



People living with and vulnerable to HIV: the EU communication on HIV/AIDS–

“Where do we stand? Where do we go?”

Wolfgang Philipp
European Commission
DG Health and Consumers

Correlation Conference
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Where do we stand?

■ HIV in Europe

- Heterogeneous landscape

■ Who is affected?

- Sub populations among key populations

■ How?

- Broad range of personal and exogenous factors: stigma, marginalisations, social, biological and behavioural parameters, infrastructures, commitment ...

How to Respond?

■ Supra National

■ National

■ Regional

■ Local

**P
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Politics

Governmental Org.
Civil society

(Infra)structures

How to Act?

The focus of the Commission Communication on HIV/AIDS, 2009-2013

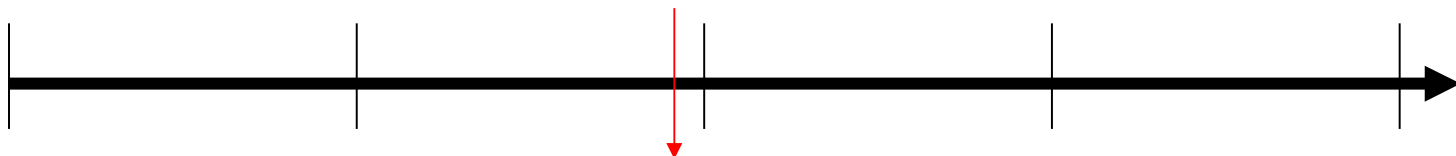
■ Prevention

■ Priority groups

■ Priority regions

■ Knowledge base and dissemination

Timeline: end 2013





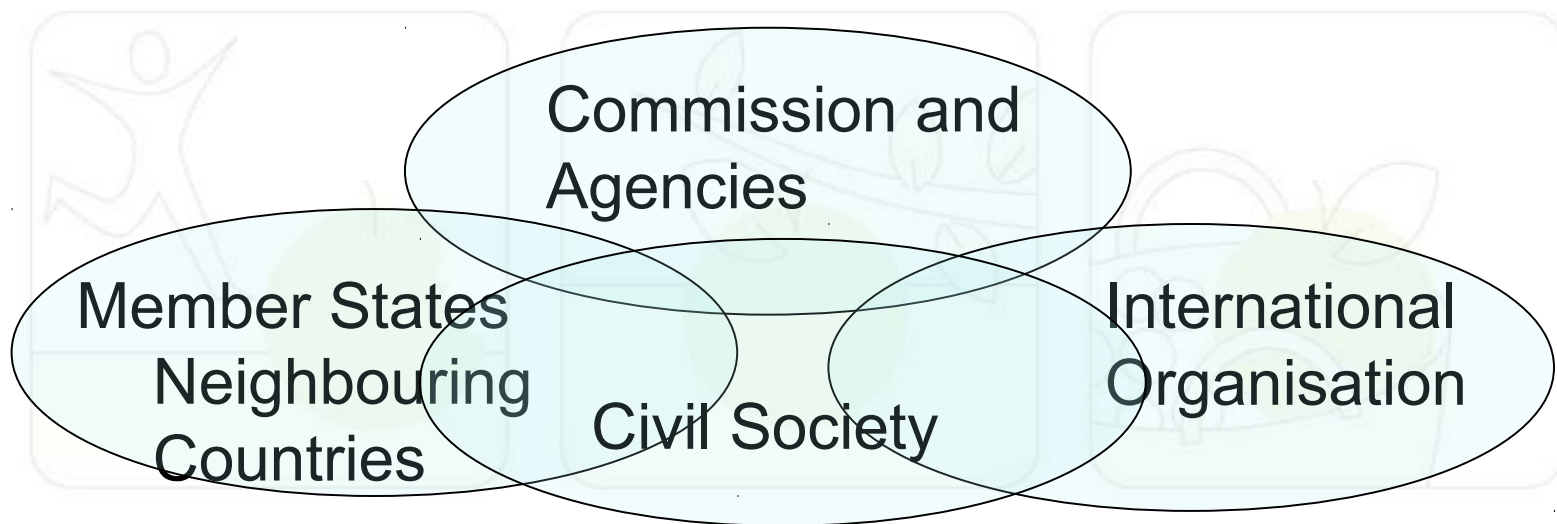
Flexibility, Contributions agreed among stakeholders

Commission Communication `on combating HIV/AIDS in the EU and neighbouring countries, 2009 – 2013´ (COM/2009/569) and action plan

JOINT IMPLEMENTATION

- Commission services: SANCO, RTD, DEVCO, EEAS, ELARG
 - EC agencies: ECDC; EAHC; EMCDDA; FRA
 - Member States authorities
 - Civil Society Forum and academia
- International Organisations: UNAIDS, WHO Europe, ...

