

Policy on Non-Global Fund- financed Procurement through the Pooled Procurement Mechanism (PPM) / wambo.org

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the “Global Fund”) plays a critical role in supporting countries’ access to affordable, quality assured health products through market shaping, pooled procurement and strategic partnerships. These approaches help address persistent supply side challenges, including high prices, limited competition, fragmented quality assurance requirements and supply chain vulnerabilities.

Central to this effort is the Global Fund’s Pooled Procurement Mechanism (PPM), which aggregates demand across countries to secure competitive pricing, reliable supply and access to quality assured health products through standardized and transparent processes. PPM is enabled through wambo.org, the Global Fund’s hosted procurement platform.

As part of its broader approach to collaborative procurement, the Global Fund allows certain buyers to access PPM using non-Global Fund financing. This access is increasingly important as countries advance along sustainability and transition pathways, including reduced or concluded Global Fund financial support, while continuing to require affordable and reliable access to essential health products.

This Policy on Non-Global Fund-Financed Procurement (NGFP) through PPM/wambo.org (the “Policy”) establishes the principles under which NGFP Buyers may use non-Global Fund financing to access quality assured health products at sustainable prices. The Policy provides a framework to maintain product access during transition, support long term sustainability and enhance cost effectiveness by offering a clear, efficient and competitive procurement option.

1.2 Scope

This Policy covers all NGFP transactions through PPM/wambo.org.¹ Such transactions must comply with this Policy and the operational framework² established for non-Global Fund-financed procurement.

¹ For clarity, in contrast, Global Fund Financing refers to the unrestricted and restricted financial resources administered by the Global Fund, whether unallocated or allocated to Global Fund Country Allocations, Catalytic Investments or other Board-approved uses of funds, excluding the restricted assets and liabilities of the Non-Global Fund Financed Procurement Mechanism.

² The operational framework refers to the detailed regulations, procedures, IT system, etc. the Global Fund uses to execute and manage the NGFP operations, in alignment with the overall NGFP Policy and other relevant Global Fund policies.

1.3 Authority

The Executive Director is responsible for establishing and maintaining the operational framework, including the regulations, procedures, IT systems and guidance, necessary to implement this Policy. The Executive Director is also responsible for establishing and maintaining appropriate risk-based controls and monitoring arrangements for NGFP, commensurate with the scale, complexity and risk profile of these activities. The Executive Director may delegate the authority considered appropriate for the implementation of this Policy to Global Fund personnel.

1.4 Financial Management

This Policy is complemented by a financial framework developed by the Secretariat, which guides the financial management of the NGFP mechanism. The financial framework addresses the management of three core financial elements: (i) the establishment of a segregated financial management mechanism for NGFP which will apply the principles of the Comprehensive Funding Policy, including management of foreign exchange risk, liquidity and cash, to a separate pool of restricted assets and liabilities available for allocation to transactions pursuant to the Policy; (ii) the introduction of a cost-recovery fee framework to support the operating costs of the mechanism; and (iii) the establishment of a pre-financing facility within the NGFP mechanism to address one of the barriers to NGFP uptake: the inability of some governments to meet full advance payment requirements due to liquidity constraints, public financial management processes or legal restrictions.

2. Key Principles

Below are the key principles that define the applicable conditions for NGFP through PPM/wambo.org, which aim to safeguard value for money, product quality, market stability and alignment with the Global Fund's sustainability and transition objectives.

2.1 Non-Global Fund-Financed Procurement Buyers

NGFP Buyers are:

- A. Government entities of countries currently receiving or which previously received an allocation for at least one disease component from the Global Fund;
- B. Non-governmental organizations with operations in a country currently receiving or which previously received an allocation for at least one disease component from the Global Fund; and

- C. Regional and national pooled procurement platforms,¹ or the users of such regional and national pooled procurement platforms.²

In each case, products may only be delivered to countries currently receiving or which previously received an allocation for at least one disease component from the Global Fund.

2.2 Products

The following sets out key provisions for products procured through NGFP mechanism.

- A. **Eligible products:** These are all health products, non-health products, and services available for procurement through PPM/wambo.org.
- B. **Quality Assurance:** All eligible health products must meet Global Fund's Quality Assurance requirements, as described in Global Fund's Quality Assurance Policies.³
- C. **Innovation Access / Supply-constrained products:** Where supply is constrained for a particular product, including new or limited-availability innovations, the Global Fund will define the applicable conditions and, where relevant, the allocation of available supply between Global Fund-financed and non-Global Fund-financed procurement, prioritizing Global Fund-financed procurement needs. Such determinations will take into account programmatic needs, market stability and value for money considerations.

2.3 Third-Party Payers

Third-Party Payers are entities that provide financing for NGFP transactions but do not act as buyers. All such financing must be channeled through an eligible NGFP Buyer, who is responsible for making orders in accordance with applicable PPM/wambo.org regulations and procedures established through the operational framework.

2.4 Pre-payment Requirement

For NGFP Buyers to place an order, the Global Fund will need to have secured upfront funds for the transaction to remove risk of delayed payment to the manufacturer. Three options will be available for an NGFP Buyer to place an order through PPM/wambo.org:

¹ The legal entity hosting or managing the pooled procurement platform, which may be an intergovernmental organization, governmental entity, international or national non-government organization, may be an NGFP Buyer.

² Users of regional or national pooled procurement platforms must be entities identified at Section 2.1 (A) or 2.1 (B) above.

³ The Global Fund's Quality Assurance Policies are available here: <https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/sourcing-management/quality-assurance/>

- A. Process the pre-payment directly; or
- B. Use a Third-Party Payer (e.g., a donor); or
- C. Agree to a later date of payment subject to use of a Global Fund supported financing offering.

2.5 Buyer's Preference

The Global Fund will operate the NGFP channel aligned with the Global Fund's Procurement Policy, Quality Assurance Policies and other relevant Board-approved policies. To preserve economies of scale, market stability and value for money, NGFP will minimize variation from standard Global Fund specifications.

The NGFP operational framework may permit limited deviations from the standard Global Fund procurement approach to accommodate a NGFP Buyer or Third-Party Payer's preference, for example, related to location of manufacture of health products, within Secretariat-established guardrails to preserve market access, competition and value for money at regional and global levels. However, deviations from Board-approved Quality Assurance Policies cannot be accommodated.

The procurement of products in PPM/wambo.org by NGFP Buyers is subject to the agreement of relevant product manufacturers or suppliers.

3. Oversight and Reporting

The Board approves this Policy and retains strategic oversight of its implementation through its Committees.

The Strategy Committee oversees implementation of this Policy and the Audit and Finance Committee oversees the financial framework with respect to the segregated financial management mechanism for NGFP. Committee oversight does not extend to the approval of individual transactions or exceptions.

Implementation of the Policy will be reported annually through Procurement and Market Shaping reports to the relevant Committees and the Board, including information on:

- A. The value of NGFP, by NGFP Buyer and product category;
- B. Fees generated and costs incurred in managing non grant financed procurement transactions; and
- C. Utilization of, and repayment performance under, the pre-financing facility.