

# Health: Polio Eradication

## Commitment

“Supporting the Polio Eradication Initiative for the post eradication period in 2006-8 through continuing or increasing our own contributions toward the \$829 million target and mobilising the support of others.”

-Africa, 8 July 2005<sup>171</sup>

## Background

In 1988, the World Health Organization created the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), an international public health effort to eliminate polio.<sup>172</sup> Spearheaded by the World Health Organization (WHO), Rotary International, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and the Centers for Disease Control; it relies on government and private sector donations to achieve its goals.<sup>173</sup> November 2005 analyses show six countries with endemic polio (Nigeria, India, Pakistan, Niger, Afghanistan, and Egypt), and 10 countries that were re-infected (Somalia, Yemen, Indonesia, Sudan, Ethiopia, Angola, Mali, Cameroon, Chad, and Eritrea).<sup>174</sup> At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, the G8 released the *G8 Commitment to Help Stop Polio Forever* in which G8 members committed to closing the 2004-2005 funding gap in the GPEI budget. As of July 2005, the funding gap had been closed.<sup>175</sup> At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, leaders pledged to support the 2006-2008 post-eradication period by continuing or increasing contributions towards the US\$829 million target for the 2006-2008 period.<sup>176</sup> At the completion of the interim compliance period, the GPEI still faces a funding shortfall of US\$750 million for 2006-2008.<sup>177</sup> According to the WHO, multi-year and flexible financing commitments are needed to cover the unmet funding requirement of US\$750 million for 2006-2008, of which US\$200 million is immediately required for efforts in 2006.<sup>178</sup> These funds are needed to buy oral poliomyelitis vaccine, conduct poliomyelitis immunization campaigns, implement emergency outbreak response, sustain highly sensitive disease surveillance, and provide technical support to G8 members. Increased contributions are required if this commitment is to be fulfilled by the end of the Gleneagles compliance period.

Team Leader: Laura Hodgins

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<sup>171</sup> Africa, UofT G8 Information Centre, (Toronto), 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 11 November 2005. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.html>.

<sup>172</sup> The History, Global Polio Eradication Initiative: World Health Organization, (Geneva). Date of Access: 12 November 2005. <http://www.polioeradication.org/history.asp>.

<sup>173</sup> Polio Eradication: Now More than Ever, Stop Polio Forever, World Health Organization, (Geneva), 15 January 2004. Date of Access: 15 November 2005. <http://www.who.int/features/2004/polio/en/>.

<sup>174</sup> Polio Eradication, Rotary International District 1220, (Nottingham), November 2005. Date of Access: 11 November 2005. <http://www.rotary1220.org/02/polio/Polio.htm>.

<sup>175</sup> Africa, UofT G8 Information Centre, (Toronto), 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 15 November 2005. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.html>.

<sup>176</sup> Africa, UofT G8 Information Centre, (Toronto), 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 11 November 2005. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/africa.html>.

<sup>177</sup> Eradication of Poliomyelitis: Report of the Secretariat, World Health Organization, (Geneva), 8 December 2005. Date of Access: 9 January 2006. [http://www.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/EB117/B117\\_4-en.pdf](http://www.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB117/B117_4-en.pdf).

<sup>178</sup> Eradication of Poliomyelitis: Report of the Secretariat, World Health Organization, (Geneva), 8 December 2005. Date of Access: 9 January 2006. [http://www.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf\\_files/EB117/B117\\_4-en.pdf](http://www.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB117/B117_4-en.pdf).

## Assessment

Score	Lack of Compliance -1	Work in Progress 0	Full Compliance +1
Country			
<i>Canada</i>		0	
<i>France</i>			+1
<i>Germany</i>		0	
<i>Italy</i>		0	
<i>Japan</i>		0	
<i>Russia</i>		0	
<i>United Kingdom</i>			+1
<i>United States</i>			+1
<i>European Union</i>			+1
<b>Overall</b>			<b>0.44</b>

### Individual Country Compliance Breakdown

#### 1. Canada: 0

Since 1988, Canada has been among the top five donors to the GPEI, providing a total of CAD\$110 million.<sup>179</sup> In its February 2005 budget, Canada pledged CAD\$42 million towards eradicating polio by the end of that year; however, it has made no pledges beyond 2005.<sup>180</sup> Due to the upcoming federal election, a working 2006 budget has not yet been passed. However, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) anticipates that the government's upcoming international policy statement will provide further direction for the GPEI.<sup>181</sup> Until a 2006 budget is prepared, Canada cannot be said to have met its Gleneagles commitment.

