



MINUTES AIDS ACTION EUROPE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING 2014

Amsterdam, 31 March 2014 + 1 April 2014

Participants: **ANKE VAN DAM, CHAIR**, AIDS Foundation East-West (AFEW), the Netherlands; **BRIAN WEST**, European AIDS Treatment Group (EATG), UK; **FERENC BAGYINSZKY**, Hungarian Civil Liberties Union, Hungary; **LELLA COSMARO**, Lega Italiana per la Lotta contro l'AIDS (LILA Milano ONLUS), Italy); **MARTIN VAN OOSTROM**, Soa Aids Nederland, the Netherlands; **SVETLANA MOROZ**, All-Ukraine PLWH Network, Ukraine; **SILKE KLUMB**, Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe (DAH), Germany (*Monday only*); **GEORG BRÖRING**, AIDS Action Europe Office (Soa Aids Nederland), the Netherlands; **DIEUWKE BOSMANS**, AIDS Action Europe Office (Soa Aids Nederland), the Netherlands; **RIENEKE DE MAN**, AIDS Action Europe Office (Soa Aids Nederland), the Netherlands (*Tuesday only*)

Apologies: **SILKE KLUMB**, Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe (DAH), Germany (*Tuesday*); **RIENEKE DE MAN**, AIDS Action Europe Office (Soa Aids Nederland), the Netherlands (*Monday*)

MONDAY, 31 MARCH 2014

1 Annual Report 2013 and Work Plan 2014

1.1 Opening

1.1.1 Welcome, review of the agenda & logistics

The chair of the Steering Committee Anke van Dam welcomes everybody to this important meeting and praises the cooperation of the past months. Interim Executive Coordinator Georg Bröring welcomes the Steering Committee on behalf of the office and introduces himself.

Introduction round:

Most SC members know each other. Nevertheless, they briefly introduce themselves. Silke is new in the SC, and she is looking forward to future involvement and cooperation. For Ferenc, it will be the last SC meeting, as he has been in the SC for six years now.

Agenda:

The agenda is approved. All agree that the agenda should be flexible and adjusted, whenever the discussion requires changes.

1.1.2 News from the AAE office

Interim Executive Coordinator Georg has a contract for 6 months, until 15 July 2014. His focus in the past months has been mainly on rounding off 2013: writing the Operating Grant report for the EC and the Annual Report 2013. The SC thanks the team at the office for the work that has been done, despite the possibly not very motivating circumstances.

Programme Assistant Dieuwke has found another position at Aids Fonds. She now works 16 hours a week for AIDS Action Europe (for as long as Soa Aids Nederland is the host of AAE) and 16 hours for Aids Fonds.



1.1.3 Review minutes and action list previous SC meeting

WHO	WHAT	STATUS/UPDATE
1 ANNUAL REPORT, WORK PLAN & STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK		
Martine	Rewrite the annual report 2012 with a more result-based focus and share the finalised report with the SC for approval	Done
SC	Approve Annual Report 2012	Done
Martin, Martine	look into what has to be done minimally to be able to start to use the amended framework	Done
2 KEY ACTIVITIES, PROJECTS & COMMUNICATION		
Lella (chair), Dasha, Ferenc, Lena, Harry	Look into improving the communication with and engagement of SC members and AAE members in the CSF	Partly done. The draft agenda for the CSFs cannot be shared with 413 members. Usually the input comes from organisations who want to present themselves at the CSF.
Martine, Lella, Lena, Brian	Discuss division of roles of EATG and AAE in CSF in a separate meeting	Done
Dasha	Share information from EHRN on inquiries regarding funds UNAIDS received from Russian government	A letter was sent by EHRN to UNAIDS. There was never a reaction to that letter. Should AAE follow up this issue? Sveta tells there was a letter sent by Russian civil society organisations to Michael Sibidé, and a meeting is planned. Silke proposes she can contact Ines Perea who is in the PCB of UNAIDS and might be able to find out what is happening. The SC feels this is a good idea.
Lena, Dasha	work out the idea of holding UNAIDS accountable for the money received from the Russian government	Done
Maureen, dieuwke	Send out list of bouncing email addresses per country to SC check right email addresses	Done
SC members	Check email addresses/organisations at national level and report back to the office	Done
SC members	Pro-actively disseminate information sent by AAE	Ongoing
3 EHLF, WORKPLAN 2014, GOVERNANCE & FUTURE DIRECTIONS		
Nina + EHLF group	Develop a fundraising plan for the EHLF	Partly done: A draft funding application for ViiV is ready, other possible funders need to be identified



