

22 October 2026

Her Excellency Erica Schouten

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations in Geneva

Chairperson of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB)

Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Avenue de la Paix 4–6, 1211, Geneva, Switzerland

Your Excellency,

Subject: Response from GNP+ and National PLHIV Networks to the Final Report and Plan of the PCB Working Group on the Further Transition and Integration of UNAIDS into the UN System and Beyond

The Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+), in collaboration with National and Regional PLHIV networks with whom we are in constant dialogue, extends appreciation and gratitude to the PCB Working Group for its thorough final report and plan. We appreciate the Working Group's clear determination that now is not the time to sunset the UNAIDS Joint Programme, and its recommendations for strengthened leadership, coordination, and a more unified, fit-for-purpose Joint Programme under a Hub model. This vision for genuine transformation of the Joint Programme, rather than dismantlement, aligns with the urgent needs of the global HIV response.

As the global HIV community navigates significant transition and geopolitical shifts, PLHIV leaders and networks are raising urgent alarms. Across multiple countries, we are witnessing severe donor funding contractions amid the implementation of the newly adopted Global AIDS Strategy 2026–2031. **Despite global commitments to end AIDS by 2030, the unfinished business of the response remains stark. Recent global estimates show that in 2025 approximately 1.2 million people acquired HIV and an estimated 570,000 people died from AIDS-related causes. Of the 41 million people living with HIV, about 5 million remain undiagnosed, more than 9 million are not on treatment, and an estimated 10.6 million are not virally suppressed (UNAIDS, 2025).** These gaps are especially acute for children.

Rising new infections, persistent gaps in testing, treatment and viral suppression for adults and children, inadequate attention to retention in care, the critical bridge between treatment initiation and sustained viral suppression and declining financial commitments threaten to reverse hard-won gains. Retention in care and viral suppression are collapsing in multiple countries, and people living with HIV are dying from preventable causes. The

transition is not occurring in stable health systems. This reality must shape the transformation of the Joint Programme.

The Joint Programme must facilitate a country-owned, community-driven HIV response that closes the HIV cascade gap to save lives. As health reforms continue, core functions of treatment continuity, retention and viral suppression need country leadership complemented by strong PLHIV networks and community accountability mechanisms. We urge for a Joint Programme that aligns with national governments' leadership for core functions related to treatment access and continuity, and that enables PLHIV networks to verify readiness and impact through evidence-based assessments.

This resolute focus on closing the testing, treatment, retention and viral suppression gaps for adults and children is essential both to end advanced HIV disease and AIDS-related deaths among those of us living with HIV, and as a powerful means of prevention through treatment as prevention (TasP). A laser focus on the HIV cascade will accelerate progress toward epidemic control while sustaining the lives and well-being of people living with HIV.

UNAIDS and its Cosponsors matter deeply to people living with HIV: their work impacts our lives every day, and stronger collaboration **as One UN** will serve us all. GNP+ and national PLHIV networks already have established working relationships with UNAIDS and Cosponsors at global, regional and country levels, including co-leadership roles in the development and implementation of the Global AIDS Strategy and the HIV Response Sustainability Roadmaps. GNP+ holds non-state actor status with WHO, creating opportunities to engage high-ranking health leaders globally. As community co-conveners of the Global Alliance to End AIDS in Children by 2030 and the Global Partnership for Action to Eliminate All Forms of HIV-related Stigma and Discrimination (alongside ICW Global and Y+ Global), we have seen how much can be achieved when Cosponsors bring their respective strengths together in coordinated action.

Through ongoing conversations with leaders of national PLHIV networks, GNP+ is already documenting disparities in how national health sector and policy transformations prioritise, engage, and institutionalise PLHIV leadership. Where stronger collaboration between UNAIDS and Cosponsors exists, we see inclusive action: community-led interventions embedded in HIV programme transition plans; integration, social contracting and ring-fenced budgets; positioning of community health delivery within primary health care; and cross-country learning on social enterprise models that support the sustainability of PLHIV networks and civil society organisations. These models inspire us. Conversely, the absence of coordinated political attention and Joint Programme engagement has meant limited or no

involvement of PLHIV leaders in transition plans and scant attention to PLHIV needs, including those of children, in country Grant Cycle 8 proposals to the Global Fund.

A strong UNAIDS Joint Programme is indispensable if the transformation is to firmly secure country-owned, community-driven, person-centred HIV integration into primary health care and universal health coverage frameworks. Such integration must sustain progress, become laser-focused on closing the cascade gaps, and deliver AIDS control as a sustainable foundation for the response. **For us people living with HIV, this is about our lives. Beyond 2030, we will still be here, with needs that will matter then as they do now. The transformation must protect our survival and strengthen our leadership.**

GNP+, PLHIV Network and PLHIV Leaders stand ready to work with the Board, the UNAIDS Joint Programme, our national governments and partners, community organisations and CSOs to realise a Joint Programme that is laser-focused on ending AIDS-related illness (AHD) and deaths for our quality of life, and on stopping new HIV infections towards and beyond 2031. **We, people living with HIV, will still be here.**

Thank you for your dedicated leadership, solidarity and unwavering commitment to global health equity.

