

Proposed arrangements for the high-level meeting and comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the targets set out in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, to be convened from 31 May to 2 June 2006

Information Note 2

Introduction

1. This note elaborates on and supersedes the information note issued on 31 March 2006.
2. This note was prepared taking into consideration suggestions, nominations and expressions of interest for participation by Member States and observers. The Office of the President of the General Assembly also consulted civil society over proposed civil society participation.

Official Events

3. The meetings on 31st May to 2nd June 2006 will be organized as follows:

Wednesday, 31 st May		
09:00-10:00	Opening Plenary Meeting	GA Hall*
10:00-13:00	Informal interactive civil society hearing	Conference Room 2*
15:00-18:00	Round table 1	ECOSOC Chamber
	Round table 2	Conference Room 5
	Round table 3	Conference Room 6
	Panel 1	Conference Room 2
	Panel 2	Conference Room 4*
Thursday, 1 st June		
10:00-13:00	Round table 4	ECOSOC Chamber
	Round table 5	Conference Room 6
	Panel 3	Conference Room 2
	Panel 4	Conference Room 4
	Panel 5	Conference Room 3
16:00-18:00	Plenary - Report back of the discussions over the past two days	GA Hall*
Friday, 2 nd June		
09:00-13:00	High-level plenary meeting	GA Hall*
15:00-18:00	High-level plenary meeting	GA Hall*

Detailed information about the official events is contained in the attached annexes.

* Delegates will also be able to follow these proceedings in the Overflow Room, Conference Room 3.

Attendees

4. Pursuant to General Assembly Resolution 60/224, the meeting will be open to all Member States and observers.
5. In line with General Assembly Resolution 60/224, the meeting will also be open to heads of entities of the United Nations system, including programmes, funds, specialized agencies and regional commissions, as well as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the Secretary-General's Special Envoys on HIV/AIDS, intergovernmental organizations and entities that have observer status with the General Assembly, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, non-governmental members of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board, and other invited civil society organizations as listed in A/60/CRP.2, as approved in General Assembly Decision 60/554 of 27 March.
6. Since some of the civil society representatives who are proposed to participate are still seeking financial support to attend, and some people's personal circumstances can present challenges to their ability to travel, this note proposes alternates for many civil society speakers. In addition, the President of the General Assembly would propose to draw from the entirety of the list of alternates in this paper and its attachments if both a speaker and alternate are unavailable, or if the replacement of speakers with principal alternates would leave any meeting unbalanced in terms of gender or region.
7. The Office of the General Assembly President will inform Member States about changes in the composition of the panels and roundtables, if any.

Passes for Delegations

8. The Pass and ID Office of the UN will be open, on an exceptional basis, on 29th May from 9:00 to 16:00 for registration of delegates. The Office will also be open on the following days at the following times: 30th May, 8:00 to 16:00; 31st May, 7:00 to 16:00; 1st June, 9:00 to 16:00; 2nd June, 9:00 to 12:45.
9. The UN Protocol and Liaison Service will authorize delegation passes as well as VIP passes for Cabinet Ministers. To facilitate the issuance of these passes, lists of delegations should be submitted to the UN Protocol and Liaison Service, United Nations Secretariat, Room S 201-P (Attention: Ms Marybeth Curran).
10. The UN Protocol and Liaison Service will also authorize colour-coded access cards for the round tables. These access cards may be collected from 24 May 2006.

Overflow Room and Webcast

11. There will be an “overflow room” (Conference Room 3) to enable delegates unable to attend in person to follow proceedings of the plenary meetings, the informal interactive civil society hearing, and panel 2.
12. The opening plenary, the informal interactive civil society hearing, the panel discussions, the second plenary and the high-level meeting will be transmitted by live Webcast.

Side-Events

13. An overview of the schedule of events on 31st May to 2nd June, including side events, is presented in Annex G. The side events listed are subject to change. The organizers of these events are responsible for providing detailed information and updates, as appropriate.

List of Annexes

14. The annexes to this information note are as follows:

Annex A	Information on Opening Plenary
Annex B	Information on Interactive Civil Society Hearing
Annex C	Information on Roundtable s
Annex D	Information on Panel Discussions
Annex E	Information on 1 st June Plenary
Annex F	Information on 2 nd June Plenary
Annex G	Programme Overview, including side-events

2006 High Level Meeting on AIDS
United Nations, New York, 31 May – 2 June 2006

Event: **Opening plenary meeting**

Date/Time: **31 May, Wednesday, 09:00 - 10:00 a.m.**

Venue: **General Assembly Hall**

The President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and a representative of civil society will each give a statement not exceeding ten minutes.

The proposed civil society representative is Ms. Maura Mea from Igat Hope, a network for people living with HIV in Papua New Guinea.¹ The alternate is the Reverend Canon Gideon Byamugisha from the African Network of Religious Leaders Living With and Personally Affected by HIV and AIDS (ANERELA+).²

In line with General Assembly Resolution 60/224, the opening plenary meeting will be open to attendees described in paragraph 5 of the main body of this information note.

