



Appel à l'action des Jeunes Leaders dit DECLARATION DE BAMAKO: Un nouveau Leadership pour la réponse au VIH

MALI CALL TO ACTION: NEW LEADERSHIP FOR THE HIV RESPONSE

In this call to action, we are not making recommendations; these are demands from young people who are already leading the AIDS response in their communities. In order to transform the HIV response, we need transformative leadership. We are young people who know the realities of our peers and the challenges they face. But we are also the young people with the potential to bring about sustainable change.

Yet, it is clear that our efforts alone are not enough. It is also clear that governments failed to deliver on the 2001 UNGASS Declaration of Commitment and the 2006 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS. If we are ever to achieve the vision of Zero New Infections, Zero AIDS-Related Deaths and Zero Stigma and Discrimination, governments must acknowledge and reaffirm these unmet commitments and ensure fulfillment of updated commitments.

Therefore, we the young people of the Mali Youth Summit 2011, working with and representing diverse youth networks from around the world, including young key affected populations,¹ call on Heads of States and governments and all leaders to Empower Young People to take leadership of the AIDS response to:

- Implement the UN General Assembly resolution 58/133 calling the member States to include young people as part of official delegations to relevant UN and regional general assembly meetings and related activities, such as preparation and negotiation; this includes the High Level Meeting on AIDS;
- Create formal spaces for key affected populations of young people, specifically young people living with HIV, at the highest level of decision-making by prioritizing them in community, national, regional and global decision-making bodies from conceptualization through design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs; Create and institutionalize, and support the capacity-building of, youth bodies within the national and local AIDS coordinating forums where youth leaders can receive legitimacy from and be able to provide feedback to the constituency of young people;

1) Secure resources and funding to support new youth leadership for a sustainable HIV response

- Ensure core funding for programming and research for youth-led movements and initiatives, accompanied by necessary capacity building for the achievement of the MDGs;
- Support sustainable involvement of young people in decision-making regarding funds allocated to the AIDS response, especially young key affected populations;
- Implement transparent monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for government's financial commitments to HIV and AIDS, including ensuring sufficient domestic resources for HIV and young people's needs in this context, following the example of the Abuja Declaration commitment to 15% of the national budget to HIV and broader health needs;

¹Young Key Affected Populations (YKAP) is defined as young people living with HIV (YPLHIV), young men who have sex with men, young women, LGBTQ youth (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, queer), young sex workers, young people who use drugs, young migrants, refugees, and internally displaced persons, young people in detention, indigenous young people, and young persons with disabilities.

II) Protect and Promote Human Rights to Eliminate Stigma and Discrimination from Legal Frameworks

- *Fully repeal punitive and discriminatory national laws, policies and practices, specifically those that target key populations such as young people who use drugs, young men who have sex with men, young people living with HIV, young transgender people and young sex workers;*
- *Remove barriers such as arbitrary age restrictions and mandatory parental consent, that restrict access to harm reduction services for young people in these key populations, including access to needle and syringe programs, opiate substitution therapy and treatment services that are based on evidence and human rights for young people who use drugs;*
- Uphold, domesticate and implement the commitments made in international human rights instruments that recognize young people's rights to non-discrimination, education, highest standard of health, and gender equality, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Convention of Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.
- Take action to ensure a human rights based approach to issues that put adolescents and young key affected populations most at risk, with a particular focus on passing progressive laws and updating policies and laws that may restrict young people's access to HIV prevention, services, treatment, care, support and commodities.

III) Deliver HIV information and services that meet the diverse needs of young people including key populations (YKAP);

- Collect strategic age-disaggregated data for informed planning and programming, including data for the age brackets 15-24 and 25-35, gender, marital status and other relevant indicators for YKAP;
- Involve YKAP in designing, implementing and evaluating comprehensive and confidential health services, including both HIV and sexual and reproductive health services for youth in both urban and rural areas, with particular focus on access to treatment for young people living with HIV;
- Ensure young people's access to evidence-based prevention tools, including, but not limited to, condoms, comprehensive and targeted sexuality education in and out of schools, peer to peer education, harm reduction programs and access to Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) as prevention, acknowledging the specific needs of young key affected populations.
- Sustain and increase youth-specific and youth-led funding mechanisms, such as seed grants, acknowledging best practices, such as the HIV Young Leaders Fund.

We, the young people of the Mali Youth Summit on HIV and AIDS 2011, pledge to:

- Build and strengthen the capacity of youth leaders and youth organizations through mentorship, global, regional, and local partnerships, information sharing, and networking;
- Mobilize our global and local networks and stakeholders through online and offline mechanisms, including social media, to lead the global HIV response;
- Hold governments accountable to their commitments;
- Utilize this Call to Action at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on AIDS and other High Level Meetings in line with achieving MDGs.

We accept the responsibility we have as young leaders, and pledge to hold our selves accountable to the same degree that we will hold you accountable.