		and contacted
EHLF group	Continue activities as agreed upon in EHLF meeting	on-going
Office	Group CSF activities as one activity in the work plan with outcomes and budget	Done
Office	Produce a document and budget with an overview of staff time divisions	Done
SC	make a plan for 2014 in case AAE does not get the OG funding	Not applicable
SC	Decide whether second SC meeting in 2013 will take place	Done
Office	Write a memo to the SC members on what is expected from them, what is their role	Done
SC	give feedback to the office in a more structured way: written and more articulated	Ongoing
Office	formulate clearly to the SC what has to be decided upon when and the office reports back to the SC on the process	Ongoing
SC	work more pro-actively	Ongoing
Lena (lead), Ferenc, Martin, Dasha	Explore options for moving the office to new Europe	Done and ongoing
Harry (lead), Brian, Lella	Explore shift from core to project funding	Done
Dejana (lead), Martin	Research options of another organisation taking over AAE	Partly done
Sveta	Explore options for moving the office outside of Europe	Done and ongoing
Strategic working group	work out how to measure the expected results of the newly formulated strategy: look into facts and figures, but also look at qualitative indicators	Not done. This point got overlooked in the re-hosting process.

1.2 Annual Report 2013

1.2.1 Presentation and discussion of the Draft Annual Report 2013

The office struggled with reporting on outcomes. Now the report gives mainly examples instead of outcomes. The office staff suggests for the future, to formulate clearer indicators in the work plan, in order to assess outcomes.

Remarks on the draft by the SC:

- It is hard to formulate indicators for the CSF advocacy work;
- Executive summary could be shorter;



- Analysis part maybe too short;
- Missing is the stress on the importance of the gap AAE fulfils and the importance of the existence of AAE.

1.2.2 Decision

The SC approves the Annual Report 2013.

1.2.3 Action

The office finalises the report (fine-tunes and adds pictures) and publishes the Annual Report on the website and sends it to relevant parties (funding agencies etc.).

1.3 Update workplan and budget 2014

1.3.1 Update on status of implementation

Budget and finances: there are very little reserves left. The SC cannot work with the budget of the 2014 workplan, as this was a budget calculated for a whole year. Georg is looking into this with the financial manager and by the end of April, Georg will have a more detailed (financial) overview.

The developments regarding re-hosting are clearly missing from the workplan. Silke wonders why the re-hosting process has not been discussed yet with the EC. This was not done, because AAE was afraid it would not get the contract for the Operating Grant for 2014.

1.3.2 Activity plan for remainder of the year

The workplan is largely based on the Operating Grant contract with the EC. The activities of the first six months, done by the office at SANL, are on track. The new host may take over the workplan for the second six months, with or without alterations, after negotiations and agreements with the Steering Committee.

2 Re-hosting

2.1 Report from the interviews with candidates

During the interviews all organisations showed interest in hosting AIDS Action Europe. They were well prepared and submitted all requested background documents (DAH only partially). AIDES wanted to know more about the background for re-hosting AAE and asked for the minutes of the SC. These were sent to all applicant organisations.

The International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Ukraine has withdrawn its candidacy and so the SC is left with three options to discuss:

- Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe (DAH)
- AIDES
- All-Ukrainian Network of People Living with HIV (AUNP)



2.2 Discussions on the candidates

2.2.1 Presentations

The SC goes through and discusses the presentations of AUNP (see Annex A) and AIDES (see Annex B). Both candidate organisations provide comprehensive information about their structure, activities and international/European involvement.

DAH had not been able to submit a presentation and all supporting documents, as they needed the formal approval by their Board to apply for hosting AAE. DAH will discuss their interest/willingness to host AAE in a face to face board meeting on Thursday April 3, 2014 and will submit the requested documents afterwards.

Silke provides some background information about DAH. In particular, she explains the structure of DAH as a nation-wide umbrella organisation for about 120 autonomous local member organisations. She provides details about the cooperation agreement between the national health promotion agency BZgA and DAH, and about the international department of her organisation, which has been reactivated in 2008. The focus of DAH is in particular on Central/Eastern European countries.

2.2.2 Discussing the candidates

The SC discusses various issues regarding the three applicant organisations:

- Background of the organisation;
- Organisational structure;
- Financial situation and budget;
- The possible strategic interest in wanting to host the AIDS Action Europe network;
- Their international network and experience in cooperating on an international level;
- Experience with and eligibility for EC funding and/or EU projects.

