



THE ALLIANCE OF MAYORS AND MUNICIPAL LEADERS ON HIV/AIDS IN AFRICA

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EDITORIAL



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Mafere Municipality, Côte
d'Ivoire,
Vice-President of the
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d'Ivoire and
member of the Coordinat-
ing Committee of the
Alliance (Regional)

Let us not forget people living with HIV in countries experiencing a crisis

Many countries in Africa experience crises and have to face the double challenge of HIV and political instability. This is the case in my country, Côte d'Ivoire, where the epidemic remains a real risk in spite the declining HIV prevalence rate estimated today at 4,7 % (UNAIDS). Currently in Côte d'Ivoire there are approximately 750,000 people living HIV and 450,000 orphans due to AIDS.

One should not hide from HIV/AIDS even in times of crisis or political instability. There should not be a barrier between politics and the fight against AIDS. This is increasingly understood by the international community, which has taken steps to establish and develop guidelines to respond to HIV during times of crisis. Since 2000, the United Nations Security

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Guidelines for Responding to HIV in Emergency Settings

Crisis conditions, brought on by natural disasters or conflict, can bring many dangers including an increased vulnerability and spread of HIV. Humanitarian aid organizations, however, have been slow to incorporate HIV responses into their work planning in emergency settings. To help aid organizations with this type of planning, the United Nations, through an Inter-Agency Standing Committee, has issued guidelines – “The Need for HIV/AIDS Interventions in Emergencies Setting.” The publication was produced by the Committee’s Task Force on HIV/AIDS in Emergency Settings.

This document makes the case for why HIV simply cannot be ignored in crisis settings. For example, many emergency situations increase vulnerability to HIV because of factors such as: “loss of income, livelihood, homes, food, water, healthcare and education; mass displacement leads to the break-up of families and relocation into crowded camps for refugees and internally displaced people, where security is rarely guaranteed; and the breakdown of school, health and communication systems usually used to programme against HIV transmission.”

The guidelines present ‘practical measures’ or steps, that can be taken to incorporate HIV interventions into emergency responses. The guidelines list 10 sectors and what should be done for emergency preparedness, a minimum response and a comprehensive response for each of them. The sectors range from: coordination and protection to health and food, security and nutrition.

For more information, and to access the guidelines, please visit the following websites:

www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc or
www.aidsandemergencies.org.

AMICAALL Cameroon - Solidarity March to Mark World AIDS Day 2006

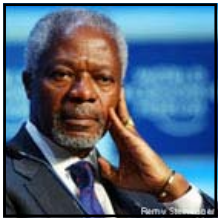
The Mayors and municipal leaders from ten provinces in the country, side by side with groups representing People Living with HIV, civil society and community-based organisations, central government agencies, the United Nations and international community, participated in a Solidarity March on 30 November 2006. Marchers assembled in the town of Ngoumou and walked to the town of Akono, a distance of five kilometres. A nation-wide media campaign to sensitise the general population was launched as

part of this effort. The Solidarity March drew attention to the worldwide impact of HIV and AIDS, its impact in Cameroon, the importance of actively involving local government and civil society as part of a comprehensive response to the epidemic, and the need to work in solidarity with People Living with HIV. For more information please contact Ms. Annie Michele Salla Nzie: michele.salla.nzie@undp.org.



World AIDS Day 2006 Messages

Message from the Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, on World AIDS Day 2006



Mr Kofi Annan,
the seventh
Secretary-
General of the
United Nations

In his World AIDS Day 2006 message, the Secretary General, Kofi Annan, of the United Nations said that, "AIDS has changed the world and has inflicted the single greatest reversal in the history of human development". UNAIDS estimates that 25 million people have been killed by AIDS and that another 40 million have been infected by

HIV. The Secretary General called on everyone to be accountable. He noted that, "accountability applies not only to world leaders, but to all of us, from business leaders who can campaign for HIV prevention in the workplace to health workers and faith-based groups who can listen and provide care to sufferers without passing judgement."

The complete message can be accessed through the UNAIDS website: www.unaids.org.

Message from the UNAIDS Executive Director, Dr. Peter Piot on World AIDS Day 2006



Dr Peter Piot,
UNAIDS
Executive
Director

UNAIDS Executive Director Dr. Peter Piot, in his World AIDS Day 2006 message, noted that, there is "reason for concern and for some hope." According to UNAIDS, the number of new infections rose to 4.3 million and 2.9 million people died of AIDS-related illness in 2006. However, there is evidence, he stated, that there are declines in HIV prevalence among young people, between 2000 and 2006, in several countries.

Dr. Peter Piot's message can be accessed through the UNAIDS website: www.unaids.org.

Burkina Faso

AMICAALL Burkina Faso—Building Partnerships



**Mr Amidou
Kabore,
AMICAALL
Burkina Faso
Coordinator**

During May and June 2006, AMICAALL Burkina Faso continued its efforts to reach out to organisations working in the country as part of ongoing efforts to expand partnerships to support the scaling-up of municipal-based responses to HIV. A number of organisations have responded positively, such as the Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV) and German Technical Cooperation (GTZ). SNV is an international development organisation committed to improving local governance. SNV also provides advisory services to

local organisations in over 30 developing countries to support their fight against poverty. GTZ focuses on sustainable development, and targets ecological, economic, political, and social development.

Support for AMICAALL Burkina Faso is also being provided by UNAIDS, UNDP and UNICEF. The National AMICAALL Coordinator continues to work closely with the National AIDS Programme to identify ways and means of enhancing monitoring and evaluation at the local level, and ensuring effective local/national linkages.

Case Study: AMICAALL Burkina Faso

In July 2006 AMICAALL Burkina Faso produced a case study highlighting its achievements and challenges.

The case study describes phase one of the AMICAALL Programme in Burkina which focused on six municipalities: Bogodogo, Boulmiougou, Kaya, Kombissiri, Fada N’Gourma and Toma. Activities have included: supporting sensitisation and training of mayors and local government staff; setting up municipal HIV teams which bring together all local stakeholders to guide the development and implementation of multisectoral action on HIV at the local level; preparing municipal profiles and HIV service directories; and reviewing the monitoring and evaluation framework to enhancing links between local and national levels and partnership development. Based on results achieved during phase one, the AMICAALL Programme is expanding to cover nine

more municipalities: Baskuy, Bousse, Dafra, Do, Konsa, Manga, Nogomassom, Signoghin and Ziniare.

