

# Statement Déclaration

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For immediate release

*Également disponible en français*

## **TIME TO DELIVER: A GLOBAL APPEAL TO CANADA'S PARLIAMENTARIANS TO FIX LAW ON AFFORDABLE MEDICINES FOR ALL**

*Endorsed by more than 80 civil society organizations from around the world*

**NOVEMBER 21, 2012** — From around the world, we are organizations actively engaged in responding to the global AIDS crisis. We write to remind you that, while great progress has been made on preventing millions of new HIV infections and getting life-saving medicines to those in need, this epidemic is far from over. We urge you to seize the opportunity before you to fix Canada's Access to Medicines Regime (CAMR) and make a significant contribution to overcoming this global tragedy.

At this time, still fewer than half of those people in low- and middle-income countries who need AIDS drugs are able to get them. The situation is even worse for children with HIV. Millions more will die unless the international commitment to achieve "universal access" to AIDS treatment is maintained.

For countries with limited resources, medicines must be affordable. Many countries cannot afford expensive, patented brand-name medicines. Harnessing the power of market competition through access to generics has been critical thus far in getting more affordable AIDS medicines to millions in the developing world. But this progress must be sustained and expanded, and laws such as CAMR could help, if made workable.

More than eight years ago, every single Canadian parliamentarian voted to create CAMR, a law aimed at enabling the supply of more affordable, generic medicines to treat HIV and other public health problems. This law was a pledge by Canada to help respond to the health needs of the developing world. Indeed, it was an important initiative which set a global precedent.

But as you know, CAMR has not delivered what was promised. Bureaucratic red tape has kept it from being the simple, rapid, flexible tool that is needed. We urge you to act now to fix it by adopting the reforms proposed by Canadian treatment advocates, including the "one-licence solution" that will streamline and simplify the law so that generic medicines can be supplied quickly and easily, at competitive prices, in response to the evolving needs of developing countries.

This is a concrete contribution you can make, as Canadian parliamentarians and leaders, to supporting developing countries struggling to turn the tide on the global AIDS crisis and

address other public health needs of their people. Saving millions of lives is within our collective power. We ask that you do your part and help Canada deliver on its promise of affordable medicines for all.

These organizations join their voices to the lengthy list of Canadian faith leaders, scientists and physicians and other prominent people calling on Parliament to fix CAMR. For further information, please visit [www.medicinesforall.ca](http://www.medicinesforall.ca).

