

FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an
administrative marker by the William J. Clinton
Presidential Library Staff.**

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: National AIDS Policy Office

Series/Staff Member:

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 19402

FolderID:

Folder Title:

Paris Summit Miscellaneous

Stack:

S

Row:

66

Section:

6

Shelf:

9

Position:

1

**Appeal of People affected by HIV/AIDS and the NGOs fighting AIDS
PARIS, November 30th 1994**

We, people affected by HIV/AIDS and NGOs fighting AIDS, have come from 42 countries to Paris for the International AIDS Summit on December 1st. By assembling we demonstrate the successful mobilization and participation of people living with HIV/AIDS and of the affected communities in developing a world policy to fight AIDS. This mobilisation is based on the expertise we have acquired in 10 years of fighting AIDS on all fronts.

We launch an appeal to the 42 States which will sign a Declaration tomorrow - a Declaration which admittedly shows some political will, but which remains insufficient faced with the epidemic of AIDS - an epidemic which showed a 60% increase in 1993 in the number of cases declared worldwide. This appeal also concerns all the other countries who will be led to sign this declaration in the coming months.

Prudence and the diplomacy of consensus have progressively emptied the declaration of its concrete content. It provides neither guarantees of the financial means nor of the political and legal reforms which the international community needs to put the declaration into practice and to ensure that it is respected.

Thus we urgently demand from the 42 signatory States:

1. that the fight against AIDS be a national priority intrinsically linked to the fight for development, the fight for the respect and/or reestablishment of human rights and the fight against poverty.
2. to recognize that HIV infection is a chronic condition which can be treated even though it reduces life expectancy, it is therefore urgent that:
 - access to basic care, full lab reports, prophylactic and specific treatments, as well as surgical care be available to all and without restrictions.
 - faced with the total absence of treatments for PWAs in the regions of the third world with the great majority of cases, in Africa, Asia and Latin America, that the existing treatments currently available in developed countries, such as treatment for STDs, anti-HIV treatments, alternative therapies and treatments for HIV-related illnesses, must be made available to PWAs living in developing countries.
 - the right of women living with HIV/AIDS to choose, or not, to have children be respected and to have non-judgemental support in this choice; to denounce and ban the obligatory and routine HIV screening tests for pregnant women.
 - all people living with HIV/AIDS have access to medical, psychological, and social care:
 - people living with HIV/AIDS have right of access to all the information linked to their condition, the right to choose their treatment, to be relieved of pain, and to refuse all forms of prolonging life by medical means.
 - all people living with HIV/AIDS have free voluntary and informed access to therapeutical and vaccine trials respecting the ethical principles necessary for their application.
 - these proposals be valid both for those enjoying their rights as citizens as well as those incarcerated;
 - children living with HIV/AIDS have access to the treatments and care appropriate for their illness;
 - research be developed for all treatments, STD treatments, anti-HIV treatments, alternative therapies, and treatments for the illnesses related to HIV-infection and not only for the vaccine.
- 3- to offer and provide HIV-antibody tests, these can only be voluntary, anonymous, free, and accompanied by appropriate counseling before and after the test, regardless of the result, in order to ensure improved primary and secondary prevention based on information.
- 4- to ensure that all those caring for persons living with HIV/AIDS be bound by deontological secrecy and respect the confidentiality of their serological status.
- 5- to prevent the only verified modes of transmission, (other than peri-natal) i.e. sexual and blood transmission, by the use of female and male condoms, sterile syringes, needle exchange programs, screened and/or heated blood products. These means of prevention must be promoted and made available to all immediately.
- 6- to recognize that prevention is based on solidarity and the respect and support of people living with HIV/AIDS;

7- to recognize that vulnerability to HIV infection does not consist in belonging to a "high risk group", but in unprotected sexual, addictive and therapeutic practices:

- that all obstacles hindering the legal, cultural, economic or physical autonomy of an individual increase his/her vulnerability to exposure to HIV, and these obstacles should therefore be legally and statutorily abolished, including in the developing countries.

- that in this way women, children (in particular street children), youth, sex workers, homosexuals, lesbians, and other sexual minorities, injecting drug users, hemophiliacs, the homeless, migrants, refugees, differently abled people, illiterate people, and prisoners are particularly vulnerable and must actively participate in the design, execution and evaluation of prevention and care programs for their own communities.