The main challenges for the AMICAALL Burkina Programme have been sustaining and expanding commitment and support for decentralising responses to HIV to enable the effective operationalisation of the concepts underpinning the “Three Ones,” and ensuring effective capacity at the local level to manage a scaled up and sustainable response to the epidemic, based on local leadership and ownership.

The case study can be accessed on the AMICAALL website under the case studies link: www.amicaall.org.

Cameroon

AMICAALL Cameroon Update

During July and August 2006, AMICAALL Cameroon welcomed a team from PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), within the framework of a long standing partnership among PwC, UN APP and the Alliance, aimed at enhancing municipal management capacity to support scaled up action on AIDS. The PwC team worked with AMICAALL Cameroon in three municipalities and produced a programme and financial manual for use at the municipal level. This has been an innovative public-private partnership.

To expand partnerships and increase resources, AMICAALL Cameroon facilitated the preparation of a multi-partner proposal to the Global Fund round six. It was aimed at expanding services and support at the local level and enhancing local government capacity to respond to HIV. The proposal was developed in collaboration with UNDP, UNAIDS, USAID, UNFPA, WHO and other organisations working in Cameroon. Al-

though not approved for funding during this round, the Global Fund suggested revising the proposal based on its review and resubmitting it for round seven.

To mark World AIDS Day 2006, local government authorities, with support from AMICAALL Cameroon and in collaboration with a wide range of partners and organisations, organised a solidarity march and a nation-wide media campaign. For more details, see the World AIDS Day section.



A banner to start the Solidarity March in Akono

Case Study: AMICAALL Cameroon



Ms. Annie-Michèle Salla Nzie, AMICAALL Cameroon Coordinator

In October 2006, the AMICAALL Cameroon Programme produced a case study highlighting its key achievements and challenges.

The case study describes AMICAALL Cameroon Programme activities over eight months. Initial activities focused on five municipalities. These have included enhancing local government capacity to assess the current responses through preparing municipal profiles and HIV service directories, and setting up of municipal HIV teams to encourage greater collaboration and cooperation between local government, civil society organisations and communities. In some municipalities, there has been particular attention to ensuring the inclusion

of groups that have been marginalised, such as the Bagyeli Pygmy population.

Future activities will focus on resource mobilisation and partnership development to enable expansion of activities in a larger number of municipalities. This will include ongoing discussions with central Government on decentralisation and expanding support for local government to enable them to more effectively take on their responsibilities to confront HIV.

The case study can be accessed on the AMICAALL website under the case studies link: www.amicaall.org.

Central African Republic

AMICAALL Central African Republic received support from National AIDS Programme

In November 2006, the AMICAALL Central African Republic Programme received US \$7,000 from the National AIDS Programme to support programme activities, including the preparation of the 2007 action plan. Steps have also been taken by AMICAALL Central African Republic to expand collaboration with UN system agencies working in the country. UNDP is interested in supporting AMICAALL Central African Republic next year.

Côte d'Ivoire

AMICAALL Côte d'Ivoire—Local Government Leaders Training



**Ms. Desirée
Djomond,
AMICAALL-Côte
d'Ivoire
Coordinator**

AMICAALL Côte d'Ivoire, in collaboration with the UN AMICAALL Partnership Programme, UNAIDS and UN Habitat, organised a three-day training workshop, 26-28 June 2006, in Abidjan under the auspices of the "Université des Collectivités," an academy for development and training of local actors. This training of

trainers is part of efforts to enhance access to information at the local level on the HIV epidemic and strengthen recently established municipal HIV information centres. During this workshop, participants had an opportunity to share experiences, particularly around accessing and disseminating HIV-related information, and identify specific actions for responding to HIV in the Côte d'Ivoire context.

AMICAALL Côte d'Ivoire Expands Collaboration with UN Organisations and NGOs

AMICAALL Côte d'Ivoire will receive support from UN system organizations – UNAIDS, UNDP, UNICEF – to enhance municipal capacities to plan and develop community-based responses to HIV in 12 municipalities during 2007. This collaboration will also focus on better integration of municipal HIV responses into the National AIDS Plan. The International HIV/AIDS Alliance has also expressed interest in working with AMICAALL Côte d'Ivoire to support the establishment of Voluntary Counselling and Testing Centres in the 12 municipalities.

AMICAALL Côte d'Ivoire Strategic Plan

AMICAALL Côte d'Ivoire has prepared a five year Strategic Plan 2006-2010.

Kenya

AMICAALL Kenya Addresses the Issue of Mothers and Grandmothers Coping with the Impact of HIV/AIDS



Ms. Margaret Jobita,
AMICAALL
Kenya
Coordinator

Within the framework of its partnership with the Huairou Commission (www.huairou.org) and GROOTS Kenya, AMICAALL Kenya was invited by Mother Centers International Network Empowerment (MINE) to participate in a conference in Bratislava, Slovakia and share ideas on how mothers, and increasingly grandmothers, are coping with the extra burdens of

bringing up children and facing the challenges posed by HIV and AIDS. The conference took place 17-20 November 2006.

Malawi

AMICAALL Malawi Activities



Ms. Deliwe Molema,
AMICAALL
Malawi
Coordinator

Over the past few months, AMICAALL Malawi has undertaken several activities. It has facilitated development of municipal HIV policies in Lilongwe, Mzuzu and Zomba and HIV situational analysis in each town. An exchange visit took place between AMICAALL Malawi and AMICAALL Uganda to share experiences and learn lessons across municipalities and AMICAALL programmes. In addition, a number of training of trainer activities were undertaken aimed at enhancing capacity in the following areas: municipal HIV workplace programmes, community outreach in collaboration with the UNDP community conversations programme, and the development of municipal HIV action plans.

Mali

Case Study: AMICAALL Mali



Ms. Drabo Niangadou,
AMICAALL
Mali
Coordinator

In July 2006, the AMICAALL Mali Programme produced a case study describing programme highlights, achievements to date, lesson learned and future challenges.

As described in the case study, in October 2003, AMICAALL Mali established pilot programmes with the mayors and municipal leaders in six municipalities: Bamako Commune V, Banamba, Mopti, Nioro du Sahel, Ségou and Sikasso. Since then Municipal HIV teams have been formed and received training in each town. These teams have prepared municipal profiles, and HIV service directories which provide an inventory of existing HIV-related services in each municipality. Local HIV action plans are also being prepared in each municipality.

