

2010 World AIDS Day statements

1 December 2010 marks the 22nd anniversary of World AIDS Day. The theme for this year is “Universal Access and Human Rights”. To mark the day, the United Nations Secretary General, the Executive Director of UNAIDS Secretariat and Heads of UNAIDS Cosponsors and partners speak out in special World AIDS Day statements.



The Secretary-General Message for World AIDS Day, 1 December 2010

Next year will mark the 30th anniversary of the AIDS epidemic. This milestone offers a moment to reflect — and to renew our resolve.

Over the past three decades, AIDS has caused untold suffering and death. But another story has unfolded through the years, one of the global community uniting with passion to take action and save lives. These efforts are making a real difference around the world. Read full statement [here](#).



Zero new HIV infections. Zero discrimination. Zero AIDS-related deaths.

Statement for World AIDS Day, 1 December 2010 by Michel Sidibé, Executive Director of UNAIDS and Under Secretary-General of the United Nations

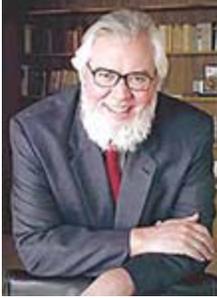
On this World AIDS Day we can be proud. Globally we have reduced the number of new HIV infections and deaths by nearly 20%. This means less people are becoming infected with HIV and less people are dying from AIDS. 56 countries have either stabilized or significantly reduced the rate of new HIV infections. Read full statement [here](#).



Message on the occasion of World AIDS Day – H.E. Joseph Deiss, President of the 65th Session, General Assembly of the United Nations.

As we commemorate World AIDS Day, let us remember the millions of people who have lost their lives to the disease, express our solidarity and support to those living with HIV, and to families and friends. Above all let us renew our commitment to take bold action to reverse the pandemic.

There are many achievements to be proud of. Thanks to the increase in HIV treatments, fewer people are dying because of AIDS. Prevention efforts are also paying off. Read the full statement [here](#).



Message by Juan Somavia Director-General of the International Labour Office on the occasion of World AIDS Day 1 December 2010

Despite significant progress in stemming the pandemic, HIV still poses a significant obstacle to realizing the goals of sustainable development and decent work for all.

Its effects are highly concentrated amongst those of the most productive age. This human tragedy also hits families, enterprises, societies and economies.

This year's World AIDS Day is part of the two year campaign '*Stop AIDS. Keep the Promise – Universal Access and Human Rights*'. Concerned with all workers, wherever they work, the ILO is keeping the promise, promoting and protecting the human rights of workers living with or affected by HIV. Workplaces hold enormous potential to halt and begin to reverse the spread of the pandemic yet this potential is still to be fully tapped. Read full statement [here](#)



World AIDS Day 2010: Universal Access and Human Rights
Statement by UNFPA Executive Director Thoraya Ahmed Obaid

Today, on World AIDS Day, we call for universal access and human rights for all and we extend solidarity to all people living with HIV.

UNFPA welcomes the new data from UNAIDS showing that the epidemic is changing course, thanks to bold and concerted actions, including an emphasis on the right to prevention, treatment, care and support. Read full statement [here](#).



Statement by UNDP Administrator Helen Clark on the occasion of World AIDS Day 1 December 2010

'Universal access and human rights' is the theme of this year's World AIDS day, reminding us of the critical importance of both in effective responses to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Timely access to HIV-related treatment demonstrably extends lives. In Southern Africa, for example, anti-retroviral treatment expanded more than tenfold between 2002 and 2009, from 300,000 people to 3.7 million. According to the 2010 Human Development Report, the availability of this treatment played a crucial role in forestalling the even more dramatic drops in life expectancy in that region which would otherwise have occurred. In total, five million people around the world are on life-saving anti-retroviral treatment today. Yet ten million more who are eligible for treatment still lack access. Read full statement [here](#) ([en](#) | [fr](#) | [es](#))



Statement by WHO Director-General Dr Margaret Chan on the occasion of World AIDS Day 2010

Human rights – a central concern for the global HIV response

On World AIDS Day 2010, the global community is focusing attention on protecting human rights of all people affected by HIV.

Health, HIV and human rights are inextricably linked. HIV responses need to ensure that human rights are protected and promoted. At the same time, the promotion and protection of human rights reduces HIV risk and vulnerability and makes HIV programmes more effective. Those populations most vulnerable and at risk of HIV are often the same populations prone to human rights violations. HIV policies and programmes in the health sector must promote human rights and empower individuals to exercise their rights. Read full statement [here](#).



World AIDS Day message, UNODC Executive Director, Yury Fedotov

Access to HIV and Drug Dependence Treatment Services Is a Right

UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, has recently agreed on a new vision statement: “Zero new HIV infections. Zero AIDS related deaths. Zero discrimination.” For UNODC, one of the ten cosponsors of UNAIDS, this vision gives a clear directive to our work: to strive for zero new HIV infections among drug users and in closed settings, including prisons. Read the full statement [here](#).