- that information regarding HIV infection, comprehensible by all, be distributed, and that health education include non-judgemental sexual education on all types of sexuality. This same information and the same educational principles must be guaranteed both in developed and in developing countries; this education must include all means of HIV prevention

- that all discrimination based on serological status and/or the notion of high risk groups and questioning the access to and/or preservation of education, work or housing is unacceptable, contrary to human rights and must be abolished.

- that children whose parents have died from AIDS receive community support in the face of the saturation of family support - 28 million orphans in 10 African countries.

8 - that discrimination against people affected by HIV/AIDS at borders by limiting their liberty of movement and access to countries is contrary to people's rights and to the fundamental principles of the fight against AIDS.

9 - that they recognise that the present policies of cooperation have insitutionalised a disproportionate and unequal distribution of resources between North and South.

For these reasons, we ask the signatory States and the inter-governmental agencies to immediately:

- denounce, condemn and stop the violations of human rights in countries where people living with HIV/AIDS are isolated from the rest of the population in sanatoriums or in prisons, HIV positive serologies being penalised in certain countries;

- to legally award, and have respected, the right of people living with HIV/AIDS and that of the affected communities to assemble and form associations in order to fight the epidemic together;

- to finance groups of people affected by HIV/AIDS and non governmental organisations for their information, support, care and prevention campaigns by financing both care and prevention; and to finance first of all the NGOs

working at a local level, who have an impact on the quality of life of people living with HIV/AIDS and leading risk reduction activities among vulnerable populations;

- to abolish, denounce and condemn all laws criminalising homosexuality, the use of drugs and sex work;

- to abolish, denounce and condemn all laws forming the basis of a social, economic, cultural and/or political inequality between men and women particularly by reforming the laws concerning inheritances, divorce and property and by banning all physical mutilations of women;

- to reform the present cooperation policies and the mechanisms for the distribution of resources in order to guarantee aid and development for the countries of the South;

- to respect and apply the prior declarations which they signed so that these will not be once again in vain.

After 14 years of epidemic, these measures form the minimal basis demanded by people affected by HIV/AIDS and the NGOs fighting AIDS as a pledge of the real political responsibility of the States and the inter-governmental agencies to fight AIDS on a national, regional and global level.

We cannot wait for the vaccine to care for ourselves and to act!

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a publication.

Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.



Paris AIDS Summit

1 December 1994

FRANCE - WHO

Reports of preparatory strategic meetings on:

- 1. BLOOD SAFETY**
Paris, 13-14 September 1994
 - 2. DEVELOPMENT AND ACCESSIBILITY OF
PREVENTIVE TECHNOLOGY INCLUDING
VACCINES AND MICROBICIDES FOR HIV/AIDS**
Paris, 15-16 September 1994
 - 3. CARE AND SUPPORT OF PEOPLE AFFECTED
BY HIV/AIDS**
Geneva, 26-27 September 1994
 - 4. PREVENTION (HIV and STDs)**
Geneva, 3-5 October 1994
 - 5. VULNERABILITY TO HIV/AIDS**
Geneva, 5-7 October 1994
-

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

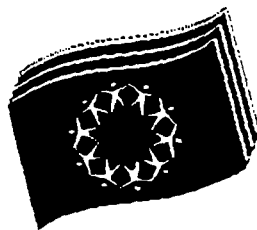
This marker identifies the place of a publication.

Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.

Déclaration



Sommet de Paris sur le SIDA
1 décembre 1994

Call Paul

International Council of AIDS Service Organizations

AfrICASO - Africa

Enda T.M.
4, rue Kleber
BO. 3370, Dakar
SENEGAL

Contact: Elhadj (AS) Sy

Tel.: 221-22-96.95
Fax: 221-22-26.95

LACASO - Latin America and the Caribbean

Colectivo Sol
Apartado Postal 13-320
Mexico D.F. 03500
MEXICO

Contact: Juan Jacobo Hernandez

Tel.: 52-5-666-6849
Fax: 52-5-606-7216

EuroCASO - Europe

Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe
Diefenbachstrasse, 37
10967 Berlin
GERMANY

