



Fact Sheet on President Obama's Four Broken Campaign Promises

- ✗ Fund PEPFAR Fully
- ✗ Make Fair-Share Contributions to Global AIDS
- ✗ Educate the World's Children
- ✗ Increase Foreign Assistance to Combat Poverty

On May 7, 2009, President Obama released his first budget request to Congress:

- ◆ For fiscal year 2010, President Obama has requested \$51.7 billion for the so-called "150 Account," which funds all U.S. foreign affairs priorities.
- ◆ This FY2010 funding request includes \$5 billion for PEPFAR, the successful U.S. bilateral AIDS program; \$900 million for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and \$981 million for global basic education.
- ◆ This budget request sets the Obama Administration on a path to breaking its campaign promises to the people of Africa and to falling short on its commitments to reassert U.S. moral leadership worldwide.

**"To a lot of people, the budget can seem dry or wonky ... but the truth is that as heavy on numbers and figures as it is, it's a profoundly moral document, it's a blueprint for the nation's priorities."
(White House Blog 2/26/09)**

President Obama's budget request breaks four of his campaign promises.

"Underfunding these critical programs has grave consequences, especially during the current global economic crisis and at a point in time when the world may be in the early stages of a devastating flu pandemic. President Obama has a moral obligation to demonstrate global leadership on behalf of the poorest and most marginalized people of the world, especially in Africa. But by turning his back on those needs, the President is betraying the trust of tens of millions of people around the world." —**Dr. Paul Zeitz**, Executive Director, Global AIDS Alliance

Broken Promise #1:

President Obama is not fully funding PEPFAR. This threatens to halt or even reverse the success of PEPFAR during the Administration of President George W. Bush.

During the 2008 presidential campaign, then-Senators Obama, Biden, and Clinton signed the *Presidential Pledge for Leadership on Global AIDS and Poverty*, which contained a commitment to provide at least \$50 billion by 2013 for PEPFAR. As a candidate, Mr. Obama also committed to expand PEPFAR by \$1 billion each year.¹ If as President, he had kept this promise and requested \$6.5 billion for bilateral AIDS programs, more lives could have been saved.

- ◆ This level of underfunding puts the U.S. on a path to NOT meet its targets of 3 million people on treatment, 12 million new infections prevented, and 12 million people receiving care by 2013.

As a result of President Obama's broken promises, GAA estimates that:

- ◆ One million people around the world will not receive treatment for AIDS.
- ◆ 2.9 million women will not receive services to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV.
- ◆ 27 million people will not access sexual disease transmission prevention programs.
- ◆ 1.9 million orphans and other children affected by HIV/AIDS will not receive care.

Broken Promise #2:

President Obama is not making a fair-share commitment to the Global Fund.

Candidate Obama promised to provide a fair-share contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, but his budget falls short of this.

- ◆ The U.S. fair share contribution for FY10 is \$2.7 billion, but the President is providing only \$900 million—the same level of funding as in FY09—which is a shortfall of \$1.8 billion.
- ◆ Because every dollar from the U.S. leverages two dollars from other donors, the true global impact of this broken promise will be \$5.4 billion.

Broken Promise #3:

President Obama has broken his promise to help children access and complete a quality basic education.

Educating the world's children is an integral part of the solution to the current global economic crisis. President Obama committed to providing at least \$2 billion to a Global Fund for Education to eliminate the global education deficit. By breaking this promise, millions of children will continue to be excluded from accessing and completing a quality basic education. At this time of fiscal crisis, it is even more imperative that we provide the safety net of knowledge to the world's poorest children and save them from paying with their lives for our financial mistakes. In Africa, the chance of a child living beyond age five increases by 40% if the mother received five years of primary education.

Education improves the health of families and reduces vulnerability to HIV.
If all children had a seat in a classroom, 700,000 new HIV infections could be prevented each year.

Broken Promise #4:

President Obama has broken his promise to double foreign assistance by 2012.

Although President Obama has promised to double U.S. foreign assistance to \$50 billion by 2012,ⁱⁱ his FY10 budget request is well below what is required to keep this promise. If the U.S. increases spending on foreign affairs by only \$4.4 billion each year (the average yearly increase outlined in the President's budget projections through FY14), the nation will not be able to double foreign assistance until at least FY17, a year after a possible second term in office for the President.

Revised May 12, 2009

ⁱ See *A Statement from Barack on Global AIDS Day*, November 29, 2007, at <http://my.barackobama.com/page/content/globalaidsday>.

ⁱⁱ See *A New Strategy for a New World*, July 15, 2008, at <http://my.barackobama.com/page/content/newstrategy>.