Because of the success of the six pilot programmes, AMICAALL Mali, with support from the Government of the Netherlands, will be expanding into 55 municipalities, ten municipalities per year for five years. Next in line are: Ansongo, Bougouni, Diola, Fana, Gao, Goun Dam, Koulikoro, Koutiala, Manaka and Niono.

AMICAALL Mali aims to extend its programme into 703 municipalities and all municipalities in the District of Bamako. The Alliance is currently looking for funds for the construction of multi-purpose centers and to support People Living with HIV, orphans and vulnerable children.

The case study can be accessed on the AMICAALL website under the case studies link: www.amicaall.org.

Namibia

Namibian Municipality of Rehoboth Launches Resource Booklet on OVC-Related Services



The Namibian municipality of Rehoboth produced a resource booklet, which includes all of the service organisations involved in supporting orphans and vulnerable youth in the town. This is one example of steps being taken at the municipal level to enhance community-based responses to HIV. It is part of Rehoboth's participation in the Skills, Opportunities and Self-Reliance (SOS) Programme, an initiative of AMICAALL Namibia and numerous other partners, to support orphans and vulnerable youth by expanding access to vocational training, youth development opportunities and other services. The resource booklet, developed through the collaboration with the Rehoboth AIDS Association and ORT International, was unveiled on 1 December 2006 at a World AIDS Day event. The event was presided over by the Mayor of Rehoboth, His Worship G.P. Dax. A keynote address was given by the

Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services, the Honorable Ms. Petrina Haingura. An overview of the impact of HIV on Rehoboth was provided by the Principal Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health and Social Services, Dr. Mark Judmann.

SOS Namibia, an initiative of the AMICAALL Namibia Programme, in addition to producing resource books is also teaching new skills to youths, and training caregivers in Windhoek and Otjiwarongo. The Rehoboth AIDS Association (RAA) appointed a new administrator, Mr. B.A. Peiters, who is working with the organisation to help build its capacity to support a wide range of initiatives in Rehoboth. For more information, please see the first SOS Namibia Newsletter on the AMICAALL website: www.amicaall.org/countries/namibia.htm.

South Africa

AMICAALL South Africa—SALGA National Members' Assembly Held in Durban

The South Africa Local Government Association (SALGA) held their National Members' Assembly, 26-27 June 2006 in Durban. Over 2,000 people participated. The national government was represented by the Vice President of South Africa. At the invitation of SALGA, representatives of the Alliance briefed the National Members' Assembly on current efforts of the Alliance/AMICAALL to support the leadership of mayors and municipal leaders on HIV. The South Africa Alliance Declaration on HIV/AIDS, which was issued by mayors in Durban in 2000, was endorsed again on 27 June 2006 with a call for reviving efforts to more actively confront HIV throughout municipalities in South Africa.

The technical partner ORT International made a presentation on the Skills, Opportunities and Self-reliance (SOS) initiative in Namibia, at the SALGA Social Development Commission (sub-commission on HIV/AIDS and public safety) held during the National Members' Assembly. The SOS Programme, initiated by AMICAALL Namibia, focuses on expanding access to vocational training and youth development opportunities for orphans and vulnerable young people in Namibia. A recent SOS Namibia case study was made available to the sub-commission. Copies of the case study are available on the AMICAALL website: www.amicaall.org.

Swaziland

AMICAALL Swaziland Hosts Mayoral Delegation from Mozambique



Mr Rudolph Maziya,
AMICAALL
Swaziland
Coordinator

At the request of local government authorities in Mozambique, and in collaboration with the Association of European Parliamentarians for Africa (AWEPA) and the Alliance, a study tour of representatives of the Local Government Association of Mozambique, local government authorities and AWEPA was hosted by AMICAALL Swaziland on 27 and 28 November 2006. The study tour focused on the following areas: how the approaches underpinning AMICAALL contribute to better planning and coordination at the local level between local government authorities and civil society organisations and enhanced collaboration and coordination with the national level; and how to develop and implement strategies which confront stigma, silence and denial as well as gender and age-based dimensions of the epidemic. The Local Government Association of Mozambique has expressed interest in launching a national chapter of the Alliance and establishing a national AMICAALL programme. Funding for the study tour was provided by AWEPA.

Uganda

Launch of Five Year Strategic Plan



Dr. John Mugisa,
AMICAALL
Uganda
Coordinator

AMICAALL Uganda launched a five-year strategic plan (2006-2010) to address the persistent high HIV prevalence in urban areas—(10.7%) compared to 6.4% in rural areas—with support from UNDP and UNAIDS. The plan was developed in consultation with key stakeholders involved in the national response to AIDS.

The strategic plan conforms to the national strategy and specifically the National Strategic Framework for HIV/AIDS in Uganda. In this context, AMICAALL Uganda intends to focus on developing the competencies, systems and procedures of urban authorities for an effective response to HIV at the local community level.

UNDP is supporting AMICAALL Uganda to forge strategic partnerships and collaboration with other key stakeholders such as these development partners: Uganda AIDS Commission (UAC), line Ministries, District Councils and civil society Organisations (CSOs) for more effective coordination and collaboration.

Zambia

AMICAALL Zambia Provides Orientation to Newly Elected Mayors and Councillors



Mr. Kenneth Mwansa,
AMICAALL
Zambia
Coordinator

During October and November 2006, AMICAALL Zambia provided orientation to newly elected mayors and councillors in 10 cities and towns throughout the country: Chipata, Kabwe, Kasama, Kitwe, Livingstone, Lusaka, Mansa, Mongu, Ndola and Solwezi. AMICAALL Zambia contributed to preparations for the Special

General Assembly of the Local Government Association of Zambia (LGAZ), held in December 2006. In addition, the AMICAALL Zambia Programme has a new mainstreaming specialist who will work with local government authorities to enhance efforts to mainstream HIV in local development planning. AMICAALL Zambia has also been collaborating with the National AIDS Commission (NAC) and contributed to the facilitation of the NAC Coordination Workshop held in Lusaka in October 2006.

