

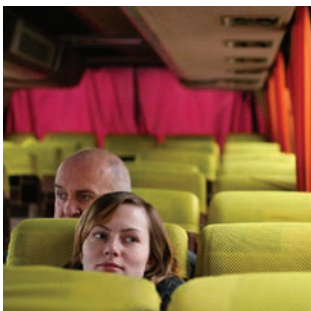
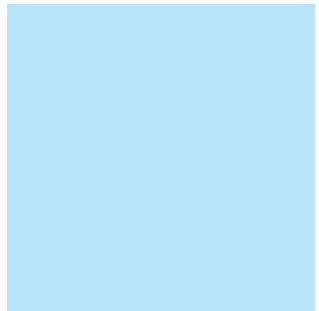
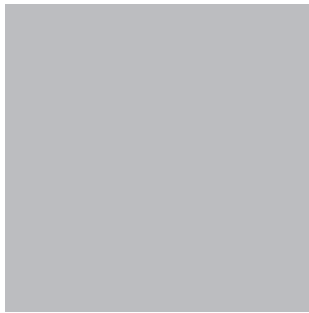
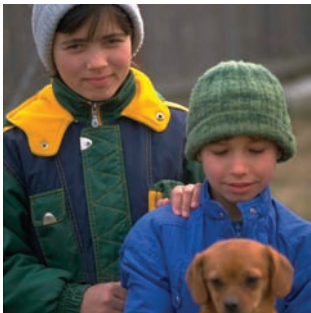


UNAIDS
JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS

UNHCR
UNICEF
WFP
UNDP
UNFPA
UNODC
ILO
UNESCO
WHO
WORLD BANK

Uniting the world against AIDS





Photos:
UNAIDS/P. Virot, UNAIDS/P. Virot, UNAIDS/K. Hesse,
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A letter from Peter Piot, Executive Director

On 5th June 2006, it will be 25 years since AIDS was first discovered. A disease that came to scientific attention as the cause of unexpected infections among gay men in the USA has morphed into one of the make-or-break global problems of our age, undermining not just the health prospects of entire societies but also their ability to reduce poverty, promote development and maintain national security. And in too many regions AIDS continues to expand at the rate of more than 7,500 deaths a day.

Yet, today there is more reason for optimism about our ability to succeed against the epidemic than ever before. Things that seemed wishful thinking have become reality.

More than 40 heads of state or government now personally lead their country's efforts on AIDS. Where donor and developing countries invested just US\$300 million on the AIDS response a decade ago, by last year this had risen to over US\$8 billion. Around 1.5 million people in developing countries are living normal, longer lives because of breakthroughs in expanding access to antiretroviral treatment. And through committed leadership and stepped up efforts, more and more countries – including some of the world's poorest – are turning the tide on their epidemics.

We must ratchet up this momentum of progress. Our collective priority must be to make this the year when implementation began in real earnest – we must make

the money work for people by bringing effective HIV programmes within the reach of everyone. Leaders of both developing and rich countries have committed themselves to working together so as to get close to universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support programmes by 2010 – a critical stepping stone to halting the epidemic by 2015, as set out in the Millennium Development Goals.

This commitment can be turned into reality. It will require each of us to see what we can contribute to a global movement for “universal access”, a movement built around a common minimum programme, with solid community roots and with strong links to poverty elimination efforts.

2006 also happens to be a landmark year for UNAIDS – our tenth year of operations. This year we will continue to strengthen our support to nationally owned and led responses and expand our policy work.

At the heart of UNAIDS' commitment are the people we work for and with—the women, men and children living with and affected by HIV. Together the ten UNAIDS cosponsors are committed to making the money work for those who are in the most need today — while ensuring longer term solutions are in place for tomorrow.

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Photo: UNAIDS/O. O'Hanlon

Peter Piot
Executive Director
UNAIDS



About UNAIDS

UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, brings together the efforts and resources of ten UN system organizations to the global AIDS response. Cosponsors include UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, ILO, UNESCO, WHO and the World Bank. Based in Geneva, the UNAIDS Secretariat works on the ground in more than 75 countries world wide.

From joint programmes on AIDS to increasingly joint UN teams on AIDS in countries—UNAIDS brings together one UN strategy and helps coordinate the implementation and the division of labour between agencies.

