



### 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/SDLP/S AC). 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 medicin

**"Women's economic autonomy"**through ourScholarship 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.

AAA will be represented at the 1<sup>st</sup> UNCSW of the new decade (March 09-20) by wonderful women from around the world. But although physically absent, the impact of some AAA representatives will be felt, as in the case of Dr Herta Kaschitz – Wuestenhagen, former UN Social Affairs Officer, now NGO representative of AAA at the UN Vienna, who serviced the Commission from 1983-1996 and whose special "bird's eye view" allows us to measure our own implication in the making of the inclusive world described in the UN Charter, written 75 years ago, and opening with the words" WE THE PEOPLE..." Please read more <http://africanactiononaid.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/History-of-the-Commission-on-the-Status-of-Women-CSW.pdf>

But this UNCSW also must help us to measure what we have been doing for 64 sessions in 75 years, to make our efforts relevant. **On 26 April,1985, the United Nations African Mothers for Crisis (UNAMAC), stating African problems during a Relief Concert in the UNGA Hall said "...But if you really want to save Africa for the sake of Humankind as we believe you do, listen to our prayers: 1)The drought has evaporated all the water of our rivers. We have no water – neither to quench the thirst of our children no to water our gardens. Please give water to rural women of Africa. Thus, we hope that the UNSG's report to the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the UNGA, will tell the world that all the villages of Africa have wells..."** The African rural women's case is worse today!

**On September 13, 1995, during the Beijing conference, THE EARTH TIMES** published an article titled: **Fictitious "republic used as example of how countries can**

**improve status of their women,** by Matilde Camacho, reporting on the **Pan African Seminar on Reproductive Rights sponsored by UNFPA" ... Education should not start only at the level of children but should be a family education with a country-wide culture-sensitive campaign on the radio, in the print media, in folklore dramas and even via TV wherever available. All clinics and health care centers should be able to provide any kind of contraceptive method and be able to explain to women who come for help. How to finance these clinics? The government has to change its view of budget and allocate more to education and health care than to other less pressing if perhaps more showy projects..."**

**As UNSG Ban Ki-Moon said during the UNGA 70<sup>th</sup> session "...The 2030 Agenda is for you, it is for everyone, everywhere. Claim it, demand that commitments are made and promises kept. Be part of the global call to action."**

In African Action on AIDS terminology, it means: MA YEM- MA BO or I KNOW and I DO.

Happy **1<sup>st</sup> UNCSW of the 2020s** and let us hope that our boldness today will lead to healthy changes for the entire Human Kind very soon! For more information on the UN forum visit: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/csww/ngo-participation>



Dr Herta Kaschitz – Wuestenhagen,

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