UNAIDS’s support for the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD)

Below is a summary of some of the key activities implemented jointly by the Secretariat of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and also with its Cosponsors and other UN institutions, to support the African Union and NEPAD Agency, in advancing efforts on AIDS and other health challenges.

Context: Africa has 25% of the global burden of all diseases, yet it also has only 3% of the global health workforce. Africa represents 75-80% of the global HIV burden. Under the Fast-Track approach to ending AIDS by 2030 and achieving SDG3.3 (end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases), the number of people accessing HIV treatment should double by 2020. However, Africa currently imports 98% of its antiretroviral medicines. UNAIDS is part of a consortium of UN institutions (including WHO, UNIDO and UNFPA) working with the African Union Commission to implement the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA) to address this issue.

Joint UN Support to Au Commitments to End Aids, TB And Malaria

- In 2015, the UNAIDS Joint Programme supported AIDS Watch Africa\(^1\) (AWA) in reporting to the AU Summit on implementation of the AU Roadmap on Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity for the AIDS, TB and Malaria response, and on Abuja commitments on health. As a result of that report, AU Member States extended the Roadmap until 2020 and called for a “catalytic framework” to detail milestones for ending AIDS, TB and Malaria in Africa by 2030 (Assembly/AU/Dec.571(XXV)).
- African leaders also reaffirmed commitment to strengthen health systems and increase domestic funding in line with the Abuja 15% target and called on all actors to “mobilize the resources needed, leverage treatment and embark on a fast track comprehensive strategy to end AIDS, TB and Malaria”. UNAIDS and other agencies are supporting the AU Commission and the NEPAD Agency to implement these commitments.

Improving Health Commodity Security and Access To Essential Medicines

- UN institutions including WHO, UNIDO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNCTAD and UNFPA jointly supported the AUC and the NEPAD Agency in convening the 6th meeting of the PMPA technical committee in November 2015 to review progress on the implementation of the PMPA Business Plan, identify challenges and opportunities to further advance access to medical products on the continent, and pave the way for strengthening the indigenous pharmaceutical industry and related sectors. As a result, the technical committee established a Partnership Platform to increase collaboration in support of pharmaceutical sector development, encourage mutual accountability and minimize duplication of efforts.
• A successful high-level session was held at the World Health Summit in Berlin, in partnership with the German Healthcare Partnership (GHP), on African pharmaceutical and health commodity security. Participants included representatives of the African Union Commission, NEPAD Agency and African and German pharmaceutical industries, plus UNAIDS. As a result, several opportunities were identified to advance German support to the development of Africa’s pharmaceutical industry and health system strengthening.

• UNDP, UNAIDS and other partners successfully advocated at the World Trade Organization Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), for the extension of the TRIPS waiver on pharmaceuticals for least developed countries until 2033. The resulting agreement allows least developed WTO member countries greater access to affordable essential medicines and paves the way for establishing local pharmaceutical capacities in Africa. UNDP, UNAIDS, civil society partners and the African Union then worked with the Organisation Africaine de la Propriété Intellectuelle (OAPI) to revise the Bangui Protocol accordingly and improve access to medicines for OAPI member countries.

Strategic Leadership

• UNAIDS hosted the Chief Executive of the NEPAD Agency Dr Ibrahim Assane Mayaki, to address the topic of Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity at the 37th Meeting of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board, in October 2015. Drawing together UNAIDS Cosponsors, Member States and Civil Society, the session reflected on the need for increased AIDS domestic and international funding and efficiencies to achieve Fast-Track targets, with the engagement and funding for civil society. The result will inform UNAIDS Joint Programme work in the coming years.

• UNAIDS provided political and strategic support and advice to the former African leaders known as “Champions for an AIDS-Free Generation”, and supported them in meeting and expanding their activities, developing an action plan and holding dialogues with the private sector and the SADC Parliamentary forum.

• UNAIDS brought together the Organization of African First Ladies (OAFLA) and the First Lady of China during the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in Johannesburg, to launch the Africa-China HIV Advocacy Campaign. The meeting resulted in a commitment for partnership towards an AIDS-Free Generation and ending AIDS by 2030, and recognition of UNAIDS role as a key strategic partner to the Africa-China health platform. UNAIDS also supported a meeting of OAFLA members at the side-lines of the UN General Assembly in New York in September 2016, to explore strategies for eliminating new HIV infections among children and keeping their mothers alive and healthy. UNAIDS has also been working with individual First Ladies to accelerate this agenda in their individual countries.
Promoting Fast-Track Aids Responses In Cities

- UNAIDS Secretariat is working with its Cosponsoring agencies and with core partners UN-Habitat, the City of Paris and the International Association of Providers of AIDS Care (IAPAC) to promote a rapid, focused response to ending the AIDS epidemic in urban settings. The partners launched the Fast-Track Cities approach in December 2014 and more than 190 city leaders—mostly from Africa—have now signed the Paris Declaration on Fast-Track Cities ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030.

Results in 2015-2016 included:

- With support from USAID, the UNAIDS Joint Programme brought together key cities and civil society representatives from 12 high-prevalence cities in low- and middle-income countries to develop action roadmaps and identify gaps and priority support needs for a Fast-Track AIDS response.