Sincerely,



Florence Riako Anam
Co-Executive Director, GNP+



Sbongile Nkosi
Co-Executive Director, GNP+

On behalf of the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+), national and regional PLHIV networks

Endorsing Co-Signatories

Sl No	Organization Name	Region/ Scope	Authorized Representative
1	Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+)	Global	Florence Riako Anam, Sbongile Nkosi/ Co-Executive Director
2	African Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (RAP+ AC)	Sub Regional- Central Africa	BISSOHONG BISSOHONG Benoit
3	Coalition of women living with HIV and AIDS (COWLHA)	National/Malawi	Edna Tembo/ Executive Director
4	Congo Network of Religious leaders living or personally affected by HIV and AIDS (INERELA)	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mombunza César/National coordinator
5	CPPVHIV Morocco	National/Morocco	Mohamed Dads/ National Coordinator
6	Diversity and Solidarity Trust	National/Sri Lanka	Roshan De Silva/ Executive Director
7	Jaringan Indonesia Positif (JIP)	National/Indonesia	Meirinda Sebayang/ Chairperson
8	Lanka Plus	National/Sri Lanka	S.P.I. Niroshan Senadheera/ President
9	Malawi Network of People Living with HIV and AIDS - MANET+	National/Malawi	Boniface Banda/Executive Director

10	Mauritanian Network of Associations of People Living with HIV (REMAP+)	National/Mauritania	Sheikh Sid'Ahmed/ President of the Network
11	MTÜ Eesti HIV-positiivsete Võrgustik (EHPV), the Estonian Network of People Living with HIV	National/Estonia	Latsin Alijev/ Chairman of the Board, support person, member of the board of the training center
12	Myanmar Positive Group – MPG	National/Myanmar	Dr. Sai Htun Lin/ Executive Director, Myanmar Positive Group
13	NAP+ West Africa	Regional/Anglophone West Africa	Elsie Ayeh/Vice President
14	NAP+ Ghana	National/Ghana	Paul /Chair
15	National Association of PLHWA in Nepal (NAP+N)	National/Nepal	Shivaram Giri/ National Coordinator
16	National Coalition of PLHIV in India (NCPI+)	National/India	Manojkumar Pardeshi/ General Secretary
17	Network of African People Living with HIV West Africa	Regional/West Africa	GANHOUE Israël / Executive Secretary
18	Network of Zambian People Living With HIV/AIDS (NZP+)	Zambia, Southern Africa	Fred M Chungu/Executive Director
19	Positive Action Foundation	National/Philippines	Ferdinand Granil Emmanuel Garcia

	Philippines Inc(PAFPI)		Eduard Russell Sedino
20	Positive Women	National/Ukraine	Olena Stryzhak/EWNA Board member and Chairwoman
21	Rede PVVIH	National/Cape Verde (CV)	Josefa Rodrigues/ Representante da Rede PVVIH
22	Réseau national pour une plus Grande Implication des personnes infectées par le VIH/Sida dans la lutte contre le VIH/Sida au Burkina Faso (REGIPIV-BF)	National/Burkina Faso	Adama OUEDRAOGO, Secrétaire Exécutif
23	Réseau National des Jeunes vivant avec le VIH (RNJ+)	National – Burundi	Don Darcy NDIKE/ Executive Director
24	The National Network of People Living with HIV in Kenya (NEPHAK+)	National/Kenya	Nelson Otwoma/Executive Director
25	Yayasan Suar Perempuan Lingkar Napza Nusantara (SPINN)	National-Indonesia	Baby Virgarose Nurmaya (Baby Aya)/ Program Manager
26	Youth For SDGs	National/Cameroun	Bivina Mvondo, Fabien Maxime- Mental Health Advocate
27	Zimbabwe National Network of People Living with HIV (ZNNP+)	National (Zimbabwe)	Tatenda Makoni / Executive Director

28	National Network of People living with HIV in Tanzania (NACOPHA)	National/Tanzania	Deogratus Peter Ruatwa/ Chief Executive Officer
29	National Forum of People Living with HIV/AIDS Networks Uganda (NAFOPHANU)	National/Uganda	Flavia Kyomukama/Chief Executive Officer
30	Rwanda network of people living with HIV(RRP+)	National/Rwanda	Dr.Deo Mutambuka/Executive Director
31	Vietnam Network of People living with HIV (VNP+)	National/Vietnam/Asia	Do Dang Dong/Chairman
32	Caribbean Regional Network of People Living with HIV (CRN+)	Regional/Caribbean	Jason Shepherd, Project Coordinator
33	The Network of People Living with HIV and AIDS in Nigeria (NEPWHAN)	National/Nigeria	Abdulkadir Ibrahim/National Coordinator
34	AfroCAB Treatment Access Partnership	Regional/National/Africa	Kenly Sikwese/Executive Director
35	Network of young people living with HIV Tanzania	National/Tanzania	George Anton/Programme Director
36	MENA Community	Regional/MENA/Tunisia	Souhaila Bensaid/Chair MENA Community
37	People Living with HIV (PLHIV) sector (South Africa) and	National/South Africa	Mluleki Zazini/National Chairperson & National Director

	National Association of People Living with HIV and AIDS (NAPWA)		
38	Treatment Access Campaigning (TAC)	National/South Africa	Anele Yawa/General Secretary
39	Kaynin Plus (Network of PLHIV in Morocco)	National/Morocco	Tariq ALAOUI/ President Co-founder
40	El Hayet des PVIH (El Hayet Association of People Living with HIV)	National/Algeria	Nawel Lahouel/President
41	Fundación para la atención integral – Ancla	National/Colombia	Aharón Andrés Cardona /CEO