

31 st HRC Session  
March 11, 2016  
Panel on Human Rights and HIV

*Statement by the International HIV/AIDS Alliance*

*Joined by the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA); Humanist Institute for Co-operation with Developing Countries (Hivos); International Council Of Aids Service Organizations (ICASO); the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network; Grandmothers Advocacy Network; Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+); International AIDS Society (IAS); International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).*

*Delivered by David Ruiz Villafranca*

Mr. President,

We welcome the HRC acknowledgment that the full realization of human rights is an essential element in the global AIDS response. Today, more than 30 years into the Aids epidemic, we have the knowledge, tools and the experience to end Aids; but it will be impossible to get there without a strong and real commitment towards the realisation of the human rights of all people living with and affected by HIV.

With this statement, supported by 52 HIV and human rights organisations, we call upon States to adopt the following four commitments as a basis to move towards the end of Aids.

1. States must **respect, protect, and fulfil the rights of all persons living with or affected by HIV by prohibiting all forms of discrimination**, and taking all necessary steps to end gender inequality and gender-based violence, and ensuring full respect for the right to health, including sexual and reproductive health. All states' reports under the Universal Periodic Review process and all UN human rights treaty bodies should provide analysis of the human rights context of HIV in the countries reported and measures undertaken and planned to address it.
2. States must establish **quantifiable commitments to eliminate legislation that criminalise** people living with or affected by HIV. Today, at least 60 countries have laws that criminalize HIV non-disclosure, exposure or transmission, and 56 have travel restrictions. Criminalised populations, Gay people, other MSM, Transgender, SW and PWID, continue to face the greatest burden of the epidemic, because of the many barriers to accessing services.
3. States must **respect, protect and fulfil the rights to treatment and prevention** by removing all legal and societal barriers. States must ensure full use of TRIPS flexibilities and policies to provide immediate HIV treatment. Today, 21 million people do not have access to ARVs.
4. States share an obligation to finance the rights to health for all. They must **commit to increase quantifiable investments in human rights interventions**. That includes interventions led by civil society and affected populations on the ground.

Mr. President,

This panel offers a great opportunity to inform the negotiations up to the High Level Meeting on AIDS. We, people affected by and living with HIV, key populations and civil society will continue to work hand in hand with communities, governments and the UN to ensure no one is left behind. Thank you.

## Signatories

1. ACON
2. Action against AIDS, Germany
3. Africa Civil Society Platform for Health (CiSPHA)
4. African Services Committee
5. AIDS and Rights Alliance for Southern Africa (ARASA)
6. AIDS-Fondet/The Danish AIDS Foundation
7. Alliance Center for Adolescent Health and HIV, India
8. Alliance Côte d'Ivoire
9. Alliance for Public Health, Ukraine
10. Asia Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health (APCOM)
11. Asia Pacific Council of AIDS Service Organisations (APCASO)
12. Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO)
13. Balance Promoción para el Desarrollo y Juventud
14. Collaborative Network of People Living with HIV (C-NET+) - Belize
15. European Red Cross and Red Crescent Network on HIV/AIDS, TB, HCV (ERNA)
16. Family Aids Support Organisation (F.A.S.O.)
17. Fundación Salud por Derecho
18. Global Network of People Living With HIV (GNP+)
19. Grandmothers Advocacy Network
20. Harm Reduction International
21. Health GAP
22. Health NGOS Network (HENNET)
23. Humanist Institute for Co-operation with Developing Countries (Hivos)
24. India HIV/AIDS Alliance
25. Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development (ICAD)
26. International AIDS Society (IAS)
27. International Civil Society Support (ICSS)
28. International Community of Women Living with HIV (ICW) Global
29. International Council Of Aids Service Organizations (ICASO)
30. International HIV/AIDS Alliance
31. International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)
32. International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC)
33. Latin American and the Caribbean Council of AIDS Organizations (LACCASO)
34. Loving Hand Zimbabwe
35. MAMTA Health Institute for Mother and Child
36. Network Medicus Mundi Switzerland
37. Osservatorio Italiano sull'Azione Globale contro l'AIDS
38. Pan African Centre for Social Development & Accountability PACSDA)
39. Partners in Sexual Health (PSH) South Africa
40. Positive Vibes
41. Soropositividade, Comunicação e Gênero (GESTOS)
42. Southern African AIDS Trust (SAT)
43. Stop AIDS Alliance (SAA)
44. STOP AIDS NOW!-Aids Fonds
45. The Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
46. The Center for Reproductive Rights
47. The Global Forum on MSM & HIV (MSMGF)
48. The Grandmothers Advocacy Network (GRAN)
49. The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA)
50. World Council of Churches-Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (WCC-EAA)
51. Young Positive Generation Of Lesotho – YPGOL
52. Youth Voices Count