Advocacy and Sharing Information

A Call for Greater Involvement of Local Government at UNGASS + 5 Roundtable June 2006

United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), in collaboration with the Alliance/AMICAALL, issued a position paper on Local Government and HIV at a roundtable discussion which took place during the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS (UNGASS). The Mayor of Lusaka was invited by UCLG to participate, with other mayors, in the UNGASS Roundtable where he highlighted the activities of the Alliance and AMICAALL and

urged political leaders to work with local government authorities and ensure that national plans and strategies are developed with the inputs of those "who need to make them a reality in cities, towns and villages". He stressed that a growing number of mayors and municipal leaders are already taking action but that more support is needed.

[UCLG delegation invited to speak on behalf of local government at UN Special Session on HIV/AIDS](#)

UNGASS AIDS 2006 Review–Youth Summit Message

A message from the Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS Advocates for Youth has been made available. This message addresses the shortcomings of the 2001 Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and draws attention to the lack of HIV information and services available to young people. It also advocates for more youth involvement in decision-making bodies concern-

ing HIV. To read more about the concerns and recommendations of HIV and youth, please visit: www.youthaidscoalition.org/docs/youth_message.pdf

WORLD URBAN FORUM, 19-23 JUNE 2006 IN VANCOUVER, CANADA

The World Urban Forum, an initiative of the United Nations' Human Settlements Program (UN-HABITAT), took place in Vancouver, Canada, 19-23 June 2006. Held every two years, the World Urban Forum invites governments, local authorities, non-governmental organisations, and other experts on urban issues from around the world, to discuss the challenges of urbanisation.

Members of the AMICAALL network from Kenya and Malawi participated in a workshop at the World Urban Forum, which focused on managing the HIV epidemic at the local level. Country and regional experiences were shared. www.wd.gc.ca/ced/wuf/default_e.asp

[AMICAALL Presentation at World Urban Forum](#)

[Summary Report: Grassroots Women & Local Authorities, World Urban Forum](#)

Advocacy and Sharing Information

CIVICUS World Assembly—HIV/AIDS: From Global Goals to Local Action – New Initiatives for Thinking and Acting Together



The CIVICUS World Assembly, with the theme, “Acting Together for a Just World”, took place in Glasgow, Scotland from 21-25 June 2006. This was a forum for international civil society representatives to come together to exchange ideas, experiences, and to build strategies for a just world. CIVICUS is an international Alliance of civil society organisations, established in 1993, that supports citizen action and participation.

The UN AMICAALL Partnership Programme facilitated participation of the AMICAALL network in the CIVICUS workshop entitled, “HIV/AIDS: From Global Goals to Local Action—New Initiatives for Thinking and Acting Together.” The other participating organisations for this workshop were: the Bangladesh Manobadhi-

kar Sangbadik Forum, the Campaign for Improved Access to Treatment for AIDS in Resource Poor Countries, HIV Scotland, and the Treatment Action Campaign, South Africa—all of which are involved in enhancing community-led responses to HIV. This interactive workshop focused on leadership and what enables and facilitates people and institutions, public and private, to think and act together.

At the workshop’s conclusion, participants identified the importance of increasing efforts at the local level and ensuring that resources and services are reaching people and communities. They also noted that efforts to enhance coordination at the local level among all key partners, such as civil society organisations, communities, and local government, should be encouraged and supported.

XVI International AIDS Conference August 2006 -Toronto, Canada



The Alliance and AMICAALL network, in collaboration with UN APP, UNAIDS and other partners, participated in the 2006 AIDS Conference, held in August in Toronto, Canada, and drew attention to the role of local government, as part of a comprehensive national response to the epidemic. AMICAALL National Coordinators from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Swaziland, and Uganda participated in several skill-building workshops. One was on monitoring and evaluation of multi-sectoral and local AIDS responses, organised by UNAIDS and UNDP. Another was on local government responses to the epidemic, organised by the Urban Coalition on HIV/AIDS Prevention (USA), US Conference of Mayors, and Alliance of Mayors and Municipal Leaders on HIV/AIDS in Africa.

A **Press Conference** on local governance and HIV was hosted by the City of Toronto on 15

August 2006. The Mayor of Toronto, a representative from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and two representatives from the Alliance of Mayors and Municipal Leaders on HIV/AIDS in Africa—the Mayor of Bogodogo (Burkina Faso) and Mayor of Tanga (Tanzania)—all gave brief statements.

A **Proclamation** on local government and HIV was issued urging national authorities and the international community to recognise and support local governments in responding to HIV and AIDS through more sustained investment at the local level. The Proclamation also calls on municipalities, across the globe, to join with the Alliance/AMICAALL network, and other local government associations, to address the challenges of HIV and AIDS through joint leadership, advocacy, collaboration and marshalling of resources.

Advocacy and Sharing Information

Africities Summit 2006



The fourth Africities Summit was held in Nairobi, Kenya from 18-22 September 2006. The theme for the Summit was “Building Local Coalitions for the Implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in African Local Governments”. The primary goal of the Africities Summits is to strengthen the voice of mayors and locally elected leaders by facilitating dialogue between local government leaders, central government agencies, civil society representatives, local NGOs and development agencies responsible for decentralisation and local governance.

During the Africities Summit 2006 a series of special and thematic sessions were organised. These sessions provided an opportunity for stakeholders to share information, experiences, good practices, achievements and constraints towards attaining the MDGs and to also table recommendations on ways forward.

During the Special Session on HIV/AIDS, there were presentations from seven countries in Africa

– **Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Kenya, Mali, Swaziland, Uganda and Zambia** – highlighting actions that are being taken by local governments to address the challenges of the HIV epidemic at the local level. **A presentation on HIV and women** highlighted the impact of the epidemic on women and young girls. This session also provided an opportunity to share some experiences on city-to-city cooperation and share the Toronto Proclamation issued by the City of Toronto, Alliance of Mayors and Municipal Leaders on HIV/AIDS and Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) during the XVI International Conference on AIDS (13-18 August 2006, Toronto, Canada). A communiqué was issued containing recommendations for various stakeholders.

In addition to the Special Session on HIV/AIDS, the Alliance and UN APP contributed to the Thematic Session on Millennium Development Goal 6 (HIV, Malaria and TB) in collaboration with UNAIDS and WHO and also to the UNESCO session on Racism and Discrimination from the perspective of HIV and discrimination.