2.3 Decision on re-hosting

The SC compares the candidates by going through the Matrix Candidate Hosts Evaluation (See Annex C)

The organisations are comparable in eagerness and readiness. The SC focusses on the strategic objectives of AAE when looking at the organisations: can they support AAE in its strategy? It is a strategic decision, which host can assist AAE to fulfil its objectives best.

All SC members stress that there are three excellent candidates, from which they need to choose. All SC members agree to continue the re-hosting process, considering that all three candidates meet AAE's standards/criteria.

The SC members suggest to make a list of the candidates, putting the favourite candidate on the first position, less favourite second, and least favourite third.

2.3.1 Voting

The SC votes on the order of preference of the three organisations. Two members of the SC are excluded from the voting, because they are affiliated to one of the candidates. The remaining 5 members vote as follows:

- 1) Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe
- 2) All-Ukrainian Network of PLHIV
- 3) AIDES



Even though some SC members had a different priority list, all agree that they are satisfied with the outcome of the voting, and that they will support the negotiation process with the first candidate.

This means the preference of the SC is that DAH will host AAE. If DAH decides not to host AAE or if the negotiations between DAH and Steering Committee are not successful, the negotiations will start with the second candidate - All-Ukrainian Network.

2.4 Next Steps

The SC awaits the decision of the Board of DAH. If they decide to host AAE, the negotiations on re-hosting will start immediately and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be drawn up. After an agreement between SC and DAH has been signed, the other candidates can be informed.

Current host, chair and co-ordinator will look into further steps to be taken regarding re-hosting. Deadline for finishing the re-hosting procedure is **1 July 2014**.

2.5 Plan B?

Should the SC formulate a Plan B if the re-hosting is not successful? In that case, there will be no host, but the network will still be there. The SC will try to find organisations to take over separate parts of AAE, such as the Clearinghouse and the CSF coordination. The deadline for STI AIDS Netherlands remains 1 July 2014; it will close down AAE if there is no clear plan or view for the future. If there is a plan, there is probably some, very limited extra time available. The time limit for DAH to confirm its willingness to host AAE is end of April 2014.

2.5.1 Communication regarding re-hosting

It is very important that information around the re-hosting of AAE is managed carefully by the SC. Before the decision is final on both sides - AAE and new host - no information should go out to the outside world.

When the MoU with the new host is signed, first the EC as major donor will be informed, and later that day other stakeholders. The message that will be disseminated will be discussed at the TC on April 29, 2014

3 AAE priorities 2014

3.1 Civil Society Forum

3.1.1 Update Make it Fairer Conference, March 18

Lella reports back to the SC on this conference: it was a well-attended meeting, with a very good panel of experts. Commissioner Borg stayed all day. The conference was a follow-up of the Human Rights Conference last year. The morning was dedicated to general access to health, not HIV particularly. In the afternoon, two hours were dedicated to HIV/AIDS. The health minister of Greece was questioned why he reintroduced compulsory testing for foreigners. He promised fairer laws before the end of the Greek presidency of the EU. The issue of criminalisation of clients of sex workers will be brought to the Think Tank by Borg. There were no formal commitments to a follow-up of this conference.

3.1.2 New EU Action Plan on HIV /AIDS

The new Action Plan that AAE and CSF have been advocating for, has come out in the first quarter of 2014 and will be valid till the end of 2016. The results of the evaluation of the previous Communication and Action Plan will be presented by mid-



2014; the results of the evaluation will be used to develop a new political framework. The CSF keeps advocating for a new Communication and aims to keep the pressure on the EC to keep the momentum.

The SC remarks that women and gender issues are not explicitly considered in the new Action Plan and suggests discussing this at the coming CSF meeting.

3.1.3 Draft Agenda of the 19-th CSF July 8 - 9, Brussels

Tentative dates for the CSFs are: 8 & 9 July 2014, and 8 & 9 December 2014.

The CSF coordination team aims at having not too many small points of discussion on the agenda, but rather have fewer, larger topics to be discussed more in depth.

Sveta suggests adding to the agenda of the CSF the results of a stigma index survey of 2013 in Ukraine. It could be interesting to compare it with the results of Portugal, which is already on the agenda.

3.1.4 Discuss CSF coordination and co-chairing after re-hosting

This issue is too early to be discussed.

