



# UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



## AIDS 2010 – ‘RIGHTS HERE, RIGHT NOW!’

20,000 participants working in the field of HIV, world leaders, policymakers, scientists and people living with HIV from 190 countries gathered in Vienna for the XVIII International AIDS Conference from 18 – 23 July, 2010. The theme of AIDS 2010, “Rights Here, Right Now!”, was chosen to emphasize the critical connection between human rights and HIV. The protection of human rights for those most vulnerable to HIV is crucial in slowing down and eventually ending the pandemic.



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**From right to left:**  
**Françoise Girard, Director, Public Health Program, OSI**  
**Michel Kazatchkine, Executive Director, Global Fund**  
**Michel Sidibé, Executive Director, UNAIDS**  
**Debrework Zewdie, Deputy Executive Director, Global Fund**



**Francis Maertens, Deputy Executive Director, UNODC, with staff members at the Conference**

## UNODC – AIDS 2010 INTERNATIONAL PARTNER

UNODC, the lead agency in UNAIDS for HIV prevention, treatment, care and support for injecting drug users and in prison settings, supported AIDS 2010 as international partner. The Office is helping to provide drug users, prisoners and people vulnerable to trafficking with comprehensive, evidence-informed HIV services. HIV prevention among drug users and prisoners were highlighted throughout the Conference by many prominent speakers like former US President Bill Clinton and UN Special Rapporteur on Torture Manfred Nowak.

## TREATMENT – NOT PUNISHMENT

Vienna was selected as the Conference site for its proximity to Eastern Europe, the Baltic states and Central Asia, where HIV is spreading rapidly, largely through unsafe injecting drug use. Sharing needles and injection equipment is thought to be three times more likely to transmit HIV than sexual intercourse.

An HIV epidemic among injecting drug users can be prevented, halted and reversed. Yet injecting drug users often have little or no access to HIV services:

- Globally, only 2 needles or syringes per injecting drug user are distributed per month.
- Among hundred injecting drug users only 8 receive opioid substitution therapy.
- Only 4 out of hundred HIV-positive injecting drug users receive antiretroviral therapy.



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**Dr. Julio Montaner**  
**President, International AIDS Society**

*“There is an urgent need to treat drug users... Sound public health policy demands that we increase access to HIV treatment and prevention for this population.”*



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**Dr. Eric Goosby**  
Global AIDS Coordinator, United States

*"PEPFAR, in a strategy to move toward an injection drug using focus, provides a comprehensive package of evidence-based interventions; creates enabling environments and a human rights-based approach to prevention for injection users; it secures commodities to reduce the risk of HIV transmission; it coordinates an efficient international response."*



**UNODC supports countries to adopt supportive policy, legal and social environments and implements evidence-informed programmes to ensure equitable access to HIV services for drug users and to reduce stigma and discrimination and promote adherence to the human rights of drug users.**

*"This is not the beginning of the end, it is just the end of the beginning... Clear scientific evidence shows the more we offer substitution therapies and provide clean needles, the more drug use goes down, not up."*



**Bill Clinton**  
Former US President

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## PRISONS – HOTSPOTS FOR AIDS PANDEMIC

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**Manfred Nowak**  
UN Special Rapporteur on Torture

*"Science tells us exactly what we have to do, it's just a question of political will to implement it... I urge authorities to inform prisoners of the risk of HIV transmission and offer them free condoms, HIV testing and counselling and encourage prisons to offer needle and syringe programs and opioid substitution therapies."*

Prisons around the world are besieged with HIV infections acquired from overcrowding, unsafe drug use, sexual intercourse, tattooing and medical services. The disease rates in prisons are up to 100 times higher than in a general community. This situation is often accompanied and exacerbated by high rates of other infectious diseases such as hepatitis and tuberculosis, as well as poor prison conditions. Effective policies to prevent HIV inside prisons and other correctional institutions are often hampered by the denial of factors that contribute to the spread of HIV.



