



CSO's STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT COMBATING HIV & AIDS IN LESOTHO - MASERU

27/11/2014



We the Civil Society representatives gathered for the Multi-Stakeholder Consultative Forum in Maseru on this date wish to acknowledge the following:

- We applaud the investment to TB, HIV & other health related programmes by the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho;
- Significant progress has been made in provision of Antiretroviral Therapy recognized by the massive financial investment by the Government;
- Progress has been realized on Prevention of Mother To Child Transmission;
- There has been realizable Stigma reduction for LHIV;
- There are sound policies on HIV & AIDS Care & Support;

We, however, hereby give recognition to the following:

- Absence of leadership on the National Response as evidenced by the defunct National AIDS Commission.
- Absence of Champions on HIV & AIDS in Lesotho
- The escalating rate of new HIV infections and AIDS related deaths.
- Poor coordination of civil society efforts
- A Weak Civil Society Voice in the National

response to HIV & AIDS due to limited inclusiveness.

The contribution of Gender Based Violence of HIV and AIDS

- That CSO efforts are challenged by Lack of sustainable resource loading for CSO HIV & AIDS Strategic Plans;
- With Concern the HIV & AIDS fatigue coupled with the need for innovative thinking on the HIV & AIDS programming in the Country;

We hereby commit ourselves to the following:

- To advocate for the resuscitation of a National AIDS Commission;
- To pursue the goals of the 2020 Campaign, recognizing it as a crucial milestone for the period 2015 to 2020 towards the UN AIDS Vision of 90-90-90 targets by 2030;
- Enhance Civil Society Coordination and communication through the Health and Social Development Commission steered by Lesotho Council of NGOs;
- Enhance Civil Society Advocacy and participation in the implementation of the National response in HIV & AIDS;
- Advocate for a rights based approach to the national response;
- Be representatives of marginalized groups, most importantly key affected populations

at all levels;

- Contribute to the National response in HIV/AIDS through engaging in participatory and transparent Global fund grant allocation and expenditure;
- Engage with policy makers to convert evidence, and policy into action in making service providers available to key populations;
- Enhance community mobilization to increase access to HIV Testing & Counselling, Anti-Retroviral Therapy, Prevention of Mother To Child Transmission, ANC and MCH services;
- Ensure programming that is community led by engaging communities to make constructive choices on HIV and AIDS interventions;
- Involvement of young people and key affected populations as change agents in the National HIV and AIDS response from within their communities;
- Building the capacity of Civil Society Organizations, Networks and NGO's to effectively respond to HIV and AIDS;
- We commit to implementing on the developed CSO's charter;

Thus Signed and Done in Maseru on 26th May 2015

| Name of the organisation | Signatory | Signature |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Paternal Vision In Action | Palesa Ntshabane | |
| LESOTHO COUNCIL OF NGOs | SEABATA MOTSAMAI | |
| HOPE SEROBANYANE PHELA HEALTH & DEV FORUMS | Hope Serobanyane | |
| LNFOOD | Nkhosi Seputhi | |
| WORLD VISION | | |
| MOH | | |
| LENASO | TSHELO NCHERE | |
| Tsepang Counselling Centre | ERNEO SCOUT | |
| LIRAC | MOJETS H MAFIKE | |
| LPPA | Mphama | |
| UNAIDS AHF | Keleng hestrie Catherine Ngoye | |