Civil society attendees will be invited to observe the plenary meeting from the public gallery, within the limits of the space available. There will be an “overflow room” (Conference Room 3) to enable delegates unable to attend in person to follow proceedings.

¹ Ms. Maura is accredited through the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+).

² Canon Gideon, a citizen of Uganda, is accredited by the World Council of Churches.

2006 High Level Meeting on AIDS
United Nations, New York, 31 May – 2 June 2006

Event: **Informal Interactive Civil Society Hearing**

Date/Time: **31 May, Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Venue: **Conference Room 2**

The hearing will provide an opportunity for an exchange of views between civil society and Member States and observers on issues including those arising from the report of the Secretary-General (A/60/736) and from the Towards universal access: assessment by UNAIDS on scaling up HIV prevention, treatment, care and support (A/60/737). It will be open to all Member States and observers and actively involve representatives of non-governmental organizations. Other entities listed in paragraph 5 of the main body of the information note are also invited to attend, within the limits of the space available.

The hearing will be chaired by the President of the General Assembly or his representative. Following opening remarks by the chair, the hearing will be addressed by Ms. Martine Ago of the BLETY organization from Cote d'Ivoire as part of the GNP+ delegation. She will make a short presentation then introduce a five-minute video showing civil society perspectives from four different regions of the world. In the case that Ms. Ago is unable to attend, Mr. Thomas Cai, from AIDS Care China, and also part of the Global Network of People living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+) delegation, will be invited to act as alternate for this session.

Twelve speakers from civil society will be invited to address specific themes, in the order listed below. Presentations will be as brief as possible. A maximum time limit of four minutes per presentation will be observed.

In case the speaker is unable to participate in the hearing, the alternate proposed below will be invited to speak on the topic specified..

1. The greater involvement of people living with HIV and AIDS (GIPA)
 - Ms. Iryna Borushek of the All-Ukrainian Network of People Living with HIV (PLWH), Ukraine
 - Alternate: Ms. Maureen Brenson of the International Community of Women Living with AIDS (ICW), Uruguay
2. Addressing the needs of marginalized groups
 - Mr. Allan Clear, Harm Reduction Coalition, USA
 - Alternate: Ms. Elena Reynaga, Trabajadoras Sexuales, Argentina
3. Gender equality, women's empowerment, human rights of women and girls in the context of AIDS

- Ms. Meena Saraswathi Seshu, Sampada Grameen Mahila Sanstha (SANGRAM), India
 - Alternate: Ms. Jodi Jacobson, Center for Health and Gender Equity, USA
4. Sexual and reproductive health and rights
 - Ms. Laura Villa Torres, the Youth Coalition, Mexico
 - Alternate: Mrs. Glennis Hyacenth, Development Alternatives for Women in a New Era / Advocates for Safe Parenthood Improving Reproductive Equity, Trinidad and Tobago
 5. Research and development
 - Ms. Colleen Daniels, Consumer International, Netherlands
 - Alternate: Ms. Anjali Nayyar, International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI), India
 6. The private sector and labor: the workplace role and response to AIDS
 - Mr. Brian Brink, Anglo American/International Women's Health Coalition, South Africa
 - Alternate: Mr. Anthony Ruys, Heineken/Stop AIDS Now, The Netherlands
 7. Trade
 - Ms. Philo Morris, Medical Missionaries, India
 - Alternate: Mr. John McCullough, Church World Service, USA
 8. Resources for health
 - Ms. Lilian Mworeko, International Community of Women Living with AIDS (ICW), Uganda
 - Alternate: Ms. Margaret Chung, Development Alternatives for Women DAWN, Fiji
 9. Children and AIDS
 - Ms. Musimbi Kanyoro, World YWCA, Kenya
 - Alternate: Ms. Thandiwe Mathunjwa, UNANIMA, Swaziland
 10. The role of religion and AIDS
 - Mr. Johannes Petrus Heath, African Network of Religious Leaders Living With and Personally Affected by HIV and AIDS (ANERELA+), Namibia
 - Alternate: Ms. Jacinta Maingi, Ecumenical HIV/AIDS Initiative in Africa/World Council of Churches, Kenya
 11. Demonstrating commitment and accountability
 - Ms. Millicent Obaso, Care International, Kenya
 - Alternate: Ms. Iliuta Elena Catalina, Romanian Association Against AIDS (ARAS), Romania

12. Human rights

- Mr. Ruben Pecchio, Grupo Genesis Panama Positivo, Panama
- Alternate: Ms. Elsabet Menon, African Services Committee, Ethiopia

Following the presentations, the President of the General Assembly or his representative will chair an interactive session with alternate interventions from Member States and Civil Society participants. Participants will be requested to identify themselves prior to posing their intervention and will be allowed a maximum of three minutes each.