3.2 European HIV Legal Forum

A meeting of the EHLF is planned for 14 & 15 April 2014 in Amsterdam, to discuss further the current project proposal. The executive coordinator explains to the SC the difficulties the project faces at the moment: ViiV is interested in funding this project, but a solid funding proposal is lacking. The project encountered some obstacles, with a meeting last year that could not take place in the envisaged form and members who dropped out. If the project does not succeed to be taken to a higher level at the next meeting, it might be an option to stop it altogether.

There are several options to proceed with the project, for instance to go in-depth on limited issues or to broaden it to more legal issues? Also, it is unclear whether Switzerland and UK still participate: Harry dropped out and no replacement was suggested by the Swiss AIDS Foundation; Yusef suggested Edwin Bernard as temporary replacement, but Edwin is not affiliated to an organization.

The issues addressed by the EHLF are currently high on the agenda in Germany, and Silke could look into the National AIDS Council of Germany to connect to the EHLF.

The SC confirms its support for the EHLF, i.e. to give guidance to the EHLF. In addition, the SC considers it important to continue with the EHLF.

The outcomes of the EHLF meeting will be discussed at the TC of April 29.



TUESDAY, 1 APRIL 2014

4 AAE priorities 2014 (continued)

4.1 Summary and Recap of Monday

The SC briefly recapitulates its decision on the re-hosting and its preference for DAH as first candidate. There is no change of decision.

4.2 Update AAE Communications

Rieneke, AAE Communication Coordinator gives an update on the communication strategy for 2014. The workplan 2014 has been approved. Main changes compared to the 2013 communication strategy:

- The number of hours of the Communication Coordinator have been reduced from 36 hrs. a week in 2013 to 20 hrs. in 2014.
- Instead of having a monthly newsletter (Network News) and Clearinghouse Update (as in 2013), they will be sent out every two months in 2014.
- New ideas to improve the AAE communications strategy will be captured in a communication advice for the new host organisation. These ideas relate to the third objective of the workplan 2014: Facilitate collaboration, linking & learning, and good practice exchange among NGOs, networks, policy makers and other stakeholders. It is up to the new host organization to decide, whether and in which ways this advice will be implemented.

One example of an idea to improve communication: past events where member organisations were able to come together, appeared to be an incentive for communication. (Member organizations regularly uploaded documents in the Clearing House, the member database grew respectively and the AAE communication coordinator was updated about member activities.) Currently, these updates are considerably less frequent. E-learning activities or international events may be suitable to organise networking activities and motivate AAE members to participate more actively in communication, linking & learning.

4.3 Quality Action

AAE is involved in the Dissemination work package (WP 2) and the Policy work package (WP 8) of the EU Quality Action Project.

Rieneke reports from her activities in WP 2:

- Rieneke met Cristina Chiotan and Anna Gallinat in Brussels. She shared ideas and provided advice regarding the Quality Action communication and dissemination strategy.
- Quality Action agreed to keep Rieneke in the loop about their activities.
- Rieneke promised to facilitate the dissemination of information through AIDS Action Europe's communication channels.

Georg reports from WP 8:

- In February, he attended a WP meeting in Berlin, in which the main activities and milestones for the coming project period were discussed and agreed. The meeting was an important starting point for the work package, and luckily the main coordinator, Matthias Wentzlaff-Eggebert from BZgA was present and able to provide clarifications on the



overall project and on the work package.

- On behalf of AAE, Georg committed to two concrete activities:
 - The endorsement of the project by civil society (CSF chairs) and their willingness to feed into the project.
 - Support of interviews carried out among policy making bodies; Georg will in particular support the interviews in countries, where the coordinators (Spanish participants of JA) need linguistic assistance.

WP 8 encounters some obstacles, in particular as the coordinator (Public Health England) experiences the available working days as very limited.

5 Further SC business

5.1 SC vacancies

There is one vacancy in the SC at the moment (after Dejana has left). There is no rule on how long a vacancy can be open. The SC would like to wait with filling the vacancy until it is clear where AAE will be re-hosted.

By the end of 2014, three vacancies will be open and there is one reapplication possible, so this brings us to the following:

- Vacant seat (Dejana) since January 2014
- Fixed seat for the host, moving on 01 July 2014 from Martin to Silke; one regular seat (Silke's) will become vacant in July 2014
- Ferenc' last (2nd) term ends December 2014
- Sveta's 1st term ends December 2014, she can reapply; if she doesn't we will have another vacancy

Furthermore:

- Anke's term has changed by becoming our chair in January 2014, and is extended with two years to January 2016; she can reapply as a chair for a second term of another two years
- Lella's 2nd term will end in December 2016.