Analyst: Russell Ironside

#### 2. France: +1

France has registered full compliance with its Gleneagles commitment to fund the 2006-2008 polio eradication period. France is a core donor to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, and prior to the 2004 Sea Island Summit, the French government pledged to augment its funding for the GPEI by \$12.8 million for 2006. According to the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the government of France will allocate €10 million in its 2006 budget to boost its efforts in the field of polio eradication.<sup>182</sup> Having taken positive steps to fulfil its Gleneagles commitment on polio, the government of France receives a score of +1, indicating full compliance.

Analyst: Russell Ironside

<sup>179</sup> Government of Canada Announces Increased Funding to Support the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, Department of Finance, (Ottawa), 17 January 2005. Date of Access: 8 January 2006. <http://www.fin.gc.ca/news05/05-004e.html>.

<sup>180</sup> Budget 2005 Delivers on Canada's Commitment to Africa, Department of Finance, (Ottawa), 23 February 2005. Date of Access: 6 January 2006. <http://www.fin.gc.ca/news05/05-015e.html>.

<sup>181</sup> Canada International Development Agency, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, (Ottawa), 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2005. [http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/est-pre/20052006/CIDA-ACDI/CIDA-ACDIr56-PR\\_e.asp?printable=True](http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/est-pre/20052006/CIDA-ACDI/CIDA-ACDIr56-PR_e.asp?printable=True).

<sup>182</sup> Health: Summary and Recommendations, Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, (Paris), May 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2005. [http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities\\_1/development\\_2108/french-policy\\_2589/governmental-strategies\\_2670/sectorial-strategies-cicid\\_2590/health-may-2005\\_3018.html?var\\_recherche=polio+eradication](http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/development_2108/french-policy_2589/governmental-strategies_2670/sectorial-strategies-cicid_2590/health-may-2005_3018.html?var_recherche=polio+eradication).

### 3. Germany: 0

The German government has registered partial compliance with the Gleneagles polio eradication commitment. The GPEI requires US\$75 million to fund global immunization initiatives and polio surveillance in the first quarter of 2006.<sup>183</sup> Germany contributed US\$12 million to GPEI to fund the distribution of oral polio vaccine (OPV) in Nigeria.<sup>184</sup> In fall 2005, Germany contributed an additional US\$1 million to fund global polio initiatives.<sup>185</sup> Since Germany has yet to deliver any funds towards the 2006-2008 target, it receives a score of 0, indicating work in progress.

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### 4. Italy: 0

Italy has demonstrated partial compliance with the Gleneagles polio eradication commitment<sup>186</sup>. Italy is a 6th tier donor to the GPEI, indicating that it has contributed between US\$5-24 million US from 1988-2008.<sup>187</sup> Italy has allocated US\$5.5 million to the Gleneagles polio eradication commitment for the 2006 fiscal year—a pledge that few other public sector donors have matched since the Gleneagles summit. Additionally, in 2005, Italy contributed US\$115,000 for outbreak response in Angola.<sup>188</sup> While Italy has contributed over US\$12 million throughout 2004-2005, it is unclear whether Italy has introduced new policy or allocated new funding toward this commitment since the Gleneagles summit.

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### 5. Japan: 0

Japan has registered partial compliance with the Gleneagles polio eradication commitment for the 2006-2008 period. Between 1988-2008 Japan's commitment to the Polio Eradication Initiative is second only to the United States and Great Britain - falling in the range of \$250-500 million US.<sup>189</sup> In August 2005, the government of Japan also announced a donation \$5 million to UNICEF towards the Polio Eradication Initiative.<sup>190</sup> This contribution is meant to support immunization programs for the next twelve months, as well as other health programs in Sudan.<sup>191</sup> The extent of Japan's contribution to the 2006-2008 eradication commitment is, however, unclear. Japan receives a score of 0 indicating only partial compliance.

Analyst: Laura Hodgins

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<sup>183</sup> Recent Contributions, Global Polio Eradication News, Issue 24, (Geneva), Summer 2005. Date of Access: 22 December 2005. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews24.pdf>.

<sup>184</sup> US \$75 Million Needed by November for Activities in First Quarter 2006, Global Polio Eradication News, Issue 24, (Geneva), Summer 2005. Date of Access: 22 December 2005. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews24.pdf>.

<sup>185</sup> Recent Contributions, Global Polio Eradication News, Issue 25, (Geneva) Autumn 2005. Date of Access: 22 December 2005. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews25.pdf>.

<sup>186</sup> 'We forgot AIDS' vast killing power, The Daily Astorian, (Astoria), 29 November 2005. Date of Access: 8 December 2005. <http://www.dailyastorian.info/main.asp?SectionID=23&SubSectionID=392&ArticleID=29449&TM=21562.46>.

