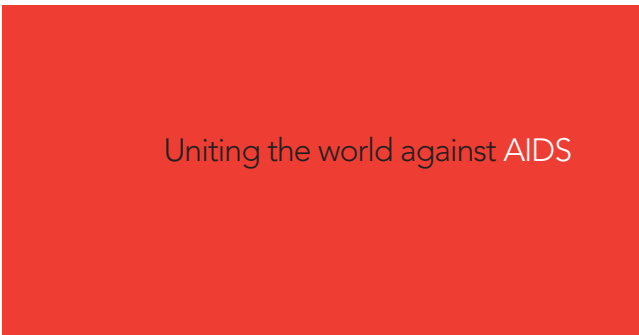




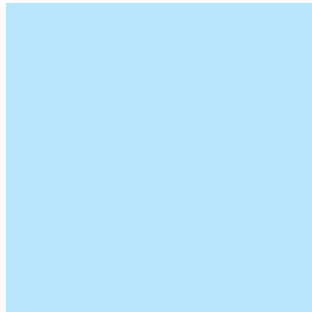
UNAIDS
JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS

UNHCR
UNICEF
WFP
UNDP
UNFPA

UNODC
ILO
UNESCO
WHO
WORLD BANK



Uniting the world against AIDS



A letter from Peter Piot, Executive Director



For over 27 years, our world has been living with HIV. And in just this short time, AIDS has become one of the make-or-break global crises of our age, undermining not just the health prospects of entire societies but also their ability to reduce poverty, promote development, and maintain national security. And in too many regions AIDS continues to expand – every single day 7 400 people are newly infected with HIV, and nearly 5 500 people die from AIDS-related illnesses.

Yet, despite the magnitude of the AIDS crisis, today we are at a time of great hope and great opportunity to get ahead of the epidemic. Our crisis-response tactics have led to real progress against AIDS.

Funding for efforts against AIDS has risen from ‘millions’ to ‘billions’ in just a decade. Political commitment and leadership on AIDS is higher than ever before. In more and more countries — including some of the world’s poorest — we are seeing real results in terms of lives saved because effective HIV prevention and treatment programmes are being made widely available. Leaders of both developing and rich countries have now committed themselves to working together so as to get close to universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010 — a critical stepping stone to halting the epidemic by 2015, as set out in the Millennium Development Goals.

We must now take our response to the

epidemic to the next level. With the gains we have made so far, we have our first and perhaps only opportunity to move the AIDS response into entirely another league, where we build on our emergency actions and put in place a response that can be sustained for the long term.

Long-term sustainability does not mean looking five or ten years ahead, but twenty five years and more because the AIDS epidemic, tragically, will not end any time soon. To get us to the point where future generations are free from AIDS requires that every part of the AIDS response is sustained over the long term.

We need many things to make this commitment a reality. Not least, adequate funding for AIDS programmes must be made available. The money that is mobilized must be made to work for those who need it most. We must advance scientific innovation for new medicines and for female-controlled prevention technologies, and at the same time ensure that these are made universally available. We must also address effectively the social drivers of this epidemic — especially gender inequality, homophobia, HIV-related stigma, poverty and other inequalities.

And if we are to really advance, we must advance together – in an absolutely united front. UNAIDS and its ten Cosponsors are committed to ‘Uniting the world against AIDS’ and helping to build a sustainable AIDS response for the future. This means working together, and

with all other partners involved in the AIDS response, to build a broad, global united coalition for action with genuinely shared goals.

Success against the AIDS epidemic is now in sight — but securing it will require an unprecedented, united response from the world for the next decades at a very minimum.

Faced with the exceptional challenges posed by AIDS, we have no choice but to act in exceptional ways.

At the heart of UNAIDS’ commitment are the people we work for and with – the women, men and children living with and affected by HIV. Together the ten UNAIDS Cosponsors are committed to making the money work for those who are in the most need today – while ensuring longer term solutions are in place for tomorrow.

