



The Global Treatment Action Group's platform for action, proposes Four Steps for Canada:

- **Pay our fair share of prevention and treatment in developing countries.** Canada should commit to a binding timetable to bring its official development assistance to 0.7% of gross national income, double its research and development funding for HIV prevention tools such as microbicides and vaccines, and show leadership by contributing 5% of the total funding needed by the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria over each of the next five years.
- **Invest in the public health care systems of developing countries.** Canada should provide development assistance for public health care systems in developing countries, support greater retention of health care workers in developing countries, and implement policies to better train and retain health professionals in Canada as an alternative to recruiting health professionals from developing countries.
- **Cancel the debts of developing countries to free up resources to fight AIDS and poverty.** Canada should promote the immediate and unconditional cancellation of 100% of the debt owed by countries burdened by AIDS, debt and poverty.
- **Follow through on commitments to make medicines affordable to developing countries.** In 2004, Parliament unanimously passed a law to enable exports of lower-cost, generic medicines to developing countries. But no medicines have yet been sent. Canada should broker exploratory meetings between Canadian generic manufacturers and health ministries in developing countries, and remove unnecessary red tape that dissuades generic drug manufacturers and developing countries from using the law.

Since Toronto hosted the XVI International AIDS Conference in August, close to 750,000 people have died of AIDS-related causes and over a million women, men and children have become infected with HIV/AIDS, according to UN estimates.

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*The Global Treatment Access Group ([www.aidslaw/gtag](http://www.aidslaw/gtag)) is a working group of international development, human rights, humanitarian, and AIDS service organizations, trade unions, student groups, and faith-based groups seeking to improve access to essential medicines and other aspects of HIV prevention and care, treatment and support for people living with HIV/AIDS in developing countries.*