

THEMATIC SEGMENT AGENDA

Beyond 2025 – Long acting antiretrovirals: potential to close HIV prevention and treatment gaps

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UNAIDS/PCB 57

DATE: 18 December 2025

VENUE: Royal Tulip Brasilia Alvorada Hotel, Brasilia, Brazil

TIME: 9h00 – 16h30

Key objectives and focus of the meeting:

The thematic session will provide an opportunity for the PCB to discuss recent innovations of long- acting antiretroviral medicines and how rapid, equitable access to these medicines has the potential to close gaps in HIV prevention, treatment and care and advance the goal of ending AIDS as a public health threat.

The thematic segment will:

- Describe HIV prevention and treatment gaps in relation to the global targets in the context of current challenges in the HIV response.
- Outline the added value of long acting antiretrovirals in boosting outcomes of HIV prevention and HIV treatment programmes, focusing on population groups, geographies and contexts with persistent difficulties in accessing and maintaining antiretroviral based prevention and antiretroviral treatment.
- Highlight the potential of long acting antiretrovirals to overcome barriers to access and retention which diminish effectiveness of HIV prevention and HIV care services.
- Discuss enablers and barriers to equitable, affordable and sustained access to innovative long-acting antiretrovirals in contexts with the greatest need, such as affordable pricing, regulatory barriers, and financing.
- Feature integrated service delivery models that embed a human rights and gender lens, as well as needs for additional research, data, and policy reform to inform rapid roll out.
- Emphasize the role of community led responses in supporting HIV prevention and care programmes and advocating for access at scale.
- Propose strategies for ensuring equitable access to long acting antiretrovirals and make recommendations for action by the Joint Programme, governments, global health organizations, advocacy groups, the pharmaceutical industry, and the scientific community.

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Moderators:

- **Andy Seale**, Global Coordinator and Technical Officer, Department on HIV, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis, and Sexually Transmitted Infections, WHO
- **Paula Munderi**, Head, Programme Innovation, Prevention, Treatment and Pediatrics, UNAIDS

09:00 – 09:30 Opening dialogue and keynote addresses

The keynote speakers will provide “big picture” overview of the thematic segment strategic vision regarding the session objectives.

- **Mariângela Simão**, Secretary of Health and Environmental Surveillance, Brazil
- **Yvette Raphael**, Co-founder and Co-director, Advocates for Prevention, South Africa
- **Winnie Byanyima**, Executive Director, UNAIDS

09:30 – 10:30 Session overview

This session will provide the main highlights from the thematic segment background note, with a particular focus on “setting the scene” to understand the evidence on the transformative potential of universal access to long acting ARVs and the enablers and barriers to equitable affordable sustained access.

- **Tereza Kasaeva**, Director, Department on HIV, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis, and Sexually Transmitted Infections, WHO (virtual)
- **Mary Mahy**, Director, Data for Impact Practice, UNAIDS (virtual)

Remarks from the floor

10:30 – 10:45 Coffee break

10:45 – 12:30 Panel 1: Perspectives on Long Acting antiretrovirals

This session will feature a panel of speakers who will focus attention on the experiences of people at risk of and living with HIV, decision makers on policy and programme implementation.

- **Bruce Richman**, Founding Executive Director, Prevention Access Campaign, USA (virtual)

- **Lloyd Mulenga**, National HIV Program Coordinator, Ministry of Health, Zambia
- **Veriano Terto**, Vice-President, Associação Brasileira Interdisciplinar de AIDS (ABIA), Brazil
- **Beatriz Grinsztejn**, President, International AIDS Society (IAS) (virtual)

Remarks from the floor

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 15:30 Panel 2: Planning for access – what will it take?

In this session, a panel of speakers will discuss necessary steps to enable sustained access to long acting antiretrovirals.

- **Carmen Perez-Casas**, Technical Manager, UNITAID (virtual)
- **Jared Baeten**, Senior Vice President, Clinical Development, Virology Therapeutic Area Head, Gilead Sciences (virtual)
- **Bryn Jones**, Global Medical Lead - HIV, ViiV Healthcare (virtual)
- **Thembisile Xulu**, Chief Executive Officer, South African National AIDS Council (SANAC), South Africa (virtual)
- **Mike Reid**, Chief Science Officer for PEPFAR in the Bureau of Global Health Security and Diplomacy in the US State Department (virtual)
- **Michael Ighodaro**, Executive Director, Global Black Gay Men Connect, Nigeria and USA
- **Izukanji Sikazwe**, Head of HIV, the Global Fund (virtual)

Remarks from the floor

15:30 – 15:45 Conclusions and the way forward

The concluding session will summarize the main messages from the thematic segment.

- **Angeli Achrekar**, Deputy Executive Director for Programmes, UNAIDS