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GRANDMOTHERS RINGING THE BELL FOR DEMOCRACY; URGE SENATE TO QUICKLY PASS BILL C-393

Liberal Senator Roméo Dallaire and Conservative Senator Nancy Ruth call on colleagues to do the right thing in support of accessible medicines for all

The campaign to fix Canada's Access to Medicines Regime — so that more affordable life-saving medicines can get to developing countries — has one more round to go. But time is running out. MPs voted in favour of Bill C-393 (172 for and 111 against) at third reading on March 9th. Bill C-393's passage in the House of Commons means it must now be passed by a majority vote in the Senate — and this must happen before Parliament is dissolved, which could happen within days. If an election is called before Bill C-393 passes through the Senate and receives Royal Assent, the bill will die on the order paper — for a second time.

Fortunately, the Senate's procedures allow for it to pass Bill C-393 this week. It is up to the Senators to pass this humanitarian legislation quickly.

Who:

- **Andrea Beal, National Advocacy Committee, Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign**
- **Senator Roméo Dallaire (Liberal Party of Canada)**
- **Senator Nancy Ruth (Conservative Party of Canada)**
- **Richard Elliott, Executive Director, Canadian HIV/ AIDS Legal Network**
- **Rachel Kiddell-Monroe, President, Universities Allied for Essential Medicines**

What: Press conference to highlight the moral and political responsibility of Senators to deal quickly with Bill C-393

Where: Charles-Lynch Press Conference Room, Centre Block of Parliament

When: Wednesday, March 23rd at 10:30 a.m. EDT

Why: To urge Senators to quickly pass Bill C-393

Note: Additional photo opportunity Tuesday, March 22nd at 1 pm in front of Centre Block on Parliament Hill as grandmothers carrying large bells signal to Senators that time is running out for Bill C-393 and for those who are dying for lack of affordable medicines in developing countries.

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For more information please contact:

Christopher Holcroft
Principal
Empower Consulting for the Legal Network
chris_holcroft@yahoo.com
416-996-0767 (cell)

Janet Butler-McPhee
Director of Communications
Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
jbutler@aidslaw.ca
416-595-1666 ext. 228
416-268-2549 (cell)

For additional information on Bill C-393: www.aidslaw.ca/camr