

Statement on Fiscal Year 2017 Budget
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As physician scientists confronting the global TB and HIV pandemics, we were excited last September to see the Obama Administration set new treatment and prevention goals for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. We were eager to support the White House National Action Plan to Combat Drug Resistant Tuberculosis released just a little over a month ago.

Today then we are deeply discouraged to see a White House Budget proposal for FY 2017 that supplies no new resources with which to achieve these important goals.

We are all the more saddened because the administration has shown insight and leadership in its support for swift as well as ongoing responses to infectious diseases, through initiatives to combat antibiotic resistance, in its Global Health Security Agenda, with its response to the Ebola crisis in West Africa, and again this week, with its response and request for funding to confront the spread of Zika virus and observed increases in microcephaly and neurological disorders.

We urge Congress to support the White House in those important efforts.

But we also call on Congress to once again stand up for the work that lies ahead in HIV and tuberculosis research and responses, and exceed the administration's request for funding to fight these diseases. We now ask Congress to increase funding to adequate levels to achieve ambitious goals and end the threats of the two leading global infectious disease killers.

The Center for Global Health Policy is a project of the IDSA Education and Research Foundation and HIV Medicine Association dedicated to promoting the effective use of U.S. funding for addressing the global HIV/AIDS and TB epidemics. The Center's blog Science Speaks offers news and analysis on the latest developments in HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis (TB) and other relevant global health issues.