Contact: Petra Narimani

Tel.: 49-30-69.00.87.19
Fax: 49-30-69.00.87.42

APCASO - Asia/Pacific

Kadalikat Ng Pamilyang Pilipino
3rd Floor B & M Building
116 Aguirre St., Legaspi Village
1229 Makati, M. M.
PHILIPPINES

Contact: Teresita Marie P. Bagasao

Tel.: 63-2-813-0478
Fax: 63-2-812-8425

NACASO - North America

Global AIDS Action Network
P.O. Box 376
Lagunitas, California
94938 USA

Contact: Paul Boneberg

Tel.: 1-415-488-1453
Fax: 1-415-488-1942

ICASO - CENTRAL SECRETARIAT

Canadian AIDS Society
400-100 Sparks Street, Ottawa CANADA
K1P 5B7

Contact: Richard Burzynski

Tel.: 1-613-230-3580
Fax: 1-613-563-4998

To: Secretary Donna Shalala
Representative of the President to the Paris AIDS Summit

From: Paul Boneberg
Global AIDS Action Network (GAAN)

RE: US Delegation to AIDS Summit

Date: November 5, 1994

To begin Madame Secretary, GAAN would like to thank you for the leadership of the US in support of non-governmental organizations in the drafting of the Paris AIDS Summit Declaration. We believe the US is playing a constructive role in the difficult process to make the summit as meaningful as possible.

As you are aware in a few weeks the United States will send a delegation to the heads of government meeting on AIDS. I am writing to express concern about both the composition of the US delegation and policy issues that may diminish the its effectiveness.

Regarding the delegation we are concerned it not only include the highest level representation from the US, but also people with HIV and non-governmental organizations. In this regard we urge you to consult with both National Association of People with AIDS and the American members of the Global Network of People with AIDS. In addition you might wish to consider Bob Hatoy, a member of the Administration, and one of the most prominent persons with HIV in the nation, as a potential delegation member.

Regarding individuals from non-governmental organizations GAAN reiterates its strong support of Mary Guinn Delaney of National Council for International Health and George Zeidenstein of the International HIV/AIDS Alliance and Harvard University.

In closing, Secretary Shalala, we reiterate our concern about three domestic issues that could undermine the US role in Paris. These are:

1. The lead policy position on AIDS within the Agency for International Development remains vacant months after its creation.
2. The US has been reducing funding for international AIDS programs and has made no commitment to reverse these cuts in 1995.
3. The US position limiting the freedom of travel for people with HIV continues to undermine our nation's credibility.

Thank you again for your leadership in the summit process and your attention to GAAN's concerns.

CC-Patricia Fleming-National AIDS Coordinator
Sharon Henkow-Department of State

November 10, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR PATSY FLEMING

FROM: Richard Sorian

SUBJECT: Paris Delegation

Here are the names and brief biographical descriptions of the potential candidates for the U.S. Delegation to the World AIDS Summit.

Phill Wilson. Mr. Wilson is Director of Public Policy for the AIDS Project Los Angeles, one of the nation's largest community-based organizations responding to HIV/AIDS. He also is the head of the Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Conference. 213-993-1352

Sallie Perryman. Ms. Perryman is the Health Program Administrator in the Criminal Justice Institute of the New York State AIDS Institute. She also is a member of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS.
(212) 613-2429

Moises Agosto. Mr. Agosto is Director of Treatment and Education with the National Minority AIDS Council in Washington DC.
(202) 544-1076

Kathleen Gerus. Ms. Gerus is Vice Chair of the National Hemophilia Foundation Board of Directors and former co-chair of the Women's Outreach Network of NHF and a member of the board of the National Association of People with AIDS.
(313) 977-1745

UNCLASSIFIED
EMAIL

23 November 1994

TO: OES/STH: Sharon Hrynkow
COPY: EUR/WE: Kathy Kavalec
NAPO: Patsy Fleming, Hal Thompson
Geneva: Ken Bernard
FROM: Paris/SCI: Kyle Boice
SUBJECT: "GENDER EDUCATION" PHRASE IN AIDS DECLARATION

Olivier Brasseur explained that "gender education" in Section III, action 2, is the translation of "l'égalité entre les sexes" in the French text and is meant to reflect the idea of mutual respect between the sexes.