The alternates listed above may be invited to provide interventions from the floor during this part of the meeting. Within the limits of time available, the following individuals may also be invited to take part in the hearing as active participants:

- Ms. Maura Mea, GNP+, Papua New Guinea
- Ms. Khensavi Mavasa, International Women's Health Coalition, USA
- Ms. Naoko Kobayashi, Japan Network of People Living with HIV (JNP+), Japan
- Mr. Bill Roedy, MTV International, USA
- Mr. Edgar Carrasco, Latin American and Caribbean Council of AIDS Service Organizations (LACASSO), Venezuela
- Ms. Luisa Tora, Pacific and Asian Council of AIDS Service Organizations (PACASO), Fiji
- Ms. Jacqueline Mpolokeng, Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU-ICFTU), South Africa
- Mr. Wouter Van Der Schaaf, Education International (EI), The Netherlands
- Ms. Mairie Bopp, Pacific AIDS Foundation, Fiji
- Mr. Tommy Sithole, International Olympic Committee, Switzerland
- Ms. Imane Khachani, The Youth Coalition, Morocco

Following the interactive exchange, the President will introduce Ms. Ludfine Anyango from Kenya, representing ActionAid International, who will summarize the discussions. Mr. Thomas Cai of AIDS Care China, accredited by GNP+, will be invited to act as alternate in case Ms Anyango is unable to attend the hearing,.

The proposed speakers, alternates and other active participants representing civil society are invited civil society organizations as listed in A/60/CRP.2, as approved in General Assembly Decision 60/554 of 27 March, or are registered as part of delegations of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Access to the Civil Society Hearing will be on a first come-first served basis, with a number of seats reserved for Member States.

There will be an "overflow room" (Conference Room 3) to enable delegates unable to attend in person to follow proceedings.

2006 High Level Meeting on AIDS
United Nations, New York, 31 May – 2 June 2006

Event: Round Table Discussions

The list of roundtable chairs and participants is attached. In accordance with General Assembly Resolution 60/224, every effort was made to ensure equitable geographical representation, taking into account the importance of ensuring a mix of countries in terms of size, HIV prevalence rates and levels of development.

As outlined in Resolution 60/224, participation in each round table will be limited to a maximum of forty-five participants, including Member States, observers, representatives of entities of the United Nations system, civil society organizations and other invitees. Between five and ten representatives of accredited and invited civil society organizations will participate in each round table, with due regard to equitable geographical representation after accommodation of all Member States.

A representative of each of the regional groups will chair a round table. The designated speaker from the UNAIDS Cosponsor will be invited by the chair to make brief remarks.

All five round tables will provide Member States and the other participants an opportunity to examine progress against the targets articulated in the 2001 Declaration of Commitment. Round table participants will be invited to consider performance against the targets and to identify common challenges to scaling up and sustaining national AIDS responses. In order to keep discussion focused, Member States and other speakers are encouraged to focus their interventions on the issues raised in the attached background note. The issues in the background note are drawn from the report of the Secretary-General (A/60/736).

The round tables are intended to be interactive. Participants will be invited to make brief remarks not to exceed three minutes, raise questions and respond to other speakers. It is proposed that interventions from Member States, observers and civil society participants will be interspersed as far as possible. Written statements are strongly discouraged.

The round tables will be open only to round table participants and to a maximum of two advisers per Member State. Access to the round tables will be on the basis of colour-coded access cards issued by the UN Protocol and Liaison Service.

Member States that have not indicated their interest in a round table but wish to participate are urged to inform the Office of the President of the General Assembly as a matter of urgency. Resolution 60/224 set a limit of 45 participants per round table and because it asked that other stakeholders be included in the round tables, it may not be possible to accommodate Member States at short notice immediately prior to the meeting. A final list of round table participants will be issued prior to the meeting.

Background Note for the Round Table Discussions

Progress made:

The Secretary General's report to the General Assembly indicates that important progress has been made against HIV and AIDS since the 2001 Special Session – particularly in terms of greater resources, stronger national policy frameworks, wider access to treatment and prevention services, and broad consensus on the principles of effective country-level action.

- In most countries, a strong foundation now exists on which to build an effective AIDS response.
- Financial resources for AIDS have significantly increased.
- Domestic public expenditure from governments has significantly increased in low-income sub-Saharan African countries, and more moderately in middle-income countries.
- There is increasing scientific confidence that it will be possible to develop a safe and effective preventive HIV vaccine and microbicide.
- Treatment access has dramatically expanded, although such efforts have fallen short of global goals.
- Some countries have significantly increased coverage for prevention services (although only six have reached the prevention target of 25% reduction in prevalence among 15-24 year olds).

The Gaps:

The report also shows that many gaps remain. In many parts of the world HIV prevention and treatment are still not being pursued as simultaneous, mutually reinforcing strategies. As a result, great strides have been made in some countries in expanding access to treatment but there has been little progress in bringing HIV prevention programmes to scale. Other countries that are now experiencing a reduction in national HIV prevalence are making slow progress to ensure that treatment is available to those who need it.

- Despite strides in increasing access to some prevention services, the epidemic continues to seriously affect women and young people
- HIV prevention programmes are failing to reach those at greatest risk.
- HIV prevention efforts to increase knowledge about AIDS remain inadequate for young people, although there are encouraging signs of positive behaviour change in several countries.
- Stigma and discrimination remain key barriers to the uptake of prevention, treatment and support programmes
- The AIDS response is insufficiently grounded in the promotion, protection and fulfilment of human rights.

