**Quote sheet for media on UNAIDS new report, *The Path That Ends AIDS***

* “This report by UNAIDS shows that the world can end AIDS if leaders follow the science, stop stigma and discrimination, support civil society, and invest in the AIDS response,” said **Sheila Tlou**, Co-Chair of the Global Prevention Coalition and former Minister of Health of Botswana. “As a former politician, I am saying to today’s politicians that the end of AIDS can be your achievement. Be courageous.”
* “UNAIDS report demonstrates the difference made by evidence-based policies to tackle inequalities. It shows that if leaders address the inequalities holding back progress then they can have as their legacy the end of AIDS as a public health threat,” said **Erika Placella**, Head of Health, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland.
* “As UNAIDS new report shows, community-led action is essential for getting on the path to end AIDS,” said **Harry Prabowo**, Asia Pacific Network of People Living with HIV. “Community activism is key to widening access to prevention and treatment tools. Communities are key in raising the alarm on inequalities and gaps, monitoring rights violations and service failings, holding health systems accountable, and advancing improvements. Political leaders should value community organizing – it will enable them to end AIDS.”
* “This new report highlights that the next seven years are critical. Even though there is no vaccine and there is no cure, the tools exist for us to end AIDS as a public health threat. Whilst the task is challenging, it is achievable,” said **Jérôme Salomon**, Assistant Director-General of the World Health Organization. “As the report sets out, success depends on strong political leadership and a fully funded response to HIV in the context of building sustainable health systems with communities at the centre.”
* “UNAIDS new report is vital reading. Community-led approaches are essential to ensuring trust, understanding community needs, and widening access to services,” said **Gibstar Makangila**, Executive Director of Circle of Hope, Zambia. “As leaders seek to close the final gaps towards ending AIDS, they will need to maximise the use of community-led approaches through the cycle of programme design, implementation and monitoring.”
* “The new data released today by UNAIDS makes it clear that with strong political leadership and adequate funding, we can end AIDS as a public health threat,” said **Peter Sands**, Executive Director of the Global Fund. “To achieve that goal, we must also be smart in how we invest, building more inclusive, resilient and sustainable systems for health that can ensure everyone, everywhere, has access to the services they need for good health and well-being.”
* “UNAIDS report demonstrates how human rights are essential to ending AIDS,“ said **Keith Zenga King**, Queer activist, writer and performance artist from Uganda. “The criminalization, marginalization, and stigmatization of Queer people obstructs access to services. The path to end AIDS involves protecting the human rights of all marginalised people.”
* “UNAIDS report shows that the end of AIDS is possible – if global leaders are bold in protecting the rights of everyone,” said **Yana Panfilova**, the Ukrainian co-founder of Teenergizer, an organization for the rights of young people living with HIV in Europe and Central Asia. “Governments need to advance gender equality, support comprehensive sexuality education, accept LGBT people, and support the leadership of young people. Every day, young people with HIV are still dying. It is not the virus alone which kills, but the fear, stigma and the anxiety created by discrimination. In too many countries, it can feel safer to hide for being gay or being a migrant or a person living with HIV than it is to come forward and ask for help, when you fear you are going to be treated as a second-class citizen. When everyone is respected, everyone’s health will be protected.”
* “UNAIDS global report is clear: an effective HIV response depends on leaders reducing inequities and discrimination to open up services and tools to key populations, and recognising the importance of community-led interventions,” said **Amanita Calderon-Cifuentes**, Trans Gender Europe (TGEU). “To ensure the well-being of trans communities requires leaders to tackle the systemic, cultural and economic transphobia and cisnormativity that are barriers to access to HIV-related services, increase the funding of trans-led programmes and community-based research, and deconstruct the bigotry within our system. It is a political choice.”
* “As UNAIDS report shows, the path that ends AIDS depends on reaching everyone – that requires replacing stigma with respect and inclusivity for all, and on supporting community organizing to go to where people are,” said **Loic Michaud** from Checkpoint Geneva.
* “UNAIDS report demonstrates that when governments treat all people with care and not judgement, they see results: they see more people protected from HIV, more people receiving the treatment they need and more people living long and healthy lives,” said **Ruth Dreifuss**, former President of the Swiss Confederation. “The goal of ending AIDS worldwide by 2030 is within reach, if we all join forces to ensure that human rights of all people living with or affected by HIV are respected, protected and fulfilled.”
* “The message of UNAIDS new report is hopeful, but it is not the relaxed optimism that might come if all was heading as it should be. It is, instead, a hope rooted in seeing the opportunity for success, an opportunity that is dependent on action,” said **Winnie Byanyima**, Executive Director of UNAIDS. “The facts and figures shared in this report do not show that as a world we are already on the path, they show that we can be. The way is clear.”