He also described a bit more about how the various languages will be used for the Declaration: French will be the "official" text, and all other language texts will be labeled "unofficial translation". He noted that the Chinese text was translated from the English since they had an English/Chinese translator but not a French/Chinese.

Please contact me ASAP once a decision has been reached on the Final Act. (By the way, have we heard anything from other countries?)

a/o 11/19/94

FINAL SCHEDULE

Secretary's Visit to Paris

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

4:30 pm Depart Tel Aviv via LH 687
7:50 pm Arrive Frankfurt
9:35 pm Depart Frankfurt via LH 4364
10:45 pm Arrive Paris (De Gaulle)

Met by: Kyle Boice
Science Attache
(Control Officer)

Proceed to Ambassador's Residence

NOTE: Fleming and Edelman also at residence

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

10:00 am Depart residence en route 28 rue du Dr. Roux
10:30 am - Visit to Pasteur Institute
12:30 pm
12:40 pm Depart Pasteur Institute en route 12 rue
Weber
1:00 pm - Luncheon hosted by David Aaron, American
3:00 pm Ambassador to the OECD
4:00 pm HOLD
7:45 pm Depart residence en route Le Voltaire, 27
quai Voltaire (Tel: 4261-1749)
8:00 pm Dinner with Flora Lewis and Victor Zonana

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

9:00 am HOLD

10:00 am Hold for bilateral meetings

1:00 pm Luncheon hosted by Ambassador Harriman in honor of the Secretary and Minister Veil

3:00 pm Meeting with Ambassador Spiegel at residence

4:00 pm Hold for bilateral meetings

5:30 pm - Briefing on AIDS Summit with U.S. delegation
6:15 pm

6:30 pm - Reception hosted by the Secretary for heads
8:00 pm of delegations and NGO participants in AIDS Summit

8:00 pm Dinner hosted by Simone Veil, Minister of State for Health, Social Affairs, and Urban Affairs, in honor of selected Ministers of Health

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

8:30 am Depart residence en route UNESCO Headquarters

9:00 am Arrive UNESCO Headquarters

9:30 am Opening of AIDS Summit - Welcoming remarks by UNESCO Director General Federico Mayor

9:35 am Remarks by Prime Minister Balladur

9:45 am Remarks by UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali

9:55 am Remarks by a representative of persons living with HIV/AIDS

10:05 am Remarks by WHO Director-General Nakajima

10:15 am Presentation by Minister Veil of the results of the preparatory work for the Summit and the draft Declaration

10:30 am Break - Photograph of Heads of Delegations

10:40 am Plenary Session - remarks by Heads of
- Noon Delegations

NOTE: Secretary's remarks approx. 11:30 am

1:00 pm Lunch hosted by Prime Minister Balladur at
the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

3:00 pm Plenary Session - remarks by Heads of
Delegations

6:45 pm Conclusion of the Summit

7:00 pm Arrive residence

8:30 pm Depart residence en route Eiffel Tower

9:00 pm NGO Event - Eiffel Tower/Champs de Mars
(AIDS quilt/candle launching)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

9:00 am - Press availability - American Embassy
9:30 am

12:00 noon Depart Paris (De Gaulle) via UA 915

3:05 pm Arrive Dulles

MEETING ON
THE GREATER INVOLVEMENT OF PEOPLE AFFECTED BY HIV/AIDS (GIPA):
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE SUMMIT ON AIDS

Paris: 26-27 November, 1994

Guidelines and Standards

DRAFT AGENDA *What does it mean to successfully involve people "affected" by HIV/AIDS.*

Day 1: Saturday, November 26

09h00 **START**

- Introductions
- Expectations of the meeting
- Review of meeting objectives
- Process for the meeting

10h00 **AGENDA REVIEW**

10h30 **RECAP**

- Of the resolution and agreements reached in Paris on October 27
- Discussion of what GIPA means

12h00 **LUNCH - DEJEUNER**

13h30 **CURRENT ANALYSIS**

- Discussion of what is currently being undertaken by all the key organizations, agencies, and governments as it relates to the aim of GIPA - i.e. what we do
- Discussion of ideas for new activities that will further GIPA

17h30 **SYNTHESIS**

- Where are we now
- Agenda review

18h00 **BREAK FOR THE DAY**

NOV-22-94 TUE 12:57

AID-R&D/H

FAX NO. 7038754686

P. 09

Day 2: Sunday, November 27**10h00 RECAP OF THE PREVIOUS DAY****10h30 MOVING FROM POLICY TO REALITY**

- How do we manage and fund this initiative?
- What are the administrative and structural mechanisms for its implementation
- What are the barriers?
- What are the solutions?