A quarter-century into the epidemic, the global AIDS response stands at a crossroads. The AIDS response must become substantially stronger, more strategic and better coordinated if the world is to achieve the 2010 targets of the Declaration of Commitment. Otherwise, countries most affected by AIDS will fail to achieve Millennium Development Goals to reduce poverty, hunger and childhood mortality. Indeed, countries whose development is already flagging because of AIDS will continue to weaken, potentially threatening social stability and national security.

Issues for Discussion:

But we have a solid foundation to build on. Because of the stronger response mobilized since the 2001 Special Session, for the first time ever, the world possesses the means to begin to reverse the global epidemic in the next 10 years. For this to happen the following issues must be addressed.

- **While access to treatment is increasing, albeit slowly, many prevention programs seem to have stalled.** Estimates of the resources needed to mount a comprehensive response to AIDS indicate that the necessary budgets for prevention programmes in most countries should be approximately twice that allocated for treatment. However, very few countries are spending at that level. Failure to break the cycle of new infections threatens the sustainability of AIDS responses, including providing access to antiretroviral treatment to all those in need. *What needs to be done to re-intensify prevention programmes?*
- **It is widely perceived that young people have sufficient access to information about how to protect themselves from HIV infection.** However, this report shows that knowledge levels, particularly in youth, are still low, with most countries reporting less than 50% of youth had comprehensive knowledge about AIDS. *What can be done to translate information into knowledge, and knowledge into behaviour change?*
- **Resources available for AIDS have increased dramatically, yet AIDS programmes are not reaching the desired scale.** Resources available from domestic sources, along with international funding are at unprecedented levels, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. *What financial bottlenecks are countries experiencing and how can they be overcome?*
- **The major role of civil society in monitoring progress.** For the first time civil society was actively included in the collection, review and analysis of data. Insights and input from civil society dramatically strengthened our understanding of the response. *How can governments, bilateral and multilateral organizations further engage civil society, including representatives of people living with HIV?*

Round Table 1

Date/Time: Wednesday, 31 May, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Venue: ECOSOC Chamber

Chair: Mexico

Participants:

Member States

- Austria
- Azerbaijan
- Japan
- Kazakhstan
- Lao PDR
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Mali
- Mexico
- Mozambique
- Paraguay
- Philippines
- Romania
- Rwanda
- Saudi Arabia
- Sierra Leone
- Suriname
- Swaziland
- Sweden
- Tunisia
- United Kingdom

Observers

- European Commission to the UN

UN Entities

- UNESCO
- UNFPA

Civil Society

- Mr. Coulibaly Gaoussou, Bouake Eveil, Cote D'Ivoire
(Alternate: Ms. Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi, African Women Development Fund, Ghana)
- Mr. Igor Kilchevsky, Credinta, Moldova
(Alternate: Rev. Michael Perry, Franciscans International, USA)
- Mr. Pierre Schapira, Deputy Mayor of Paris, United Cities and Governments, France
(Alternate: Mr. Ramon Antonio Valadares Lopez, Comunidad Gay Sampredrana para la Salud Integral, Honduras)
- Ms. Oi-Chu Lin, Hong Kong AIDS Foundation, SAR China
(Alternate: Ms. Katya Roll, Action Against AIDS, Germany)
- Ms. Ruth Mery, Linares, Asociaciòn Americas, Costa Rica
(Alternate: Ms. Sandra F. Batista, PCB NGO alternate delegate for Latin America, Rede latinoamericana de Reducao de Danos, Brazil)

- Ms. Gabriela Silva Leite, Network of Sex Work Projects and PCB delegate for Latin America, Brazil
(Alternate: Mr. Clementine Dehwe, Global Union Programme on HIV/AIDS, Zimbabwe)

Round Table 2

Date/Time: Wednesday, 31 May, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room 5

Chair: Australia

Participants:

Member States

- Argentina
- Armenia
- Australia
- Bangladesh
- Burkina Faso
- Cape Verde
- China
- Denmark
- Egypt
- Germany
- Honduras
- Iceland
- Indonesia
- Jamaica
- Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
- Russian Federation
- Slovakia
- South Africa
- Turkey
- Uganda
- Venezuela

Observers

- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent

UN Entities

- UNICEF
- World Bank

Civil Society

- Ms. Beatrice Were, African Civil Society Coalition, Uganda
(Alternate: Mr. Steve Laguerre, GRASADIS, Haiti)
- Most Rev. Archbishop Njongkulu Ndungane, Anglican Church, South Africa
(Alternate: Mr. Vegard T Foselde, Changemakers, Norway)
- Mr. Lucien Royer, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, Canada
(Alternate: Mr. Chris Bain, CAFOD/ Caritas Internationalis, UK)
- Mr. Mike E Mposha, Mayor of Lusaka, United Cities and Governments, Zambia
(Alternate: Ms. Lilian Abrascinkas, Mujer y Salud en Uruguay, Uruguay)
- Ms. Alena Peryshkina, AIDS Infoshare/PCB, Russia
(Alternate: Mr. Edford Mutuma, Global Youth Coalition, Zambia)
- Ms. Pinar Ilkcaracan, Women for Women's Human Rights, Turkey
(alternate: Ms. Anandi Yuvraj, India HIV/AIDS Alliance, India)