UNAIDS has five focus areas:

- 1 leadership and advocacy
- 2 strategic information and technical support
- 3 tracking monitoring and evaluation
- 4 civil society engagement
- 5 mobilization of financial, human and institutional resources



Photos: UNAIDS/L.Taylor, UNAIDS/F. Sanchez, UNAIDS/G. Pirozzi



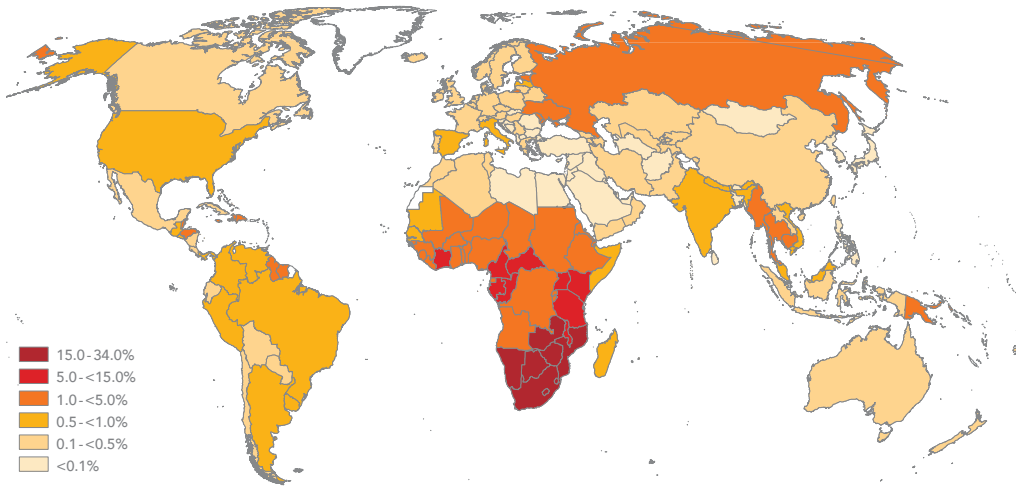
Photo: UNAIDS/G. Pirozzi

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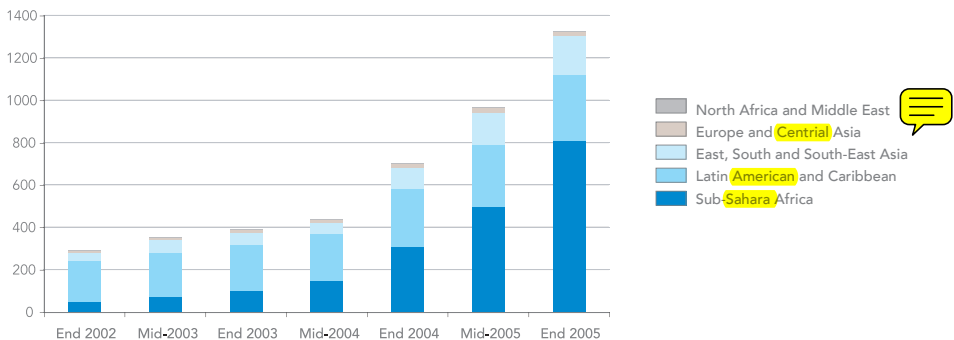
Since it was first recognized in 1981, AIDS has killed more than 25 million people—making it one of the most destructive epidemics in recorded history. Close to 40 million people are living with HIV today. Over four million people were newly infected with the virus in 2005.

Every two years UNAIDS publishes the *Report on the global AIDS epidemic* which provides a comprehensive information on the latest developments in the AIDS epidemic as well as the AIDS response. Annually UNAIDS and WHO publishes the AIDS Epidemic update which provides regional analysis of the AIDS epidemic.

A GLOBAL VIEW OF HIV INFECTION - ADULT PREVALENCE RATES (%)



PEOPLE RECEIVING THERAPY IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES (THOUSANDS)



Source: UNAIDS/WHO

Our goals

Through the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Millennium Development Goals, the world has a set of commitments, actions and goals to stop and reverse the spread of HIV.

In 2001 Heads of State and Government Representatives of 189 nations gathered at the first-ever Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on HIV/AIDS. They unanimously adopted the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, acknowledging that the AIDS epidemic constitutes a “global emergency and one of the most formidable challenges to human life and dignity.” The Declaration of Commitment covers ten priorities, from prevention to treatment and funding. It was designed as a blueprint to meet the Millennium Development Goal of halting and beginning to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015.