13h00 LUNCH - DEJEUNER**14h30 DRAFT ACTION PLAN**

- If we agree on what GIPA can/should do, what is the plan of action for its institutional implementation?
- Develop preliminary draft announcement?
- Develop a strategy for gathering support from others not present.

18h00 SYNTHESIS

- Where are we now?
- Review of tasks to be accomplished and time frame.
- Review schedules for a possible meeting on Monday.
- Selection of a new meeting space if necessary

19h00 CLOSURE FOR THE DAY**Day 3 (if necessary): Monday, November 28****TIME AND AGENDA TO BE DETERMINED**

UNCLASSIFIED

2

Get L view

Accepted for transmission

11/18/94 12:04:07

UNCLASSIFIED

CPROG 11/18/94

SCI: JJBOSKEN

SCI: JKBOICE

NONE

SCI

AMEMBASSY PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
DEPARTMENT OF HHS
WHITE HOUSE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

STATE PASS USAID
STATE FOR OES/STH/TCH:SHRYNKOW, EUR/WE:KKAVALEC, IO:NBOYER
HHS FOR OIA:DHOHMAN, OIH:VOGEL
WHITE HOUSE FOR NAPO:PFLEMING, HTHOMPSON
GENEVA FOR KBERNARD

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, OTRA, SOCI, TBIO, WHO, KSCA, FR
SUBJECT: DECEMBER 1 AIDS SUMMIT DECLARATION:
TEXT DISPUTE AND SIGNING ISSUES

REF: (A) STATE 302840

1. THIS IS AN ACTION REQUEST. SEE PARAGRAPH 4.

2. MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS OFFICER AND CURRENT FRENCH HEAD OF DECLARATION PREPARATION HENRI DUPHEY INFORMED US THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE (GOF) PLANS FOR EACH DELEGATION HEAD TO SIGN THE DECLARATION DURING THE DECEMBER 1 AIDS SUMMIT. DUPHEY STRESSED THAT THIS DOES NOT CHANGE THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE DECLARATION, THAT OF A NONBINDING DECLARATION, BUT IS A "SYMBOLIC ACTION DEMONSTRATING THE SERIOUS INTENTIONS" OF THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES.

3. AFTER THE DECEMBER 1 SUMMIT, THE GOF WILL ENTER THE DECLARATION INTO THE U.N. SYSTEM TO ALLOW OTHER U.N. COUNTRIES TO "SIGN ON" TO THE OBJECTIVES.

4. WE REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE WITH THIS ADDITION OF THE DELEGATION HEADS' SIGNATURES TO THE SUMMIT AGENDA.

5. CONCERNING THE ENGLISH TEXT OF THE DECLARATION AND OUR REQUEST TO CHANGE SECTION IV, INITIATIVE 2 (REFTEL A), DUPHEY LODGED SEVERAL ARGUMENTS ON NOVEMBER 17 AS TO WHY THE ENGLISH TEXT SHOULD REMAIN AS IS (WITH THE DISPUTED PHRASE READING, "TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEASURES

RELAYED TO US BY DEBRE'S ASSISTANT LICULE ASTEL
AND BY WHO'S OLIVIER BRASSEUR:

- THE FRENCH TEXT IS THE "SOLE TEXT"
RESULTING FROM THE SUMMIT. THUS THE SENSE
OF ACTION LACKING IN THE ENGLISH "TO
PROVIDE FOR" THAT APPEARS IN THE FRENCH
"PREVOIR" HAS "NO JUDICIAL SIGNIFICANCE."

