

9th June 2021

Civil Society Statement on the Political Declaration of the 2021 High Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS

We applaud the global commitment to urgent action over the next five years through a coordinated global HIV response with more ambitious targets and greater global investment in the Declaration, but the Declaration adopted today misses its mark.

We are concerned that access to services by key populations is the continuing weak point in the global response. The Declaration makes clear that “epidemiological evidence demonstrates that key populations are more likely to be exposed to HIV or to transmit it.” The Declaration acknowledges all this but fails to address an obvious driver. Criminalization of key populations continues to have a harmful impact on access to treatment and prevention services. The absence of any reference to state criminalization of behaviors or practices is unacceptable.

The Declaration speaks to the engagement of communities and their role in monitoring the response. We believe the Declaration needs to move further toward steps to divest implementation of the response into the hands of the communities and countries affected accompanied by provision of adequate resources and capacity where needed. Communities need to also be fully integrated into the annual review by the Secretary-General, with the support of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, of progress achieved in realizing the

commitments contained in the Declaration. Only communities can inform this review and provide the essential perspective of programs on the ground and their lived experience.

Following the evidence and empowering affected communities have been two essential tools of our current successes. If we as a global community cannot agree on a way forward on criminalization and localization of our global response, we will face great challenges in meeting the ambitious goals we will set for 2025.

There is need to develop policies and laws that will help in creating an enabling environment for members that are identified as key populations to be able to access basic human rights such as the right to life, health and education.

There is an urgent need for the development of strategies that will deal with violence that are inflicted because of one's sexual orientation and gender identity, gender-based violence, the unequal socioeconomic status of gay men, sex workers, Transgender and cis gender women, structural barriers to their economic empowerment and insufficient protection of the sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights of Key populations, women and girls that compromises their ability to protect themselves from HIV infection and aggravates the impact of the AIDS pandemic.

1. Mandisa Dukashe (HIV Survivors and Partners Network- South Africa)
2. Phiri Jon Chipili (Lesbian Intersex Transgender & Other Extensions), LITE Malawi
3. Prince Mikel Juao (Lesbian Intersex Transgender & Other Extensions) LITE, Malawi
4. David Kamkwamba; Network of Journalists Living with HIV (JONEHA) Malawi.
5. Paul Manyamba; National Association for People living with HIV/AIDS in Malawi (NAPHAM).
6. Child Rights Information and Documentation Centre Malawi (CRIDOC)
7. Coalition of Women Living with HIV (COWLHA) Malawi
8. Sisters against HIV and cancer initiative. (SACHI), Delta, Country: Nigeria
9. Unique Women and Children Health and Rights Initiative, (Unique Women), Jos Plateau State, Nigeria
10. Crown health and empowerment initiative ,cheinigeria@gmail.com, Delta, State Nigeria
11. Coast Sex workers Alliance, Mombasa, Kenya
12. Organization: Rural youth peace and care foundation, Country :Nigeria, Delta
13. Organization: Consolation East Africa, Country: Kenya, Nairobi
Email: consolationeastafrika@gmail.com
14. Org: Tanzania Community Empowerment Foundations/ Key and Vulnerable Populations Forum, Location: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
15. GLOBAL WOMEN'S HEALTH RIGHTS AND EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE

BENUE STATE,NIGERIA

16. Global Women's Health Rights and Empowerment Initiative (GWHREI),
Benue State, Nigeria, gwhrei2019@gmail.com
17. Trans & Intersex People-TIP for Human Rights In Nigeria (THRIN) now
Dynamic Initiative for Healthcare & Human Rights (DIHHR), Abuja & Bayelsa,
Nigeria
18. Kisumu Sex Workers Aliance . Kisumu kenya.
19. EMAC, Machakos County, Kenya.
20. Youth Wings - Arusha - Tanzania, youthwingstz@gmail.com
21. Kitui Innovators CBO, Kitui Kenya; kituiassociationofyouth@gmail.com
22. Greater Women Initiative for Health and Right (GWIHR) Rivers State, Nigeria
23. True Vine Mentors CBO, Machakos Kenya, truevinementors20@gmail.com
24. Empowerment for Youth and Awareness (EYA), Arusha , Tanzania,
empowermentyouthawareness@gmail.com, lusungunkwera@gmail.com
25. The Alliance for Health and Rights Advancement Initiative (TAHRA
INITIATIVE), Adamawa State.
26. True Vine Mentors CBO, Machakos, kenya
27. GIRLS WITH POTENTIAL FOR EXCELLENCE (GPE), DODOMA, TANZANIA
28. Center for Public health, Human rights and Advocacy (CENTA), Dar es
Salaam,Tanzania
29. Tanzania Network of Women Living with HIV (TNW+), Dar es Salaam,
Tanzania
30. Gift of hope foundation, Tanga, Tanzania
31. TANZANIA WOMEN FOR EQUALITY AND SERVICES, MWANZA, TANZANIA

