Challenges and Opportunities for Responding to HIV/AIDS in LDCs

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Outline of Presentation

- Global HIV/AIDS epidemic
- HIV/AIDS and LDCs
- Challenges and opportunities
- Towards universal access
Global estimates for adults and children, 2005

• People living with HIV 38.6 million [33.4 – 46.0 million]
• New HIV infections in 2005 4.1 million [3.4 – 6.2 million]
• Deaths due to AIDS in 2005 2.8 million [2.4 – 3.3 million]

Source: UNAIDS/WHO
HIV prevalence (%) among pregnant women attending antenatal clinics in sub-Saharan Africa, 1997/98–2004

Source: UNAIDS/WHO
HIV prevalence trends among pregnant women in major cities in Cambodia and Myanmar, 1990–2004

Sources: Cambodia National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs (Phnom Penh); Myanmar Ministry of Health (Mandalay and Yangon)
Scaling up access to antiretroviral treatment for PLWHA

Source: WHO
Opportunities

• Growing political commitment

• Increasing international financing
  – Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis & Malaria
  – World Bank
  – PEPFAR
  – Foundations
  – Other initiatives

• Advancing technologies
Challenges

- Growing epidemic
- Inadequate human resources
- Weak delivery systems
- High cost of drugs and diagnostics
- Inadequate coverage of interventions
Towards Universal Access

- 3by5 Initiative
- Acceleration of prevention
- G8 Gleneagles declaration (July 2005)
- UN General Assembly (Sept 2005)
- UN High Level Forum (June 2006)
- Global Steering Committee
WHO's Vision for Health Sector

- All countries provide a **package of integrated prevention, treatment and care services** based on the public health approach.
- People have a **range of entry points** which link testing, prevention, treatment and chronic care and support.
- Access to services is **equitable** for all in need, including vulnerable communities. Communities are active partners in design and delivery of health services.
- The scale-up of HIV/AIDS services creates **stronger health systems**, including improved workforce capacity and reliable procurement and distribution of commodities.
- **Partners** complement one another and are guided by clearly defined targets and accountabilities at the country level.
WHO Strategic Directions towards Universal Access

- Enabling people to safely know their **HIV status** through HIV testing and counselling
- Maximizing the health sector's contribution to **HIV prevention**
- Accelerating the scale-up of HIV/AIDS **treatment and care**
- Strengthening and expanding **health systems**
- **Strategic information** to guide a more effective response
Action points

- Countries to define specific targets and costed operational plans for moving towards universal access

- Countries mobilize national partners to implement the national strategies. National partners include government agencies, civil society, religious groups, academia, private sector and people living with HIV/AIDS

- Development partners to better coordinate their support to countries