

AAA HIV/AIDS PREVENTION: FOCUS ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

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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.

MICHELLE BACHELET'S FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE UNITED NATIONS

Michelle Bachelet, first female President of Chile (2006-2010), was recently assigned by the Secretary General of the United Nations to head UN Women. She held her first press conference in the auditorium of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library at UN headquarters, New York on 22 September 2010.

Bachelet demonstrated her political capabilities. Although she will not take office until January, starting now she will be incorporated into the United Nations and begin working with the transition group, which is made up of the four already existing women's entities in the UN that will be integrated into the new entity (UNIFEM, UN-INSTRAW, DAW). The representatives of the 41 countries that will make up the UN Women's Board of Directors will be elected in October and the Committee will be constituted in November and begin their functions in January 2011.

Among the questions that she was asked at the conference, we will point out the most important for AAA: **How should violence against women be addressed**—including massive rape of women in armed conflicts as well as such acts committed by United Nations Peacekeepers? Bachelet responded by stating that she will strengthen the actions of the Secretary General's UNITE Campaign, and, among other actions, she will promote that the necessary laws are passed to address all forms of violence against women and that they be implemented in the countries where they already exist.

How she would work to achieve the Millennium Development Goals –MDGs- and if she would incorporate MDG 5: maternal health. She replied that now, in her new position, she will continue to advocate for fulfilling the MDGs, adding that 2015 is very close and we cannot wait any longer before getting to work. She recognized that since some time ago, from the MDG Support Committee, she was most interested in women's and girls' empowerment and maternal health. Now, in UN Women, she will focus more on these objectives and, she added, maternal mortality rates are very high and this affects women's possibilities.

Whether she planned to work with civil society, she said that she already respects and knows the work of women's organizations that she has experience working with these organizations and that she believes that this is a key for UN Women.

She did not mention the situation of UN Women's financial resources because there were no questions on this matter. Nonetheless, this is concerning because the commitment is to reach 500 million dollars but there still is not even a third of this amount.

For more information visit - <http://www.un.org/News/>

Compiled by AAA Secretariat



Head of UN Women Michelle Bachelet, former President of Chile 2006-2010

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