



First Global Parliamentary Meeting on HIV/AIDS

Parliaments and Leadership in combating HIV/AIDS

Manila, Philippines, 28 to 30 November 2007

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 28 November

08.30- 09.30

Meeting of the Advisory Group in its capacity as Steering Committee

10.30 – 12.30

Centennial Hall A

Opening of the meeting

- Mr. Francisco T. Duque III, Minister of Health of the Philippines
- Mr. Roberto Ruiz, Board Member, Positive Action Foundation Philippines, Inc.
- Mr. Michel Sidibe, Deputy Executive Director UNAIDS
- Mr. Anders B. Johnsson, IPU Secretary General
- Mr. Jose De Venecia Jr., Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines
- Mr. Manny Villar, President of the Senate of the Philippines

12.30

Lunch hosted by Mr. Francisco T. Duque III, Minister of Health of the Philippines

14.30 – 18.00

Centennial Hall A

Theme: Parliaments and Leadership in combating HIV/AIDS

Presentation and discussion of IPU Handbook. The Handbook on "Taking action against HIV" will be presented by the Chairman of the IPU Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS, Mr. Elioda Tumwesigye, MP, Uganda. It will serve as a reference text for subsequent discussions at the meeting. Keynote statements will be made by:

- Ms. Nafis Sadik, United Nations Secretary-General Special Envoy on AIDS for Asia and the Pacific
- Mr. Jim McDermott, Member of Congress, USA (TBC)

Open discussion on national issues being tackled by parliaments

16.30 – 18.30

Roma Salon

Stigma and Discrimination: What Can Members of Parliament do?

Parliamentarians have a crucial role to play in fighting stigma and discrimination. They can speak out against stigma and stand up for tolerance and non-discrimination. They can meet publicly with people living with HIV and support the development of a strong movement of people living with HIV.

Chair: Mr. Jesudas Seelam, Member of Parliament, India

Keynote speakers:

- Mr. Marcel van Soest, Executive Director, World AIDS Campaign
- Ms. Pia Cayetano, Senator, Philippines

19.00

Dinner hosted by Mr. Ace Durano, Minister of Tourism of the Philippines

Thursday, 29 November

09.30 – 12.30

Centennial Hall A

Presentation and discussion of IPU paper on affordability of drugs

The debate will look at the question of affordability of treatment from the standpoint of costs, intellectual property rights and licensing, and local and external manufacturing capacity. It will strive to establish guidelines on some of the questions that can be helpful for parliaments called upon to legislate on the issues concerned. The paper will be presented by its author, Ms. Pregaluxmi Govender, former member of the Parliament of South Africa, and special consultant to the IPU Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS.

Keynote speakers:

- Representative of Médecins Sans Frontières (TBC)
- Mr. Jon Ungphakorn, former Senator, Thailand, Board Secretary, AIDS Access Foundation
- Mr. Roberto M. Pagdanganan, President and CEO of Philippine Healthwatch Initiatives, Inc.
- Mr. Tenu Avafia, Trade Adviser, UNDP Regional Office for Africa

Discussion

10.30 – 12.30

Roma Salon

Legislating for Vulnerable Groups: Focus on Sex Workers, Injecting Drug Users and Men Who Have Sex with Men

What can parliaments do for these populations, who have a higher prevalence of HIV infection than that of the general population and are among the most marginalised and discriminated against populations in society?

Chair: Ms. Hendrietta Bogopane Zulu, Member of Parliament, Republic of South Africa

Keynote speaker: Ms. Etta Rosales, former Member of the House of Representatives of the Philippines

13.00

Lunch hosted by Mr. Jose de Venecia Jr, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines

14.30 – 18.00

Centennial Hall A

Legislation and criminalization of transmission issues

HIV-specific criminal legislation and prosecution raises the question of whether such laws represent sound policy responses to conduct that carries the risk of HIV transmission. Discussion will focus on whether, and to what extent, criminal sanctions for conduct other than clearly intentional transmission infringe upon human rights and undermine other public policy objectives.

Chair: Mr. Aquilino Pimentel, Senator, Philippines

Keynote speaker: Mr. Michael Kirby, Justice, the High Court of Australia, UNAIDS Reference Group on HIV and Human Rights

Roma Salon

Meeting of drafting group to finalize IPU position paper

19.00

Dinner hosted by Mr. Manny B. Villar, President of the Senate of the Philippines

Friday, 30 November

09.30 -12.00

Centennial Hall A

Budgeting: Powers of oversight to tailor government budgets more closely to HIV/AIDS needs

How can parliaments ensure that budget allocations are in line with approved government priorities for HIV; that budgets reflect additional priorities that emerge from constituency work; and that oversight of the way allocations are being spent is provided? How can parliaments be instrumental in securing greater funding for HIV prevention, treatment and care?

Chair: Mr. David Borrow, Vice-Chairperson of the All Party Parliamentary Group on AIDS, UK

Keynote speaker: Mr. Christoph Benn, Director of External Relations, The Global Fund To Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

12.00

Adoption of statement/recommendation, formal closure

13.00

Lunch hosted by Mr. Alfredo Lim, Mayor of Manila

Saturday, 1 December

Out of town day tour in Tagaytay City (sponsored by the Department of Tourism)