

UNAIDS PCB NGO Delegation Vision, Mission, Principles, and Code of Conduct

Introduction and purposes of this document:

This document is intended both to inform NGOs and their representatives considering applying for a seat on the NGO Delegation of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board and as a tool to guide the current PCB NGO Delegation in its Mission and how to achieve it.

This document was produced as a result of decision 9.1 taken at the 20th Meeting (June 2007) of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board arising from the 2006 *Review of NGO and Civil Society participation in the Programme Coordinating Board*.¹ This document was updated in October 2012.²

This document is intended to be used in tandem with the *UNAIDS PCB NGO Terms of Reference* and the *UNAIDS PCB NGO Delegates' Manual*.

I. VISION

A. This vision guides the PCB NGO Delegation:

We envision a world where all stakeholders—civil society, governments and international bodies—meet the challenges of the global AIDS pandemic together by combining their collective wisdom to generate creative, equitable, holistic and effective policies and solutions that lead to a world free of HIV.

II. MISSION

B. The Mission of the PCB NGO Delegation is:

To bring to the PCB the perspectives and expertise of people living with, most affected by, and most at risk of, vulnerable to, marginalized by, and affected by HIV and AIDS, as well as civil society and nongovernmental entities actively involved in HIV and AIDS in order to ensure that their human rights and equitable, gender-sensitive access to comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment, care and support are reinforced by the policies, programmes, strategies and actions of the PCB and UNAIDS.

C. We accomplish our Mission by actively:

1. seeking broad input from civil society;

We seek input from the broader active HIV and AIDS civil society community and, in particular, the regional constituencies we represent on relevant PCB issues in advance of PCB meetings in a timely manner.

¹ See http://data.unaids.org/pub/InformationNote/2007/review_of_ngo_participation_item3.2_en.pdf

² This document was contracted and funded by the UNAIDS Secretariat. It was written, based in part upon an existing Terms of Reference, in 2007/2008 by T. Richard Corcoran, consultant and former PCB NGO Delegate (2004-06), with input and support from a steering committee (consisting of PCB NGO Delegates and a representative of the UNAIDS Secretariat) and reviewed by advisors outside the NGO Delegation who were selected by the steering committee. Additions and changes to UNAIDS and Delegation processes and policies were revised in this document in October 2012 by the NGO Delegation and CF.

2. increasing participation of PLHIV;

We advocate for and lobby the UNAIDS Secretariat, Member States and Cosponsor organizations for the greater participation and meaningful involvement of PLHIV and civil society in every phase of the development, implementation and evaluation of their AIDS policies and programmes.

3. helping to set the agenda;

We bring forward, advocate for and lobby for the inclusion of the issues, problems, perspectives and needs of PLHIV and those most at risk of HIV in the agendas of PCB meetings.

4. studying documents;

We read, analyze, seek broad civil society input on and strategize about the documents related to and in preparation for meetings and working groups in a timely manner.

5. lobbying other PCB colleagues;

We strategically meet with, lobby and confer with Member States, Cosponsors and the Secretariat to advance our agenda.

6. recruiting and mentoring new Delegates;

We recruit the best, most representative NGO Delegates to serve on the PCB and we share our experiences on the PCB so that they may quickly learn to participate in it most effectively.

7. collaborating with observer NGOs;

We invite observer NGOs attending PCB meetings to join us in order to give input, collaborate and strategize with us so that we may be most effective.

8. participating in working groups;

We participate in our fair share of working groups, steering committees and other ad hoc groups on key issues, policies and the Delegation's business.

9. attending meetings; and

We attend and actively participate in PCB meetings, pre-planning meetings and orientation meetings.

10. reporting back to civil society.

We report the outcomes of our work on the PCB to the broader civil society after PCB meetings in a timely manner.

III. PRINCIPLES

D. We agree that, regardless of our particular backgrounds and fields of expertise, we support the following principles in all our work to achieve our Mission:

1. Involvement of PLHIV;

We support the dignity of and involvement of people living with HIV including the principles stated in the Denver Principles and the Paris Declaration's statement on the greater involvement of people living with HIV and AIDS (GIPA principle).

2. Human rights;

We support the provision of and protection of the human rights of all people.

3. Non-discrimination;

We do not discriminate against anyone regardless of his or her skin colour, religion, sexual preference, gender, education, culture or country of origin.

4. Inclusion of those most at-risk of HIV infection and, especially, marginalized populations affected by HIV;

We encourage the active participation of, inclusion of the perspectives of and candid discussions about:

- a. People living with HIV;
- b. Gay men and other men who have sex with men;
- c. People who use drugs;
- d. Sex workers;
- e. Women and girls;
- f. Transgender people;
- g. Prisoners and former prisoners;
- h. Orphans and vulnerable children;
- i. Migrant workers (and immigrants);
- j. Indigenous persons;
- k. Displaced populations and refugees; and
- l. Young people.

5. Gender equality;

We support the equal rights of women.

6. Evidence informed; and

We support prevention strategies informed by scientific evidence not ideology.

7. Public health.

We support strategies that place public health and welfare above commercial, financial and political considerations.

IV. CODE OF CONDUCT

E. We agree that, while working together as a Delegation to achieve our Mission, we:

1. respect diversity and are culturally sensitive;

We welcome and honor our differences—gender, racial, sexual, life-style and personal history—and endeavor to continually deepen our understanding of each other's cultures.

2. foster a culture of inclusion;

We encourage each other to be fully and naturally ourselves and we welcome each other as equal partners.

3. co-lead and work together as a team;

We, variously, take the lead, encourage each other to lead and co-lead, making all crucial decisions by a consensus process.

4. value each other's knowledge and skills;

We seek each other's specific area(s) of expertise in the pandemic and we encourage each other to employ and share their skills.

5. maintain integrity, professionalism and a high standard of ethics;

We are honest, friendly, and collegial with each other.

- 6. create a safe space for open dialogue;**
Because we believe that every voice matters, we encourage each other's candor, invite constructive and respectful disagreement and do not attack those who disagree.
- 7. communicate clearly and considerately;**
We speak clearly, slowly and concisely, and we are considerate of those for whom English is a second language.
- 8. respect confidentiality;**
We will not share any of our personal information we share confidentially.
- 9. actively participate and contribute to the best of our abilities;**
- 10. engage passionately; and**
We welcome each other's personal perspectives on the pandemic and welcome their passion.
- 11. are accountable to ourselves, each other, the PCB and broader civil society.**
We hold ourselves and each other accountable and take ownership of our failures.