Round Table 3

Date/Time: Wednesday, 31 May, 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room 6

Chair: Kenya (proposed, awaiting confirmation)

Participants:

Member States

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Brazil
- Brunei
- Bulgaria
- Czech Republic
- El Salvador
- Finland
- Gabon
- Guinea
- India
- Iran
- Italy
- Kenya
- Morocco
- Portugal
- Serbia and Montenegro
- Singapore
- Sudan
- Switzerland
- Vietnam
- Zambia

Observers

- International Organization on Migration

UN Entities

- ILO
- UNDP
- Ms. Rachel N. Mayanja, Assistant Secretary-General, Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women

Civil Society

- Mme. Merah Zohira, El Hayet des PVVIH, Algeria
(Alternate: Ms. Batma Estebesova, Sotsium, Kyrgyzstan)
- Mr. Luengo Bravo Ivan Esteban, Vivo Positivo, Chile
(Alternate: Ms. Johanna Hanefeld, Amnesty International, United Kingdom)
- Mr. T. Richard Corcoran, PCB, United States
(Alternate: Mr. Michael Angaga, Network of African People Living with HIV/AIDS, Kenya)
- Ms. Bene Madunagu, Girls Power Initiative, Nigeria
(Alternate: Ms. Keese Effe, Advocacy for Youth, Jamaica)
- Mr. Jia Ping, Shen Yan Ai Zhi Yuan Zhu Center for Health and Education, China
(Alternate: Ms. Kasia Malinowska, OSI, Poland/US)

- Ms. Asia Russell, HealthGap, USA
(Alternate: Mr. Nicolas Ritter, PILS, Mauritius)

Round Table 4

Date/Time: Thursday, 1 June, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Venue: ECOSOC Chamber

Chair: Poland

Participants:

Member States

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| • Albania | • Netherlands |
| • Algeria | • Nicaragua |
| • Belize | • Nigeria |
| • Botswana | • Norway |
| • Cambodia | • Pakistan |
| • Cote D'Ivoire | • Spain |
| • Estonia | • Sri Lanka |
| • Guyana | • St Kitts and Nevis |
| • Grenada | • Thailand |
| • Haiti | • Togo |
| • Ireland | • United Republic of Tanzania |
| • Kyrgyzstan | • United States |
| • Luxembourg | |

Observers

- Inter-Parliamentary Union

UN Entities

- UNHCR
- WFP

Civil Society

- Mr. Mauro Guarinieri, GNP+, Italy
(Alternate: Ms. Felipa Antonia Garcia Subervi, Alianza Solidaria para la Lucha Contra el VIH/SIDA, Dominican Republic)
- Ms. Asunta Wagura, PCB, Kenya
(Alternate: Ms. Yolanda Simon, Caribbean Regional Network of People living with HIV/AIDS (CRN+; accredited through GNP+), Trinidad and Tobago)
- Ms. Adrienne Germain, International Women's Health Coalition, USA
(Alternate: Mr. John Galbraith, Catholic Medical Missions, USA)

- Mr. Hossam Bahgat, Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights, Egypt (Alternate: Ms. Alexandra Cuervo, Aproase, Mexico)
- Mr. Norbert Otten, Director Public Policy, Daimler Chrysler, Germany (Alternate: Ms. Luisa Cabal, Center for Reproductive Rights, USA)
- Mr. Vjatseslav Vassiljev, Estonian Network of PLWH, Estonia (Alternate: Mr. Kevin Moody, Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (GNP+), Netherlands)

Round Table 5

Date/Time: Thursday, 1 June, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room 6

Chair: Malaysia (proposed, awaiting confirmation)

Participants:

Member States

- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belgium
- Benin
- Canada
- Chile
- Cuba
- France
- Georgia
- Ghana
- Latvia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Malaysia
- Mauritius
- Namibia
- Nauru
- Qatar
- San Marino
- Republic of Korea
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Ukraine

Observers

- Holy See

UN Entities

- UNODC
- WHO

Civil Society

- Mr. Javier Leonardo Varón, Colombian Network of PLWHA, Colombia
(Alternate: Dr. Sonja Christine Weinreich, Action Against AIDS, Germany)
- Ms. Nina Skibnevskaya, AIDS Infoshare, Russia
(Alternate: Mr. Femi Alna Fasinu, Youth Dignity In Nigeria, Nigeria)
- Ms. Rachel Ong Yong Yong, PCB, China
(Alternate: Mr. Victor Bernhardt, Youth Coalition, Sweden)
- Mr. Kassim Kapalata, Trade Union Congress, Tanzania
(Alternate: Ms. Faith Jere, World Vision International, Zambia)
- Mr. Ken Casey, World Vision International, USA
(Alternate: Mr. Paulo Vieira, PCB NGO alternate delegate for Europe, YouAct, Portugal)
- Ms. Asma Bashir, Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Pakistan
(Alternate: Mr. Peter Parry, Booz Allen Hamilton, USA)

2006 High Level Meeting on AIDS
United Nations, New York, 31 May – 2 June 2006

Event: Panel Discussions

The theme, moderator, panelists and rapporteur for each panel are listed below.

