



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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Parliamentary side event to the United Nations High-Level Meeting on Ending AIDS

7 June 2016, 3.00 – 5.00 p.m.
Conference Room 11, UN HQ, New York

CONCEPT NOTE

The High-Level Meeting on Ending AIDS will be held at the United Nations Headquarters from 8 to 10 June 2016. It will focus the attention of UN Member States on the importance of accelerating the response to HIV over the next five years. That will set the world on course to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030 as part of the Sustainable Development Goals. The High-Level Meeting is expected to adopt a new Political Declaration. It will identify actions and commitments to fast-track the response to AIDS as a first step towards ending the disease. The declaration is also expected to reinforce the links between HIV/AIDS and other health and development issues. That will ensure that the response to AIDS becomes a sustainable part of the SDG era.

As legislators, overseers of government action and community leaders, members of parliament are well placed to help expand access to HIV services. Where parliamentarians are effectively engaged in the response to AIDS, they can provide critical leadership in realizing a new vision that makes ending AIDS a reality for their people and their countries.

Objectives:

- Provide legislators with a clear sense of the main areas of action that will emerge from the UN High-Level Meeting outcome document;
- Give parliamentarians an idea of the underlying politics of the new global consensus on HIV and AIDS;
- Exchange views on ways to combine available national-level resources (funding, institutions etc.) in order to end AIDS;
- Share lessons on the impact of parliamentary actions around policies, laws and investments since the last UN High-Level Meeting on AIDS in 2011;
- Identify key actions through which parliaments can fast-track the response to AIDS by 2020 and end AIDS by 2030.

Outcome: The conclusions of the parliamentary event will be presented to the plenary of the High-Level Meeting as part of the IPU statement. They will also be annexed to the Political Declaration on Ending AIDS.

Format: The event will take the form of an interactive debate between parliamentarians, senior UNAIDS officials, a leading civil society representative and a representative of the scientific community. Lead discussants will form a panel with a moderator to stimulate discussion.

Participation: The event is intended for all members of parliament and parliamentary staff due to attend the High-Level Meeting as part of their national delegations.

Languages: the meeting will be held in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.