<sup>187</sup> Donors, Global Polio Eradication Initiative, (Geneva), 12 December 2005, Date of Access: 06 January 2006, <http://www.polioeradication.org/poliodonors.asp>.

<sup>188</sup> Autumn 2005 Polio News, Global Polio Eradication Initiative, (Geneva), Autumn 2005, Date of Access 6 Jan 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews25.pdf>.

<sup>189</sup> Donors, Global Polio Eradication Initiative, (Geneva), 12 December 2005, Date of Access: 29 December 2005. <http://www.polioeradication.org/poliodonors.asp>.

<sup>190</sup> Japan Announces US\$ 5.16 Million to Improve Children's Health, I-Newswire, (Fountain Valley, CA), 22 August 2005. <http://i-newswire.com/pr43632.html>.

<sup>191</sup> Japan Announces US\$ 5.16 Million to Improve Children's Health, I-Newswire, (Fountain Valley, CA), 22 August 2005. <http://i-newswire.com/pr43632.html>.

## 6. Russia: 0

Russia has shown an uncertain degree of compliance with the Gleneagles polio eradication commitment. In a 28 December 2005 statement on African-Russian relations, Deputy Foreign Minister Stortchak reaffirmed Russian commitment to infectious disease control in Africa, both as part of its role in the G8, and as part of the responsibilities that come with Russia's increasingly stable economic position. He stressed Russia's past contributions, however, and did not announce any new funding for the GPEI.<sup>192</sup>

The Russian Federation was acknowledged by the Rotary Club, the largest non-governmental partner of GPEI, as a major donor to the GPEI in its January 2006 update.<sup>193</sup> Yet although Russia is classified a 6th tier donor, indicating that it has contributed between \$5-24 million US from 1988-2008,<sup>194</sup> it has thus far not offered new commitments consistent with its Gleneagles pledge. Russia thus receives a score of 0, indicating only partial compliance with the polio commitment.

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## 7. United Kingdom: +1

Great Britain has registered a high level of compliance with the Gleneagles polio eradication commitment. In July 2005, the UK government pledged US\$108 million US over the next three years.<sup>195</sup> Through its contribution, the UK government unilaterally closed the \$36 million US funding gap for 2005. The remaining funds are to be distributed in 2006-2007 in two US\$72 million instalments. WHO Director-General Dr. Lee Jong-Wook praised the UK government's announcement, stating that "flexible, multi-year funding commitments are now more crucial than ever."<sup>196</sup> The quarterly newsletter of the GPEI noted that the UK government donated US\$900,000 to the GPEI's response to the 2005 Indonesian polio outbreak.<sup>197</sup> Consequently, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1 for its successful compliance.

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## 8. United States: +1

The United States has continued its significant support of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, and has pledged new funds to respond to the unexpected outbreak in Indonesia. The United States remains the largest government donor to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.<sup>198</sup> Although the United States has often covered funding shortfalls to ensure continuous progress,<sup>199</sup> as of 3 January 2005 the United States had not stepped up to reduce either the urgent \$75 million shortfall,<sup>200</sup> without which programs for the spring of 2006 are at risk, or the \$200 million shortfall for operations for the year 2006.<sup>201</sup>

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<sup>192</sup> Russian Relations with Sub-Saharan African Countries in 2005, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, (Moscow), 28 December 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006.

[http://www.ln.mid.ru/Brp\\_4.nsf/arh/EB58723614295438C32570E6002EEA64?OpenDocument](http://www.ln.mid.ru/Brp_4.nsf/arh/EB58723614295438C32570E6002EEA64?OpenDocument).

<sup>193</sup> International PolioPlus Committee Statements, Rotary International, (Evanston, Illinois), January 2006. Date of Access: January 4 2006. [http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/polio\\_facts.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/polio_facts.pdf), p 4.

<sup>194</sup> Donors, Global Polio Eradication Initiative, (Geneva), 12 December 2005. Date of Access: 06 January 2006.

<http://www.polioeradication.org/poliodonors.asp>.

<sup>195</sup> UK gives US\$ 108 Million (£60 million) to Polio Eradication for Next 3 Years, Global Polio Eradication Initiative, (Geneva), 6 July 2005. Date of Access: 6 January 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/fixe/donorstories1.htm>.

<sup>196</sup> UK gives US\$ 108 million (£60 million) to Polio Eradication for Next 3 Years, (Geneva), Global Polio Eradication Initiative, (Geneva), 6 July 2005. Date of Access: 6 January 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/fixe/donorstories1.htm>.

<sup>197</sup> Polio News, (Geneva), Autumn 2005. Date of Access: 6 January 2006.

