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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. No00174/A/MINAT/DAP/SD LP/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" MA YEM, MA BO":**

- 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.

For the last several years, Representatives of AAA to the United Nations Centre in Vienna have been part of the process that led to United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on world drug problems (New York 19 – 21 April 2016), through activities of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNDOC). Together with organizations coming from all parts of the world, AAA has pursued its commitment to HIV/AIDS Prevention.

The outcome document which was adopted at the session recommends measures to address demand and supply reduction, and to improve access to controlled medicines while preventing diversion. The recommendations also cover the areas of human rights, youth, children, women and communities; emerging challenges, including new psychoactive substances; strengthening international cooperation; and alternative development. The text puts a strong focus on prevention and treatment. The document further recognizes that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing.

During the UNGASS, Mr. Fedotov, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) called civil society a "vital partner" in all the efforts to promote balanced, integrated and evidence-based approaches to illicit drugs. He welcomed the key role played by civil society throughout the preparatory process and was looking forward to strengthening the cooperation in order to translate the commitments made by Member States into practical measures. Mr. Fedotov also welcomed the launch of the "Marketplace" online platform, an initiative that will support the sharing of experience and expertise on drug-related issues. The work with NGOs has helped increase access to evidence and rights-based treatment and care in over 40 countries and promotes access to controlled drugs for medical purposes. Through grants and funds UNODC supported NGOs to promote strategic initiatives in HIV prevention, treatment and care, and support injecting drug users.

**For additional information,**

**Please contact:** ngo.unit@unodc.org

**Or check:** www.vngoc.org; www.unodc.org;

www.ungasswomen2016.com

**Herta Kaschitz-Wüstenhagen,**

Representative of AAA to the UN Vienna



**Representative of AAA to UN Centre in Vienna**

**Member organisations of VNGOC on 31.12.2015**

- Action Humaine pour le Développement intégré au Sénégal
- ACTIS – Rusfeltets samarbeidsorgan/ Norwegian Policy Network on Alcohol and Drugs
- Active – sobriety, friendship and peace
- African Action on AIDS**
- African Centre for Advocacy and Human Development
- African Youth Initiative on Crime Prevention
- Agencia Piaget para o Desenvolvimento

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