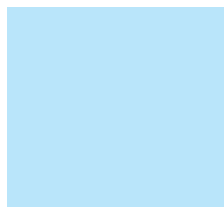


Peter Piot
Executive Director
UNAIDS

About UNAIDS

UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, brings together the efforts and resources of ten UN system organizations to the global AIDS response. Cosponsors include UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, ILO, UNESCO, WHO and the World Bank. With its headquarters in Geneva, the UNAIDS Secretariat works on the ground in more than 85 countries worldwide.

From joint programmes on AIDS to increasingly joint UN teams on AIDS in countries, UNAIDS brings together one UN strategy on AIDS issues and helps coordinate the implementation and the division of labour between agencies. With its ten Cosponsors, UNAIDS assists in ensuring better coordination among its partners in the UN system, governments, civil society, donors, the private sector and others.



UNAIDS has five focus areas for a more effective global response to AIDS

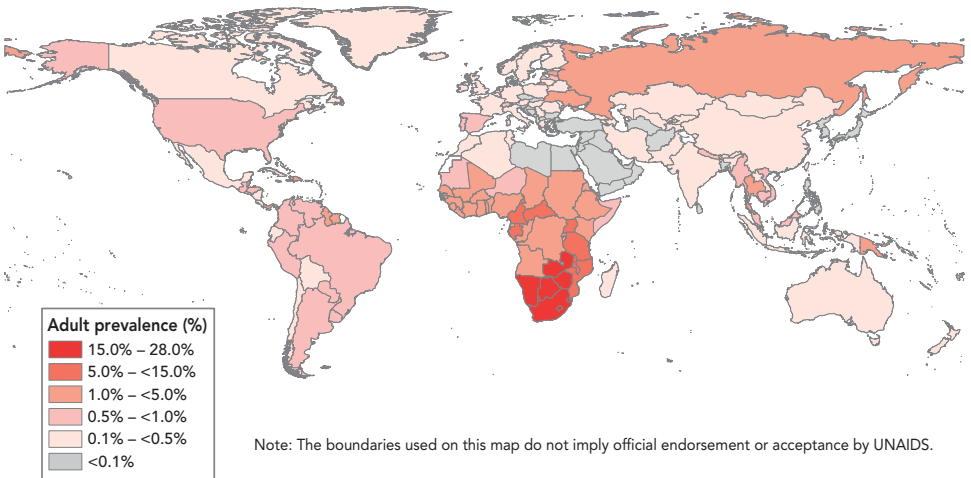
- 1 Mobilizing leadership and advocacy for effective action on the epidemic
- 2 Providing strategic information and policies to guide the AIDS response worldwide
- 3 Tracking, monitoring and evaluation of the epidemic — the world's leading resource for AIDS-related epidemiological data and analysis
- 4 Engaging civil society and developing partnerships
- 5 Mobilizing financial, human and technical resources to support an effective response

Data

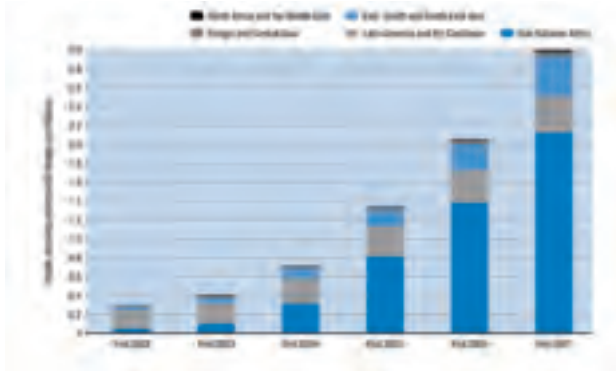
Since it was first recognized in 1981, AIDS has killed around 25 million people — making it one of the most destructive epidemics in recorded history. Thirty-three million people are estimated to be living with HIV today. Some 2.7 million people were newly infected with the virus in 2007.

Every two years UNAIDS publishes the *Report on the global AIDS epidemic* which provides comprehensive information on the latest developments in the AIDS epidemic as well as the AIDS response.

