](http://www.unicef.org/aids/files/OVC_IV_Food_Security_and_Nutrition_-_Kara_Greenblott_and_Kate_Greenaway.ppt)).

The creation of a working group on Food Security and Nutrition for Children and HIV and AIDS has been proposed to the IATT steering committee; discussions are still ongoing. The purpose of this Working Group as currently defined is to "Work to influence integration, scaling-up and overall quality improvement of interventions to improve the food security and nutrition status of OVC".

The first output of the proposed working group would be a "Consensus Statement" on core programming principles based on the key findings of the review paper and discussions at the expert consultation.

**24 September 2007, Boston, USA**

## Joint Learning Initiative on Children and HIV and AIDS Symposium

The Joint Learning Initiative on Children and HIV/AIDS (JLICA) is an initiative that was launched a year ago. JLICA engages practitioners, policymakers, and scholars in collaborative problem-solving, research, and analysis to address the needs of children living in the context of HIV/AIDS. Its goal is to mobilize the scientific evidence base and produce recommendations for policy and practice by the end of 2008.

On September 24, 2007, JLICA held a high-level international symposium on responding to the needs of children affected by HIV/AIDS. The event took place at Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts. The one-day symposium convened 250 leaders in science, policymaking, advocacy and implementation from around the world. Participants engaged in debate on key questions including how to channel

resources most effectively to support families and communities; overcoming implementation obstacles in services for children affected by HIV/AIDS; and the macroeconomic feasibility of social welfare programs for children in low-income countries. You can find more information about JLICA as well as the presentations given at the symposium at [www.jlica.org](http://www.jlica.org).

## Coming Up

**26-27 November 2007**

**PMTCT Global Partners Forum  
Johannesburg, South Africa**

**November 29 - 30 2007**

**Measuring the Impact of Social Protection on Child Well-Being, Child Protection, and Poverty Reduction Outcomes, London**

Save the Children, the Better Care Network, UNICEF, and CARE are organizing a meeting of academics, practitioners, NGO and donor representatives with an interest in social protection policy and research. The meeting aims to consider how to stimulate policy relevant research on the impact of family support services (either in addition to, or in isolation from, social transfers) on household poverty and child vulnerability. Cash transfers targeted at vulnerable families have been increasingly used as a means to fight poverty and enhance the well-being of children in many countries. Evidence supporting the complementary role of family support services in addressing household poverty and child vulnerability, however, is currently lacking. The aim of this meeting is to look beyond cash transfers, to be able to measure the impact of a range of family support services in reducing child vulnerability, child protection failures, and poverty. Such family support services may include, for example, social work support (e.g. to help families access entitlements), home based parent training, and day care.

**1 December 2007**

**World AIDS Day, worldwide**

**3 December 2007**

**IATT/JLICA/DFID Cash Transfer Workshop**

The Joint Learning Initiative on Children and AIDS and the Inter-Agency Task Team on Children and HIV and AIDS are holding a workshop on cash transfer programmes and children affected by AIDS on Monday 3 December 2007 and hosted by DFID. Invited participants will represent donors, policy makers, implementers, and include leading academics and researchers.

The workshop will provide a space for open discussion and aim to identify key areas for action for the effective and sustainable scale up of cash transfer programmes in high prevalence settings. The workshop will focus on following key areas:

1. Introduction to cash transfers and children affected by AIDS based on recent work by JLICA, IATT and DFID;
2. Targeting AIDS mitigation resources at Children affected by AIDS in high prevalence settings;
3. Institutional strengthening and efforts to expand access to social protection (including cash transfers);
4. Communities and the role of civil society.

**April 2008**

**Meeting of the Inter-Agency Task Team on Children and HIV and AIDS Steering Committee, location and date tbc**

**May 2008**

**Meeting of the IATT on Children and HIV and AIDS, location and date tbc**

**June 2008**

**Implementers' Meeting, Kampala, Uganda**

**1-2 August 2008**

**Envisioning the Future symposium on children and HIV and AIDS, Mexico City**

On August 1-2, 2008, the two days leading up to the International AIDS Conference, the 2nd Envisioning the Future symposium will be held in Mexico City (the first was held in Toronto just before the XVI International AIDS Conference). This international symposium, co-organized by The Teresa Group, and the Coalition on Children Affected by AIDS, will bring together 450 of the world's leading professionals working with children affected by HIV/AIDS. ([www.ccaba.org/index.html](http://www.ccaba.org/index.html))

**3-8 August 2008**

**International AIDS Conference, Mexico City, Mexico ([www.aids2008.org](http://www.aids2008.org))**

**November 2008**

**Global Partners Forum on Children affected by HIV and AIDS, location and date tbc**