- UNAIDS led discussions with mayors from across Africa, at the 4th World Summit of the Global Alliance of Mayors and Leaders from Africa, in Ghana, to examine practical options to improve their AIDS response.

- UNAIDS and UN Habitat launched a report on ending the AIDS Epidemic: the advantage of cities, during a special session of the AfriCities Summit in Johannesburg in November 2015.

Strategic Investment And Technical Support

- The UNAIDS Joint Programme supported the African Union in developing a policy framework and implementation targets for ending AIDS by 2030, in line with AU Agenda 2063 and the SDGs. This work involved collaboration among AU Member States, NEPAD Agency and other AU institutions. The work commenced in Zambia in November 2015 and UNAIDS led the final refinement of the documents for adoption at the AU Summit in January 2016.

- UNAIDS mobilized US$ 7.5 million in 2015 from the US Government / PEPFAR to provide technical support to more than 85% of countries in Africa that submitted concept notes to the Global Fund for grants to address AIDS, TB and Malaria. This resulted in the allocation of more than US$ 3 billion of grants.

- UNAIDS provided technical support to the development of investment documents completed in 2015 in Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Togo and several others still under development (Cote d’Ivoire, Nigeria, Senegal, and Tanzania).

- UNAIDS supported the deliberations of the AU-ECA Ministers of Finance and Planning Conference, on financing the AU Agenda 2063. The results informed the Financing For Development conference in July and supported the African Union in defining common positions ahead of the UN General Assembly Session that agreed to the Sustainable Development Goals.
Supporting Leadership Role of the African Commission on Human and People’s Rights on HIV

- Building on a partnership initiated in 2010 with the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights – the main body tasked with the promotion and protection of human rights in Africa – UNAIDS is supporting the development of the first study on HIV, the law and human rights to be adopted by this body in the course of 2016. The AU has declared 2016 the year of human rights in Africa with a focus on women. UNAIDS is therefore providing financial and technical support to the finalisation of the report on HIV and human rights which is expected to serve as a key document in the context of the 2016 celebration of the year of human rights.

- Recognising the serious impact of HIV on key populations, including gay men and other men who have sex with men, and the human rights challenges faced by this population in various regions including in Africa, UNAIDS together with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights have initiated a dialogue between the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (the African Commission), the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and the United Nations (UN) human rights mechanisms. The dialogue on sexual orientation and gender identity was held on 3 November 2015 in Banjul, The Gambia, ahead of the 57th ordinary session of the African Commission. It led to the identification of effective approaches to advancing the protection of Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex people in the African context. Specific responses for ensuring access to HIV and health services for members of this population were highlighted as key priorities by the African Commission and will be taken forward in the coming years.

Commitments on Women and Girls

- In June 2015, UNAIDS launched with the AU Commission a strategy for the Empowerment of Young Women and Adolescent Girls – Accelerating the end of AIDS in Africa. This document made three political commitments that translated into the AU Heads of States Declaration AU/Decl 1 (XXV) II page 4. In the declaration the heads of state committed to enhancing women's access to health and resolved to uphold the sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights of African Women. Further, it committed to Ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030 as part of Agenda 2063 and ensuring it has an inclusive human rights approach that leaves no one behind. Reference is made to female key populations such as women in conflict and post conflict settings.

- Further work with the AU Gender Directorate saw HIV and AIDS as a commitment by African Ministers of Gender at the January pre-AU summit on Gender and women’s empowerment and became part of the official position for the African Ministers going to the Commission on the Status of women and also was strongly reflected in the Civil Society position that works alongside the AU Gender Directorate.
Other Initiatives

The following UN joint initiatives were also undertaken during the reporting period:

- Developed a “Country GAP Analysis” evaluating programme coverage in 16 countries based on concept notes submitted to the Global Fund against 2017 targets.

- Provided leadership and coordination to the preparation of ICASA (international conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa) in Harare, Zimbabwe, including supporting and participation in high-level sessions on Fast-Tracking the response to end AIDS by 2030, and to achieve the 90-90-90 HIV treatment target by 2020.

- UNAIDS Secretariat organized a high-level event on access to medicines, in New Delhi, India, to reinforce critical themes at the Third India-Africa Forum Summit (30 October 2015). During the Summit, India announced a $10 billion fund, 50,000 scholarships and infrastructure projects for African support. At the conclusion, the Heads of State and Government and Heads of Delegation representing the continent of Africa, the African Union (AU) and its Institutions, and the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, issued the Delhi Declaration 2015, which included agreement to enhance cooperation in health and pharmaceutical development, jointly combat diseases and pandemics, invest in health care training, ensure access to affordable medicines, and foster innovation to address public health needs. Following the Summit, UNAIDS is working with the AUC, NEPAD, UN agencies and key partners to develop options for an India-Africa Cooperation Framework on HIV and Health Commodity Security.

### UNAIDS Figures

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Total UBRAF and Non-core funds</th>
<th>Encumbrance and expenditure – for the year 2015</th>
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<td>Middle East &amp; North Africa</td>
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<td>Grand Total</td>
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