A GLOBAL VIEW OF HIV INFECTION, 2007



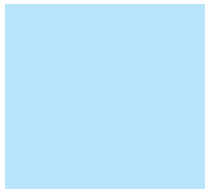
NUMBER OF PEOPLE ON ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY IN LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES, 2002 - 2007



Our goals

Through the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Millennium Development Goals, the world has a set of commitments, actions and goals to stop and reverse the spread of HIV. In 2001 Heads of State and Government Representatives of 189 nations gathered at the first-ever Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on HIV/AIDS. They unanimously adopted the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, acknowledging that the AIDS epidemic constitutes a “global emergency and one of the most formidable challenges to human life and dignity.”

At the High Level Meeting on AIDS held in 2006, Heads of State, Governments, the international community, civil society and the private sector reaffirmed and recommitted to the full implementation of the 2001 Declaration in the coming years, and reviewed the progress made in 2008. The Declaration of Commitment covers ten priorities, from prevention to treatment to funding. It was designed as a framework to meet the Millennium Development Goal of halting and beginning to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015.



The eight Millennium Development Goals

- 1 Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- 2 Achieve universal primary education
- 3 Promote gender equality and empower women
- 4 Reduce child mortality
- 5 Improve maternal health
- 6 Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- 7 Ensure environmental sustainability
- 8 Develop a global partnership for development



Photo: UNAIDS/G.Pirozzi

Our work on the ground

UNAIDS is committed to strengthening nationally owned and led responses to the epidemic. In more than 130 countries, the representatives of UN organizations coordinate the AIDS-related activities of the United Nations through regular meetings of the UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS. The day-to-day work of this joint programme of support is carried out within a joint UN team on AIDS led by the UNAIDS Country Coordinator under the guidance of the UN Resident Coordinator. A division of labour also guides the work of each UNAIDS Cosponsor and the Secretariat in the country, including:

- support to strategic planning, governance and financial management;
- support to the scale up of interventions such as prevention of HIV among young people, prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, antiretroviral treatment, support to orphans;
- support to monitoring and evaluation of the national AIDS programme, production of strategic information, knowledge sharing and accountability; and

- support to and partnership with civil society to ensure meaningful inclusion in all aspects of the AIDS response.

UNAIDS places particular emphasis on “making the money work”—supporting countries’ efforts to tap into new sources of financing and ensuring that this financing is used to maximum effect. For example, UNAIDS supports the full grant cycle of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, from the development of AIDS grant proposals to programme implementation to monitoring and evaluating of performance. In 2008, UNAIDS signed a memorandum of understanding with them to guide the partnership between the two organizations towards achieving universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010, empowering inclusive national leadership and harmonization and improving advocacy and partnerships.

Intensifying HIV prevention – “Uniting for HIV prevention”

Across the world, a small but growing number of countries have reduced HIV prevalence through sound prevention efforts. However, in 2007, there were still 2.7 million new HIV infections — of these over 45% of all adult infections occurred among young people aged 15-24. Only one in ten people most at risk has access to HIV prevention services.

UNAIDS is working with partners from all sectors to push for an urgent increase in size and scale of HIV prevention efforts worldwide. In 2005, the UNAIDS governing board endorsed the first internationally agreed HIV prevention policy. The “UNAIDS policy position paper: Intensifying HIV prevention” provides a common ground around which advocacy for scaling up HIV prevention is based. The primary goal of this paper is to energize and mobilize an intensification of HIV prevention with the ultimate aim of universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support.

Under the banner “Uniting for HIV prevention”, UNAIDS is joining with civil society, treatment activists, the private sector and governments to call for the global community to mobilize an alliance for increased HIV prevention efforts.

Our work globally

Globally, UNAIDS continues to expand its AIDS policy work, provide the world with the most up-to-date epidemiological and country response data, as well as mobilize resources needed to reverse the epidemic.

UNAIDS assists in ensuring better coordination among its partners in the UN system, governments, civil society, donors, the private sector and others. Efforts include the scale-up of HIV prevention, treatment, care and support with the aim of coming as close as possible to the goal of universal access by 2010 for all those who need it.

