



## **PRESS statement**

### **PLHIV Leadership Summit, Nairobi 2025 10th April 2025, 8:00 am – 11:30 am Fairmont the Norfolk Hotel, Nairobi**

The Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+) convened over 30 PLHIV network leaders from across the world to strengthen local for global advocacy towards secured access to treatment and quality of life for all people living with and impacted by HIV.

The PLHIV Leadership Summit 2025 seeks to build consensus on key priorities for people living with HIV to inform countries and other global stakeholders in the HIV response in this time of adapting and re-defining our work within the HIV response and in particular during the development of the national HIV response sustainability roadmaps, the Global AIDS strategy and the 2026 HIV political declaration.

PLHIV network came together in solidarity to rebuild the HIV movement in response to the shifting global priorities that has cut funding to the sector at a time when progress had also stagnated. In 2023, 9 million people living with HIV did not access life-saving treatment, and 630,000 people died from AIDS, highlighting the stark reality that the global response is off-track.

The cancellation of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief-Pepfar and USAID contracts has impacted \$2.88bn HIV specific funding, triggering \$567 million in monthly HIV funding cuts (dropping to \$28 million in early 2025). This has dismantled community health systems, human resource shortages, halting of services in Pepfar funded clinics reversing decades of progress.

“Taking into account the needs and realities of PLWH enabled us to adjust our service delivery. This saved us a lot of lives... and money. With good results: in 2023 the Netherlands counted only 424 new infections and 25 AIDS related deaths.

“However we are at a huge turning point of the HIV response, with a lot of chaos in the global health landscape. The sustainable roadmaps are our anchor point. We need to integrate HIV in primary health care,” Jolijn van Haaren. Dutch ministry of Foreign affairs.

The network leadership is determined not to panic and reverse the gains but to strengthen the capacity of PLHIV networks to collaborate with their governments as they adapt changes to their national HIV programs including for steps to mobilize domestic resources, integrate HIV services into primary healthcare, and safeguard prevention and community health system programs from neglect or political shifts to ensure HIV sustainability roadmaps are clear and provide an opportunity for collaboration with multi-sectoral, regional and global partners to drive innovation and investment and embed accountability mechanisms that ensure real and measurable progress.

“Governments and country stakeholders have agency and country systems, mechanisms that are the gateway to sustainability. The HIV response must be redesigned for delivery within Government multi-sector national systems and mechanisms- with strategic investments in national systems- data, supply chains, laboratory and community health to safeguard the HIV response,” Dr. Nduku Kilonzo, Yemaya Health advisory.

With the 2030 goal of ending AIDS as a public health threat nearing, the urgency to address the persistent gaps in the HIV response is critical now more than ever. Recognizing the need for long-term solutions, UNAIDS and PEPFAR have initiated the HIV Sustainability framework, aligned with national plans and government leadership. Simultaneously, the upcoming development of the Global AIDS Strategy 2026-2031 and the 2026 UN High-Level Meeting on HIV and AIDS present crucial opportunities for PLHIV engagement and advocacy.

“The lives of over 40 million people living with HIV worldwide extend beyond mere statistics. GNP+ emphasizes the need for a unified effort to reimagine strategies for sustained access to treatment, ensuring people not only survive but thrive. The "Undetectable = Untransmittable" message underscores the importance of achieving viral suppression for both individual health and prevention,” GNP+ Co Director Florence Anam said.

The Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+) is dedicated to ensuring a world where all people living with HIV have access to a healthy, dignified life, free from stigma and discrimination.

GNP+ is actively engaging with national PLHIV networks and other key stakeholders including government agencies, WHO and UNAIDS to ensure that the voices of PLHIV are central to these processes. [Picture Link](#)

## ENDS

GNP+ is the global network of people living with HIV led by and for people living with HIV. We strengthen impactful PLHIV led local for global advocacy and community leadership facilitated by our strong movement building through grant making with country and regional networks of people living with and most impacted by HIV.

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