



PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION

SECOND SUB-REGIONAL PARLIAMENTARY SEMINAR ON HIV/AIDS IN SOUTH ASIA

*At the Grand Ballroom,
Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel
Dhaka, Bangladesh*

With Kind Support From:

ActionAid-International, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Government of Norway, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the World Health Organisation (WHO)

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

January 25th

9:00am—6:00pm Registration for the arriving international participants
11:00am Press Briefing at National Press Club
5:00pm Tea with Editors (for selected participants)
7:30pm **Welcoming Dinner Reception, Hosted by Hon. Foreign Minister Hon. M. Morshed Khan, MP at State Guest House, Padma**

Day One – January 26th

9:30—11:00am Tea Reception, Upstairs Foyer
11:15am *Please be seated for Inauguration Ceremony*

Inauguration Ceremony Grand Ballroom, 11:30am—12:30pm
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Recitation from Holy Quran

(Introduction of speakers by Ms. Shazja Rafi, Secretary General, PGA)

Introductory Note: *Mr. Zahir Uddin Swapon, MP*
Coordinator- PGA-Dhaka Seminar; Member, PGA International Council; Secretary General, Bangladesh Parliament Members' Support Group on Prevention of HIV/AIDS and Human Trafficking (BPMSG)

Welcome Remarks: *Hon. Ross Robertson*, (New Zealand) President, International Council, PGA; Assistant Speaker; Member of the Commerce Committee and Education & Science Committee

Keynote Address: *Dr. Nafis Sadik*, Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General for HIV/AIDS in Asia & the Pacific

Ministerial Address: *Hon. Dr. Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, MP* (Bangladesh) Hon. Minister for Health and Family Welfare

Address by Chief Guest: *H. E. Begum Khaleda Zia*, Hon. Prime Minister of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh

Vote of Thanks: *Mr. Abdus Shahid, MP* (Bangladesh), Joint Convenor, PGA-Dhaka Seminar; Chief Whip of the Opposition; First Vice Chair, BPMSG

Panel I – Tackling HIV in South Asia: Addressing the Needs and Rights of Key Populations
12:30pm – 1:15pm

Chair: *Sen. Raynell Andreychuk* (Canada), Convenor, PGA's Sustainable Development & Population Programme; Member, Executive Committee - PGA

Topics:

- How can the HIV epidemic in South Asia be characterized?
- Case study: successful community-based programs working with marginalized key populations
- How can parliamentarians and community leaders fight stigma and discrimination?
- Which policies have proven successful in preventing HIV transmission in the sub-region?
- What are strong examples of effective harm reduction programmes?
- What are the gendered dynamics involved in preventing transmission of HIV?
- How can parliamentarians play an effective role in implementing UNGASS commitments?

Panelists:

- *Mr. J.D. Seelam, MP* (India)
- *Mr. Faruk Khan, MP* (Bangladesh) Whip of Opposition; Vice President, BPMSG
- *Hon. Chitra Lekha Yadav, MP* (Nepal) Deputy Speaker - House of Representatives
- *Dr. Evaristo Marowa*, Country Coordinator (Bangladesh), UNAIDS
- *Professor Md. Nazrul Islam*, Chairman, Department of Virology, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, Bangladesh

Discussion Session
1:15pm – 2:15pm

Lunch
2:15pm – 3:00pm

Panel II – Political Commitment to Intensify HIV Prevention in South Asia
3:15pm – 4:00pm

Chair: *Mr. Abdus Shahid, MP* (Bangladesh) Joint Convenor, PGA-Dhaka Seminar; Chief Whip of the Opposition; First Vice Chair, BPMSG

Topics:

- How can effective prevention programmes which address transmission of HIV be scaled up?
- How can governments ensure a reliable and affordable supply of reproductive health commodities?
- How can religious and community leaders, schools and the media help raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and reduce stigma?
- What are the key elements of a comprehensive approach to HIV prevention in women?
- How can HIV prevention in children be strengthened?
- How can programs effectively promote and facilitate men's participation in prevention efforts and promotion of women's reproductive rights?
- What can be done to involve young people in HIV/AIDS awareness-raising activities?
- How does preventing violence against women relate to preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS?