Key achievements

- UNAIDS is the **world's reference** on the state of the epidemic, the AIDS response and best practice.
- Through extensive advocacy, UNAIDS has put AIDS on **global, national, regional and political agendas** — reaching out to all sectors.
- UNAIDS has promoted the **full involvement of civil society**, in particular people living with HIV, in the response to AIDS.
- UNAIDS has **raised awareness and resources** needed for the AIDS response – resources have risen from less than US\$ 300 million in 1996 to

the US\$ 10 billion available in 2007.

- By working with pharmaceutical companies, UNAIDS has helped to **reduce prices of antiretroviral drugs** in developing countries – the 1997 HIV Drug Access Initiative in Abidjan and Kampala was the first public programme to offer antiretroviral treatment in Africa and was expanded worldwide in 2000 with the Accelerating Access Initiative.
- UNAIDS has ensured that **prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission** is a global public health priority.
- UNAIDS has **engaged businesses in the AIDS response** including the creation of the Global Business Council on HIV/AIDS (1997).
- In 1999, UNAIDS **launched the International Partnership against AIDS in Africa** — which for the first time brought together African governments, the United Nations, donors, community organizations and the private sector to intensify efforts in the AIDS response.
- UNAIDS helped **position AIDS as a security issue** at an historic UN Security Council Session — which adopted resolution 1308 on HIV among uniformed services and UN peacekeeping operations in July 2000.
- In 2000, UNAIDS' Cosponsor, the World Bank, launched a **Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Program (MAP) for Africa**, committing US\$ 1.2 billion to 29

countries to fight AIDS. A similar Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Program was later created for the Caribbean.

- UNAIDS advocates **the implementation of the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)** agreement that supports public health — 2001 Doha Declaration on TRIPS.
- UNAIDS played a key role in organizing the historic **first-ever UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS** — the 2001 Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS (the blueprint for action on AIDS) was adopted by all UN Member States.
- Since 2002, UNAIDS has been helping **“make the money work” for people who need it most** by supporting the implementation of AIDS programmes funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and other donors.
- In 2003, WHO and UNAIDS launched the **“3 by 5” initiative** which helped to provide more than one million people living with HIV with antiretroviral treatment.
- UNAIDS has helped to focus **the world’s attention on women and AIDS**. In 2004, UNAIDS launched the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS.
- UNAIDS **has engaged media companies in the AIDS response** — in 2004, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan launched the Global Media AIDS Initiative.

- In 2004, UNAIDS was instrumental in **creating the “Three Ones” principles** to improve coordination of the AIDS response in countries and “make the money work”.
- In 2005, UNAIDS launched a set of **scenarios on the long-term future of the AIDS epidemic in Africa** — “AIDS in Africa: Three Scenarios to 2025”.
- In 2005, the **Global Task Team on improving AIDS coordination among multilateral institutions and international donors** was established.
- UNAIDS’ governing board adopted the **first internationally agreed HIV prevention policy** in 2005.
- In 2005, UNICEF and UNAIDS **launched the joint global campaign “Unite for Children, Unite Against AIDS”** focusing on the enormous impact of AIDS on children.
- UNAIDS is working closely with countries to help them come as close as possible to achieving **universal access to HIV prevention, care and treatment by 2010**.
- In 2006, UNAIDS joined with civil society, treatment activists, the private sector and governments to call for the global community to mobilize an alliance for increasing HIV prevention efforts under the banner **“Uniting for HIV prevention”**.
- In 2006, member states agreed on a **political declaration on AIDS** committing themselves towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention

programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010.