Depending on Sveta's decision we have three or four vacancies at the end of 2014.

The process of reapplying/filling vacancies will be implemented, once the new host is in place.

5.1.1 Decision

Postpone the announcement for a vacancy to July / as soon as a new host is appointed. Another round will then follow at the end of 2014.

5.2 Funding

Georg suggests to make a list of the pros and cons of applying for the OG2015, once the call is out. The call is expected in the coming weeks, which means the planning is very tight. Georg could also ask for advice from Cinthia.

There was a recent document from 2013 by Harry comparing project funding with operating grant funding, which could be updated with pros and cons of the call for 2015. There are clear limitations to combining operating grant funding with other funding mechanisms.



5.2.1 Action

Update document on project funding vs operating grant funding.

5.3 EECAC Conference in Moscow

The EECAC conference (12 – 13 May 2014) is sponsored by the Russian government, and logistically organised by AIDSInfoShare, which has close relationships with Russian authorities. There is no space and it may not be safe to make critical political statements. In addition, it is feared that the conference will be misused by the Russian government to show off its best behaviour. The question is, whether AAE should attend the conference or boycott it?

Anke was prepared to attend, representing both AAE and AFEW. She will now only attend on behalf of AFEW. There is a boycott from the Ukrainian and Georgian NGO's. Some AFEW organisations are going, except the Ukrainian. The EATG membership was split; they found a compromise: EATG will not send a representative, but will not sign the boycott either. In addition, they signed the call to UNAIDS to stop its support to the conference.

5.3.1 Decision

AAE attendance of EECAC: No. AAE signing the boycott: No. AAE will provide a statement about the reasons for not attending the conference.

5.3.2 Action

Brian will forward the statement of EATG to Rieneke, as a basis for the AAE statement.

5.4 Any Other Business

5.4.1 Situation in Ukraine

The SC asks Sveta to update the SC on the political situation in Ukraine and the consequences for PLHIV in Crimea after the Russian annexation. Sveta reports that there are many messages of support from all sides. One problem is that there are very mixed messages from different authorities about the amounts of ARV's available in Crimea. Ukraine still considers the people of Crimea as Ukrainian citizens, so it has provided ARV's for those who need it. However, trucks are sometimes stopped at the border by Russian border patrol. There are severe potential future risks, as different ARVs are prescribed in Russia compared to Ukraine (where Truvada is predominant). In addition, it will be impossible to continue OST programmes and the current supply with OST will only last until May. The All-Ukrainian Network still has contacts with its members in Crimea to provide support and gather information.

5.4.2 Cluster Meeting Joining together to Tackle HIV in Europe by using the Health Programme Project Results, 12&13 June 2014, Greece

Lella and Georg were invited to the meeting; Lella, as CSF co-chair, will have a keynote speech on Civil Society involvement in policy making. In addition, the impact of EU funded projects – such as AAE – will be discussed. The attendance of both Lella and Georg may be valuable to look at both structural and practical aspects of EU programmes. Georg and Lella will strive to be joined by a representative of the new host, in order to present the new situation of AAE. [Comment GB: The conference will be on invitation by the EU only, so it is difficult to suggest other participants. Silke will not be available those dates.]



5.4.3 Selection procedure new CSF members

The selection procedure for the renewal of the Civil Society Forum is currently carried out. Georg is in contact with Matthias Schuppe to assist in the procedure, in close cooperation with the other members of the CSF coordination team (Lella, Annise and Tamás). The EC has the final decision about the CSF membership, but the decision is taken in close consultation with the co-chairs and the coordination team. (The agenda of the CSF meetings, however, is the responsibility of CSF chairs and coordination team, after consultations with and input from the CSF members. It is presented to the EC, but they don't have a decision making role.)

5.4.4 IAC 2014

Attendance at the IAC 2014 in Melbourne: Brian, Anke, Sveta; Lella and Ferenc are undecided. AIDS Action Europe is not going, but the SC members are requested to take AAE folders for dissemination (Brian? Anke?)

