A Dialogue on HIV and Human Rights: Universal access for key affected populations

High Level Meeting on AIDS June 9th, 2011, 1:15-2:30pm
Conference Room 6, North Lawn Building, United Nations

Hosted by:
The UK and South African Governments;

Partnered by:
International HIV/AIDS Alliance and
International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC)

with supporting partners:
The Global Forum on MSM & HIV (MSMGF); The Foundation for AIDS Research (AmfAR), Global Network of People living with HIV (GNP+), International Network of People who use Drugs (INPUD), Harm Reduction International, Global Action for Trans Equality (GATE), Center of Excellence for Transgender health, Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP); AIDS FONDS; SAfAIDS; and the Stop AIDS Alliance.

Introduction

To lead to concrete and effective scale up towards universal access to HIV services, particularly for key affected populations, the Outcome Declaration and the HIV response moving forward must be based on a foundation of human rights and evidence-informed approaches to addressing HIV. The sustained political will and financial commitments to the protection and promotion of human rights are critical for the HIV response up to 2015.

Evidence shows that both in concentrated and generalized epidemics, key affected populations (in particular, men who have sex with men (MSM), sex workers, people who inject drugs, and transgender people) are disproportionately affected by HIV. HIV related human rights violations against these groups are main barriers to them accessing essential prevention, treatment, care and support services. Universal Access and UNAIDS new “zero strategy” (zero new infections; zero AIDS-related deaths; zero discrimination) cannot be achieved unless global policy and national HIV strategies respond to these epidemic realities.

This event aims to:

- Raise awareness of good practice on realizing human rights and increasing access to quality HIV services. It will be a key opportunity for leaders of the global HIV response to come and listen to what is working on the ground and in the communities where key affected populations are living their everyday lives.
- Create a platform for dialogue between governments, technical agencies and key affected populations
- Identify clear steps to implement the Outcome Declaration from a human rights perspective and form partnerships between governments, donors, technical agencies, key affected population communities and broader civil society to take these steps.
Event Format

- **Welcome (5 mins)**: The meeting will be welcomed by the UK Government Minister for International Development, Stephen O’Brien.

- **Introductions (3 mins)**: The chair, Michaela Clayton (Executive Director of ARASA) will introduce the format of the meeting and the panelists from key affected populations and discussants from Governments, Multilaterals and Intergovernmental Agencies.

- **Key affected populations (25 mins)**: The chair asks three questions to each of the representatives of key affected populations. The questions will be:
  1. Highlight one key challenges/obstacles your community faces regarding human rights violations or accessing services; followed by one successful action that has been undertaken to address these challenges?
  2. What is the one key recommendation you have for policy makers present at this High Level Meeting to improve the situation of key populations across the globe?

The representatives of key affected populations are as follows:
- **IDU Speaker: Alexei Kurmanayevsky** from Russia. He injects drugs and is living with HIV. He speaks Russian.
- **MSM Speaker: Othman Mellouk** from Morocco. He is Co-Chair of the Global Forum on MSM and HIV and Advocacy Coordinator for the International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC) for North Africa. He speaks English.
- **Sex Worker Speaker: Penninah Mwangi**, Director of Bar Hostess Association, Nairobi, Kenya - one of the longest standing sex worker led organisations in Africa. Bar Hostess Association is part of the Kenya Sex Work Project network and involved in the Africa Sex Worker Alliance.
- **Transgender Speaker: Marcela Romero** from Argentina. She is vice president of Federación Argentina de Lesbianas Gays Bisexuales y Trans; a member of the Association of Transvestites, Transsexuals and Transgendered People of Argentina; and she is the regional director of Red de América Latina y el Caribe de Personas Transgénero. She speaks Spanish.

- **Response from Michel Kazachtkine, Executive Director of The Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria. (5-7 mins)**

- **Question and Answer (25 mins)**: The chair will then throw open the panel to questions and comments from the floor. There will be certain pre-prepared interventions from discussants including:
  - **Jan Beagle**, Deputy Executive Director of UNAIDS
  - **Pardamean Napitu** (Aldo) Male sex worker from Indonesia. OPSI (Indonesia Social Change Organization)
  - International Federation of the Red Cross: TBC
  - The International HIV/AIDS Alliance: TBC

- **Summary of discussion and concluding thoughts (5 mins)**: South African Health Minister/High Level Representative