Cooperation at European Level



Think Tank
Civil Society Forum



Common Targets

EXPECTED OUTCOME

Commission communication on HIV

- (i) A decrease of HIV transmission
- (ii) A real improvement of the quality of life of PLWHA
- (iii) Improve the education, knowledge and awareness on HIV/AIDS
- (iv) Strengthen the solidarity towards an unambiguous response to HIV/AIDS

Political Framework

- HLM political declaration 2011
- EP resolutions
 - Rights-based approach to the EU response 2010
 - WAD on EU response to HIV 2011
- Council statement on WAD 2011
- Dublin declaration 2004



Correlation II

policy recommendations

1. Restate **commitments** on regular basis
2. Safeguard **human rights** of populations most at risk
3. Ensure **civic participation**
4. Greater accountability for national HIV policies
5. Ensure **universal access** to HIV services
6. Focus national **response on populations most affected**
7. Ensure **effectiveness** of national HIV programmes - evidence
8. Ensure **adequate funding** + effective spending
9. Delegate **political leadership** to implement national response
10. Participate in regional response



Where do we go? - challenges

1. Rising trends in key populations
2. Universal access treatment and prevention
3. Financial crisis
4. Structural concerns
5. Involvement of civil society
6. Political leadership

→ Deeper integration of policies

→ Translation into action

Political leadership

- The Communication clearly states that political leadership is an important asset the EU can provide in the fight against HIV/AIDS

Based on responses, we can conclude:

- The Communication, Think Tank and Civil Society Forum (non-financial inputs) are important tools for galvanising political leadership and have helped keep HIV on the political agenda
- Commission financing (financial inputs) has helped to keep HIV on the agenda in Europe and to mobilise political leadership in the region
- Commission funding has a strong focus on populations who are most at risk of HIV, including MSM, IDU, sex workers, prisoners and migrants, which is a strong measure of political leadership

Surveillance and Monitoring and Evaluation

- The Communication includes a strong focus on strengthening epidemiological and behavioural surveillance + improving M&E

Based on responses, we can conclude:

- **Support to ECDC has resulted in significant improvements in HIV-related epidemiological surveillance in the region, especially in:**

- Improved coordination of HIV/AIDS surveillance (jointly with WHO)
- Improved completeness and quality of surveillance
- Improved dissemination of surveillance data

- **Support to ECDC has resulted in improved M&E in the region**

- 2010 reporting to the Dublin Declaration = 90% response rate
- Increased EU reporting to UNGASS (from 2008 to 2010) by more than 30%
- 2011 strong collaboration between ECDC, UNAIDS and WHO
- Monitoring of the EU Communication and Action Plan initiated

RECOMMENDATIONS

of HIV Action Plan implementation report



Recommendations to improve implementation of the Communication and Action Plan

■ Strengthen political leadership on critical issues

- Need to initiate dialogue on how to sustain HIV prevention programmes in the context of the current economic downturn and of declining support from the Global Fund
- Intensify efforts to ensure that EU Presidencies give high priority to HIV up until end of 2013 (explore the possibility of organising a high level meeting, as the one in Dublin 2004 during the Irish Presidency to the EU)
- Develop and implement a strategy for engagement with the private sector, including in dialogue on affordable antiretroviral drugs



Recommendations to improve implementation of Communication and Action Plan

- **Make better use of mechanisms and instruments to address the needs of priority groups in priority regions**
 - Strengthen the policy dialogue instruments to promote more effective political leadership, in particular with respect to services for priority populations
 - Review the potential to use ENPI and structural funds to complement national responses that prioritise targeted prevention services and improve treatment coverage for priority groups

Recommendations to improve implementation of Communication and Action Plan



■ **Build on progress to date to ensure access to prevention, treatment and care and to protect the rights of PLWHA**

- Sustain advocacy and support for universal access, for expansion of harm reduction services, including NSP and substitution treatment programmes
- Monitor policy development and implementation
- Intensify efforts to tackle discrimination, including ensuring that anti-discrimination laws are enacted and monitoring discrimination related to HIV status

■ **Strengthen research and surveillance**

- Ensure a more balanced allocation of funding for research, by increasing resources for social, behavioural and economic research

Annex 1: Areas of the Action Plan where intensified action is required

Action	Responsible	Comments
Promote HIV as a public health and social concern, keep on the political agenda	Commission Member States Neighbouring countries Civil Society International organisations	Good progress through Think Tank, Civil Society Forum, international and regional conferences and organisations More could be done by Commission, EU Presidencies and with neighbouring countries
Tackle discrimination related to HIV status	Commission Member States Neighbouring countries Civil society	Limited evidence of action or effects More needs to be done to ensure laws and policies are implemented and monitored
Develop, implement, monitor and evaluate targeted, regional, national and supranational HIV/AIDS policies	Member States Civil society ECDC International organisations	Limited evidence of concerted action to review policy development or implementation or to evaluate policies

EU HIV Communication and Action Plan





Thank you!