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## Letter: GOP-Dem unity on global health program applauded

Increasing drug resistances, funding and indecisive political commitment threaten progress in mitigating AIDS, TB and malaria.



A research nurse gives an infant a check-up as part of a clinical trial to develop new TB vaccines at the South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative's clinical trial field site in Worcester, South Africa in this April 2012 handout photo obtained by Reuters February 1, 2013. Global health experts are eagerly awaiting clinical trial results – expected early next week – of MVA85A, the first new vaccine in 90 years designed to prevent tuberculosis infections.

By **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** | Bay Area News Group

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## GOP-Dem unity on globalhealth program applauded

Disappointingly, the major television media networks seem to preferentially report on the dissension between our two major political parties in Congress.

Contrarily, I commend the unanimity among the Republicans and Democrats for continuously approving financial support for programs and strategies that promote global education and health, and fight poverty – programs such as the Global Partnership for Education and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

Even though the Global Fund has helped save about 27 million lives since 2002, many challenges remain.

Increasing drug resistances, funding and indecisive political commitment threaten progress in mitigating AIDS, TB and malaria. The U.S. needs to maintain its support of one-third of the Global Fund's financial resources, or \$4.8 billion toward the \$14 billion target to save an additional 16 million lives by 2022.

I urge the Congress and President Trump to approve this support.

**Ricardo Narvaez***Concord*