<http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews25.pdf>.

<sup>198</sup> Final Resource Requirements, 2005-2008, The Global Polio Eradication Initiative, (Geneva), July 2005. Date of Access: January 4, 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/general/FRR2005-2008FinalEnglish.pdf>, pp 9-10.

<sup>199</sup> UK Closes Funding Gap, The Polio News, Summer 2005, The Global Polio Eradication Initiative, (Geneva), August 2005. Date of Access: January 3, 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews24.pdf>;

Recent Donations, The Polio News, Summer 2005, The Global Polio Eradication Initiative, (Geneva), August 2005. Date of Access: January 3, 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews24.pdf>.

<sup>200</sup> Recent Contributions, Polio News, Summer 2005, The Global Polio Eradication Initiative, (Geneva), August 2005. Date of Access: January 3 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews24.pdf>, p 6;

The US provides support through a variety of institutions, most prominently the Centres for Disease Control (CDC) and USAID. In 2005 the CDC allocated US\$96,276,000 for worldwide polio vaccination. Before the Gleneagles Summit, the budget for 2006 requested US\$96,324,000.<sup>202</sup> This is a US\$48,000 increase over the previous year. According to the autumn newsletter of the GPEI, USAID donated US\$2 million for work in Afghanistan in the second half of 2005.<sup>203</sup> In November 2005, Mr. Kent Hill, the Global Health Assistant Administrator of Health and Human Services announced a USAID commitment of an additional US\$2.5 million for 2006 to combat the outbreak in Indonesia.<sup>204</sup> The US pledge for 2006 is in full compliance with the Gleneagles polio eradication commitment, and so the US government receives a score of +1.

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## 9. European Union: +1

The European Union has demonstrated a high level of compliance with the Gleneagles polio eradication commitment. The European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO) continued its commitment to fight polio outbreaks by approving a US\$580,000 US grant to the World Health Organization (WHO).<sup>205</sup> The funds supported global immunization initiatives in the final quarter of 2005.<sup>206</sup> Furthermore, in December 2005, the EU worked in collaboration with WHO, UNICEF, and Rotary International to immunize children against polio in Sierra Leone.<sup>207</sup> The European Union receives a score of +1, indicating full compliance.

Analyst: Gunwant Gill

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US \$75 Million Needed by November, Polio News, Summer 2005, The Global Polio Eradication Initiative, (Geneva), August 2005.

Date of Access: January 3 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews24.pdf>, p.6;

Eradiating Polio, Current Challenges, UNICEF, (Geneva). August 2005. Date of Access: 2 January 2006

[http://www.unicef.org/immunization/index\\_polio.html](http://www.unicef.org/immunization/index_polio.html); Polio Epidemic Across West and Central Africa Halted, UN News Centre, The United Nations, (New York), 11 November 2005. Date of Access: December 28 2005.

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/storyAr.asp?NewsID=16535&Cr=polio&Cr1=&Kw1=polio&Kw2=&Kw3>.

<sup>201</sup> WHO on Track to Eradicate Polio, Voice of America, (Washington), 2 January 2006. Date of Access: 4 January 2006.

<http://www.voanews.com/english/2006-01-02-voa25.cfm>.

<sup>202</sup> FY 2006 Functional Table Reflecting New Budget Structure, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (Washington, D.C.), 11 February 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2005. <http://www.cdc.gov/fmo/PDFs/FY06funcnewbudgtstruct.pdf>,

<sup>203</sup> Recent Contributions, Polio News, Autumn 2006, The Global Polio Eradication Initiative, (Geneva), November 2006. Date of Access: January 2 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews25.pdf>, p 6.

<sup>204</sup> USAID Announces \$2.5 Million for Polio Eradication in Indonesia, October/November Highlights, USAID, (Washington, D.C.), November 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2006.

[http://www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/global\\_health/home/News/ghachievements.html#oct-nov05](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/home/News/ghachievements.html#oct-nov05),

<sup>205</sup> ECHO Responds to Polio Outbreak in Yemen, Polio News, (Geneva), Autumn 2005. Date of Access: 2 January 2006.

<http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews25.pdf>.

<sup>206</sup> ECHO Responds to Polio Outbreak in Yemen, Polio News, (Geneva), Autumn 2005. Date of Access: 2 January 2006.

<http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews25.pdf>.

<sup>207</sup> Dedication is Paying Off for Sierra Leone's Polio Programmes, UNICEF, (Geneva), 12 December 2005. Date of Access: 3 January 2006. [http://www.unicef.org/immunization/sierraleone\\_30459.html](http://www.unicef.org/immunization/sierraleone_30459.html).