The eight Millennium Development Goals

- 1 eradicate extreme poverty & hunger
- 2 achieve universal primary education
- 3 promote gender equality & empower women
- 4 reduce child mortality
- 5 improve maternal health
- 6 combat HIV/AIDS, malaria & other diseases
- 7 ensure environmental sustainability
- 8 develop a global partnership for development

Our work on the ground

UNAIDS is committed to strengthening nationally owned and led responses to the epidemic. In more than 130 countries, the representatives of UN organizations coordinate the AIDS-related activities of the United Nations through regular meetings of the UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS. The day-to-day work of this joint programme of support is carried out within a joint UN team on AIDS led by the UNAIDS Country Coordinator under the guidance of the UN Resident Coordinator. A division of labour also guides the work of each UNAIDS Cosponsor and the Secretariat in country, including:

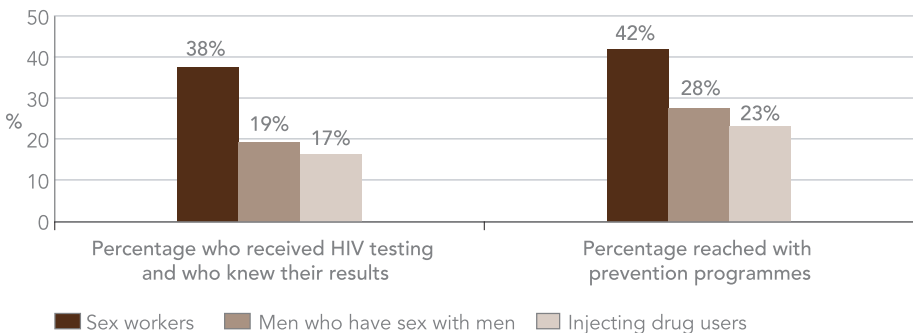
- support to strategic planning, governance and financial management;

- support to the scale up of interventions such as prevention of HIV among young people, prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, antiretroviral treatment, support to orphans

- support to monitoring and evaluation of the national AIDS programme, production of strategic information, knowledge sharing and accountability

UNAIDS places particular emphasis on “making the money work”—supporting countries’ efforts to tap into new sources of financing and ensure that this financing is used to maximum effect. For example, UNAIDS supports the full grant cycle of Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria,

MOST-AT-RISK POPULATIONS REACHED WITH PREVENTION PROGRAMMES AND THOSE WHO RECEIVED TESTING IN LAST 12 MONTH AND KNEW RESULTS



from the development of AIDS grant proposals to programme implementation to monitoring and evaluating of performance. These efforts have been accelerated by the recently established global joint problem-solving and implementation support team, known as the GIST, which brings together international and multilateral partners to address implementation bottlenecks identified by national AIDS programme managers. This approach is consistent with internationally agreed principles for harmonized action against AIDS known as the “Three Ones”.



Photo:
UNAIDS/L.Taylor

Towards Universal Access: Transforming the AIDS response.

Building on the considerable progress made in recent years and acknowledging the urgent need to do much more, global leaders at the September 2005 World Summit committed to a massive scaling up of HIV prevention, treatment and care with the aim of coming as close as possible to universal access to treatment by 2010

At the request of the UN General Assembly, UNAIDS has since facilitated broad inclusive processes at national, regional and global levels— involving stakeholders from governments, the donor community, the private sector and civil society—to develop strategies for overcoming major obstacles and moving towards universal access. An assessment of these processes will be considered by the General Assembly as it reviews progress on the 2001 Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, and individual countries are already translating the results of their consultations into “roadmaps” for moving towards universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support

Our work globally

Globally, UNAIDS continues to expand its AIDS policy work, provide the world with the most up to date epidemiological and country response data, as well as mobilizing resources needed to reverse the epidemic.

UNAIDS assists in ensuring better coordination among its partners in the UN system, governments, civil society, donors, the private sector and others. Efforts include the scale up HIV prevention, treatment, care and support with the aim of coming as close as possible to the goal of universal access to treatment by 2010 for all those who need it.

