



REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO

STATEMENT

By

H.E. Mr. Daniele D. Bodini
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of the Republic of San Marino

at the

High-level meeting on
the comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the
Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political
Declaration on HIV/AIDS

New York, 10 June 2011

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Mr. President,

The Government and the People of the Republic of San Marino, that I have the honor to represent, are very thankful and supportive of this High-level meeting on HIV/AIDS.

Thirty years ago we were confronted by a new killer virus that unleashed an unexpected incurable devastating plague.

Our entire world was at lost.

Over the last three decades AIDS and related diseases killed 27 million people (900.000 per year, 2 per minute). Today there are approximately 36 million HIV positive individuals, .5% of global population.

Mr. President,

Let me quote the Secretary General saying "today, we gather to end AIDS".

We must stop new infections.

We must end AIDS related deaths.

We must wipe out the stigma that comes with this disease.

To succeed, the patients, their families, the civil society, the national health infrastructures and the world medical/scientific community must work together.

We need new effective prevention strategies, especially for the young and the most vulnerable people.

We need to reduce the cost of available medicines and improve the delivery of treatments.

We need to motivate through financial incentives and grants the pharmaceutical industry and the scientific community to multiply their efforts to find more effective medicines and, above all, a working vaccine.

Mr. President,

We strongly believe that the UN is the appropriate forum to embrace the collective efforts of Governments, the civil society and the scientific community to pursue our desired goal: the end of AIDS.

Mr. President,

We must give a final positive response not only to the 36 million patients living with HIV/AIDS, but also to the many millions of orphans, widows and parents of the 27 million people that died because of AIDS in the last 30 years.

Mr. President,

We have the moral obligation to ensure a safer life to our children and grandchildren.

We must be totally committed to end this plague.

We cannot afford to lose this battle.

Thank you.