The moderators, panelists and rapporteurs have been selected based on their specific expertise and the recommendations of Member States and observers, UNAIDS and civil society. Effort was made to ensure equitable geographical representation and gender balance. The rapporteurs were selected from among the panelists.

The panel discussions are intended to provide Member States and the other participants an opportunity to discuss the main issues emerging from *Towards universal access: assessment by UNAIDS on scaling up HIV prevention, treatment, care and support (A/60/737)*. Each panelist will speak to the specific topic identified for a maximum of five minutes. A background paper specific to each panel will be developed to situate the presentations and subsequent discussions.

All the panels will be asked to consider the cross-cutting issues of national leadership for scaling up towards universal access, gender and the greater involvement of people living with HIV.

The panel discussions will be open to representatives of all Member States, observers and entities described in paragraph 5 of the main body of this information note. Access to the panel discussions will be on a first come-first served basis, with a number of seats reserved for Member States.

There will be an “overflow room” (Conference Room 3) to enable delegates unable to attend in person to follow proceedings.

The proposed programme for each panel will be as follows:

- The moderator will welcome the participants to the session and describe the overall theme of the panel (10 minutes).
- The moderator will briefly introduce all the panelists. Prior to each panelist speaking, an overview of their expertise will be given by the moderator (1 minute per speaker).
- Panelists’ presentations will be followed by questions from the floor on the issues raised and relating to the presentations made vis-à-vis the “Towards Universal Access Process”.

- Participants will be asked to identify themselves prior to posing their question and will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes to present their question to a particular panelist or to the panel.
- Participants are discouraged from reading statements or from asking questions that relate to other panels' topics.
- The moderator will conclude by asking panelists to respond to the points raised, with particular focus on actions proposed to achieve universal access.
- Pending a decision by the General Assembly, the rapporteurs of each panel will present summaries of the discussion during the plenary meeting on Thursday, 1st June, 4.00 – 6.00 p.m. Each summary, which should not exceed five minutes, should highlight the key issues, challenges and way forward vis-à-vis universal access. The UN System through the identified lead agency will provide support to the moderator and panelists in the preparation of the session summary.
- The event will be broadcast on Webcast and accessible via the web.

Panel 1

Title: Breaking the cycle of infection for sustainable AIDS responses

Recognizing that prevention, care, treatment and support are not mutually exclusive strategies, this panel will consider how effective prevention measures, systematically implemented, can reduce HIV infection. It will also consider how such prevention measures can ease the pressure on health systems and ensure that those in need have access to affordable, effective antiretroviral therapy treatment in conditions that are humane and dignified.

Date/Time: 31 May, Wednesday, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room 2

Moderator: Mr. James T. Morris, Executive Director, World Food Programme

Panelists:

1. H.E. President Festus G. Mogae (Botswana)
2. Dr. Wu Zunyou, National Center for HIV/AIDS Control and Prevention (China)
– Panel Rapporteur
3. Ms. Carin Jamtin, Minister of International Development Cooperation (Sweden)
4. Mr. Norbert Otten, Daimler Chrysler (UK); alternate: Mr. Julian Stanning,
HIV/AIDS Programme Advisor Unilever (UK)
5. Rev. Canon Gideon Byamugisha, ANERELA+ (Uganda); alternate – Mr. Joe
Amon, Human Rights Watch (USA)
6. Mr. Michael Grichenkov, Member of Duma (Russia)

Panel 2

Title: Overcoming health worker shortages and other health systems and social sector constraints to the movement towards universal access to treatment

While large scale emergency responses to HIV and AIDS need to continue and be stepped up, overcoming the acute health worker shortage and other health systems and social sector constraints in many countries will provide an essential underpinning to the longer-term response. Equally, it is important that both long and short term responses to HIV and AIDS contribute to the building of stronger health systems and to greater social sector capacity more broadly. This panel will look at the investments and innovative actions needed to scale up towards a longer term response to HIV and AIDS in which addressing the current crisis of human resources is part of broader health systems development, and capacity-building.