[Partnerships: South East District, Botswana and the City of Toronto, Canada](#)

[Communique and Recommendations, Africities Summit 2006](#)

[Final report on the Special Session](#)

[Africities \(Thematic Session\): Statement of Mayor Salim Kisauji](#)

General Assembly (2006) of the Association of Locally Elected Officials Against AIDS, France

Ivorian Mayor Gilbert Manouan, a member of the Coordinating Committee of the Alliance, was invited to participate in the XIth General Assembly of the Association of Locally Elected Officials Against AIDS (France) on 25 November 2006. The Alliance and the Association have worked together for many years. The participation of Mayor Manouan provided an opportunity

to share information on the evolution of the Alliance and AMICAALL programmes in Africa, including challenges faced by countries in crisis. The General Assembly heard from the President of the National Assembly (France), members of the scientific community, civil society representatives and others.

[Read the statement by Mayor Gilbert Manouan](#)

Other Publications of Interest

ILO Report Shows AIDS Epidemic is Affecting Global Economy

The United Nations International Labour Organisation (ILO) released a report on World AIDS Day describing how the AIDS epidemic is affecting the global workplace and economic growth. The report argues that better treatments, such as access to antiretrovirals (ARVs), would significantly benefit economic growth.

24.6 million paid workers live with HIV and more than 3 million people are partially or fully unable to work because of illnesses caused by the epidemic. The worst hit is sub-Saharan Africa where three fourths of the 3 million live. 43 percent of the labour force participants living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa are women.

The result is a reduction of economic growth with a global unemployment shortfall of 1.3 million new jobs a year of which 1.1 million are lost annually in sub-Saharan Africa.

“Forceful” new measures to increase access to ARV are needed to prevent this problem from worsening. The workplace should be designated as a “major entry point” to achieve universal access to ARVs, the report argues.

[To read the full report: “New ILO Report says HIV/AIDS epidemic costing more than 1 million new jobs per year”](#)

Act, Learn and Teach: Theatre and HIV/AIDS Youth Toolkit

UNESCO released a toolkit for youth in Africa on how to use theatre in AIDS education. The toolkit is based on a workshop held in Uganda for volunteers to learn about the use of interactive theatre in response to the epidemic. For more information about the project visit:

www.unesco.org/culture/aids or email: h.drobna@unesco.org.

UNICEF Launches Online Swahili Game to Boost HIV Prevention in East Africa

Seeking to reach East African adolescents and young people, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has launched an online game that helps youth make good life choices and aims at HIV prevention. More information can be found at:

www.unicef.org/media/media_36371.html

Making HIV Prevention Work—TAC Magazine "Equal Treatment"

The November 2006 newsletter of the Treatment Action Campaign "Equal Treatment" focuses on HIV prevention. This newsletter is a good example of an advocacy tool that can be produced at relatively low cost, is context-specific with simple, clear and direct messaging. The newsletter can be found at:

www.tac.org.za/documents/et21.pdf

Stigma and HIV/AIDS—Health and Development Network

The Health and Development Network (HDN) have recently made available three publications of dialogues on stigma and HIV/AIDS. The publications discuss and provide recommendations for stigma and discrimination in the workplace, how HIV stigma can be confronted, and HIV and disclosure of an individual's status. To access these publications, please visit:

www.healthdev.org/eforums/cms/individual.asp?sid=104&sname=Stigma-AIDS

Notebook

World AIDS Orphans Day: A Call to Action

It is estimated that some 15 million children under the age of 18 in the world have lost one or both of their parents to AIDS. The François-Xavier Bagnoud Association (AFXB) created the World AIDS Orphans Day, 7 May, and calls on mayors around the world to support and officially declare 7 May as “World AIDS Orphans Day”.

Present in 18 countries, the AFXB mission is to fight poverty and AIDS and support the world’s orphans and vulnerable children left in the wake of the epidemic by advocating for their needs and reinforcing the capacities of the communities and families who care for them.

To support this cause, mayors are invited to sign the proclamation that is found on the AFXB website: www.fxb.org. As of January 2007, simple proposals of action to sensitise citizens in each city will be available on the website: www.7mai.org.

For more information, please contact Laure Delouvrier (AFXB) ldelouvrier@fsb.org / Tel: +33.6.09.22.13.32.



News From Other Regions

European Local Governments Make Stopping Violence Against Women a Priority

A Pan European Campaign (2006-2008) has been launched to stop violence against women, with support from 46 countries and their Heads of State. To make real progress on this important initiative, it is imperative to also involve local government. For more information see website: www.coe.int/t/dc/campaign/stopviolence/default.en.asp.

China to Promote AIDS Awareness Among Local Officials

China's State Council has set up a delegation to tour the country to promote AIDS awareness among local government officials. Most local officials above county level will listen to speeches from the delegation from July 2006 to the end of 2007, said Wang Longde, head of the working committee of AIDS prevention and control under the State Council.

China's HIV epidemic has increased in recent years and has had a negative impact on the economy in the worst affected areas. At the first delegation meeting, Wang warned that the epidemic is spreading from high-risk groups to the general public. However, some local officials are still blind to the harm of the epidemic and are not prepared for a long-term struggle, he told the meeting, which was attended by more than 100,000 local officials via a tele-conference network.

Wang also added that local officials should know about the central government's policies and guidelines on AIDS control. China currently has about 650,000 people living with HIV, including

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 1)

Council and the General Assembly have made repeated calls not to overlook the HIV epidemic during times of crisis or emergency situations.

Political crisis has an impact on the fight against the epidemic; prevention and care efforts are weakened and actions to respond to HIV are put on the back burner. It is essential to react and increase efforts and actions. In this context, it is necessary to turn towards the local leaders, who are key actors in a comprehensive national HIV/AIDS response, because they are closest to the population.

However, not enough attention and support have been given to the role and contribution of the local government authorities in the fight against HIV in the cities. Together, as local actors, we must put in place all the means so that, in spite the political crisis throughout our country, strategies and national AIDS plans can be applied. Côte d'Ivoire must rise to challenge, with help and support from our partners and obtain positive results.

Commitment from the Ivoirian authorities is present, but must be maintained and intensified through a real exchange between central authorities and the local leaders, in particular with the Ministry on HIV created in January 2001.

Delegate certain activities to the local actors, to give them more responsibility so that the HIV/AIDS policies are centred more on the needs of the population and in a sustainable way. This is the challenge for government leaders. And we, the Alliance of Mayors and Municipal Leaders on HIV/AIDS in Côte d'Ivoire, have as a key objective, that all local authorities become more involved in

finding ways and means to expand our efforts. In collaboration with the communities, non-governmental organisations, civil society and other partnering actors, we have taken action, with limited resources, but with great commitment. However, much remains to be done.

