

# УКРАЇНА



# UKRAINE

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**Address by the President of Ukraine, H.E. Mr. Victor Yushchenko to the participants of the High-level meeting on comprehensive review of the progress achieved in realizing the targets set out in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS**

2001 General Assembly Special Session initiated by Ukraine together with other States became a turning point in the fight of the international community against HIV/AIDS.

Based on the global plan of actions contained in the Declaration of Commitment, which was adopted during the Special Session, the national programmes for prevention, treatment, care and support of the affected people were elaborated and are being implemented in Ukraine. The National Coordination Council for prevention of HIV/AIDS spread, which put together leading institutions in this area, aims to move forward comprehensive all-Ukrainian campaign to fight AIDS epidemics.

Due to the actions taken, Ukraine managed to gain substantial progress, in particular, in providing access to antiretroviral therapy.

Our country highly appreciates the active cooperation with and assistance from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the World Bank and the UN system agencies, in particular, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, World Health Organization and the UN Children's Fund.

However, regardless all the measures taken, the epidemiological situation in Ukraine is still of a great concern. Regrettably, the rate of HIV/AIDS spread in Ukraine remains amongst highest in Eastern Europe – the upward HIV/AIDS trend still persists.

I take this opportunity to reiterate once again Ukraine's commitment to the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on HIV/AIDS.

We are determined to act decisively to halt the spread of the epidemics. We look forward to continued productive cooperation towards this end both with the donor community, first of all with the World Bank and the Global Fund, and with the entities of the United Nations system.