Panelists:

- *Dr. Muhammad Abdur Razzaque, MP* (Bangladesh) Vice Chair, BPMSG
- *Sen. Pol. Lt. Col. Chachvan Bunmee* (Thailand)
- *Mr. G.M. Quader, MP* (Bangladesh)

Discussion Session
4:00pm – 5:00pm

Free Time
5:00pm – 8:00pm

Dinner

Hosted by Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Hon. Dr. Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain –

Introduction by Mr. K.B. Krishnamurthy, MP (India) President, PGA National Group – India

With Dramatic Performance by HIV/AIDS Awareness-Raising Group (at Sonargaon Hotel)

8:00pm

Day Two – January 27th

Panel III – Universal Access to Care, Treatment and Support for People Living with HIV and AIDS

9:30am – 10:15am

Chair: *Mr. Naveed Qamar, MP (Pakistan)*, Member, Executive Committee – PGA; Member, Finance Committee; Member, Commerce Committee; Member, Privileges Committee

Topics:

- Why is voluntary HIV testing and counseling so important to prevention, care and treatment efforts?
- How can gender-sensitive economic-support programs be implemented to improve the lives of people living with AIDS?
- How can governments partner with the private sector to ensure the availability and affordability of anti-retroviral (ARV) therapies?
- What are the special needs of orphans and vulnerable children with HIV and how can they be met?
- How can governments ensure that they develop policies and programs which respect the reproductive health of women living with HIV?
- What is the role of community leaders, the media and parliamentarians in combating the stigma experienced by people living with HIV/AIDS?

Panelists:

- *Hon. Nimal Siripala de Silva, MP (Sri Lanka)*, Minister of Health Care, Nutrition, and Uva Wellassa Development
- *Mr. G.M. Quader, MP (Bangladesh)* Vice Chair, BPMSG
- *Dr. Krisana Kraisintu (Thailand)*, Pharmaceutical consultant to ARV production in African countries and former Director of the Research and Development Institute, Government Pharmaceutical Organization, Thailand
- *Mr. Shah Mohammad Ruhul Quddus, MP (Bangladesh)*
- *Mr. Leonard Okello*, International Head for HIV and AIDS, ActionAid International

Discussion Session

10:15am – 11:00am

Panel IV – Mobilizing Resources and Supporting International Efforts to Combat HIV/AIDS

11:15am – 12:00pm

Chair: *Dr. Noor Jehan Panezai, MP (Pakistan)* Head, PGA National Group – Pakistan; Chair, Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Resources

Topics:

- Implementation of the Global Task Team Recommendations
- What role can policy makers play in helping to achieve the goal of universal access to prevention, treatment and care?
- How can parliamentarians effectively allocate and exercise scrutiny over resources in national budgets for HIV/AIDS programming?
- How can legislators implement the “Three Ones”? (One Action Framework, One National AIDS Coordinating Authority, One Country-Level Monitoring and Evaluation System)
- How did South Asian Governments respond to the “3 by 5” Initiative?

Panelists:

- *Mr. Remo Gysin, MP (Switzerland)* Member, Commission on Foreign Policy; Advisory Council of the Committee for a Democratic U.N.
- *Dr. Elioda Tumwesigye, MP (Uganda)*, Chair, Committee on HIV/AIDS

- **Dr. Samsul Alam Pramanik, MP** (Bangladesh) Member, Education Standing Committee
- **Ms. Tehmina Daultana, MP** (Pakistan) Chairperson, Pakistan's National Commission on the Status of Women
- **Dr. Abdus Salim**, Program Manager, National AIDS/STD Programme (Bangladesh)
- **Mrs. Ho Naun, MP** (Cambodia)

Discussion Session
12:00pm – 12:45pm

Lunch
1:00pm – 2:00pm

Panel V – Session for the Drafting of the Declaration
2:00pm – 3:00pm

Co-Chairs:

Sen. Raynell Andreychuk, (Canada), Convenor, PGA Sustainable Development & Population Programme; Member, Executive Committee - PGA

Col. Faruk Khan, MP (Bangladesh), Whip of the Opposition; Treasurer, BPMSG

Mr. G.M. Quader, MP (Bangladesh), Vice Chair, BPMSG

Concluding Session
3:00pm – 3:30pm

Chair: **Barrister Ziaur Rahman Khan, MP** (Bangladesh) Joint Convenor, PGA-Dhaka Seminar; Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs

Closing Remarks:

- **Ms. Habiba Akter - Positive Peoples' Representatives - Bangladesh**
- **Mr. Zahir Uddin Swapon, MP** (Bangladesh), Coordinator- PGA-Dhaka Seminar; Member, PGA International Council; Secretary General, Bangladesh Parliament Members' Support Group on Prevention of HIV/AIDS and Human Trafficking (BPMSG)
- **Mr. John Samuel**, International Director for Asia, ActionAid International

Statement by Chief Guest:

- **Hon. Md. Abdul Hamid, Advocate, MP** (Bangladesh) Deputy Leader of the Opposition

Press Conference (with Panel of Selected Parliamentarians)
4:30pm – 5:00pm

Dinner
7:00pm