Today, new care and treatment centres delivering ARVs have been opened in 19 administrative regions. Testing centres are more numerous; to date more than 23 Voluntary Testing Centres (VTC) and more than 105 Mother-Child Prevention Centres offer their services to women and children.

At Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, the Declaration of Mayors and Municipal Leaders on HIV/AIDS in Africa was signed in December 1997. Today, December 2006, Côte d'Ivoire wants to remain a leader in the fight against the HIV/AIDS epidemic. It is with a stronger and more coordinated engagement from the local leaders that we will succeed.

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January-March 2006

- The Alliance and UN APP welcomed Mr. Amidou Kabore and Mr. Jean Louis Pouninguinza, who took up their assignments as National Technical Advisors with AMICAALL Burkina Faso and AMICAALL Central African Republic in January and February respectively.
- AMICAALL Burkina Faso is working with six municipalities who are participating in phase one activities. Activities include training and support for the establishment of municipal HIV teams, preparation of municipal profiles and service directories, needs and response assessments, local action plans, and monitoring and evaluation frameworks.
- AMICAALL Cameroon submitted a successful proposal for the 2006 Ulysses Programme sponsored by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). In February 2006, a scoping mission was undertaken by PwC in Cameroon to meet with mayors, municipal leaders, UN and other organisations. This mission resulted in developing a scope of work aimed at enhancing local government management capacity to respond to HIV and AIDS. A PwC team implemented the scope of work later in 2006.
- AMICAALL Côte d'Ivoire extended its activities to another 15 municipalities bringing the total number of participating municipalities to 25. A working group that meets monthly was set up by AMICAALL Côte d'Ivoire, with national and international development partners, to identify ways of supporting AMICAALL Côte d'Ivoire.
- AMICAALL Kenya responded to a request for support from the local government authority in Kisumu to develop a municipal HIV-response programme. AMICAALL Kenya mobilised funding from UN Habitat and other sources to support Kisumu in order to enhance its HIV and AIDS response capacity. Consultations were undertaken to assess the availability of services, the growing orphan crisis and the efforts to address stigma, fear and discrimination. Key obstacles were identified as well as opportunities for practical action.
- AMICAALL Malawi mobilised approximately US\$200,000 from the National AIDS Commission and an additional US\$30,000 from UN Habitat to support its work.
- AMICAALL Mali received funding from a five-year grant from the Government of the Netherlands. With these funds, AMICAALL Mali will expand its activities to 55 municipalities, building on the experiences from actions undertaken in six municipalities.
- The South African Local Government Association (SALGA) invited members of the Alliance/AMICAALL to address their National Executive Committee in Pretoria in order to explore ways and means of enhancing collaboration with SALGA and its member municipalities. Mayor Nokuthula Mthembu from Swaziland and Mr. Fisho Mwale, Chair of the Technical Standing Committee of the Alliance and Co-Founder of the Alliance, participated in the briefing.
- AMICAALL Swaziland signed a second grant agreement with the Africa Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) worth US\$1 million. A signing ceremony was held in Harare, Zimbabwe, which was attended by AMICAALL National Co-ordinator, Rudolph Maziya, and AMICAALL Swaziland Executive Council Chairperson, Councillor Nokuthula Mthembu.
- The AMICAALL Uganda Programme initiated an HIV Urban Workplace Programme. The policy guideline was developed with support from UN-AIDS and UNDP in collaboration with other partners in Uganda.
- AMICAALL Zambia received funding from Irish Aid. With support from UNDP, HIV service directories are being developed in ten municipalities. The World Bank MAP is providing computers to support production of the directories.
- The World Alliance of Cities Against Poverty (WACAP) held its annual conference in March in Valencia, Spain with the forum's theme being *Localising the Millennium Development Goals*. The Alliance and UN AMICAALL Partnership Programme were invited, along with representatives

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of cities and other organisations, to share information on good practices.

- The AMICAALL network was invited by UNAIDS, co-chair of the Global Steering Committee on Universal Access, to provide inputs on strategic actions that can be taken at the global level to support countries in overcoming major obstacles towards universal access.

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Electronic Bulletin Volume 2, Issue 20 issued*

April – June 2006

- AMICAALL Burkina Faso continued to reach out to organisations working in the country to expand partnerships to support scaling-up municipal-based responses to HIV. The National AMICAALL Coordinator continues to work closely with the National AIDS Programme to identify ways and means of enhancing monitoring and evaluation at the local level, and ensuring effective local/national linkages.
- AMICAALL Cameroon facilitated the establishment of an 18-member Municipal HIV Team (MHT) in the Bamendjou municipality with support from the Mayor. The MHT was launched during a two-day workshop that included the municipality's political, traditional and religious leaders, community groups, and a UNDP/Cameroon representative.
- AMICAALL Côte d'Ivoire, in collaboration with the UN AMICAALL Partnership Programme, UNAIDS and UN Habitat, organised a three-day training workshop in Abidjan under the auspices of the "Université des Collectivités", an academy for development and training of local actors. This training was carried out to enhance access to information at the local level on the HIV epidemic and strengthen recently established municipal HIV information centres.
- AMICAALL Kenya made a presentation at the Annual (City) Clerks and Treasurers Forum on HIV workplace policies. The Bondo County Council and the Kimilili Municipal Council have requested follow up support from AMICAALL Kenya to initiate municipal workplace policies/actions.
- AMICAALL Kenya and GROOTS Kenya, a network of grassroots women, held their first joint meeting to discuss collaborating around home-based care. This meeting in Kakamega was well attended by all the councillors of the County Council and Chief Officers, partners of GROOTS Kenya, Kenya National AIDS Council and home-based caregivers.
- The South Africa Local Government Association (SALGA) held their National Members' Assembly in Durban. Over 2000 people were in attendance. At the invitation of SALGA, representatives of the Alliance briefed the National Members' Assembly on current efforts of the Alliance/AMICAALL to support the leadership role of mayors and municipal leaders on HIV.
- AMICAALL Swaziland completed a video that documents activities and achievements with respect to municipal action on AIDS. For more information, please contact Mr. Rudolph Maziya, National AMICAALL Coordinator, at: rudolph.maziya@amicaall.co.sz.
- The AMICAALL Uganda Programme has spearheaded the development of a new five-year strategic plan to guide its work and that of the National Chapter of the Alliance. The plan has been developed via a consultative process involving mayors, local government authorities, National AIDS Council, civil society, international development agencies and other partners.
- The third annual General Assembly of the Alliance/AMICAALL in Zambia was held jointly with the 50th Annual Conference of the Local Government Association of Zambia (LGAZ), in Livingstone. The theme of the LGAZ conference was, "Local Government Key to National Development", and for the Alliance/AMICAALL General Assembly it was, "From Planning to Action". A summary of the General Assembly is available in the Alliance Newsletter, Volume 2, Issue 7.