Key achievements

- UNAIDS is the reference on the state of the epidemic, the AIDS response and best practice.
- UNAIDS has worked to put AIDS on national, regional and political agendas—reaching out to all sectors.
- UNAIDS has promoted the full involvement of civil society, in particular people living with HIV, in the response to AIDS.
- UNAIDS has raised awareness and resources needed for the AIDS response – resources have risen from US\$300 million in 1996 to the US\$8.3 billion available today.
- By working with pharmaceutical

companies UNAIDS has helped to reduce prices of HIV drugs in developing countries – HIV Drug Access Initiative in Abidjan and Kampala (1997) and Accelerating Access Initiative, Africa, Asia and the Caribbean (2000).

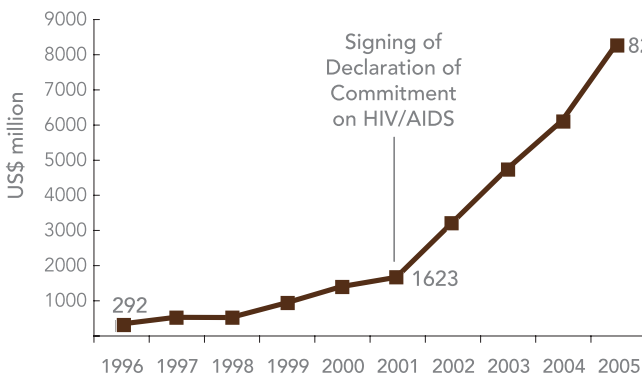
- UNAIDS has ensured that prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission is a global public health priority.
- UNAIDS has engaged businesses in the AIDS response including the creation of the Global Business Council on HIV/AIDS in 1997.
- In 1999, UNAIDS launched the International Partnership against AIDS in Africa – which for the first time brought together African governments, the United Nations, donors, community organizations and the private sector to intensify efforts in the AIDS response.
- UNAIDS helped position AIDS as a security issue at a historic UN Security Council Session in 2000 – where a resolution on HIV among uniformed services and UN peacekeeping operations was adopted.
- In 2000, UNAIDS' Cosponsor the World Bank launched a Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Program (MAP) for Africa, committing US\$ 1.2 billion to 29 countries to fight AIDS. A similar Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Program was later created for the Caribbean.
- UNAIDS advocates for the interpretation of the TRIPS agreement that supports public health – 2001

Doha Declaration on TRIPS.

- Since 2002, UNAIDS has been “making the money work” for people on the ground by supporting the implementation of AIDS programmes funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and other donors.
- In 2003, WHO and UNAIDS launched the “3 by 5” initiative which has helped to provide more than one million people living with HIV with antiretroviral treatment.
- UNAIDS has helped to focus the world’s attention on women and AIDS and the ‘feminization’ of the epidemic – in 2004, UNAIDS launched the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS.
- UNAIDS has engaged media companies in the fight against AIDS – in 2004, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan launched the Global Media AIDS Initiative.
- In 2004, UNAIDS was instrumental in creating the “Three Ones” principles to strengthen the AIDS

response in countries and “make the money work”.

- In 2005, UNAIDS launched a set of scenarios on the future of the AIDS epidemic in Africa – “AIDS in Africa: Three Scenarios to 2025”.
- In 2005, the Global Task Team on improving AIDS coordination among multilateral institutions and international donors was established.
- UNAIDS’ governing board adopted the first internationally agreed HIV Prevention Policy in 2005.
- In 2005, UNICEF and UNAIDS launched the joint global campaign Unite for Children, Unite Against AIDS focusing on the enormous impact of AIDS on children.
- In 2006, UNAIDS launched the “4 for everyone” campaign, promoting access to HIV prevention, treatment, care, and support for all who need it.
- UNAIDS is working closely with countries to help them come as close as possible to achieving universal access to HIV prevention, care and treatment by 2010.



Data include:

- International donors, domestic spending (including public spending and out-of-pocket expenditures)
- International Foundations and Global Fund included from 2003 onwards, PEPFAR included from 2004 onwards

* Projections based on previous pledges and commitments (range of the estimation: US\$ 7.5 to US\$ 8.5 billion).



Photo: UNAIDS/S. Noorani

Heart of our commitment

UNAIDS believes that working closely with people living with HIV is essential to an effective response in recognizing that the most inspirational leaders are people living with and affected by HIV and AIDS. In 1994, at the Paris AIDS Summit, 42 governments declared that the principle of Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV/AIDS was critical to the AIDS response. UNAIDS is fully committed to the Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV/AIDS and seeks to ensure that people living with HIV are at the heart of all activities.

