

## *HIV/AIDS: Money, Bottlenecks and the Future*

### **Survey of Perceptions of HIV/AIDS Bottlenecks Summary of Key Findings**

As an input to today's panel discussion, the Center for Global Development and the International AIDS Economic Network (IAEN) conducted a global survey of perceptions of bottlenecks in the disbursement of funds to respond to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. This note summarizes the main findings. The full results will be available soon on the CGD and IAEN Web sites.

**Survey Methodology and Demographics:** An invitation to complete the survey was e-mailed to about 9,000 people who subscribe to IAEN e-mail updates. Potential respondents were thus people who had demonstrated interest in the intersection of HIV/AIDS and economics. The 353 responses received included about a third each from Africa, Western Europe and North America, and the rest of the world. About 80% of the respondents indicated that they held a master's degree or higher. Respondents included people working for bilateral donors, developing country governments, local and international NGOs, academia and think tanks, and multilateral organizations.

**Questions:** Following a series of demographic questions, respondents were asked for their reaction to the following statement: "In hard-hit African countries, HIV/AIDS programs should be considered exceptional, and not restricted by macroeconomic and fiscal policies." (Possible responses: "Agree," "Do Not Agree," and "Do Not Know.")

Respondents were then asked to rate 12 impediments to an effective response to HIV/AIDS in Africa as "very important," "important," "somewhat important," or "not important" and to identify the single most important obstacle. Finally, they were asked: "Where funds have been made available but are not being spent, how important are each of the following explanations?" and presented with a similar list of for rating, and for selecting the single most important explanation.

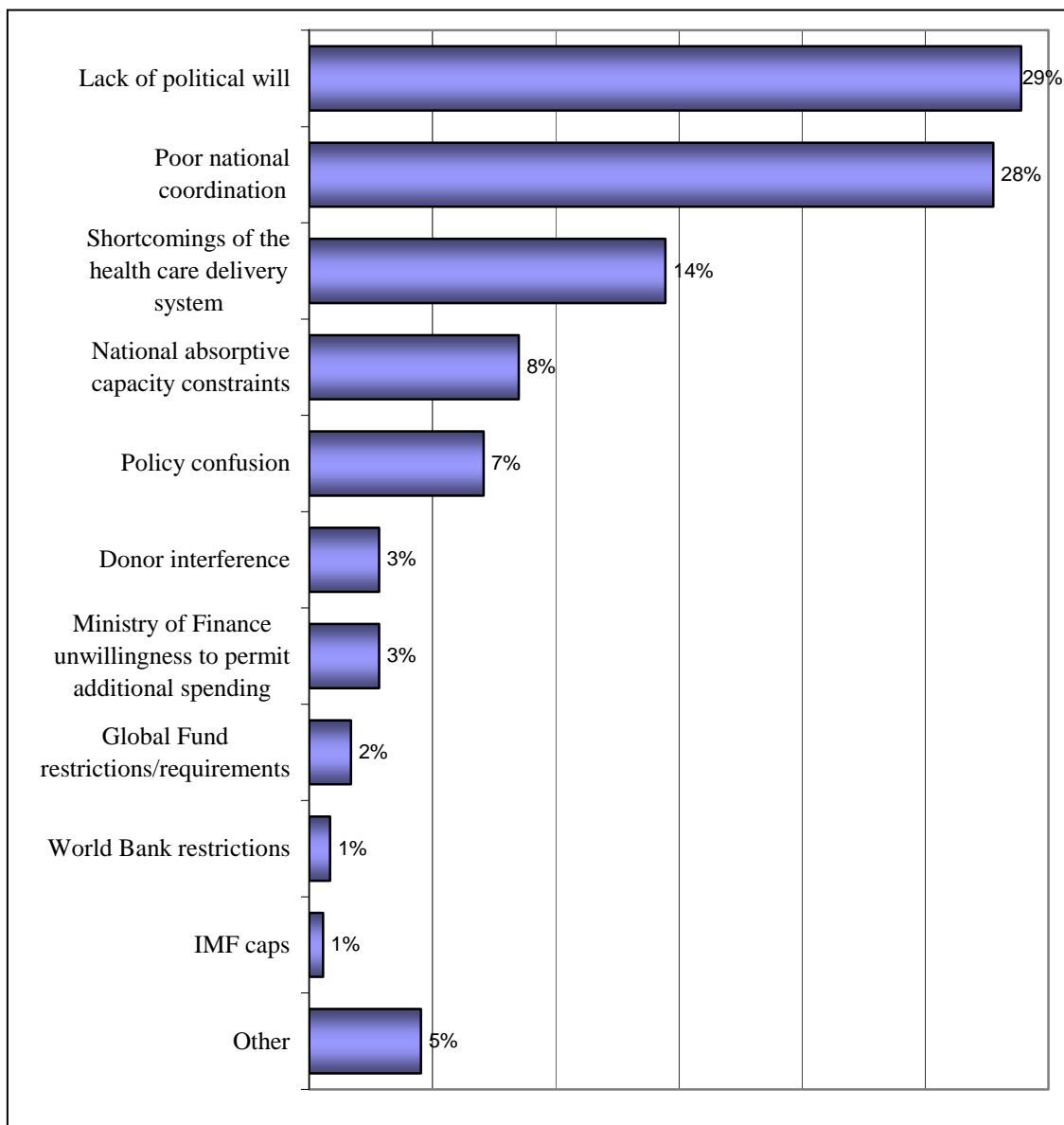
#### **Results:**

- About three-out-of-four respondents (74%) agreed that HIV spending should not be restricted by macroeconomic or fiscal policies.
- However, respondents did not consider such constraints to be a serious problem, relative to others, such as "lack of money," "weak political will," and "weak national AIDS strategies," all of which were ranked as more important.
- Views were similar regardless of whether respondents were in Africa, or elsewhere, or were academics, NGO activists, etc.

(see chart on reverse)

## What's the problem?

“In your view, when funds have been made available but are not being spent, which of the following is the most important explanation?”<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> The question has been paraphrased here. In the original questionnaire, the question referred to explanations that had been previously listed.