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- The Namibia Skills, Opportunities, Self-Reliance (SOS) Programme, developed in collaboration with AMICAALL Namibia and other partners, to expand access to vocational training and youth development opportunities for orphans and vulnerable young people in Namibia, was invited to share experiences and lessons learned at the CINDI (Children in Distress Network) Annual Conference in April in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. A case study was shared and can be accessed on the AMICAALL website: www.amicaall.org.
- The Commonwealth Regional Symposium was organised by the Commonwealth Local Government Forum and the Commonwealth Secretariat, with support from the Government of Uganda (Ministry of Local Government) and the Uganda Local Government Association. Matheus K. Shikongo, Mayor of Windhoek, Namibia was invited to make a presentation on local government responses to HIV, sharing experiences from Namibia and from the work of the Alliance/AMICAALL network.
- The World Urban Forum, an initiative of the United Nations' Human Settlements Program (UN-HABITAT), took place in Vancouver, Canada, in June 2006. Members of the AMICAALL network from Kenya and Malawi participated in a workshop, which focused on managing the HIV epidemic at the local level. Country and regional experiences were shared.
- AMICAALL Zambia and the UN APP participated in the CIVICUS World Assembly, held in Glasgow, Scotland, which had the theme, "Acting Together for a Just World." This forum provided an opportunity to exchange ideas, experiences, and to build strategies for a just world with civil society organisations from around the world. UN APP in collaboration with AMICAALL Zambia, the Bangladesh Manobadhikar Sangbadik Forum, the Campaign for Improved Access to Treatment for AIDS in Resource Poor Countries, HIV Scotland and the Treatment Action Campaign, South Africa facilitated a workshop on "HIV/AIDS: From Global Goals to Local Action—New Initiatives for Thinking and Acting Together." The workshop focused on leadership and what enables and facilitates people and institutions, public and private, to think and act together.
- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), in collaboration with the Alliance/AMICAALL issued a position paper on Local Government and HIV at a roundtable discussion, which took place during the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS (UNGASS). The Mayor of Lusaka was invited by UCLG to participate, with other mayors, in the UNGASS Roundtable. He highlighted the activities of the Alliance and AMICAALL and urged political leaders to work with local government authorities and ensure that national plans and strategies are developed with the inputs of those "who need to make them a reality in cities, towns and villages". He stressed that a growing number of mayors and municipal leaders are already taking action but that more support is needed.

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July-August 2006

- AMICAALL Burkina Faso prepared a case study, in collaboration with UN APP and UNAIDS, addressing the achievements and future strategic plans of AMICAALL Burkina Faso. The case study is now available in French on the AMICAALL website: www.amicaall.org.
- AMICAALL Malawi facilitated the implementation of the following activities: development of municipal HIV policies in Lilongwe, Mzuzu and Zomba and undertaking a HIV situational analysis in each town. AMICAALL Malawi and AMICAALL Uganda had an exchange visit to share experiences and learn lessons across municipalities and AMICAALL programmes. In addition, a number of training of trainer activities were undertaken aimed at enhancing capacity in the following areas: municipal HIV workplace programmes community outreach in collaboration with the UNDP community conversations pro-

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gramme, and the development of municipal HIV action plans.

- AMICAALL Mali completed a case study that captures its experience during the first phase of work in six communes. The case study can be found in French on the AMICAALL website: www.amicaall.org.
- At the International AIDS Conference 2006 in Toronto, Canada, members of the Alliance and AMICAALL network participated in several events. National AMICAALL Coordinators from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Swaziland and Uganda contributed to a skills building workshop on monitoring and evaluation of multi-sectoral and local AIDS responses organised by UNAIDS and UNDP. A press conference on local governance and HIV was hosted by the City of Toronto. The Mayor of Toronto, a representative from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and two representatives of the Alliance - Mayor of Bogodogo (Burkina Faso) and Mayor of Tanga (Tanzania) - all gave brief statements. A Proclamation (Toronto Proclamation) on local government and HIV was issued, calling on municipalities across the globe to join with the Alliance/AMICAALL and other local government associations, to take up the challenges of HIV through joint leadership, advocacy, collaboration and marshalling of resources. For more information, please refer to the AMICAALL website under "News": www.amicaall.org.

Electronic Bulletin Volume 2, Issue 22 issued

September-December 2006

- The Alliance welcomed Ms. Ayanda Nabe, a South African national, who took up her duties as the interim Executive Secretary at the Secretariat in October 2006.
- The AMICAALL Burkina Faso Programme will receive financial and technical support from the National AIDS Council to expand its activities to nine more municipalities: Baskuy, Bousse, Dafra, Do, Konsa, Manga, Nogomassom, Signoghin and Ziniare. Municipal leaders and community-based service organisations will receive support for the preparation of municipal profiles and HIV service directories. A second phase will also expand on capacity-building activities undertaken in the seven additional municipalities: Bogodogo, Boulmiougou, Fada, Kaya, Kombissiri, Fada N’Gourma, and Toma.
- The AMICAALL Cameroon Programme, alongside mayors and municipal leaders from 10 provinces in the country and groups representing People Living with HIV, civil society and community-based organisations, central government agencies, the United Nations and international community, participated in a Solidarity March on 30 November 2006. Marchers assembled in the town of Ngoumou and walked five kilometres to the town of Akono. A nation-wide media campaign to sensitise the general population was launched as part of this effort.
- The AMICAALL Central African Republic Programme has received US \$7000 from National AIDS Programme to support programme activities, including the preparation of the 2007 action plan. Steps have also been taken by AMICAALL Central African Republic to expand partnerships with UN system.
- AMICAALL Côte d’Ivoire will receive support from UN system organisations – UNAIDS, UNDP, UNICEF – to enhance municipal capacities to plan and develop community-based responses to HIV in 12 municipalities during 2007. This collaboration will also focus on better integration of municipal HIV responses into the National AIDS Plan. The International HIV/AIDS Alliance has also expressed interest in working with AMICAALL Côte d’Ivoire to support the establishment of Voluntary Counselling and Testing Centers in the 12 municipalities.
- AMICAALL Kenya was invited by Mother Centers International Network Empowerment (MINE), within the framework of its partnership with the Huairou Commission (www.huairou.org) and GROOTS Kenya, to participate in a conference, 17-20 November 2006 in Bratislava, Slova-

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kia, and share ideas on how mothers, and increasingly grandmothers, are coping with the extra burdens of bringing up children and facing the challenges posed by HIV and AIDS.

