



Parliamentarians for Global Action

Colombo Declaration of Action *Pre-ICAAP Seminar on HIV & AIDS Policy*

Colombo, Sri Lanka – 18-19, August 2007

- **Reaffirming** our earlier PGA commitments made in Islamabad, Pakistan and Dhaka, Bangladesh to achieving agreed development goals.
- **Recognizing**
 - That AIDS is one of the greatest impediments to the future of development in poor countries, global security and the achievement of the MDGs.
 - That countries in South Asia characteristically experience a low national HIV & AIDS prevalence with significantly higher rates among vulnerable sub-populations.
 - The need to expand prevention efforts, applications and tools.
 - The need to increase access to health care, testing, treatment, and counseling
 - The need to incorporate HIV & AIDS prevention into sexual and reproductive health services.
- **Stressing** the need to sensitize and involve people's representatives at all levels in providing leadership in combating HIV & AIDS especially in adopting rights-based HIV legislation, raising awareness in communities and mobilizing resources to support HIV & AIDS services and programs.

We, the participants of the PGA Pre-ICAAP Seminar on HIV & AIDS Policy, held in Colombo, Sri Lanka 18-19 August, 2007, hereby agree to make a personal as well as collective commitment to:

1. **Mobilize** the political will to address the prevention, treatment, care and reduction of stigma and discrimination of HIV & AIDS.
2. **Participate** in international conferences on HIV & AIDS and **Review** outcome documents.
3. **Enact** follow-up legislation to address HIV & AIDS.
4. **Advance** effectiveness of the Three Ones and the implementation of each component: **One** agreed HIV & AIDS Action Framework that provides the basis for coordinating the work of all partners; **One** National AIDS Coordinating Authority, with a broad-based multi-sectoral mandate; and **One** agreed country-level Monitoring and Evaluation System.
5. **Generate** multi-sectoral support within the government.
6. **Include** all stakeholders in policy development and implementation.
7. **Engage** all media and other public/wide-reaching advocacy outlets in the efforts to combat the spread of HIV & AIDS, stigma and discrimination.
8. **Exercise** scrutiny over policy (national, bi-lateral and multi-lateral) and its effective implementation including the disbursement of funding.
9. **Strengthen** health systems through promoting universal access to basic health care and improving resources to achieve that end.
10. **Utilize** the PGA National Group structure to mobilize political support to effectively address HIV & AIDS across parliamentary committees.
11. **Establish** ways and means to implement this Declaration of Action at the national and provincial levels, which may include follow-up meetings or workshops.
12. **Appeal** to all faith-based leaders and other opinion-makers for their involvement in providing their leadership in fighting HIV & AIDS.