

## PRESS RELEASE

### **The French Council of Investors in Africa and the Global Fund create innovative partnership**

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**Paris** – The French Council of Investors in Africa (CIAN) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria have entered into a cooperation agreement aimed at involving French companies in the fight against the three diseases in sub-Saharan Africa.

CIAN is an organization of French companies operating in Africa, including multinational corporations, as well as small and medium-size businesses. The organization aims to accelerate private sector involvement in health issues through its network of 160 member companies and 10,000 establishments in Africa. CIAN recently created a Health Commission, an initiative that demonstrates its members' growing interest in combating the AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria epidemics.

While highlighting the private sector's key role for mobilizing resources and driving innovation in global health, the agreement reaffirms the willingness of French companies to engage more actively and increase their support for ending the three diseases.

The partnership has been formed to maximize the impact of Global Fund-supported programs and improve access to quality care in sub-Saharan Africa. To achieve these goals, it will promote joint initiatives involving skills transfer, prevention and health care delivery programs, and advocacy.

“We are proud to join the Global Fund mission. There is a crucial need for partnerships between international organizations and the private sector, and French companies are ready to use their financial and technical resources to support the fight against HIV, TB and malaria. Their social commitment goes hand-in-hand with their economic effectiveness,” said Etienne Giros, Vice President of CIAN.

“It is my great pleasure to welcome the new partnership with the CIAN and the private sector in France. The private sector plays an essential role in Global Fund-supported programs to ensure innovation in program implementation and in the design of new investment opportunities to benefit millions of people in countries most highly affected by the main infectious diseases,” said Christoph Benn, Director of External Relations at the Global Fund.

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### **About CIAN**

The French Council of Investors in Africa (CIAN) is a private corporate organization, created in 1979, that brings together industrial and service companies, large business groups as well as SMEs and SMIs operating in Africa. It has over 160 member companies, which, with over 10 000 establishments and 300 000 collaborators on the continent, accounts for €60 billion, or close to 80% of French economic activity in Africa. CIAN promotes the interests of these companies in Africa through information sharing via committees, providing the advice and support of its experts, and lobbying French and international private and public decision makers.

[www.cian.asso.fr](http://www.cian.asso.fr)

### **About the Global Fund**

The Global Fund is a 21st-century partnership organization designed to accelerate the end of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria as epidemics. A partnership between governments, civil society, the private sector and the people affected by the diseases, the Global Fund raises and invests nearly US\$4 billion a year to support programs run by local experts in over 100 countries. The Global Fund's operating costs account for only 2.3 per cent of the amount of the grants it manages, an indication of an exceptionally high level of efficiency. By removing obstacles and adopting innovative approaches, we work together to most effectively help those affected by the three diseases.

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