People living with HIV sit on the Programme Coordination Board of UNAIDS and were represented on the Global Steering Committee on

Universal Access and the Global Task Team. During the planning of the UN General Assembly 2006 High Level Meeting on AIDS representatives of networks of people living with HIV were invited to join the Civil Society Task Force and a person living with HIV will speak at the opening plenary of the meeting.

At country and regional level, UNAIDS supports the creation and development of networks of people living with HIV and has given long-term support to the global networks of people living with HIV. UN staff living with HIV recently initiated the formation of UN+, as system-wide advocacy group of UN staff living with HIV.

The feminization of AIDS

In 2004 UNAIDS launched the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS bringing together world leaders committed to improving the lives of women and girls. The Coalition's efforts focus on preventing new infections among women and girls, promoting equal access to HIV care and treatment, accelerating microbicide research, protecting women's property and inheritance rights and reducing violence against women.

Cosponsors

UNAIDS brings together in the AIDS response the efforts and resources of ten UN system organizations.

- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- World Bank

Established in 1994 by a resolution of the UN Economic and Social Council and launched in January 1996, UNAIDS is guided by a Programme Coordinating Board with representatives of 22 governments from all geographic regions, the UNAIDS Cosponsors, and five representatives of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), including associations of people living with HIV.



Photos:UNAIDS/G. Pirozzi, UNAIDS/S. Noorani, UNAIDS/G. Pirozzi



Photo: WHO/PAHO

UNAIDS
20, AVENUE APPIA
1211 GENEVA 27
SWITZERLAND

Tel +41 22 791 3666
Fax +41 22 791 4187
Email unaids@unaids.org

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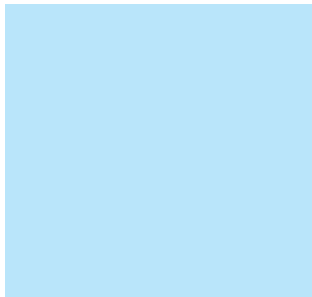
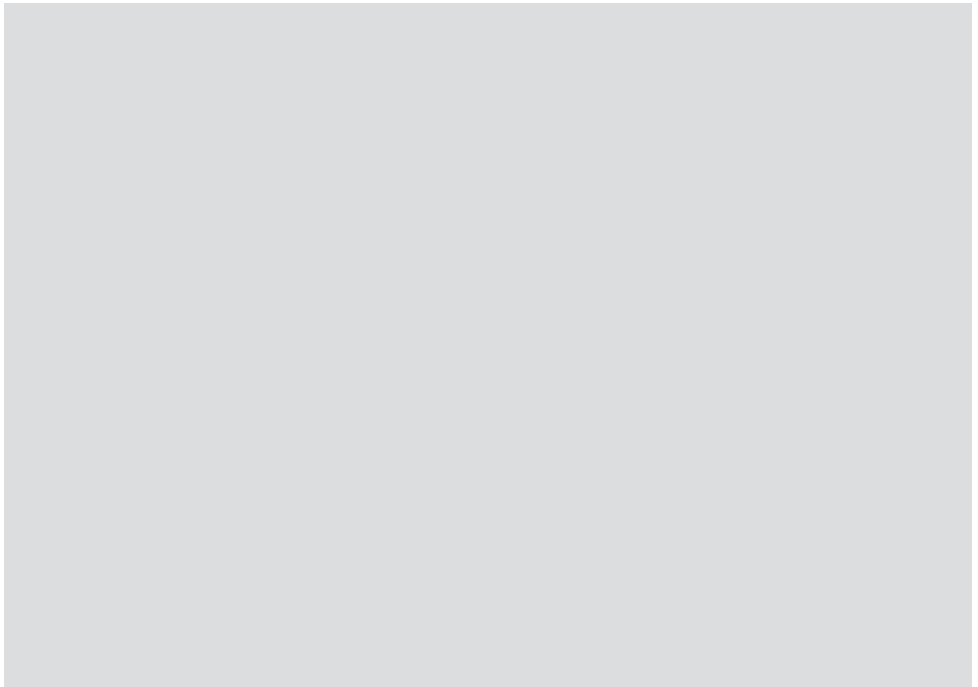
www.unaids.org



World Food Programme



UNITED NATIONS
Office on Drugs and Crime



Uniting the world against AIDS