5.4.5 Next steps after the meeting

- Continue re-hosting procedure
- Disseminate minutes and action list of the SC meeting

5.5 Evaluation of the meeting

- “Contents: enjoyed discussion on re-hosting. Logistics: great as well. Really optimistic about future of AAE. My last SC meeting, unless the new host will organize another meeting this year. Have enjoyed the 6 years of being SC member. Thanks for having me.”
- “It was my first meeting, nice to meet everybody in person. Interesting to be part of the meeting.”
- “Enjoyed the respectful discussion about the re-hosting. We listened to each other open-mindedly. Everybody had enough time to give arguments, which is a very workable situation. Fruitful. The next steps are clear for the office. Very pleasant meeting.”
- “Thanks for the organisation. We dealt with contents very well in a very civilized manner. Very happy and luxurious to have three good possible hosts. Find these meetings very useful. My concern is that one meeting is maybe not the most effective way of communicating. The meetings are always very effective, and I don't feel the same about the TCs. Would be good to have 2 meetings a year back. I am very optimistic about the future.”
- “Thanks for coming to our offices again. Good to have you here at this “closing” meeting for the current office. Hope to be able to hand over the practically and symbolically the office and meet the people that will work in our places.”
- “Optimistic about future of AAE. Thank you to Anke for willingness tot take up chairing the SC in these difficult times. Thank you also for the support and attention for my country.”
- “Thanks for Georg to step in so well in short period of time. Optimistic about future.”
- “Thanks for logistics. Chair, coordinator and current host have worked very well together the last few months which made the process more easy. Really agree with the usefulness of having 2 meetings a year: it is important to have AAE visible again. Our real work got a little bit snowed under, and hope the re-hosting will be finished soon, so we can get back to core business. Thanks for your contributions and dedication.”
- “Happy to be here, maybe we are over-optimistic, but really feel we have good options for the future. Thanks to the people who prepared the re-hosting. Thanks for this positive change that occurred in the past few months. Sorry for



losing the people in the office, the people for which it is the last SC meeting, but we will meet again.”

Action List

	WHAT	WHO	WHEN
A	Keep SC updated on meeting between Russian NGOs and Michael Sibidé	Sveta	When more information is available
B	Contact Ines Perea to see if she can find out more about what is going on between UNAIDS and the Russian government.	Silke	
C	Finalise and publish Annual Report 2013	Office	ASAP
D	Update SC on financial situation of AAE	Georg	End of April
E	Inform the SC on the decision of the board of DAH regarding hosting	Silke	First week of April
F	Start the re-hosting process	Georg, Anke, Martin	As soon as candidate is clear
G	Formulate communication message to stakeholders on re-hosting of AAE	Georg, Anke, Martin, Rieneke	Before next TC
H	Update document on project funding vs operating grant funding	office	April/May
I	Send EATG statement on EECAC to Communications Coordinator	Brian	April
J	Formulate AAE statement on EECAC	Rieneke	Beginning of May

Reminder important dates

PLANNED MEETINGS

CSF: 8 & 9 July 2014 and 8 & 9 December 2014

CONFERENCE CALLS

29 April 24 June 2 September 28 October 9 December

ANNEXES

ANNEX	NAME
ANNEX A	Presentation of All-Ukrainian Network of PLHIV
ANNEX B	Presentation of AIDES
ANNEX C	Matrix Evaluation of Candidate Hosts



All-Ukrainian Network of PLWH

yesterday, today, and tomorrow



March 2014

www.network.org.ua

ORGANIZATION'S MISSION

We, being the people living with HIV, join together pro-active fellow thinkers to enable every human affected by the epidemic of HIV/AIDS to enjoy:

- the right to life;
- the right to support; and
- the right to self-fulfillment.

Enabling means:

- Developing and providing necessary services;
- Strengthening capacity of service providers;
- Developing the models of successful cooperation between the governmental and non-governmental sectors for sustainable solutions of social problems;
- Bringing the legislation to compliance with the international standards in close cooperation with the governmental and non-governmental sectors;
- Changing the attitude of the society to rights of people with specific needs, first of all to PLWH, and advocating their rights.

Objectives

www.network.org.ua

- Timely delivering of the appropriate ARVs
- Improving access to HIV medical follow-up
- Ensuring access to medical care in general
- Enabling supportive environment
- Promoting tolerant attitudes toward PLWH
- Organizational development

Strategic Objective

Before 2016, each PLWH can receive QUALITY treatment –the RIGHT to treatment is secured. This objective is the most important step on the way towards the ultimate goal. It stipulates the efforts mobilization on:

- priorities that are critical for achievement of the strategic objective;
- other intermediate objectives that contribute to achieving the goal.