32. YOUTH AND WOMEN INITIATIVES TOWARD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA
33. Hope for Change Initiative (HCI), Uyo, Nigeria.
34. Kwale Network of People Who Use Drugs-Kenya (KwaNPUD KENYA), Kwale,
Kenya
35. Tugutuke Jamii CBO, Kisumu-Kenya
36. Igniting Young Minds Tanzania(IYMT), Dar es salaam-Tanzania
37. MIASM CBO, Meru, Kenya
38. Zambia Sex Workers Alliance, Lusaka, Zambia
39. Stay Awake Network Activities - Tanzania
40. Focus for the Future Generation Organization, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
41. MACHEO CBO, ELDORET, KENYA
42. Men For Positive Living support community based organization, Kisumu,
Kenya
43. Initiative for Health and Social Development, Cities: Kogi,Benue,Lagos,
Gombe and Kaduna, Country: Nigeria
44. Dynamic Initiative for Healthcare & Human Rights (DIHHR), Nigeria.
45. Creme de la Crème House of Fame foundation. Cities we have branches:
Abuja, Lagos state, Nigeria
46. Tanzania Community Health Information and Support, Dar es Salaam,
Tanzania
47. Consolation East Africa, Nairobi, Kenya,
48. Nyarwek Network, Kisumu Kenya.
49. Picture youth Group, Kisumu Kenya,
50. Bethel Right and Health Initiative (BRAHIN), Udu, Delta State, Nigeria

51. Rural Youth Peace and Care Foundation (RYPCAF), Warri, Nigeria
52. Initiative for youth development change in Nigeria (IYDCN), Nigeria
53. International Centre for Advocacy on Right to Health (icarh) ,Nigeria
54. Name of Organization: Life Building Awareness initiative (LIBAI), City Located:
Lafia, Nasarawa state, Country: Nigeria, West Africa.
55. Life and Hope Rehabilitation Organisation, Bagamoyo, Tanzania.
56. Initiative for youth development change in Nigeria (IYDCN), Nigeria
57. The Gender Council, Lagos, Nigeria
58. Hope Alive Health Awareness Initiative.(HAHAI), City;Bauchi State, Country:
Nigeria
59. Hope for Change Initiative (HCI), Uyo, Nigeria.
60. Initiative For Improved Male Health (IMH-I), MSM led, Calabar, Cross River
State
61. HIGHLIGHTING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO RIGHTS (HEAR), Nigeria
62. Southern youth trans initiatives (SYTI), Mbeya, Tanzania, sytiorg@gmail.com
63. Differentiated Service Umoja Tanzania, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
64. Malawi Network of people living with HIV (MANET+), Lilongwe, Malawi
65. Joy Abilities Empowerment, Malawi
66. ZICHIRE, Zimbabwe
67. Key and Vulnerable Population Forum, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
68. Key Population Consortium, Nairobi, Kenya
69. Key Population Consortium, Lusaka, Zambia
70. Key Population Consortium, Nigeria.
71. Levites Initiative for Freedom and Enlightenment (LIFFE), Delta State,
Nigeria.

72. Name of Organization: Life Building Awareness initiative (LIBAI), Lafia, Nasarawa state. Nigeria, West Africa.
73. Lotus Identity, Lusaka, Zambia.
74. Decisive Minds, Lusaka, Zambia
75. Transbantu Association Zambia, Zambia. Transbantu@hotmail.com
76. Key Populations Consortium of Kenya [KP Consortium]
77. Womens Alliance for Equality, Lusaka, Zambia.
78. Kenya Network Of People Who Use Drugs (KeNPUD) kenpud17@gmail.com
79. Tanzania Community Empowerment Foundation, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
80. Kirumba movement for harm reduction kirumbamovement@gmai (KMFR)
Mwanza Tanzania