



**Report from the Global Steering Committee
Meeting in Geneva, Switzerland on April 22nd-24th 2009**

The meeting hosted by UNAIDS at its Geneva headquarters was chaired by Allyson Leacock who formally welcomed three new members to the committee and acknowledged the extraordinary contribution of Cheryl Bauerle as ex-officio representative of UNAIDS as she prepares to step down.

Beri Hull, Aditya Bondyopadhyay and Reshma Pattni bring with them a wealth of experience in their specialist areas that will strengthen an already impressive community.

From the outset significant time was set aside to strengthen the World AIDS Campaign operational procedures including its audit system.

To that end it was agreed the GSC appoint an additional member who would perform the function of the Treasurer and would sit on the Executive Committee (Excom). The ExCom would in turn identify an Audit Committee from among the ExCom membership, to include the Treasurer.

It was felt that as the World AIDS Campaign grows and seeks additional funding its financial and governance structure must be robust.

To make the GSC mirror the make up of key communities it was also agreed to provide seats for sex workers and drug users to bring the Committee membership up to twelve. The International Alliance will be approached about taking the soon to be vacant NGO seat.

For continuity and improved institutional memory GSC members will from now on be appointed for a three-year period, with the potential to renew for one year. The Chairperson will sit for two years instead of one.

It was agreed more work was needed concerning the process which GSC replaces members through their constituency. Common guiding principles will be developed shortly.

To speed up organisational decision making the Excom will prepare options on how it functions in relation to the GSC. At the next full meeting it is anticipated that a degree of authority will be vested to the Excom.



On the media front it was agreed that the World AIDS Campaign Communications group should be encouraged to develop more effective means of getting key messages across to the public at large. To that end a terms of reference for the group was circulated to the GSC.

In addition it was agreed that annual reports have a vital role to play in donor relations and that the current production of the 2008 should be progressed as a matter of urgency.

It was noted that the World AIDS Day campaign and the drive towards universal access needs to be sustainable across twelve months and that the strengthening of the media and communications section will have budgetary implications.

This year and next the World AIDS Campaign faces some significant funding challenges if it is to build on its success. To ensure that the organisation can present a convincing argument to donors it was agreed to embark on a strategic planning process. The ambition is to carry the group forward until at least 2015

It was therefore agreed to appoint an external consultant to drive this process. To ensure transparency and effectiveness a Terms of Reference for the external consultant will be developed by the Management Team.

In consultation with the GSC a shortlist of three candidates will be developed. The GSC was keen to explore ways of leveraging their professional connections and the Global Business Partnership is looking for about a person from the business sector to provide. Similarly UNAIDS Technical Support Facility (TSF) in South Africa will be asked to support the strategic planning process. As a further check and balance Linda Hartke will approach ex GSC members to co-chair the strategic planning process with Executive Director and a nominated MT member.

The meeting culminated with a dialogue with the head of UNAIDS, Michel Sidibé. The exchange was very open and a series of pathways will now be explored to strengthen the links between UNAIDS and The World AIDS Campaign.

To that end a letter has been sent to his office outlining six key points for strategic inclusion or action.

The inclusion of "non-discrimination" as the "fourth pillar" in the push for Universal Access.

The development of a more cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship between each organisation's communication units.



The convening of a civil society forum to consider progress towards Universal Access.

The facilitation of a link between The World AIDS Campaign and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The writing of a new Memorandum of Understanding between UNAIDS and The World AIDS Campaign.

The facilitation of quarterly meetings between Michele Sidibé, The Executive Director of The World AIDS Campaign and members of the GSC.