Ultimate Goal

We aspire that PLWH receive quality (treatment, psychological, social and legal support) services funded by the State and make unhampered use of general civil law rights.

www.network.org.ua

Our 2020 tasks

- Network is a strong and experienced advocate for PLWH rights both at national and regional level
- Network mobilizes communities of vulnerable populations
- Network is acknowledged by stakeholders, particularly government, as a strong partner in the HIV/AIDS field and expert organization that can propose justified and evidence-based approaches in overcoming the epidemic
- Network has regional branches in all regions of Ukraine
- The structural units are providing services directly for PLWH and affected populations, thus we know their needs and can shape our programs based on their needs

Key stakeholders

www.network.org.ua

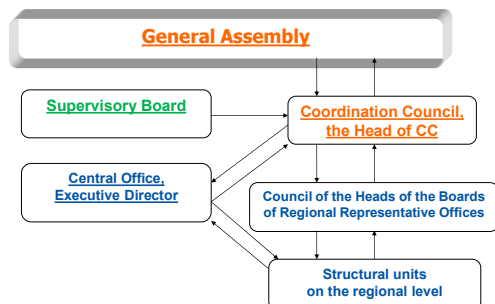
- President of Ukraine
- Verkhovna Rada (the Parliament)
- Government (MoH and other Ministries) and state authorities at regional level
- UN family and international organizations
- National NGOs, other patients' and advocacy groups
- Big Pharma

Donors

- Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- USAID
- European Commission
- Elton John AIDS Foundation
- Big Lottery Fund (UK)
- Oxfam Novib
- UN Women
- Sidaction
- GNP+
- NGO "GESTOS"

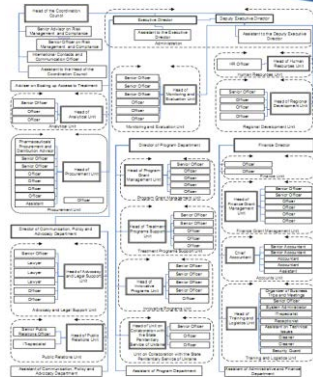
www.network.org.ua

Network's structure



Structure of Central Office

www.network.org.ua



Network's history

www.network.org.ua

- The All-Ukrainian Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (the Network) had been founded thirteen years ago by only seven HIV positive activists, who came from different cities of Ukraine to unite and jointly protect their basic human rights, appeal to government and international organizations in order to gain access to medical treatment, and improve the quality of life of HIV-positive people in Ukraine. Before the organization emerged, even the basic needs of people fighting the dreadful disease could not be satisfied, thus leaving them alone, face to face with inevitable suffering and death. The organization had received the official state registration by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in May 2001.
- During the following years the Network had gone through the process of unparalleled development from a small team of activists to an initiative group and ultimately to the one of the biggest non-governmental organizations in the country. Currently the Network operates in all regions of Ukraine, and annually providing services to over **40,000** of clients.
- 22** regional organizations, **4** representative offices in Ukraine
- 547** active members of the Network

2006 - "Red Ribbon" Award winner as the best organization worldwide in the fight with stigma and discrimination against HIV-positive people
Principal Recipient of the Global Fund grants 6, 10 Round



www.network.org.ua



www.network.org.ua

Our Services

social support for clients with triple problem (HIV/TB/TDU)	community centre for PLWH
forming of ART adherence in clients	psychological support for clients of rehabilitation therapy programme
development and distribution of informational and educational materials	PLWH's volunteer movement
provision of humanitarian aid	services on the adoption of children born to HIV-positive parents
trainings, informational lectures for NGO employees or project clients	day-care centre for children born to HIV-positive parents
public events and work with media	prevention of abandonment of HIV-positive children
peer-to-peer counselling	lobbying and advocacy of the rights of HIV-positive people
home care, palliative care	services for HIV-positive people in prisons
legal counselling	psychological support for HIV-positive children born to PLWH and their families in diagnosis disclosure process
self-support groups	gender-sensitive services
psychological support	

