



AAA e-NEWS BRIEF – NOVEMBER 2011

HIV/AIDS PREVENTION: RESPONSIVE CITIZENS

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Learn About African Action on AIDS (AAA)

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's work is based on 3 programmes:

"JUST KNOW" Campaign emphasizes:

- Knowledge of one's body
- Knowledge that leads to behavior change
- Knowledge that helps to visualize a future without AIDS

"Health before Wealth" Concept promotes:

- Testing for HIV
- Clean hands (hand washing stations)
- Clean water (drinking stations)
- Dignified toilets
- Fighting against Malaria (treated mosquito bed nets)
- Vaccination
- Anti worms medicine

"Women's economic autonomy" through our Scholarship Programme. This scholarship enables each teenage orphan girl to complete at least a secondary, general or technical education that will lead to financial and economic autonomy, greatly reducing the risk of being infected with HIV through sexual abuse and violence.



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Dear Friends, AAA 20th Anniversary continues. The current issue focuses on the annual UN DPI/NGO Conference, held from 3 – 5 September in Bonn, Germany, which was attended on behalf of AAA by Dr. Herta Kaschitz, one of our Board Members and main representative in Europe. The Conference was all about connecting the dots, between issues of sustainable development and volunteerism, between local and global problems, between civic participation and governance.

The theme of this year's UN DPI/NGO Conference was '**Sustainable Societies – Responsive Citizens**'. It gathered about 1,300 participants from civil society organizations, representing about 500 NGOs from 65 countries as well as 15 Government representatives and two members of the Rio+20 Bureau. The Conference brought together strong constituencies and gave NGOs and civil society activists in the fields of environment, development and volunteerism an opportunity to examine emerging issues, such as the correlation between gender and the green economy, women and gender strategies in areas such as desertification, the role that volunteerism could play in building sustainable communities, the role of education in fostering change, and the importance of changing consumer behaviour.

One of the many distinguished speakers, Dr. Kandeh Yumkella, the Director General of UNIDO, emphasized that climate change and the Millennium Development Goals – **including fight against HIV/AIDS** could not be tackled without an energy revolution.

Dr. Vandana Shiva, a physicist and activist from India, apart from claiming the human right to food and water focused on the rights of Mother Earth.

The unanimously adopted 16 page Declaration addresses the alarming state of the environment, and focuses on the following two broad topics:

1. Green Economy in the context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication;
2. The Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development.

It was handed over to a representative of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, and to the Mayor of Bonn, and it is hoped that the Declaration will be introduced by the host country, Germany, in the competent United Nations forums, including the Rio +20 preparatory process.

Report by : Dr. Herta Kaschitz



The Conference logo



*Herta Kaschitz
in front of the
sculpture by Dao
Droste "One World"*

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