- THE ENGLISH TEXT IS A TRANSLATION
PROVIDED BY THE WHO (AS THEY ARE PROVIDING
TRANSLATIONS IN FIVE OTHER LANGUAGES AS
WELL).

- NO OTHER COUNTRY HAS RAISED THIS AS A
CONCERN.

6. WE RESPONDED BY POINTING OUT THAT WE ARE
ASKING FOR A RETURN TO LANGUAGE AGREED TO AT THE
OCTOBER 26-27 DECLARATION MEETING IN PARIS, AND,
INDEED, THE FRENCH TEXT, WHILE THE "PRIMARY"
TEXT, WAS DERIVED FROM THE ENGLISH TEXT WHICH WAS
USED AS THE NEGOTIATING TEXT. WE QUESTIONED WHY
ANYONE WOULD OBJECT TO RETURNING TO THE
AGREED-UPON LANGUAGE, A LANGUAGE WHICH REFLECTS
THE SPIRIT EMBODIED IN THE FRENCH VERB.

7. DUPHEY ALSO HIGHLIGHTED THE DIFFICULTY IN
CHANGING THE ENGLISH TEXT SINCE THE MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAD AGREED TO THE TEXT AND IT HAS
BEEN TYPESET TO BE SENT TO THE PRINTER TODAY
(NOVEMBER 17). WE AGAIN RESPONDED WITH THE
ARGUMENT ABOVE, AND DREW UPON PAST PRINTING
SECTOR EXPERIENCE TO EXPLAIN HOW EASY SUCH A
CHANGE IS UP UNTIL THE DECLARATION IS ACTUALLY
PRINTED.

8. DUPHEY OFFERED A "CORRECTIVE NOTE" AT THE
SUMMIT, SOMETHING LIKE AN ERRATUM, TO CLARIFY
THIS POINT. WE AGAIN REITERATED OUR BELIEF THAT
SUCH A NOTE, REFLECTING THE CHANGED TEXT, MIGHT
AS WELL BE INCLUDED NOW IN THE TEXT. DUPHEY,
OFFERING NO AGREEMENT TO CHANGE THE TEXT TO OUR
PREFERRED LANGUAGE ("TO TAKE APPROPRIATE
MEASURES") BUT SAID HE WILL "SEE WHAT CAN BE
DONE."

HARRIMAN

UNCLASSIFIED

State Dept
Legal advisor's office Sharon
11/18/94
Bad idea to sign

declaration. Advising

Instead sign a "final act."

W. new congress - Trouble

W.  For. Affairs Committee.

Can call Sharon on Weekend

"Govts met 12/1 + accepted
by consensus the attached
Declaration" Everyone
would sign this Final Act.

"Eusere" "obligation" "safeguard"
language much stronger than
it should be.

DECLARATION

Text decided on at Preparatory meeting in
Paris on 26 and 27 October 1994



PARIS AIDS SUMMIT
1 December 1994

We, the Heads of Government or Representatives of the 42 States assembled in
Paris on 1 December 1994:

I. Mindful

that the AIDS pandemic, by virtue of its magnitude, constitutes a threat to
humanity,

that its spread is affecting all societies,

that it is hindering social and economic development, in particular of the
worst affected countries, and increasing the disparities within and between
countries,

that poverty and discrimination are contributing factors in the spread of
the pandemic,

that HIV/AIDS inflicts irreparable damage on families and communities,

that the pandemic concerns all people without distinction but that women,
children and youth are becoming infected at an increasing rate,

that it not only causes physical and emotional suffering but is often used as
justification for grave violations of human rights,

Mindful also

that obstacles of all kinds - cultural, legal, economic and political - are
hampering information, prevention, care and support efforts,

that HIV/AIDS prevention and care and support strategies are inseparable, and hence must be an integral component of an effective and comprehensive approach to combating the pandemic,

that new local, national and international forms of solidarity are emerging, involving in particular people living with HIV/AIDS and community-based organizations,

