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## Working Group Formed to Study Changes to Application, Renewal and Approval Processes -

The Global Fund Board has formed a working group to examine options for changes to the application, renewal and approval processes for new and existing investments.

At its meeting on 26 September 2011, the Board decided that it was necessary to examine options in light of current resource constraints, the recommendations of the High-Level Panel and changes emanating from the Global Fund's strategic planning and reform processes.

The Board said that it will communicate the results of these deliberations no later than 1 December 2011. It also said that the deliberations will consider options for "reallocating existing commitments to prioritise high-impact interventions, which could increase resources available for new investments." In other words, the Global Fund may look for savings in grants that will be going through Phase 2 Renewal in order to free up some money to fund Round 11 proposals.

The intent is that the working group will provide the Board with the results of its deliberations in time for decisions at the 25th Board meeting on 21-22 November 2011. Bland said that he expects that the group's report will be provided on or about 7 November. Bland added that he hopes to provide Board members with a report on the working group's progress by the end of October.

Information for this article was taken from a communication from Simon Bland, Chair of the Global Fund Board, circulated at the end of the first week of October. When we went to press, the text of the communication was not available on the Global Fund website.

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