**Endorsed by:**

ACT UP Boston, USA  
Act Up-Paris, France  
AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC), USA  
AIDS Treatment News, USA  
Akwenyutu Women Living with HIV/AIDS, Uganda  
ALCIS NGO, DR Congo  
Alliance of Counties against HIV AIDS, Kenya  
Apostolic Faith Mission Social Development Division, Lesotho  
Apparel Lesotho Alliance to Fight AIDS (ALAFA), Lesotho  
Asia Pacific Network of People Living with HIV (APN+), Global  
Asociación Hetaira, Spain  
bufaS - Bündnis der Fachberatungsstellen für Sexarbeiter\_innen, Germany  
BUKO Pharma-Kampagne, Germany  
Cambodian Haemophilia Association, Cambodia  
Centre for Health Human Rights and Development (CEHURD), Uganda  
Church of Scotland (HIV Programme), UK  
Coalition of Women Living with HIV and AIDS, Malawi  
COHEWAS, Eldoret, Kenya  
Communauté camerounaise des femmes positives, Cameroon  
Community of Women Living with HIV, Lesotho  
Desiree Alliance, USA  
Ethiopian Hemophilia Society (EHS), Ethiopia  
Family Rescue Initiatives, Uganda  
Family Support Initiative (FASI), Uganda  
Global Coalition of Women against AIDS in Uganda, Global  
Global Network of People with HIV, North America (GNP+ NA), North America  
Global Network of Sex Work Projects, USA  
Greek Haemophilia Society (GHS), Greece  
Haemophilia Foundation of Nigeria, Nigeria  
Health GAP (Global Access Project), USA, Kenya  
HelpAge International, UK  
Hemophilia Federation, India  
Hemophilia Society of Bangladesh, Bangladesh  
HIV Prevention Justice Alliance (HIV PJA), USA  
Homecare Angels, Kenya  
International Civil Society Support, The Netherlands  
International Planned Parenthood Federation, USA  
Iraqi Hemophilia Society, Iraq  
Irish Haemophilia Society Ltd, Ireland  
John Augustus Abendo Charitable Organization, Kenya  
Kawempe Homebased Caregivers Alliance, Uganda  
Kenya Legal and Ethical Issues Network on HIV & AIDS (KELIN), Kenya  
Kibera Community Self Help Program (KICOSHEP-K), Kenya  
Latvia Hemophilia Society, Latvia  
Lesotho Nurses Association, Lesotho  
Médecins Sans Frontières Access Campaign, Global  
Mesa de Concertacion LTGB y TS de Lima Metropolitana, Peru  
Mother's Club, Uganda  
Namibia Women Health Network, Namibia  
National Community of Women Living with HIV, Uganda  
Network for Disabled People Living with AIDS, Tanzania  
Network of Journalists Living with HIV (JONEHA), Malawi  
Pan African Positive Women's Coalition, Global  
PLHIV, Tunisia  
Positive Life Organisation (PLON), Nigeria  
Positive Malaysian Treatment Access & Advocacy Group (MTAAG+), Malaysia  
Positive Women's Network, South Africa  
Positive Youth Initiative Nigeria (PYIN), Nigeria  
Positive Life Organisation, Nigeria (PLON), Nigeria  
Proressio, Zimbabwe  
Public Citizen (Global Access to Medicines Program), USA  
Serbian Haemophilia Society, Serbia  
SHIVouth Sudan Network of PLHIV, South Sudan  
Slum Women's Initiative for Development, Uganda  
Social Welfare Corporation Habataki Welfare Project, Japan  
Society for Women and AIDS in Africa (SWAA), Ghana  
Stop AIDS Campaign, UK Consortium on AIDS and International Development, UK  
Student Global AIDS Campaign, Global  
TAMPEP International Foundation, The Netherlands  
Thai Treatment Action Group, Thailand  
The AIDS Support Organization (TASO), Uganda  
The Global Forum on MSM & HIV (MSMGF), USA  
Timret Lehiwat Ethiopia, Ethiopia  
Tunisia Rahma of PLHIV and GS++ of PLHIV, Tunisia  
UCOGAC Secretariat, Uganda  
Victory Foundation, Kenya  
Vision Alive, Kenya  
WEECE (Womens Education and Economic Centre), Tanzania  
WEM Integrated Health Services (WEMIHS), Kenya  
Women Living with HIV/AIDS, Amuria District, Uganda  
World AIDS Campaign, USA  
Young Achievers, Namibia