**UNODC supports countries to ensure that health care and HIV prevention, treatment and care services for prisoners are equivalent to those available in the community. The Office assists countries to provide confidential and voluntary counselling, testing, psychosocial support, and the means to prevent HIV, including condoms and sterile injecting equipment.**



# UNODC AT AIDS 2010



In addition to UNODC's support as AIDS 2010 international partner, UNODC's Global Coordinator for HIV/AIDS, Christian Kroll, acted as member of the AIDS 2010 Conference Coordinating Committee. To promote the Conference, UNODC organised a press conference on the XVIII International AIDS Conference, as well as a working luncheon and a briefing session for Permanent Missions in Vienna.

## UNODC EVENTS

### Staff Training

- 4 satellite sessions
- 3 poster discussions
- 2 special sessions
- 2 press conferences
- 1 special workshop
- 13 informal meetings
- Global Village booth
- Joint UNAIDS booth

## STAFF TRAINING – THE WAY FORWARD

This year's UNODC Global HIV Professionals Staff Training, a biennial event, was meant to strategize, build capacity and develop a road map to achieve zero new HIV infections among drug users and in prisons.

### Keynote speeches

Michel Sidibé, Executive Director, UNAIDS

Michel Kazatchkine, Executive Director, Global Fund

### Human rights and HIV

Manfred Nowak, UN Special Rapporteur on Torture

Scientific Director, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Human Rights

### Drug dependence treatment and HIV

Gilberto Gerra, Chief, Drug Prevention and Health Branch, UNODC

### Overdose management, vein care, hepatitis and tuberculosis related to HIV among drug users and in prison settings

Allan Clear, Executive Director, Harm Reduction Coalition

Sharon Stancliff, Medical Director, Harm Reduction Coalition

Christian Gunneberg, Medical Officer, Stop TB Department, WHO

### Opioid substitution therapy

Robert Newman, Director, Baron Edmond de Rothschild Chemical Dependency Institute of Beth Israel Medical Center

### AIDS financial architecture

Tim Martineau, Director, Technical and Operational Support, UNAIDS

Tony Thompson, Global Coordinator for HIV/AIDS, World Bank

Dr. George Shakarishvili, Senior Advisor, Global Fund

Richard Needle, Senior Public Health Advisor, PEPFAR

### Voices of the communities

Mat Southwell, Executive Director, International Network of People Who Use Drugs

Kurt Krickler, Secretary General, Homosexual Initiative Vienna

Pye Jakobson, Founding Member, Sex Workers and Allies in Sweden







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*"It was my pleasure to address the UNODC team and share some of the passion that I have for stopping the epidemic among IDUs, especially in Eastern Europe. I am convinced that your team is well placed to lead on this push ..."*

**Michel Sidibé, Executive Director, UNAIDS**



**Staff Training at the Vienna International Centre**



**Group work at the Staff Training**

*"... working with your colleagues was the highlight of our trip to Vienna. They are a wonderful group... I am so excited about their enthusiasm and look forward to the next steps."*

**Allan Clear, Executive Director, Harm Reduction Coalition**

## LAUNCH OF HIV TOOLKIT FOR PRISON SETTINGS

UNODC launched the "Toolkit for HIV Situation and Needs Assessment in Prison Settings" during a press conference. It supports the aim of AIDS 2010 calling for 'Rights Here, Right Now' since the rights of prisoners are often overlooked. The Toolkit provides guidance on conducting situation and needs assessments for the prevention and treatment of HIV infection and tuberculosis in prisons.

**From right to left:**  
**Bernhard Schwartlander, Director, UNAIDS**  
**Fabienne Hariga, Expert HIV Prisons, UNODC**  
**Christian Kroll, Global Coordinator for HIV/AIDS, UNODC**  
**Andrew Ball, Senior Strategy and Operations Adviser, WHO**  
**Lucas Wiessing, Scientist, European Monitoring Centre for Drug and Drug Addiction**



## HIGHLIGHTING UNODC AND ITS PARTNERS



**UNODC staff members and partners at the Global Village**

UNODC was the only UN organization participating in the Global Village at AIDS 2010, besides UNDP's Community Dialogue Space. The Office took this opportunity to share experiences and promote dialogue between NGOs, Governmental Organizations and the general public on HIV prevention and care initiatives for injecting drug users and prisoners.