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TITLE

Our Rights Matter: Advancing Commitments on HIV/AIDS Responses in the UN System

CODE

SA015

SESSION TYPE

Satellite

FORMAT

Hybrid

ROOM/CHANNEL

Room 516/Channel 6

DATE TIME

29 July 13:00 - 14:30

MODERATOR

Mark VERMEULEN, Aids Fonds, Netherlands

ORGANIZER

Aidsfonds - GNP+

Ahead of the UN General Assembly 2021 High-Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS (HLM), GNP+ and Aidsfonds, acting in their capacity of the HLM Multi Stakeholder Taskforce, worked with HIV Policy Lab (O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law, Georgetown University) on a compendium of international language, to support member states and advocates around contentious language over the HLM Outcome Document. The compendium focused mostly on the meaning and legitimacy of language vindicating rights of people living with HIV (PLHIV), key populations and others at risk of and affected by HIV. It included research and an authoritative use of such language in the past HLMs, at other meetings of the General Assembly, and in official publications of Agencies such as UNAIDS and WHO. Findings include past use and interpretation of language, established definitions, and scientific evidence for each of the topics. This provided a fully substantiated evidence-base for the internationally agreed meaning of terminology and rights-based language. During the 2021 HLM, this reference source was used by government delegations in their arguments for retaining the ambitious rights-based language of the zero draft declaration and by advocates from civil society lobbying their government delegations in favour of human rights positive positions. Building on this valuable work, the Love Alliance contracted HIV Policy Lab to: To expand and deepen the existing compendium's content and scope, to include for each topic scientifically established and/or politically agreed-upon definitions; precedent language from resolutions, etc. and; empirical evidence on the benefits of rights-based, community-led, inclusive, equitable approaches vs. the harms of criminalising, stigmatising and marginalising approaches. To continuously update the compendium, which will be a living reference source, reflecting new developments (e.g. political commitments) at global and regional levels. Depending on the availability of funding in 2023, provide strategic guidance for political advocacy to negotiators and advocates, through case studies with accounts from negotiators and civil society actors present during sessions in which key terms, concepts and language, as well as their definitions, were agreed upon and contested. These individual accounts will, with time, compose a guide as to what strategic advocacy strategies have and how they have worked in defending evidence-based, participative, rights-based and non-punitive public health approaches to HIV prevention and global public health issues more generally. The compendium is the first resource of its kind in the AIDS movement. It will be launched in June 2022, in an accessible and intuitive format that will be tagged and searchable enabling comparisons between source terms and over time. To mark its launch, the Love Alliance is organising a high-level event at the 24th International Conference on HIV/AIDS in Montreal with like-minded member states, civil society and other stakeholders aimed at discussing strategies and coordinating to protecting and expanding political commitments on rights-based responses to HIV/AIDS in the UN System.

[Presentations](#) [Session recording \(English\)](#)

13:00 10 min	Introduction Mark VERMEULEN, Aids Fonds, Netherlands
13:10 5 min	Key address Liesje SCHREINEMACHER, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands
13:15 30 min	Panel Discussion: How successful have we been in protecting evidence-based public health interventions in a changing global order? Matthew KAVANAGH, UNAIDS, United States Florence ANAM, Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+), Kenya Thembisile XULU, South African National Aids Council, South Africa Anita VANDENBELD, Canada
13:45 30 min	Panel Discussion: Joint strategies and coordination to advance rights-based responses to HIV/AIDS in the UN system Juliette MCHARDY, O'Neill Institute, United States Robert Lucien Jean-Claude KARGOUGOU, Ministry of Health of Burkina Faso, Burkina Faso Lady Roslyn MORAUTA, Papua New Guinea Ines COPPOOLSE, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Canada, Netherlands
14:15 15 min	Q&A with audience Mark VERMEULEN, Aids Fonds, Netherlands