



AAA HIV/AIDS PREVENTION: FOCUS ON THE MDGs

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AAA is a tax exempt non-profit organization registered in the USA and operating under section 501(c) 3 of the IRS code. It is also registered in Cameroon (auth. No 00174/A/MINAT/DAP/SDLP/SAC). It has special consultative status with the United Nations ECOSOC and the UN Department of Information.

AAA Mission Statement

We believe that no one is alone. We succeed when the youth we serve become agents of their own change and use their knowledge to change their communities.

We reach the youth of sub-saharan Africa whose lives are affected by AIDS.

We affirm that tomorrow's responsible parents are the knowledgeable youth of today.

We educate youth with the knowledge they need to stay alive, and teach them to share that knowledge with their peers

We build extended family support networks in local villages and communities to deliver security, food, education and healthcare to children orphaned by AIDS

We create healthcare awareness by funding women and children's health.

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Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education
Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
Goal 4: Reduce child mortality
Goal 6: Combat HIV /AIDS, malaria and other diseases
Goal 7: Ensure environmental Sustainability
Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

As we finalize this News Brief, 2 meetings have taken place: heads of State and Government gathered at the United Nations Headquarters in New York (20 – 22 September 2010) for a high level plenary meeting on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) known as the summit.

The New York Summit was preceded by the 63rd Annual United Nations DPI / NGO Conference held in Melbourne, Australia from 30 August to 1st September 2010. African Action on AIDS was among the 1600 participants representing 350 NGOs from more than 70 countries. AAA was one of the speakers of Roundtable1 on: **Role of the NGOs and Civil Society in Helping Achieve the MDGs.** Here is the summary of AAA remarks: 1)

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) should remember that they are directly or indirectly part of the movement that was born from the feeling that too much

Emphasis on State Security was never going to lead to Human Security; 2) **That the entire world needed to define global goals** that would create a Minimum Common Humanity Level (MCHL) for all human beings, establishing a healthy well being worldwide.

The MDGs consequently became the minimum level that distinguishes Healthy Well Being for the Human Species from other categories of living things. MDGs also became the global lowest common denominator for all regions of the world – suggesting that whenever one single human being is under this minimum, the entire human species must feel under.

MAIN CHALLENGES: 1) Bureaucratic rigidity from donors; 2) Too much emphasis on numbers that bear no relation with quality of life; 3) No regular income from CSOs; 4) Rivalry and suspicion among CSOs; 5) Lack of motivation in local communities – the impression that all solutions are external being the biggest challenge

MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS: 1) Donors and Governments must shed their donor's mentality and become true partners, enabling local communities to reduce human degradation, and create lasting institutions on the ground to carry their work. 2) Place an emphasis on **KNOWLEDGE** – We all need to understand that once an individual knows what he or she should do to better their life, it's their inner energy that can ensure a lasting commitment to change, thus showing the power of possibilities. Ruth Bamela Engo –President, AAA

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Ruth Bamela Engo, at Melbourne Conference room, with UN/ USG Kiyoko Akasaka and Dr. Guevara - daughter of Che Guevara

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