

Consultation on Human Rights in the HIV response

Promoting human rights in HIV response:

Regional and subregional strategies and best practices

Concept note

Date and venue **12-13 February 2019, Room XII, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland**

Objectives This consultation, mandated by Human Rights Council resolution 38/8 and organized in coordination with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, will last a day and a half, taking place on 12 and 13 February 2019. At this consultation, participants will discuss all relevant issues and challenges pertaining to respect for and the protection and fulfilment of human rights in the context of the response to HIV, with a focus on regional and subregional strategies and best practices.

Following the Council resolution 38/8, the consultation will examine best practices, evidence, learnings and challenges in removing human rights barriers and promoting human rights in the HIV response in regional and subregional strategies. Keeping in mind the importance of monitoring, accountability and empowerment in the field of human rights and health, the consultation will also consider regional accountability mechanisms. Finally, the consultation will also address the current challenges towards ending AIDS by 2030, particularly regarding the fulfilment of the right to health and the freedom from stigma, discrimination, violence and abuse.

At this consultation, participants will discuss:

- The importance and impact of a human rights approach and removing human rights barriers in current HIV responses
- The available data and research on human rights in the context of the response to HIV
- The challenges and gaps in current efforts to remove human rights barriers and end human rights violations
- The multiple and intersecting forms of stigma and discrimination in the context of the response to HIV
- Opportunities going forward for greater integration of human rights in the HIV response

In order to identify strategies to improve respect for and the protection and fulfilment of human rights in the context of the response to HIV, participants will be invited to share experiences, lessons learned and good practices regarding human rights in HIV response. The consultation will also discuss present practices and strategies to combat stigma, discrimination, violence and abuse.

High-level opening	<p>Mr. Rico Gustav, Executive Director, Global Network of People Living with HIV H.E. Ms. Maria Nazareth Farani Azevêdo, Permanent Representative of Brazil Ms. Kate Gilmore, United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, OHCHR Mr. Tim Martineau, Deputy Executive Director a.i., UNAIDS Dr. Ren Mingui, Assistant Director-General for Communicable Diseases, WHO</p>
Panellists	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Dainius Pūras, Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health• Mr. Victor Madrigal-Borloz, Independent Expert on sexual orientation and gender identity• Ms. Suzanne Aho Assouma, member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child• Ms. Lucy Asuagbor, Commissioner of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights• Mr. Patricio Pazmiño Freire, Judge of the Interamerican Court of Human Rights• Dr. Stefan Baral, Johns Hopkins University• Ms. Michaela Clayton, Director, AIDS and Rights Alliance for Southern Africa• Mr. Bikas Gurung, Asian Network of People who use drugs (ANPUD)• Mr. Ralf Jurgens, Senior Coordinator, Human Rights, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria• Ms. Eszter Kismodi, Reproductive Health Matters• Ms. Ruth Morgan Thomas, Global Coordinator, Global Network of Sex Work Projects• Ms. Marcela Romero, Regional Coordinator, REDLACTRANS• Ms. Annah Sango-Page, Zimbabwe Young Positives• Ms. Boemo Mmandu Sekgoma, Secretary General (ai), SADC parliamentary Forum• Mr. Omar Syarif, Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+)• Dr. Olusegun Odumosu, African Men for Sexual Health & Rights• Mr. Adeolu Ogunrombi, Project Coordinator of YouthRISE Nigeria and West African Countries• Mr. Evghenii Alexandrovici Goloşceapov, Member of the Council for Preventing and Eliminating Discrimination and Ensuring Equality, Republic of Moldova
Outcome	<p>OHCHR will prepare a report on the outcome of the consultation, identifying regional and subregional strategies and best practices to respond to the HIV epidemic and to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of persons living with, presumed to be living with, at risk of or affected by HIV. The report will be submitted to the Human Rights Council at its forty-first session in June 2019.</p>
Mandate	<p>In its resolution 38/8, the Human Rights Council requested the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to organize a consultation to discuss all relevant issues and challenges pertaining to respect for and the protection and fulfilment of human rights in the context of the response to HIV, with a focus on regional and subregional strategies and best practices.</p>

The Council further requested the High Commissioner to invite to the consultation Member States and all other stakeholders, including relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes, the special procedures, in particular the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, the treaty bodies, regional human rights and health organizations and bodies, national human rights institutions and civil society, including persons living with, presumed to be living with, at risk of or affected by HIV.

Format After the high-level opening, the consultation will be organized around four panels. Each panel will begin with invited speakers, followed by an interactive dialogue, including with questions and statements from the floor.

Interpretation will be provided in the six United Nations official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish).

Participation **Oral statements:** Member states, UN agencies and funds and civil society representatives will be able to make short oral statements from the floor during the consultation (max. 2 minutes).

Written submissions: Written statements and other substantive submissions will also help inform the debates and summary report of the meeting. Please send your submissions by **15 February 2019** to the e-mail consultationhiv@ohchr.org

Registration: Participants who do not hold badges to the United Nations Office in Geneva should register at <https://reg.unog.ch/event/27495/>

Background documents

- Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
[Arabic](#) | [Chinese](#) | [English](#) | [French](#) | [Russian](#) | [Spanish](#)
- [Global Strategy on Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health](#)
- Technical guidance on the application of a human rights-based approach to the implementation of policies and programmes to reduce preventable maternal morbidity and mortality (A/HRC/21/22).
[Arabic](#) | [Chinese](#) | [English](#) | [French](#) | [Russian](#) | [Spanish](#)
- Technical guidance on the application of a human rights based approach to the implementation of policies and programmes to reduce and eliminate preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age (A/HRC/27/31).
[Arabic](#) | [Chinese](#) | [English](#) | [French](#) | [Russian](#) | [Spanish](#)
- International Guidelines on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights
[English](#) | [French](#) |
- Report of the Global Commission on HIV and the Law: "HIV and the Law: Risks, Rights & Health"
[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Russian](#) | [Portuguese](#) | [Mongolian](#)
- 2018 Supplement to the Report of the Global Commission on HIV and the Law: "HIV and the Law: Risks, Rights & Health"
<https://hivlawcommission.org/supplement/>
- Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the FastTrack to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030 (A/RES/70/266)
[Arabic](#) | [Chinese](#) | [English](#) | [French](#) | [Russian](#) | [Spanish](#)
- Report of the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice (A/HRC/32/44)
[Arabic](#) | [Chinese](#) | [English](#) | [French](#) | [Russian](#) | [Spanish](#)
- OHCHR/WHO Fact Sheet No. 31 - The Right to Health
[Arabic](#) | [Chinese](#) | [English](#) | [French](#) | [Russian](#) | [Spanish](#)