HRH Princess Mathilde of Belgium, UNAIDS and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador for Children and AIDS

During my visit to Liberia last October, I gained further insight into the terrible pandemic that is HIV/Aids and its devastating impact on women and children who have lived in the midst of conflict for many years. They are the most vulnerable, and I am more than ever convinced that within a comprehensive approach to the prevention, care and treatment of HIV/Aids their voices need to be heard. They are the victims of violence, orphaned by Aids; we should continue to draw attention to the very difficult situations in which they live.

The feminization of Aids remains a serious issue. Young women are particularly vulnerable. At the same time, men and boys should be actively involved in the fight against HIV/Aids; they are part of the solution too.

I frequently say that a good education is of great importance. Boys and girls should be taught to show respect for one another. They should be given the necessary skills at school to enable them to shape their future.

I will continue my efforts to raise awareness and to lend my support and give a voice to the most vulnerable. Let us never give up hope for a better future for young women and children. The key is to listen to them and to act in their best interests.

They cannot do it alone. Let's join them.



HRH Crown Princess Mette-Marit of Norway

We are at a crossroad. We see positive trends in several countries, where the spread of HIV is reversing. That does not mean it is time to rest. It is time for doubling our efforts. Now when we start to see real results, we must continue and not lose focus.

We must secure leadership for the future. The UNAIDS rapport issued in July launches Treatment version 2.0. To reach the goals stipulated in the report we also need Youth Leadership 2.0.

So let us imagine Youth Leadership 2.0.

Imagine a radically improved system that identifies and organizes emerging youth leaders world wide in a structured and effective way.

Then Imagine proper support for young leaders to maximize their effectiveness and scale up their response. That this system gives youth the space, visibility and credibility to lead trough the transfer of knowledge, loyal support and mentorship.

Now imagine a funding system that understands the power of youth, and therefore radically increases long term funding and creates stabile financial conditions for youth led initiatives.

Finally imagine youth to be the drivers of eradicating this disease because the world's leaders gave them a chance, not only because they owe youth, but also because they owe the families affected by this epidemic to fully draw upon the knowledge of the people who live at the heart of this disease.

I believe in young people. Involve them.



Message from Annie Lennox, UNAIDS Goodwill Ambassador

Today is a special day – It is World AIDS Day and the 3rd Anniversary of The SING Campaign.

I'm happy to tell you that we have come a long way in the fight against HIV and AIDS.

The new Global Report from UNAIDS shows that fewer people are becoming infected

with HIV and that we have broken the trajectory of the AIDS epidemic.

We have reached the first part of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of halting and reversing the spread of HIV. Read the full statement [here](#).



Message from Michael Ballack, UNAIDS Goodwill Ambassador

In my role as UNAIDS International Goodwill Ambassador, I have seen a lot and heard many misconceptions on HIV and AIDS. People living with HIV are often being stigmatized against for no reasons: Let me state the facts: People living with HIV are people like you and me – with the same human rights!! And for the record: you don't get HIV or AIDS by talking to someone, shaking hands, playing sports, sharing a meal, sharing a glass... The list is long – but knowing the truth, can help stop HIV and AIDS!

Pass it on.... And join the HIV prevention revolution!



Salman Ahmad, UNAIDS Goodwill Ambassador

Open Your Eyes and save lives,

Open Your Heart and play your part,

The protection of human rights is fundamental to combating the global HIV and AIDS epidemic. By promoting individual human rights, new infections can be prevented and people who have HIV can live free from discrimination.

Fewer people are becoming infected with HIV and fewer people are dying from AIDS.



Toumani Diabaté, UNAIDS Goodwill Ambassador

We have broken the trajectory of the AIDS epidemic. But we still have a long way to go. Everybody should have the same rights like you and me. Right to education, Rights to choices, Rights to live a happy healthy life and rights to not being stigmatized against.

In my role as UNAIDS International Goodwill Ambassador, I ask you to stop and listen – listen to the facts and join the fight against HIV and AIDS.



Lebo M, UNAIDS Goodwill Ambassador

This year the theme on World AIDS day is “*Universal Access and Human Rights*”. - Universal access to prevention of HIV, treatment care and support to those who need it. It is a basic human right to have access to these services and no one living with or affected by HIV – should be discriminated against.

As the new UNAIDS Global report shows – We have come a long way in the fight against HIV and AIDS – and we are seeing many new positive trends – like UNAIDS Executive Director Michel Sidibe’s new strategy on prevention of Mother to Child transmission (PMTCT). Let’s stop babies and mothers from dying – by providing access to the right prevention, treatment, care and support to the mothers and babies in need.

In my role as International UNAIDS Goodwill Ambassador, I urge you to take a moment to reflect – reflect on the fact that we still – almost 30 years after the discovery of the epidemic have lost so many unnecessary lives.

Today we will commemorate those. Light a candle, turn on your light and join me lighting the lights for Human Rights.