- In 2007, UNAIDS worked with national epidemiologists and global experts to **refine the methodology to determine HIV estimates**. New HIV estimates were released using improved estimation methods.
- A 2007 UNAIDS review of linkages between HIV and poverty indicated that **AIDS is a disease of inequality**, often associated with economic transition rather than a disease of poverty and thus shifting focus on economic and gender inequalities.
- Through the establishment of **technical support facilities in 2007**, UNAIDS has facilitated access to timely and quality technical assistance to governments and civil society organizations for mobilizing resources as well as implementation of National AIDS responses.
- In 2007 UNAIDS supported the development and operation of **aids2031** – a consortium of partners brought together to learn from current AIDS responses and provide recommendations on what can be done differently now to prepare for, as well as change, the face of AIDS by 2031.
- UNAIDS supported WHO and **Stop TB partnerships** in building global leadership and advocacy efforts to reduce the impact of tuberculosis on people living with HIV.

- Spearheading UN reform, the UN is **“working as one”** on the AIDS response on the ground. Joint UN team on AIDS have been established in 70 countries, to ensure alignment with National AIDS plans.
- In 2008, UNAIDS and the **Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria** signed a memorandum of understanding to guide the partnership between the two organizations towards achieving universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010, empowering inclusive national leadership and harmonization and improving advocacy and partnerships.
- In 2008, UNAIDS released a new policy on **HIV, food security and nutrition** that provides guidance to partners on how to address food and nutrition concerns in the context of HIV.

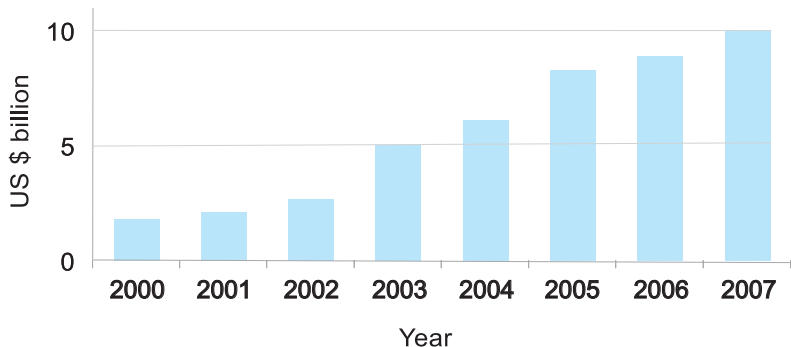
Towards universal access: Transforming the AIDS response

Building on the considerable progress made in recent years and acknowledging the urgent need to do much more, global leaders at the September 2005 World Summit committed to a massive scaling-up of HIV prevention, treatment and care with the aim of coming as close as possible to universal access to treatment by 2010.

At the request of the UN General Assembly, UNAIDS has since facilitated broad inclusive processes at national, regional and global levels — involving stakeholders from governments, the donor community, the private sector and civil society — to develop strategies for overcoming major obstacles and moving towards universal access. An assessment of these processes was considered by the General Assembly at its progress review of the 2001 Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS.

At the 2006 High Level Meeting on AIDS held in New York, Heads of State and governments committed to developing national targets by the end of 2006 for moving towards universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support. To support countries in their national target-setting, UNAIDS has developed a preliminary set of operational guidelines and is carrying out other technical support and advocacy activities. UNAIDS will also support countries' efforts to monitor their progress towards the achievement of their targets, produce regular regional and global reports, and generate strategic information on translating global commitments into action.

ESTIMATED TOTAL ANNUAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR HIV PREVENTION, TREATMENT, CARE AND SUPPORT, 2000 – 2007



Source: Report of the Secretary-General, 1 April 2008, A/62/780.



Photo: UNAIDS/PVirof

Women and AIDS

UNAIDS launched the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS in 2004 to respond to a growing concern that existing AIDS strategies did not adequately address women's needs. An alliance of civil society groups, networks of women living with HIV and United Nations agencies, the Coalition works at global and national levels to advocate for improved AIDS programming for women and girls. It is supported by a group of prominent individuals who help communicate its messages to critical audiences it might not otherwise reach, highlighting three areas where progress must be made: the securing of women's legal rights, increased investment in AIDS programmes that work for women and greater participation of women (particularly women living with HIV) in forums where AIDS policies and programmes are decided.