Date/Time: 31 May, Wednesday, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room 4

Moderator: Ms. Ann M. Veneman, Executive Director, UNICEF and
Dr Anarfi Asamoah-Baah, Assistant Director-General for AIDS,
TB, Malaria, World Health Organization

Panelists:

1. Mr. Abdou Fall, Minister of Health (Senegal)
2. Mrs. Sigrun Møgedal, AIDS Ambassador (Norway)
3. Mr. Jon Ungphakorn, Chair, NGO Coalition (Thailand); alternate – Mr. Simon Mphuka, Christian Health Association (Zambia)
4. Ms. Carol Jacobs, Chair, National AIDS Commission (Barbados) – Panel Rapporteur
5. Mr. Jeffrey Sturchio, Merck & Co. Inc (USA); alternate – Mr. Lawrence Siebert, President and Chairman, Chembio Diagnostic Systems (USA)
6. Mr. Mark Dybul, Global AIDS Coordinator a.i., Department of State (USA)

Panel 3

Title: Ending the increased feminization of AIDS

This panel will focus on how the disproportionate impact of AIDS on women and girls has broader societal implications. Recognizing that in most parts of the world women are at the core of broader development efforts and that their wellbeing is vital to the welfare of communities, the panel will consider how empowering women and girls and protecting their human rights – to ensure they are protected both from HIV infection and from its impact – could help to change the course of the pandemic. It will also consider how to ensure women are involved in determining HIV related policies and programmes.

Date/Time: 1 June, Thursday, 10:00am – 1:00 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room 2

Moderator: Ms. Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, Executive Director, UNFPA

Panelists:

1. Mrs. Ulla Tornaes, Minister of Development Cooperation (Denmark)
2. Ms. Nilcea Freire, Minister of the Special Secretariat for Women (Brazil)
3. Ms. Lillian Mworeko, International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (Kenya)
4. Ms. Keesha Effs, National Youth Ambassador for Positive Living (Jamaica); alternate – Ms. Krista Thompson, General Manager of HIV/AIDS, Becton Dickinson (USA)
5. Ms. Wanda Nowicka, President of Federation for Women and Family Planning (Poland); alternate – Ms. Kanjoo Mbaindjukua, ICW/GNP+ (Namibia)
6. Ms. Nataliya Leonchuk. Head, Secretariat of the Eastern-European and Central Asian Union of PLHIV (Ukraine) – Panel Rapporteur

Panel 4

Title: Sustainable and predictable financing for scaled-up AIDS responses

Recognizing that coming as close as possible to universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care will require sustained and predictable funding well into the future, this panel will consider what innovative steps can be taken to secure sufficient and predictable funding from all sources including domestic budgets, without imposing the burden of sustainability on poor nations and the poorest communities, for the next ten years. The discussion will also include sustainable and predictable financing for research and development as well as the shifting of resources to communities.

Date/Time: 1 June, Thursday, 10:00am – 1:00 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room 4

Moderator: Mr. Jean-Louis Sarbib, Senior Vice-President, World Bank

Panelists:

1. Professor Joep de Lange, HIV/AIDS Expert, (Netherlands)
2. Ms. Manto Tshabala-Msimang, Minister of Health (South Africa)
3. Professor Richard Feachem, Executive Director, Global Fund (UK)
4. Mr. Bharat Wakhlu, President, Tata Inc (India); alternate – Ms. Claudia Khan, Senior Vice President, Merrill Lynch Inc (USA)
5. Mr. Omolou Falobi, Journalists Against AIDS (Nigeria) – Panel Rapporteur; alternate – Ms. Asia Russell, HealthGap (USA)
6. Dr. Sheikha Ghalya Mohamad Al Thani, Minister of Health (Qatar)

Panel 5

Title: Overcoming stigma and discrimination and changing the way societies respond to people living with HIV

The key focus of this panel will be policy and programmatic levers that can effectively address stigma and discrimination. These include the empowerment of organizations representing people living with HIV, enshrining in the law the rights of people with HIV, and political leadership.

Date/Time: 1 June, Thursday, 10:00am – 1:00 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room 3

Moderator: Mr. Ad Melkert, Associate Administrator, UNDP

Panelists:

1. Ms. Raminta Stuikyte, Director of the Central and Eastern European Harm Reduction Network (Lithuania)
2. Ms. Louise Arbour, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Canada)
3. Ms. Moni Pen, Positive Women of Cambodia (alternate – Ms. Margaret Wambete, the chairperson of the HIV+ Teacher's Support Group, Kenya)
4. Ms. Claudia Ahumada, Center for Legal Investigation, University Diego Portales (Chile); alternate – Mr. Ray Fergusan, CEO Americas, Standard Chartered Bank (USA)
5. Mr. Veriano Terto, Brazilian Interdisciplinary AIDS Association (Brazil); alternate – Ms. Irene Khan, Amnesty International (Bangladesh)
6. Professor Willy Rozemaum, President, National Council on AIDS (France) – Panel Rapporteur.

2006 High Level Meeting on AIDS
United Nations, New York, 31 May – 2 June 2006

Event: **Plenary Meeting**

Date/Time: **1 June, Thursday, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

Venue: **General Assembly Hall**

In accordance with General Assembly Resolution 60/224, the chairpersons of the informal interactive civil society hearing and the round tables will present summaries of the discussion during this plenary meeting.

Pending a decision by the General Assembly, the rapporteurs of each panel will also present summaries of the discussion during this plenary meeting.

Each presentation will not exceed ten minutes and the order will be as follows:

1. The President of the General Assembly or his representative;
2. The Chairs of each of the five round tables; and
3. The rapporteurs of each of the five panel discussions, if agreed to by the General Assembly.

