

JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

Support to NEPAD

Period of Report: July 2007 to June 2008

In 2007, the UNAIDS and the other agencies agreed on the principle that the UN should not create new agendas for Africa, but should buy-in into what the AU and its programmes have already developed.

Guided by the Ten-Year Capacity Development Programme for UN support to the African Union, UNAIDS worked closely with other agencies through the UN cluster mechanism for support to the African Union, to develop an AU/NEPAD-UN work plan, integrating specific deliverables aligned to AU/NEPAD priorities for 2007.

Key achievements and progress to date include the following:

- UNAIDS, in collaboration with UN agencies and International Partners, supported the AU to review and cost the AU Implementation Plan of HIV and AIDS for 2007-2010, including the identification of additional staff needed and related costs. A Joint Financial Agreement (JFA) is currently being developed to support the Plan.
- Following intensive dialogue and constant advocacy with the AU Commission, including the Commissions for Social Affairs, Political Affairs, Peace and Security, and DKPO-AU PST, UNAIDS is engaged in the process to provide technical support for incorporating AIDS in the AU peace and security architecture.
- In order to facilitate implementation of the AU plan on HIV and AIDS and to improve follow up on RECs, NEPAD, CSOs and other regional bodies, UNAIDS has strengthened the AU Commission for Social Affairs through the secondment of a senior level staff (P5) for at least 2 years and provided funds to recruit a project officer (P3) for an initial 11 months period.
- UNAIDS, WHO and Roll Back Malaria Partnership programme are providing technical and financial support to the AU to carry out a consultative review on the Status of Implementation of the African common position on HIV/AIDS concurrently with reviews of the Abuja Call and of the MDGs. The report was presented to the special session of AU Ministers of Health (Geneva, May 2008) and to the High Level meeting on AIDS (New York, June 2008).
- In order to mobilize Finance Ministers of AU Member states and development institutions, UNAIDS initiated in collaboration with UNECA the production of an issues paper presenting a range of options to increase and sustain or stabilize financing for AIDS in Africa in the long term, with emphasis on domestic financing but including international sources, in ways that minimize the possible macroeconomic and fiscal challenges that may be caused.

- UNAIDS initiated with AU, ECA and other UN agencies, the development of an AIDS accountability index that will measure Africa's progress and commitment towards universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support.
- UNICEF, in collaboration with WHO and UNAIDS provided support to the AU for preparations and carrying out of the Mid-Term Review – Africa Fit For Children and Africa Common Position. UNAIDS provided inputs to the progress report of the 2001 Plan of Action on Children and participated in a high level in thematic panel discussion.
- A comprehensive assessment of the impact of AIDS on Women and Girls in 14 conflict and post-conflict countries in Africa has been initiated by AU with the support of UNFPA, UNAIDS and UNIFEM. The findings of the assessment will be used by the AU to develop an advocacy strategy.
- UNAIDS provided technical and financial assistance to develop a compendium of HIV declarations and commitments in order to strengthen the follow up on these commitments.