Photo: UNAIDS/WHO/E.Miller

Heart of our commitment

UNAIDS believes that the most inspirational leaders are people living with and affected by HIV and that working closely with people living with HIV is essential to an effective response. In 1994, at the Paris AIDS Summit, 42 governments declared that the principle of *Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV/AIDS* was critical to the AIDS response. UNAIDS is fully committed to the meaningful involvement of people living with HIV and seeks to ensure that people living with HIV are at the heart of all activities.

People living with HIV sit on the Programme Coordinating Board of UNAIDS and were represented on the Global Steering Committee on Universal Access and the Global Task

Team. At the UN General Assembly 2006 and 2008 High Level Meeting on AIDS, representatives of networks of people living with HIV were invited to join the Civil Society Task Force. In 2006 for the first time a person living with HIV addressed the UN General Assembly.

At country and regional levels, UNAIDS supports the creation and development of networks of people living with HIV and has given long-term support to the global networks of people living with HIV. UN staff living with HIV recently initiated the formation of UN+, a system-wide advocacy group of UN staff living with HIV.

Our Cosponsors

UNAIDS brings together in the AIDS response the efforts and resources of ten UN system organizations:

- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- World Bank

Established in 1994 by a resolution of the UN Economic and Social Council and launched in January 1996, UNAIDS is guided by a Programme Coordinating Board with representatives of 22 governments from all geographic regions, the UNAIDS Cosponsors, and five representatives of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), including associations of people living with HIV.



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www.unaids.org



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

unicef



World Food Programme



United Nations Population Fund



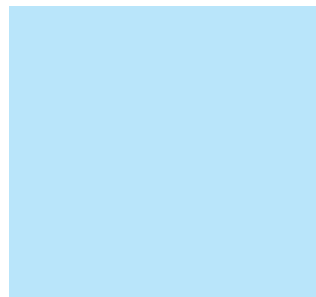
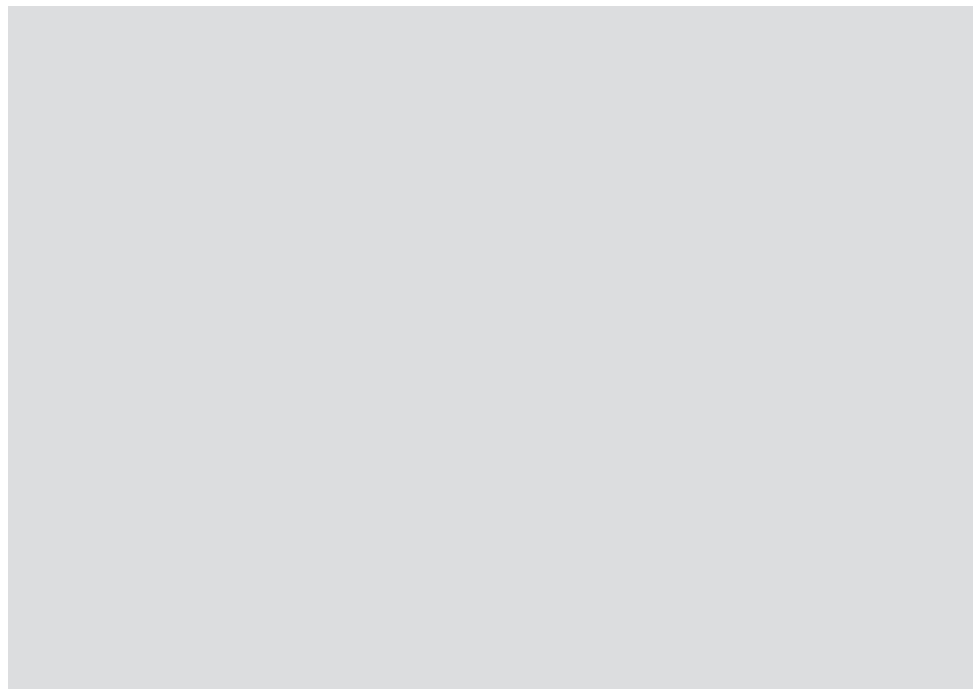
UNITED NATIONS
Office on Drugs and Crime



World Health Organization



THE WORLD BANK



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