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## Presidential Pledge for Leadership on Global AIDS and Poverty

More than 40 million people are living with HIV/AIDS worldwide, and each year more than three million people die from the disease. Basic prevention services reach only a fraction of those at risk, and in some countries less than 10% of orphans left behind by AIDS are getting the care they need. Drug resistant tuberculosis is a growing global threat which is exacerbated by HIV/AIDS and widespread health worker shortages.

Therefore, in addition to committing to bold and effective policies on AIDS in the US, I pledge to:

- Provide at least \$50 billion by 2013 for the global fight against HIV/AIDS (including the US fair share contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria) to increase access to prevention services, provide treatment to one-third of those in need and increase the number of health workers by at least one million, building local self-sufficiency;
- Provide the US share of funding needed to establish universal access to basic education and to provide community-based support, health and nutrition to the millions of children orphaned and made vulnerable by AIDS;
- Support comprehensive policies that support sound public health at home and abroad, including: evidence-based HIV/AIDS prevention policies to reach all at-risk populations; preventing violence against women and girls; trade agreements that protect access to generic medicines; and scaled up programs to fight tuberculosis and malaria;
- Improve the coordination and effectiveness of US development assistance by exploring the creation of a cabinet-level poverty-focused development agency; make significant progress toward providing an additional one percent of the U.S. budget to fighting poverty in impoverished countries; and back the elimination of debt for a broader range of countries than have so far been considered eligible for debt relief, in order to free up resources to fight AIDS and poverty.

Signed:

*Christopher J. Dodd*

Date:

*11/06/07*