

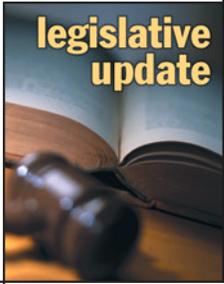
Heard on the Hill

Will there be a bill?

The House Committee on International Relations passed its global AIDS bill [HR 1298] by a vote of 37-8. Thanks go to Representatives Hyde, Lantos, Lee, and Leach for ensuring the passage of solid bipartisan legislation that codifies the President's promise of \$15 billion over 5 years, or \$3 billion a year for global AIDS. The bill authorizes the US to invest up to \$1 billion in FY04 in the Global Fund, but not more than 1/3 of the total contributions to the Fund. The bill also set aside 55% of funds for treatment. An amendment pushing an "abstinence only" HIV prevention education strategy was defeated by a vote of 24-20 in favor of an alternative which affirmed an "A-B-C (abstain, be faithful, & use condoms)" approach. Given that 14,000 people become infected each day, the Committee deserves applause for rejecting a one-size fits all approach which is not supported by the science and would undoubtedly cost lives. A similar amendment is likely to be offered when the bill reaches the House floor in the coming weeks and is being pushed hard in the Senate where a final bipartisan bill has yet to emerge.

Show me the money.

Democrats and moderate Republicans in the Senate deserve a great deal of credit for shrinking the size of the tax cut—given other spending priorities. Rather than the \$1.3 trillion tax cut originally proposed by the White House, the final number is likely to be between \$350 billion (agreed to by the Senate) and \$550 billion (agreed to by the House). While this movement reduces some overall fiscal pressure, non-defense related discretionary spending will still be extremely tight. Discussions are currently underway about the possibility of securing some additional FY03 global AIDS funding as part of the next FY03 Supplemental Appropriation, which is likely to begin moving when the Congress returns from the current recess. ■



Campaign Goes Global

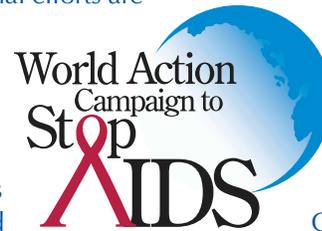
As the World Action Campaign to Stop AIDS continues to pickup momentum here in the United States, similar national efforts are moving forward around the world. While some of these Campaigns are only being established, others have already started to combat the global AIDS epidemic by raising awareness, advocating for increased resources, and developing leadership at all levels.

Although each national Campaign faces a distinct set of challenges in ratcheting up the response to the global epidemic within its borders, the Campaigns are united around the belief that the worldwide response to the AIDS epidemic must be expanded, and that each nation must contribute its fair share to this effort.

In recognition of this common mission, and to create a mechanism for information sharing and concerted action, UNAIDS brought together representatives

from Brazil, Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States in Gex, France during the week of March 17th to discuss the formation of a global HIV/AIDS Campaign Coalition. IAT represented the United States at this gathering.

During the meetings, the participants agreed to a set of Guiding Principles for such a global resource mobilization campaign and a set of Operating Principles to articulate how the movement might function in practice. The participants also formed an ad hoc working group, comprised of NGO leaders from the Netherlands, Portugal, Brazil, Russia, and the United States, to further develop a framework for action that could eventually drive the global Campaign forward in partnership with UNAIDS. This plan of action will be discussed further at the initial steering committee meeting in June. ■



IAT'S ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM

TURN THE TIDE

The International AIDS Trust launched its annual-giving program on April 15, 2003 at a meeting of the IAT Board of Directors. "Turn the Tide" is a fundraising initiative to raise one million dollars to support the mission and programs of the Trust. The program, a first for IAT, will target individuals and corporations who want to contribute in the global fight against AIDS and become "Founders" of The International AIDS Trust.

An individual can become a "Founder" by contributing \$10,000 annually to the program, while corporations can join with a \$50,000 gift. "Founder" benefits include invitations to all IAT events; recognition in IAT printed materials, on the website, and on a permanent plaque prominently displayed at IAT headquarters; a

specially-engraved item of appreciation; VIP tickets to the IAT Awards Gala; and the opportunity to participate in an IAT-sponsored and led excursion to Africa. Corporations receive these same benefits along with additional opportunities for CEO leadership and corporate education programs. Both corporations and individuals have the option to designate their gifts for a specific IAT program, such as the development and expansion of the Organization of African First Ladies Against AIDS (OAFLA).

Funds raised through the "Turn the Tide" program will assist IAT at home and abroad in



advocating for sound policy, creating strategic partnerships, developing and empowering leadership at all levels, and increasing awareness in the global fight against AIDS. This program will help to ensure that IAT can continue to play a major role in advocacy, public education, and leadership development efforts, which make a difference in the lives of those most impacted by the AIDS epidemic.

If you would like to become a "Founder" of IAT and to help "Turn the Tide" in the global war on AIDS, contact Robert Sheppard, Director of Development, at rsheppard@internationalaidstrust.org or 202.331.9622. ■



An Evening on Capitol Hill

Honoring Senator Tom Daschle and Senator Gordon Smith

**Tuesday
April 29th**

6:30pm

To Support the Mission of IAT
Sewall-Belmont House

Tickets: \$1000 per person

Rooftop at the Ritz, New Orleans

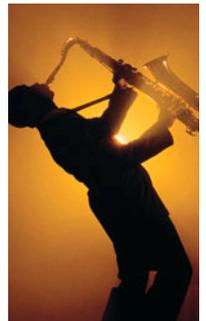
An Evening of Food, Fun, Friends, and of course, Great Jazz!

**Saturday
April 26th**

8pm - midnight

To Benefit the International
AIDS Trust

Tickets: \$250 per person



The International AIDS Trust invites you and your guests to a reception honoring Senator Tom Daschle of South Dakota and Senator Gordon Smith of Oregon for their extraordinary efforts in the global fight against HIV/AIDS. Join these two outstanding public servants, along with their friends, supporters of IAT, and numerous guests from the Hill as we recognize and celebrate their exemplary contributions to fighting the pandemic. The host reception starts at 6pm with the general reception at 6:30pm. Make plans now to attend this very important event. [To reserve your space and for more information: Call Kimball Stroud at 202.543.9700]

Hosted by former New Orleans Mayor Marc Morial, Stewart and Juli Juneau, Ira Middleberg, and Glenn Vesh, this not-to-be-missed party will be held at the Juneaus' private residence in the penthouse of The Ritz-Carlton Hotel. Some 300 guests (space is limited) from New Orleans and around the world are expected to attend this private party and experience the finest food, drink, and merriment that New Orleans has to offer. You will be joined by lots of celebrities from the Jazz Fest, but the highlight of the evening will be when top local musicians bring in their horns to jam with the band! If you love jazz, you'll love this party! An experience you will never forget. [Call Heather Thompson at 202.331.9819 to reserve your space now!]

INTERNATIONAL



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About the IAT

The International AIDS Trust (IAT) is a single-focused NGO with the access and vision needed to effectively fight AIDS worldwide. Based in Washington, D.C., IAT works at home and abroad to advocate sound policy, create strategic partnerships, and increase awareness of the global AIDS crisis and the opportunity to make a difference. IAT reaches out to heads of government, policy makers and parliamentarians; labor, business, faith and foundation leaders; and private citizens. With IAT support, these leaders are using their talent, influence, and position to strengthen and support an expanded response to the global AIDS epidemic.