In line with General Assembly Resolution 60/224, the plenary meeting will be open to attendees described in paragraph 5 of the main body of this information note.

Civil society attendees will be invited to observe the plenary meeting from the public gallery, within the limits of the space available. There will be an “overflow room” (Conference Room 3) to enable delegates unable to attend in person to follow proceedings.

2006 High Level Meeting on AIDS
United Nations, New York, 31 May – 2 June 2006

Event: **High Level Plenary Meeting**

Date/Time: **2 June, Friday**
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Venue: **General Assembly Hall**

Member States and observers represented at the Ministerial and highest level will be invited to speak in the high-level meeting **for a maximum of three minutes each**. It will be important that this is strictly adhered to. Member States should contact General Assembly Affairs Branch for inscription if they have not already done so.

The meeting will be opened by the President of the General Assembly and addressed by the Secretary-General.

Pending a decision by the General Assembly, the Executive Director of UNAIDS and the Executive Director of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria may be invited to address the opening of the High-level Meeting. Khensani Mavasa from the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC), accredited through the International Women's Health Coalition,³ and Mr. Bill Roedy of MTV International are also proposed to be invited to speak during the meeting, on behalf of civil society and the private sector, respectively.

In line with General Assembly Resolution 60/224, the plenary meeting will be open to attendees described in paragraph 5 of the main body of this information note.

Civil society attendees will be invited to observe the plenary meeting from the public gallery, within the limits of the space available. There will be an "overflow room" (Conference Room 3) to enable delegates unable to attend in person to follow proceedings.

Pursuant to General Assembly Resolution 60/224, Member States are invited to consider the adoption of a short Declaration aimed at reaffirming and expressing recommitment to the full implementation of the Declaration of Commitment. This Declaration will be adopted at the culmination of the meeting.

³ Alternate: Reverend Canon Gideon Byamugisha from the African Network of Religious Leaders Living With and Personally Affected by HIV and AIDS (ANERELA+).

2006 High Level Meeting on AIDS
United Nations, New York, 31 May – 2 June 2006

Programme Overview⁴

Sunday 21 May	0900 – 1000 (opening ceremony) Walk 9-2pm	AIDS Walk New York Opening Ceremony and Walk The 21 st Annual New York AIDS Walk will be led off by the UN Cares Team carrying country flags reflecting the diversity of NYC and the importance that AIDS has for all countries. Missions are encouraged to join the UN Cares Team.	Central Park, The Great Lawn
Tuesday 30 May	1200 – 1300	Unveiling of Red Ribbon	UN HQ
	1315 - 1445	“Making universal access a reality: the common challenge of strengthening health systems” organized by WHO	UN HQ
	1800 – 1900	Interfaith service	St. Bart’s Cathedral
Wednesday 31 May	0900 – 0930	Opening Plenary Meeting – Review of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS (DoC)	General Assembly Hall
	1000 – 1300	Informal interactive civil society hearing	UN HQ Conf Room 2
	1400 – 1500	Film Showing & Panel discussion <i>Wake Up</i> organized by UNFPA	Dag Hammarskjold auditorium
	1500 – 1800	Round table 1	UN HQ ECOSOC Chamber
	1500 – 1800	Round table 2	UN HQ Conf Rm 5
	1500 – 1800	Roundtable 3	UN HQ Conf Rm 6

⁴ This overview includes some unofficial events prior to 31st May; The official events are shaded

	1500 – 1800	Panel #1	UN HQ Conf Rm 2
	1500 – 1800	Panel #2	UN HQ Conf Rm 4
	1800 - 2000	Film showing - <i>God Sleeps in Rwanda</i> and <i>Silent Genocide</i> organized by UN Department of Public Information	Dag Hammarskjold auditorium

Thursday 1 June	0830 – 1000	Making universal access work for children – organized by UNICEF	UN HQ
	1000 – 1300	Roundtable #4	UN HQ ECOSOC Chamber
	1000 – 1300	Roundtable #5	UN HQ Conf Rm 6
	1000 – 1300	Panel #3	UN HQ Conf Rm 2
	1000 – 1300	Panel #4	UN HQ Conf Rm 4
	1000 – 1300	Panel #5	UN HQ Conf Rm 3
	1315 – 1445	<i>Stop SIDA</i> film premier and discussion, organized by UNHCR	UN HQ Conf Rm 5
	1315 – 1445	Interactive dialogue: national delegations and people living with HIV organized by UNAIDS and UNFPA	UN HQ
	1400 – 1600	Parliamentarians Caucus organized by IPU, UNDP and UNAIDS	UN HQ. Conf Rm 6
	1600 – 1800	Plenary – Summary of the discussions over the past two days	General Assembly Hall
	2000 – 2200	“An Evening of Remembrance and Hope – Uniting the world against AIDS. “	Outside venue

Friday 2 June	0800 – 0850	Working breakfast with Heads of Delegations on national leadership	UN HQ.
	0900 – 1300	High-level Meeting	General Assembly Hall
	1500 – 1800		