- An initiative of AMICAALL Namibia, the Skills, Opportunities and Self-reliance (SOS) Programme, and the Namibian municipality of Rehoboth unveiled a resource booklet, on World AIDS Day, which includes all service organisations involved in supporting orphans and vulnerable youth in the town. The resource booklet was developed through the collaboration with the Rehoboth AIDS Association and ORT International.
- AMICAALL Swaziland hosted a study tour, 27-28 November 2006, of representatives from the Local Government Association of Mozambique, local government authorities and the Association of European Parliamentarians for Africa (AWEPA) at the request of local government authorities in Mozambique, and in collaboration with the AWEPA and the Alliance. The Local Government Association of Mozambique has expressed interest in launching a national chapter of the Alliance and establishing a national AMICAALL programme. Funding for the study tour was provided by AWEPA.
- AMICAALL Zambia provided orientation in October and November 2006 to newly elected mayors and councillors in 10 cities and towns throughout the country: Chipata, Kabwe, Kasama, Kitwe, Livingstone, Lusaka, Mansa, Mongu, Ndola and Solwezi. AMICAALL Zambia collaborated with the National AIDS Commission (NAC) and contributed to the facilitation of the NAC Coordination Workshop held in Lusaka in October 2006. The General Assembly of the Local Government Association of Zambia (LGAZ) took place in December 2006. AMICAALL Zambia also welcomed a new mainstreaming specialist who will work to enhance efforts to mainstream HIV into local development planning.
- The Alliance, in collaboration with national AMICAALL programmes and UNAPP, facilitated preparation and organisation of the Special Session on HIV/AIDS during the Africities Summit 2006 held in Nairobi, Kenya in September; and also contributed to a number of other sessions. Please see report on the Special Session on HIV/AIDS on the AMICAALL website: www.amicaall.org.
- The Association of Locally Elected Officials Against AIDS (France) invited Ivorian Mayor Gilbert Manouan, a member of the Coordinating Committee of the Alliance, to participate in its XIth General Assembly on 25 November 2006. The Alliance and the Association have worked together for many years. The participation of Mayor Manouan provided an opportunity to share information on the evolution of the Alliance and AMICAALL programmes in Africa, including challenges faced by countries in crisis.
- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the world local government organisation, and the Alliance called for national governments to actively involve local government in defining national AIDS strategies. UCLG and AMICAALL announced this call of action through a joint press release on World AIDS Day and can be read on the AMICAALL website (under *News*): www.amicaall.org.
- Case studies on the AMICAALL programmes in Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Mali have been prepared and are now available in both English and French on the AMICAALL website: www.amicaall.org.

Electronic Bulletin Special Issue: Special Session on HIV/AIDS at Africities Summit issued

Electronic Bulletin Special Issue: Report of Special Session on HIV/AIDS at Africities Summit issued

Electronic Bulletin Volume 2, Issue 23 issued

Electronic Bulletin Special Issue: World AIDS Day issued

Newsletter Volume 3, Issue 1 June – December 2006 issued

UPCOMING EVENTS — JANUARY - JUNE 2007

10th Bangkok Symposium on HIV Medicine

17 to 19 January 2007, Bangkok, Thailand

The Conference is organised by HIVNAT, the Netherlands, Australia, and the Thailand Research Collaboration. For more details about the conference, please see the official conference website: www.hivnat.org

HIV / AIDS and the Impact on Business in Africa

22 to 25 January 2007, Sandton, South Africa

This conference will try to identify solutions to minimising the effect HIV is having on business. There is an increase in loss of skills, and absenteeism is on the rise. For more information please consult the conference website: www.aidsafricaconference.com

International Conference on Actions to Strengthen Linkages between Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS

4 to 8 February 2007, Mumbai, India

The conference will review global and region-specific research and recommend specific policy and programmatic actions to strengthen the linkages to better respond to the needs and realities of people living with HIV. For more information please contact Dr. Chander Puri, Director, NIRRH (ICMR), Mumbai at: vichin@vsnl.com

The 2nd World Congress on Gender-Specific Medicine

8 to 11 March 2007, Rome, Italy

This Congress will present new frontiers in healthcare based on the biological, physiological, pathological and therapeutic differences between women and men. For more information please contact the conference website: www.gendermedicine.com

ARV Drug Supply Management Training

11 to 24 March 2007, Pretoria, South Africa

The purpose of this meeting is to provide training in the areas of: planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the procurement and supply management of ARV delivery projects. Further information about the training can be accessed on following website: www.aa4a.co.za

HIV Management 2007: The New York Course

4 to 5 May 2007, New York, NY, United States

This advanced continuing medical education activity will provide participants with the latest information and practical guidance from nationally and internationally recognized AIDS experts on pathogenesis, resistance, and treatment of HIV. Please access the conference website for further information: www.newyorkcourse.com

3rd South African AIDS Conference

5 to 8 June, 2007, Durban, South Africa

The conference will highlight state-of-the-art developments in prevention technologies; new approaches to prevention; the long-term impact of highly active anti-retroviral therapy on incidence, prevalence, morbidity and mortality; the role of nutrition in HIV/AIDS; and the role of research into the use of complimentary and traditional medicines in HIV/AIDS. For more information please see the conference website: www.sa-aidsconference.com

HIV/AIDS 2007

6 to 11 June 2007, Kololi, Gambia

Conference details can be accessed through the HIV/AIDS 2007 conference website: www.mangosee.com/hivaids2007

Alliance Secretariat News

Alliance Welcomes New Interim Executive Secretary

The Alliance welcomes Ms. Ayanda Nabe, who took up her duties as the interim Executive Secretary at the Secretariat in October 2006. Ms. Nabe is from South Africa and has extensive local government experience. For many years, she has worked on HIV/AIDS, gender issues and social development in her country.

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