James Chau, CCTV News Presenter, National UNAIDS Goodwill Ambassador for China

‘Zero’ usually means ‘nothing’. But when it comes to HIV, it means ‘everything’ in the world. Zero infections, zero discrimination, and zero AIDS-related deaths has to be the goal for us all, including China. I stand in solidarity with the 33 million mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, sisters, brothers, and friends who live with HIV—and ask you to do the same not just in words, but also with your hearts. Let’s get to zero. Because zero means the whole world to us.

‘Zero’ usually means ‘nothing’. But when it comes to HIV, it means ‘everything’ in the world. Zero infections, zero discrimination, and zero AIDS-related deaths has to be the goal for us all, including China. I stand in solidarity with the 33 million mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, sisters, brothers, and friends who live with HIV—and ask you to do the same not just in words, but also with your hearts. Let’s get to zero. Because zero means the whole world to us.



Preity Zinta, National UNAIDS Goodwill Ambassador for India

HIV is a reality here in India as it is around the world.

On World AIDS day it is important to remember two facts: HIV is preventable – but even so in 2009 nearly one and a half lack Indian citizens got infected including 18,000 infants.

AIDS is also fully treatable, although like diabetes or high blood pressure treatment is

for life – there is no cure. Over 3 lack Indians are receiving free treatment but nevertheless over one and a half lack of our countrymen and women died from AIDS, largely because they didn't know they were infected with HIV and needed lifesaving treatment.

Stigma and Discrimination because of ignorance about HIV is a big deterrent for people who need to access services – whether it is prevention, to find out whether they have infection and if they need treatment. In this day and age in our country we must stand up and say this is unacceptable. It is wrong to discriminate against anyone because of HIV.

Mother-to-child transmission of HIV particularly upsets me. We should be able to protect every infant in India from HIV but still thousands of infants get infected each year.

Each and every one of us has an obligation to do our bit. Let us pledge to end the transmission of HIV from mother to child. Let us pledge to strive for an AIDS free generation. Let us pledge to end discrimination against People living with HIV.

The starting point is information and knowledge! If we take action today, together we can reach **Zero new HIV infections. Zero discrimination and Zero AIDS-related deaths!**"



Craig David's statement for World AIDS Day 2011

People living with HIV are particularly vulnerable to tuberculosis. Not only are they much more likely to get it, they are also much more likely to die of the disease.

One out of every four AIDS-related deaths is caused by tuberculosis. Last year, 400 000 people living with HIV died from tuberculosis.

But these deaths are preventable: If people living with HIV test for tuberculosis they can get access to care and be cured.

Preventing HIV will help prevent tuberculosis.

Join the Prevention Revolution <http://on.fb.me/95aBol>

Peace,

Craig David, Goodwill Ambassador against Tuberculosis



AIDS Demands Global Attention, Resources and Your Voice – United Nations Foundation CEO Kathy Calvin

Washington, DC (December 1, 2010) – United Nations Foundation CEO Kathy Calvin today issued the following statement on World AIDS Day.

“Every day more than 1,200 children are born with HIV around the world. AIDS is still one of the leading causes of death among women of reproductive age. Today, on World AIDS Day, we should take a moment to remember the nearly 30 million people who have died of HIV-related causes and the more than 60 million people who have been infected with HIV since the beginning of the epidemic. The best way to show our support is by re-committing ourselves to the urgent fight against this global disease.



EU Statement for World AIDS Day

Today on World AIDS Day 2010, the European Union commemorates the many millions of people who have lost their lives to HIV/AIDS, and pays tribute to the many people living with HIV and people from all levels of society, who have fought relentlessly to bring attention to the epidemic and advocate for urgent action.

More than five million people now have access to effective treatment in middle and low income countries, a thirteen fold increase in just six years. The biggest progress has been made in the most affected countries of sub-Saharan Africa. Twenty-two of the most affected countries in sub-Saharan Africa have reduced new HIV infections by more than 25% in the past 10 years. The European Union is proud to have contributed to these extraordinary achievements made in the global response to HIV/AIDS and to be part of a collective effort of strong partners such as UNAIDS, WHO, the Global Fund, UNITAID, People Living with HIV and civil society. Read full statement [here](#).



Review laws and use them to stop the spread of HIV

On the occasion of World AIDS Day 2010, the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Dr Theo-Ben Gurirab, who is also the Speaker of the National Assembly of Namibia, made the following statement:

“For more than 20 years, World AIDS Day has served to remind us that HIV and AIDS are still with us. There is much that remains to be done to curb it. On my own continent, and in Sub-Saharan Africa in particular, power imbalances, harmful social gender norms, gender-based violence and marginalization make women and girls particularly vulnerable to the HIV infection and limit their access to information and HIV services. This is a matter of deep concern to African countries, which have more than 2 million children living with the virus and more than 15 million orphaned by AIDS. Read full statement [here](#).



Religious Leaders Commit to work on HIV

Religious leaders from many faiths and from around the world committed themselves personally to do more about HIV. Their personal commitment can help provide important new momentum in the global response – overcoming stigma and discrimination, promoting prevention, ensuring treatment and care, advocating for sufficient and sustainable resources to help all those in need. [Read more](#)

To read their personal commitment and some of the statements made on World AIDS day click [here](#)