



Economic Commission for Africa



Commission on HIV/AIDS and Governance in Africa

Advocacy Strategy

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Maputo, Mozambique

Advocacy Strategy

Objectives

CHGA will have succeeded if: (a) African governments are in possession of the research findings/ recommendations and policy tools necessary for an effective response to the wider impacts of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, including scaling up treatment and care; and (b) the political will exists for implementing the recommendations and utilising the policy tools from its Final report. In pursuit of this, CHGA will need to ensure that key target groups are fully apprised of the Commissions research findings and recommendations, and seized of their importance. It will need to table pivotal issues before regional and international fora, and arm important stakeholders with research-based analysis, so that they are able to begin their own complementary advocacy activities. The objective of this strategy paper is to layout the key implementation activities that will facilitate the advocacy work of the Commission.

Target groups

CHGA's principal target are African policymakers, especially ministries of finance, ministries of health and national AIDS councils. CHGA will also target Civil Society Organizations, namely: (i) Associations of PLWHA; (ii) Service delivery NGOs; (iii) Advocacy organizations. It will also engage with practitioners from the public and private sectors.

Channels of Advocacy

CHGA's advocacy activities will centre on the following three themes: (i) issues related to treatment and care for PLWHA, including access to medication in resource limited settings; (ii) issues related to human capacity losses from HIV/AIDS and its implications for service delivery in both public and private sectors; and (iii) issues related to vulnerable groups, particularly women, orphans and the elderly in the context of HIV/AIDS. In broad terms, the advocacy programme will focus on three inter-related channels (see Appendix A for a detailed presentation of these channels):

Expert Group Meetings

CHGA Commissioners are eminent personalities who will be used to influence national and international policies in critical areas. To this end, over the next twelve months CHGA will organize four Expert Group Meeting – see appendix A for proposed dates and the subjects. For each meeting, the Secretariat will provide a series of analytical papers to facilitate discussions. The meeting themselves will be chaired/ co-chaired by CHGA Commissioners. Great care will be taken to ensure a good balance of participants from a wide field, including; academics, practitioners, CSOs and policy makers. At the end of each meeting, a set of policy recommendations will be drawn up for immediate dissemination by CHGA Communications unit with the help of Commissioners.

Major Conferences and Events

CHGA Commissioners will be used as goodwill ambassadors to a range of conferences and international policy fora to raise the issue of HIV/AIDS and governance, influence international policies in relation to these issues as well as to prepare the ground for CHGA's Final Report. Appendix A provides a series of international gatherings over the next twelve months for which CHGA intends to have Commissioners present. For these and other outreach activities that CHGA Commissioners embark on, the Secretariat will provide the following: (i) analytical support in the form of background papers, talking points and information package on participants; (ii) logistical support, in the form of travel and related assistance; and (iii) media and resource support from CHGA Communications Unit.

Media outreach

A list of key media interested in HIV/AIDS and governance issues in Africa will be cultivated, briefed and updated with regular mail and email messages about the Commission's activities, with emphasis on the advocacy activities of the Commissioners. At each Commissioners meeting, leading journalist covering HIV/AIDS and governance issues will be invited. Depending on availability of funds, one or two journalists from leading media firms will be sponsored. In addition, key journalists and publications will be targeted to secure publicity for the research and policy recommendations of the Commission.

Advocacy Resource Tools

CHGA will develop a number of inter-linked resources to support the work of its Commissioners. The products will provide Commissioners with the necessary tools to carry out their advocacy activities. This will include:

- Background Papers – these will be designed to provide detailed analytical insights into core issues relating to HIV/AIDS
- Position Papers – these will be policy-relevant papers designed to raise the critical issues and outline the scope/merits of mitigation strategies
- Fact Sheets – these will provide basic facts and figures about HIV/AIDS impacts and likely implications
- Tailored Calendar of Events – these will accommodate for the expertise of each Commissioner in terms of optimising their advocacy work
- Newsletter - this will be monthly production and will contain: (i) information on global developments relating to CHGA three core themes; (ii) update from CHGA Chairman on progress made by the Secretariat; (iii) news regarding forthcoming conferences which might be of interest to Commissioners; (iv) any other developments of interest to CHGA.
- Media Watch - The Secretariat will provide an on-going review of major news and events in the media. This will help the Commissioners stay abreast of breaking news relating to HIV/AIDS and Governance in Africa. The review will be sent to Commissioners in the form of regular email alerts as well as posted on the CHGA website.
- Op-ed pieces by Commissioners – these will be cutting edge and disseminated widely by CHGA Communications Unit.

Appendix A: Overview of Major Meetings/Events and Publications Schedule

MONTH	LOCATION	NAME OF EVENT	THEME	ORGANIZER	CHGA PUBLICATIONS
Phase 1: March 2004 to July 2004					
March	Maputo, Mozambique	Second Commissioners Meeting	Progress Update	CHGA	Position paper: 1. Treatment and care in Mozambique Background paper 2. The impact of HIV/AIDS on Family and Communities
April		Follow-up to Second Commissioners Meeting			Op-Ed by Chairman of CHGA on Treatment and care in Africa
May	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	1 st CHGA Working Group Meeting: Human Capacity Planning and HIV/AIDS	Human Capacity Planning and HIV/AIDS	CHGA and ILO	Position Paper: 1. Zambia: HIV and Human capacity 2. Ethiopia: HIV and Human Capacity
June	Toulon, France	13 th International Symposium on HIV & Emerging Infectious Diseases			Position Paper: 1. Ethic of Treatment in Uganda 2. PMTCT strategies for Africa
July	Bangkok, Thailand	Meeting of Commissioners two days prior to AIDS conference	Orphans and Vulnerable Children	CHGA and ACGD	Position Paper: Orphan care and support
July	Bangkok, Thailand	XV International AIDS Conference. Launch of CHGA's position paper on Orphans and Vulnerable Children. participation in Best Practice Workshop.	Best Practice: Orphan care and support	UNAIDS, CHGA (ACGD)	Best Practice Paper: Vulnerable Children in the era of AIDS

Appendix A: Overview of Major Meetings/Events and Publications Schedule

Phase 2: July 2004 to December 2004						
August	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL AIDS PLANS		CHGA	Position paper: Impact of HIV/AIDS on Democracy and Governance in Africa	
September	Senegal	2 nd CHGA Working Group Meeting: Treatment and Care	Best Practice: Treatment and Care	CHGA, TAP, WHO and IRD (Senegal)	Best Practice Paper: 1. Senegal Care Study 2. Uganda Care Study	
October	New York, USA	Third Commissioners Meeting	Treatment and Care in Resource Limited Settings	CHGA	Best Practice Paper: Treatment Care and Support Position Papers: 1. Cost Effectiveness of ARV in Resources Limited Settings 2. Macro economics of HIV/AIDS	
October	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	World Food Day	Best Practice: HIV/AIDS and Rural Communities	CHGA, SDD, FAO	Position Paper: 1 HIV/AIDS and Food Security 2 HIV/AIDS and Agricultural Policy	
November	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Universal Children's Day			Op-Ed by Chairman of CHGA on children and HIV/AIDS	
November	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	International Day of Tolerance			'Tolerance Through the Artists Eye' Art Exhibit Position Paper: Confronting HIV/AIDS: the Challenge of Stigma and Discrimination	
November	Kigali, Rwanda	Technical Support for National AIDS Plans		CHGA		
December	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Netherlands	World's AIDS day 3 rd CHGA Working Group Meeting: Gender, the Elderly		CHGA and ACGD	Position Paper: 1. Gender and the World of Work 2. The impacts of HIV/AIDS on the Elderly	