II. Solemnly declare

our obligation as political leaders to make the fight against HIV/AIDS a priority,

our obligation to act with compassion for and in solidarity with those with HIV or at risk of becoming infected, both within our societies and internationally,

our determination to ensure that all persons living with HIV/AIDS are able to realize the full and equal enjoyment of their fundamental rights and freedoms without distinction and under all circumstances,

our determination to fight against poverty, stigmatization and discrimination,

our determination to mobilize all of society - the public and private sectors, community-based organizations and people living with HIV/AIDS - in a spirit of true partnership,

our appreciation and support for the activities and work carried out by multilateral, intergovernmental, nongovernmental and community-based organizations, and our recognition of their important role in combating the pandemic,

our conviction that only more vigorous and better coordinated action worldwide, sustained over the long term - such as that to be undertaken by the joint and co-sponsored United Nations programme on HIV/AIDS - can halt the pandemic,

III. Undertake in our national policies to

protect and promote the rights of individuals, in particular those living with or most vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, through the legal and social environment,

fully involve nongovernmental and community-based organizations as well as people living with HIV/AIDS in the formulation and implementation of public policies,

ensure equal protection under the law for persons living with HIV/AIDS with regard to access to health care, employment, education, travel, housing and social welfare,

intensify the following range of essential approaches for the prevention of HIV/AIDS:

- promotion of and access to various culturally acceptable prevention strategies and products, including condoms and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases,
- promotion of appropriate prevention education, including sex and gender education, for youth in school and out of school,
- improvement of women's status, education and living conditions,
- specific risk-reduction activities for and in collaboration with the most vulnerable populations, such as groups at high risk of sexual transmission and migrant populations,
- the safety of blood and blood products,

strengthen primary health care systems as a basis for prevention and care, and integrate HIV/AIDS activities into these systems, so as to ensure equitable access to comprehensive care,

make available necessary resources to better combat the pandemic, including adequate support for people infected with HIV/AIDS, nongovernmental organizations and community-based organizations working with vulnerable populations,

IV. Are resolved to step up international cooperation through the following measures and initiatives. We shall do so by providing our commitment and support to the development of the joint and co-sponsored United Nations programme on HIV/AIDS, as the appropriate framework to reinforce partnerships between all involved and give guidance and worldwide leadership in the fight against HIV/AIDS. The scope of each initiative should be further defined and developed in the context of the joint and co-sponsored programme and other appropriate fora:

1. Support a greater involvement of people living with HIV/AIDS through an initiative to strengthen the capacity and coordination of networks of people living with HIV/AIDS and community-based organizations. By ensuring their full involvement in our common response to the pandemic at all - national, regional and global - levels, this initiative will, in particular, stimulate the creation of supportive political, legal and social environments.
2. Promote global collaboration for HIV/AIDS research by supporting national and international partnerships between the public and private sectors, in order to accelerate the development of prevention and treatment technologies, including vaccines and microbicides, and to provide for the measures needed to help ensure their accessibility in ~~the developing countries and the communities that should include~~ related social and behavioural research. ✓

3. Strengthen international collaboration for blood safety with a view to coordinating technical information, proposing standards for good manufacturing practices for all blood products, and fostering the establishment and implementation of cooperative partnerships to ensure blood safety in all countries.
4. Encourage a global care initiative so as to reinforce the national capability of countries, especially those in greatest need, to ensure access to comprehensive care and social support services, essential drugs and existing preventive methods.
5. Mobilize local, national and international organizations assisting as part of their regular activities children and youth, including orphans, at risk of infection or affected by HIV/AIDS, in order to encourage a global partnership to reduce the impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic upon the world's children and youth.
6. Support initiatives to reduce the vulnerability of women to HIV/AIDS by encouraging national and international efforts, aimed at the empowerment of women: by raising their status and eliminating adverse social, economic and cultural factors; by ensuring their participation in all the decision-making and implementation processes which concern them; and by establishing linkages and strengthening the networks that promote women's rights.
7. Strengthen national and international mechanisms that are concerned with HIV/AIDS related human rights and ethics, including the use of an advisory council and national and regional networks to provide leadership, advocacy and guidance in order to ensure that non-discrimination, human rights and ethical principles form an integral part of the response to the pandemic.

We urge all countries and the international community to provide the resources necessary for the measures and initiatives mentioned above.

We call upon all countries, the future joint and co-sponsored United Nations programme on HIV/AIDS and its six member organizations and programmes to take all steps possible to implement this Declaration in coordination with multilateral and bilateral aid programmes and intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations.