

## PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

### **Name of the Partnership/Initiative:**

Asia-Pacific Leadership Forum on HIV/AIDS and Development

**Expected date of initiation:** 2002

**Expected date of completion:** N/A

### **Partners Involved:**

Governments: Australia (AusAID); various Asia-Pacific governments to be determined; other donors to determined.

Intergovernmental organisations: UNAIDS Secretariat/UNAIDS South East Asia and Pacific Inter-Country Team (SEAPICT).

*Leading Partner:* UNAIDS Secretariat

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### **Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative:**

The goal of the APLF is to minimise the impact of HIV/AIDS in the Asia-Pacific through increased political leadership for effective national and regional action against the epidemic. It will seek to involve leaders and decision makers from government and civil society in countries in Asia and the Pacific. In line with the UNGASS Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, the APLF will be part of the collective efforts to strengthen the momentum building in the region to respond to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

### **Relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21, as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:**

Agenda 21L Goal 6.12 (j): “mobilize and unify national and international efforts against AIDS to prevent infection and to reduce the personal and social impact of HIV infection”.

UN Millennium Declaration: Resolution 19: “ to have, by 2015, halted and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS, the scourge of malaria, and other major diseases that afflict humanity”.

**Expected results:**

Key result areas will be defined in conjunction with relevant partners. As an indication, the following issues may be covered during meetings of participants:

- Increased level of knowledge and understanding of HIV/AIDS amongst key decision makers from a range of sectors in countries across the Asia-Pacific;
- Improved exchange of experience and lessons among key decision makers with regard to effective measures for responding to HIV/AIDS;
- The generation of momentum and additional resources that increase commitment to and leadership for responding to the HIV/AIDS epidemic amongst key decision makers, civil society and the media.

**Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:**

- July 2002: Establishment of an APLF Coordinator position within UNAIDS SEAPICT;
- August 2002: Official launching of the APLF;
- Implementation (first 12 months): Regional institution inviting key leaders to a range of learning fora on the broad social and economic impacts of HIV/AIDS on development in the region.

**Coordination and Implementation mechanism:**

The United Nations Joint Program on HIV/AIDS will have responsibility for managing APLF activities. An APLF Coordinator, based in the UNAIDS SEAPICT office on Bangkok, has been appointed to oversee the day-today work of the Forum.

**Arrangements for funding:**

The Government of Australia has been pleased to provide initial funding of over one million dollars to establish the APLF.

Further resources are being mobilised from other government and inter-governmental partners.

**Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer:**

- Leaders and decision makers will undertake intensive learning programs, facilitated by leading institutions in the region;
- Opportunities will be identified to enable decision makers and leaders to exchange experience and ideas on expanding a comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS;
- Decision makers and leaders will make use of a range of tool kits and strategic information to support their advocacy and policy work;
- The APLF will initiate a range of research and other complementary activities aimed at supporting advocacy action by leaders in the region.

**Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any):**

- The APLF responds to the call for strong leadership on HIV/AIDS articulated in the United Nation's General Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS agreed by member states at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS, New York, July 2001.
- The call for strong leadership on HIV/AIDS was reconfirmed when Ministers of the Asia-pacific agreed to support the establishment of the APLF during the Ministerial Meeting on HIV/AIDS and Development in Asia and the Pacific, held in Melbourne, in October 2001.

**Monitoring Arrangements:**

- UNAIDS SEAPICT will monitor the day to day operation of the APLF;
- A reference group comprising of eminent regional officials will provide strategic direction to the APLF;
- Individual donor monitoring arrangements will be developed in conjunction with UNAIDS.

**Other relevant information:**

N/A

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