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Call for Submissions

Global Dialogue: HIV, Rights and Law in the Era of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

International AIDS Conference 2018 Pre-conference

RAI Convention Centre, Amsterdam

Sunday, 22 July 2018

WHY A GLOBAL DIALOGUE?

The Global Commission on HIV and the Law's final report, *HIV and the Law: Risks, Rights and Health*, was published in July 2012. The report interrogated the relationship between HIV and the law, and included recommendations covering the breadth of the HIV response and drew its conclusions from the latest available scientific evidence and a grounding in human rights principles. The Commission's recommendations covered the following— stigma and discrimination, criminalisation of HIV transmission, exposure and non-disclosure, key populations, women, children and youth, migrants, access to medicines and intellectual property law. The recommendations were intended to promote laws, policies and practices to drive effective, sustainable responses to HIV consistent with human rights.

The HIV response has evolved significantly since 2012. UNDP and partners including UN Member States, civil society, the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), other UN entities and multilateral partners have supported 88 countries to implement the Commission's recommendations, address human rights and legal barriers to HIV services and increase rights-based programmes including legal environment assessments, legal audits, including related advocacy, legislative review and law reform, national dialogues on HIV and the law, dialogue with members of parliament, the judiciary and law enforcement, access to justice initiatives, trainings for healthcare workers on human rights and medical ethics, and community-based advocacy on stigma and discrimination, including through the media as well as traditional and religious leaders.

At global, regional and national levels, political leadership on HIV and the law has affected the response both positively and negatively. Civil society advocacy and community mobilisation on rights, law and HIV produced impressive results on matters ranging from inclusion, access to justice and access to service, but civic space is shrinking and in many places civil society organisations are facing increased attacks and opposition, with implications for the global AIDS response and beyond. Actors such as the Global Fund have increased investment in human rights programmes for HIV and tuberculosis. Furthermore, developments in HIV science such as the pre-

exposure prophylaxis, HIV self-testing, and the implications of anti-retroviral therapy scale up such as viral suppression call for a new discourse on HIV and the law.

The Global Dialogue will provide an opportunity for participants including government, civil society, people living with HIV, key populations, development agencies, donors and international organisations to –

1. discuss the progress in implementing the recommendations of the Commission, to share good practices of removing punitive laws, policies and practices that are barriers for effective HIV responses and enforcing protective laws;
2. discuss the role of political leadership in the removal of punitive laws and the enforcement of protective laws, policies and practices required to address persistent legal and human rights issues on HIV and related co-infections such as tuberculosis and viral hepatitis;
3. explore the changing financing environment for HIV, human rights and the law; and
4. discuss new and emerging issues in HIV-related science and the lessons for HIV and the law, and advancing rights-based health responses including for related co-infections such as tuberculosis and viral hepatitis, as well as universal health coverage in the context of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

WHY IS YOUR SUBMISSION IMPORTANT?

To have the greatest impact, the Global Dialogue will be enriched by inputs from diverse stakeholders – government representatives (from Ministries of Health, Justice, Trade, Finance, Gender, etc), individuals, communities, civil society groups; key populations; people living with HIV; academia; UN entities development partners and donors.

The Dialogue aims to draw lessons from the experiences and knowledge of those who make, interpret and enforce laws as well as those most affected by laws, policies and practices in the context of HIV and related co-infections. Your experience and knowledge of how the recommendation of the Global Commission on HIV and the Law has influenced the HIV response, access to justice and access to HIV and health services in your community and your country, the successful partnerships and collaborations that fostered implementation, the challenges that hampered progress and your suggestions of how to address these will be highly appreciated.

WHAT TO SUBMIT?

The submissions should address alone or a combination of the following -

1. **Good practices** on how the recommendations of the Commission contributed to promoting a positive legal and policy environment for HIV in your community or country.
2. The role of the **political leadership** in removing punitive laws and enforcing protective laws, policies and practices especially in relation to stigma and discrimination, gender equality, criminalisation of behaviours and groups.
3. The **financing environment** for addressing punitive laws, policies and practices that impede effective HIV, SRHR and HIV-related health responses, as well as successful models of financing.
4. Opportunities for advancing human rights programmes on HIV, SRHR and HIV-related co-infections such as tuberculosis and viral hepatitis, as well as universal health coverage in the context of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Submissions should be based on knowledge acquired through direct and personal experience in any of the following means:

- a. as a person living with HIV or a related co-infection
- b. belonging to a key or vulnerable population
- c. providing HIV-related services, including legal and access to justice services
- d. monitoring and reforming laws and policies related to HIV or related co-infection
- e. sensitizing lawmakers and law enforcement agents
- f. providing trainings to healthcare workers on human rights and medical ethics related to HIV
- g. conducting legal literacy, human rights advocacy or programming
- h. undertaking research and academic work on HIV and the law
- i. addressing HIV-related stigma and discrimination, including with the media



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HOW TO SUBMIT?

Language

Submissions are welcome in English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Review of Submissions

All submissions should be sent to info@hivlawcommission.org and will be reviewed by a Submission Review Committee responsible for identifying submissions to be shared at the Global Dialogue. The Submission Review Committee will comprise of people living with HIV, representatives of civil society groups and human rights advocates, UN and multilateral entities and working on issues of HIV, human rights, public health and the law.

Confidentiality of Submissions

Submissions can be made at two levels: **Public** or **Confidential**. Please **clearly state if you would like your submission to remain confidential**. If you would like your submission to be treated as confidential, please provide **two versions** of the submission: (1) a confidential version, which will be viewed only by the Secretariat; and (2) a public version with all confidential information removed, which will be submitted to the Submissions Review Committee.

Please note that while it is not possible for all submissions to be shared at the Global Dialogue, all submissions will contribute to the outcome documents of the Global Dialogue.

Format of Submissions

All submissions must follow the template for submissions provided below -

- **Letter format:** Submissions should be no more than 5 pages long (maximum 2000 words in the main body of the submission), on A4 size paper. Submissions should be in PDF (.pdf), RTF (.rtf) or Word Doc (.doc; docx) format. (Please note if your submission is confidential, only the public version will be shared with the Submissions Review Committee).



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- **Audio/Video format:** Submissions in audio or video format should be no more than 10 minutes long. (If your audio or video submission is confidential, please do not mention your name and contact details in the submission. Instead, please include these information in the email accompanying your submission).
- **Online Audio/Video submissions:** Submissions that cannot be sent via mail or email can be submitted online. They may be uploaded on “youtube.com”, or “vimeo.com” using a person account. Please make sure to secure your video as “private” and send us the link and password to your video by email.

WHEN TO SUBMIT?

The deadline for submissions is 15 May 2018 at 23:59 [NY time]

Please note that only 2 submissions per individual or organisation will be accepted.

WHERE TO SUBMIT?

All submission should be sent to: info@hivlawcommission.org

Subject line should be: “Submission Global Dialogue_<<level of confidentiality>>_<<Submission focus area(s)>>”.
(e.g. Submission _Public_Good practices/Financing).