



ASEAN WORLD AIDS DAY MESSAGES 2015

“The world has delivered on halting and reversing the AIDS epidemic. Now we must commit to ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030 as part of the Sustainable Development Goals.”

UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon (UNGA 2015)

The global AIDS epidemic has been halted and reversed however AIDS is not over.

AIDS is an unfinished business. Big challenges remain to end the epidemic at the global level and this is true also for ASEAN Member States.

Impressive progress has been made in ASEAN Member States in the region; there is an overall downward trend in HIV prevalence among the key populations groups. However, some ASEAN Member States report increasing HIV prevalence among Men who have Sex with Men (MSM)¹. Some ASEAN Member States also continue to report high HIV prevalence among female Commercial Sex Workers (CSW).

The scaling up of anti-retroviral therapy (ART) has been remarkable in most of ASEAN Member States. However, there is much more to be done to increase access to treatment and to reduce the treatment gap in the region.

Currently domestic funding for HIV is below the threshold of 50% in 5 out of 9 ASEAN Member States reporting². Only approximately 30% of prevention expenditures are spent on key populations for the epidemic.

¹Source: Prepared by www.aidsdatahub.org based on HIV Sentinel Surveillance Reports; Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance Reports; and www.aidsinfoonline.org;

² Source: Prepared by www.aidsdatahub.org based on www.aidsinfoonline.org;

We must Fast-Track the AIDS response within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals to end the epidemic as a global health threat by 2030. This means reaching UNAIDS 90-90-90 Fast-Track Targets by 2020;

- 90% of key populations for the HIV epidemic have access to combination prevention services;
- 90% of people living with HIV know their HIV status;
- 90% of people who know their HIV-positive status are on antiretroviral treatment and
- 90% of people on treatment have suppressed viral loads, ensuring they remain healthy and reduce the risk of HIV transmission; and
- 90% of people living with and affected by HIV report no discrimination, especially in the health education and workplace settings.

The next five years will require;

- Front loading investment and increasing the diversity of investment (both domestic and international) to ensure transitions towards sustainable HIV responses. It will be important to invest more on HIV Prevention, Testing and Monitoring of HIV treatment, viral suppression;
- “Investing for impact”: Focusing on areas, populations and programs with high potential for impact and strong value for money and addressing discrimination and gender inequalities. High burden cities should strive to provide model HIV services;
- HIV service delivery in the intensity and quality needed to reach the ambitious targets within the short time frame of the next five years;
- Innovative delivery mechanisms and partnerships to ensure no one is left behind, guaranteeing in particular HIV services for key populations: decentralizing and integrating services will make them more accessible and will support integral treatment, including Sexually transmitted infections, Tuberculosis, and Hepatitis;
- Ensuring commodity security at the correct price to sustain the AIDS response; and
- People centred, zero discrimination: Building solid political commitment for ambitious

HIV prevention, treatment and human rights targets for 2020 and beyond.

The Heads of State and Government and High Representatives met at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 25-27 September 2015 and adopted the Health and Development agenda for the period 2016-2030.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and 169 targets seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and complete what these did not achieve. The AIDS response is fully embedded in the new Sustainable Development Agenda, through clear linkages with the SDGs and the target to end AIDS by 2030. The epidemic cannot be ended without addressing the determinants of health, vulnerability and needs of people at risk and living with HIV.

The upcoming WHO Global Health Sector Strategy and the new UNAIDS 2016-2021 Strategy are fully aligned with the vision of **Zero new infections, Zero aids related deaths and Zero discrimination**. Both strategies have the goal of ending AIDS by 2030 with strategic milestones of <500 new infections, <500 aids related deaths and zero discrimination by 2020.

In a changing world, the next five years present a window of opportunity for us to leverage collectively our capacity to meet the challenges presented by HIV.

The June 2016, High Level Meeting on HIV will be an opportunity to showcase the progress made, discuss remaining challenges and demonstrate our collective solidarity to achieve the Goal of Ending AIDS by 2030. It will require the highest attendance of ASEAN Member States.

In this World AIDS Day, ASEAN Member States are paying tribute to the millions who have lost their lives and are acknowledging the great contribution of People Living with HIV and working on HIV around the world.

By ASEAN Task Force on AIDS 2015