## Canadian partners calling for CAMR reform include:

2-Spirited People of the First Nations  
Access AIDS Sudbury  
Action Canada for Population and Development  
Africafiles  
African and Caribbean Council on HIV/AIDS in Ontario  
Africans in Partnership Against AIDS  
AIDS Action Now!  
AIDS Bow Valley  
AIDS Calgary Awareness Association  
AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton  
AIDS Committee of Chatham-Kent  
AIDS Committee of Kitchener, Cambridge, Waterloo and Area  
AIDS Committee of London  
AIDS Committee of Ottawa  
AIDS Committee of Toronto  
AIDS Committee of Windsor  
AIDS New Brunswick  
AIDS Program South Saskatchewan  
AIDS Saint John  
AIDS Saskatoon  
AIDS Thunder Bay  
Alberta Community Council on HIV  
Alliance for South Asian AIDS Prevention  
ANKORS: Kootenay AIDS Service  
Asian Community AIDS Services  
Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale (AQOCI)  
Blood Ties Four Directions Centre  
Bracelet of Hope  
BRAS Outaouais  
British Columbia Nurses' Union  
Bruce House — Ottawa  
Bureau Regional d'Action SIDA (BRAS)  
Canada Africa Community Health Alliance  
Canada Africa Partnership on AIDS (CAP/AIDS)  
Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network (CAAN)  
Canadian AIDS Society  
Canadian AIDS Treatment Information Exchange (CATIE)  
Canadian Association of HIV Research  
Canadian Association of Nurses in AIDS Care  
Canadian Auto Workers Canada  
Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace  
Canadian Coalition on HIV/AIDS and Youth in Africa  
Canadian Council for International Co-operation  
Canadian Crossroads International  
Canadian Federation for Sexual Health  
Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions  
Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW)  
Canadian Feed The Children  
Canadian Hemophilia Society  
Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network  
Canadian Hunger Foundation  
Canadian Labour Congress  
Canadian Physicians for Aid and Relief (CPAR)  
Canadian Public Health Association  
Canadian Society for International Health (CSIH)  
Canadian Support of Rural African Initiatives  
Canadian Treatment Action Council (CTAC)  
Canadian Union of Public Employees  
Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation (CWGHR)  
Canadians for CAMR  
CARE Canada  
Carleton University AIDS Awareness Society  
Center for International Studies and Cooperation  
Central Alberta Addictions Consortium  
Centre for International Health  
City of Prince Albert  
Conception Bay North AIDS Interest Group Inc.  
CUSO  
Defence for Children International Canada  
Dignitas International  
Grandmothers Advocacy Network (GRAN)  
Healing Our Spirit  
Help Lesotho  
Hiye'yu Lelum Society  
HIV Network of Edmonton Society  
HIV North Society  
HIV Society of Southeastern Alberta  
Horizons of Friendship  
Hummingbird Kids Society  
Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development (ICAD)  
International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO)  
KAIROS – Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives  
Maison Plein Coeur  
Manitoba Nurses' Union  
Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF) Canada  
Mennonite Central Committee Canada  
National Congress of Black Women's Foundation  
National Union of Public and General Employees  
New Brunswick Nurses Union  
New Heights Community Health Centres  
Newfoundland and Labrador Nurses' Union  
Northern HIV And Health Education Society  
Northern AIDS Connection  
North-South Institute  
Nova Scotia Nurses' Union  
Oasis Health Centre  
Ontario Council for International Cooperation  
Ontario First Nations HIV/AIDS Education Circle  
Ontario HIV Treatment Network  
Ontario Nurses' Association  
Oxfam Canada  
Oxfam-Québec  
People to People Aid Organization (Canada) Inc. People's Health  
Movement Canada  
Plan Canada  
Plan International Canada  
Positive Living BC  
Positive Women's Network  
Positively AFRICA  
Primate's World Relief and Development Fund  
Prince Edward Island Nurses' Union  
Public Service Alliance of Canada  
RESULTS Canada  
Rights & Democracy  
Sandy Hill Community Centre  
Saskatchewan Union of Nurses  
Save the Children Canada  
SHARP Foundation  
SIDACTION (Trois-Rivieres)  
SIDALYS  
Stella  
STOP TB Canada  
Students Against Global AIDS  
The Assembly of First Nations (AFN)  
The CTN – CIHR Canadian HIV Trials Network  
The Marquis Project  
The Stephen Lewis Foundation  
Transition House Association of Newfoundland  
Transition House Association of Nova Scotia  
Tsewulhtun Health Center Cowichan Tribes  
UNICEF Canada  
Union for Improved Services, Communication, and Education  
Unité de recherche en santé des populations  
United Church of Canada

Coalition des organismes communautaires québécois de lutte contre le sida (COCQ-SIDA)  
Commission de la sante et des service sociaux des premieres Nations Quebec et Labrador  
Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada (Local 467)

United Nurses of Alberta  
United Steelworkers  
Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (UAEM)  
Victoria AIDS Resource & Community Service Society (VARCS)  
Women's Education and Economic Centre (WEECE)  
YWCA Canada

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**For more information and to schedule interviews with civil society representatives, please contact:**

Janet Butler-McPhee  
Director of Communications  
Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network  
[jbutler@aidslaw.ca](mailto:jbutler@aidslaw.ca)  
416-595-1666 ext. 228  
416-268-2549 (cell)