

TO:

The Access to Funding Department of the Global Fund Secretariat

Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) Constituency of the Global Fund Board

Developing Countries NGO Delegation to the Global Fund Board

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Communities Delegation to the Global Fund Board

Date: 08.11.2022.

Dear colleagues,

By the end of this year countries expect receiving official allocation letters for the 2023-2025 allocation period from the Global Fund Secretariat. As the windows for the submission of the funding requests are defined, some countries, especially those aiming for Window 1, have already started preparations to the country dialogue processes to develop their funding requests. Among those are such EECA countries as Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and few others.

The NFM4 related Applicant Guidance Materials as well as Funding Request Forms and Materials are already available on the Global Fund's website and more are expected to come in the next few weeks. Currently all the documents are available in English, many of them also in Spanish and French but none of them in Russian. According to the information from the Secretariat, there are no plans to translate any NFM4 related documents into Russian. At the same time, local communities' representatives from EECA started to approach our organizations for Russian translation of the documents – core Funding Model Information, HIV/TB/RSSH/CSS Information Notes, Technical Briefs and Guidance Notes, etc.

Many people in countries in the east of the EECA region, such as Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and others, still use the Russian language as an official language, language of education and / or communication, lingua franca. At the same time, majority of key populations and affected communities in those EECA countries do not know English well enough. As the Global Fund documents won't be available in multiple national languages of the region, accessing them at least in Russian is still much more preferable for those people rather than in English only. Without access to the NFM4 related documents in a language they can understand (more) easily, representatives of affected communities in a significant number of EECA countries will not be able to meaningfully participate in the country dialogue processes and the development of the new funding requests.

In this regard we would like to request the Global Fund Secretariat, including the Access to Funding Team, to ensure translation into Russian at least of those NFM4 related documents of a major importance for the communities such as Applicant and Modular Framework Handbooks as well as core Information Notes (or those already being translated into Spanish and French) and also provide translation into Russian for the Global Fund's 2023-2025 Allocation Period Training Series (and provide translation of the slides from the webinars, including those already conducted).

We also ask the Delegations to the Global Fund Board to consider and support our request and advocate for the relevant actions at the relevant levels of the Global Fund's governance structure, including in advance and during the upcoming 48th Global Fund Board meeting to take place later this month.

Sincerely yours,

Eurasian Harm Reduction Association
Eurasian Coalition on Health, Rights, Gender and Sexual Diversity (ECOM)
Harm Reduction International
TB Europe Coalition
Eurasian Movement for the Right to Health in Prisons
Eurasian Women's Network on AIDS
HIV Legal Network
Regional Expert Group on Migration and Health
Center for Health Policies and Studies (PAS Center) (Moldova)
NGO "Positive Initiative" (Moldova)