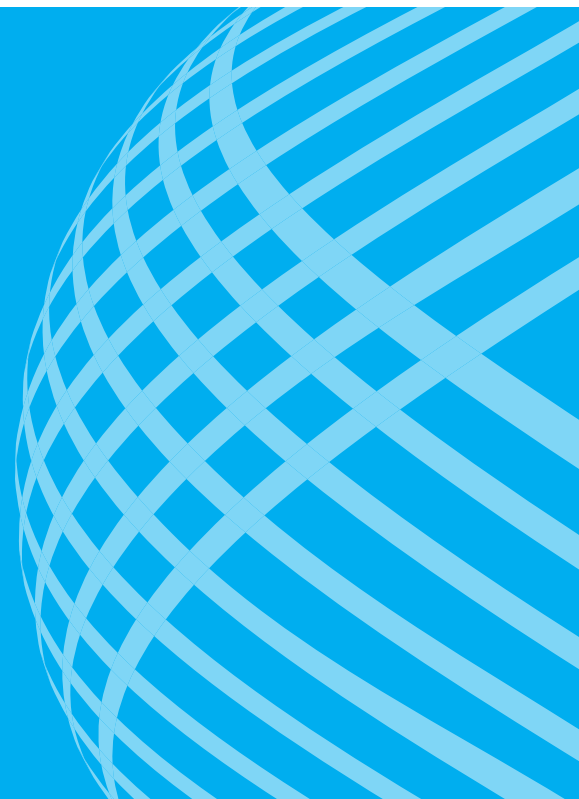


# REMARKS

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WINNIE BYANYIMA,  
UNAIDS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
PLENARY DEBATE OF THE SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE





# REMARKS

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WINNIE BYANYIMA,  
UNAIDS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
MONDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2024

Your Excellency, President of the General Assembly,

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

We gather at a time when global crises threaten to overwhelm us. But we need not despair.

I come to you with a proven path. A path through which the world can overcome all challenges.

Over 25 years ago governments came together with civil society, with the private sector, with the philanthropists, here at the United Nations, to fight a disease, HIV. They set up institutions, such as the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, that is the Programme I lead, they set up a fund, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, they set targets, and they worked together, collaborated to fight a disease.

Today almost 31 million people living with HIV around the world are on treatment and living healthy lives. The AIDS response defines the path to success, a path of multilateralism.

Key elements of this success are:

First, shared responsibility and global solidarity. No single country or entity can ever solve global problems.

Second, ensuring that the benefits of scientific innovation are shared by all countries.

Third, putting human rights at the heart of all plans, ensuring that the vulnerable, marginalized people are reached first and that there is no stigma and discrimination.

Fourth, sharing financial resources. Today we face the challenge that the most vulnerable countries to HIV, with the highest burden, are being choked by debt. The issue of restructuring debt is critical today. Resources should be shared.

Lastly, the example of the HIV response, the coming together of countries, should inspire us to reaffirm our commitment to multilateralism.