www.network.org.ua

Examples of Campaigns to increase access to treatment

- 2011** - All-Ukrainian advocacy campaign "Help to Survive!" to ensure full funding of ARV treatment in the State program on HIV/AIDS in 2012 http://network.org.ua/media/news/dv-tisyach-ukra-nskikh-d-tey-v-svo-kh-listakh-prosyat-prezidenta-yanukovicha-pro-poryatunok-zhittya/?sphrase_id=535
- 2012** - Advocacy campaign "Deputy - Altruist" to allocate 1 billion UAH in the State Budget for 2013 for treatment of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and hepatitis http://network.org.ua/media/news/sogodn-p-d-verkhovnoyu-radoyu-chinovnik-borotiv-svo-mlyardi/?sphrase_id=536
- 2013** - All-Ukrainian protest "Line for Life" to abolish the Ukrainian Law on licensing of imported medicines that imposed additional license to import medicines to Ukraine and certificate of quality for 30,000 UAH for each bulk of imported drugs http://network.org.ua/media/news/sogodn-soin-ukra-nts-v-stali-v-chergi-za-l-kami/?sphrase_id=537

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Network today

- Growth of professionalism** - From crisis actions to partnership with government
- Growth of influence in Ukraine** - PR of GF grants, Reduction of medicine prices
- Networking** - One of the most influential organizations in Ukraine and worldwide (Toronto, Vienna, Mexico, Washington)



www.network.org.ua

What can we offer to AAE?

- ✓ We can provide the AAE staff with fully equipped work places (desks, computers, stationery etc.)
- ✓ We are ready to cooperate with all bilateral and multilateral donors in order to raise funds for AAE activities
- ✓ We are ready to host AAE Steering Committee meetings (including the logistics support)
- ✓ We can offer the web hosting for AAE web site
- ✓ Day-to-day support of our CO team

www.network.org.ua

Thank You!

All-Ukrainian Network of PLWH

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<http://www.network.org.ua>

<https://www.facebook.com/All.Ukrainian.Network.of.PLWH>



Who are we ?

- AIDES is France and Europe's leading community-based organisation involved in the fight against AIDS and hepatitis. Our network mobilises over **1100 people** every day in over **69 towns** and cities in mainland France and overseas. **AIDES IN 2013: 459 employees** (international programmes staff: 12 people) and **771 Volunteers**



BUDGET 2013: €42 million (50% public funding and 50% private donors)
we have a strong network of 170 000 donors
These private donations mean that we have budget independence from public donors and this is a guarantee of a considerable development and scope of our advocacy work

- As one of the original members and active participants in the **European Civil Society forum on HIV** and as advocates in several high-level political events on HIV in Europe, we have learned how to have meaningful impact on European policies.

Our aims

- To support** people infected and affected by HIV/Aids.
- To inform** the people who are most vulnerable to Aids.
- To alert** public authorities on failures in the healthcare system.
- To mobilise** hundreds of volunteers so that Aids remains a public health priority.



All our militants aren't HIV+, but they all are outraged - 2009

At the heart of AIDES' values and principles are its community-based dimension, social change, non-governmental action, respect for individuals, confidentiality and non-judgement

Our roots

- AIDES was created in 1984 by Daniel Defert**, the partner of Michel Foucault (the famous French philosopher and sociologist), using Foucault's principles:

"empowerment" → "the patient leads the transformative social process"

- After Foucault died of aids, Defert founded an organization to fight against this disease with people concerned by HIV (doctors, patients etc.)

- The name AIDES comes from the English word "aids" and the French word "aider" (to help)

- Daniel Defert was inspired by the **Gay Men's Health Crisis** in New York (1981) and the **Terence Higgins Trust** in London (1982).

Daniel DEFERT



Michel FOUCAULT



Our target groups and our main priorities

Target groups

- MSM** (Men who have sex with men)
- Migrants**
- Drug users**
- HIV positive people**
- Transgender persons**
- Sex workers**

Main priorities

- Fight against **stigma, discrimination** and facilitate **disclosure**
- Promote non-medical, community-based **HIV screening** among gay men and migrants using rapid tests
- Promote **community-based research**
- Improve the quality of health systems

How we work

- We have a team dedicated to working on **quality and effectiveness**: "quality and innovation department".



Our work abroad



- Improve the overall care for individuals living with HIV/Aids in Sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa and Europe by **supporting the development of local NGOs**.
- Work with NGOs in Western countries** (Switzerland, England, Canada, USA etc.) on the criminalization of HIV transmission, discrimination in the work place etc.
- Since 1997, AIDES has built a **strong network of African NGOs** from 20 countries (Algeria, Burundi, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mali, Morocco, Cameroon, Gabon, etc.)
- We are a member of **ACTION** a global partnership of advocacy organizations working to influence policy and mobilize resources to fight against tuberculosis
- In 2008 AIDES (France), ARCAD-SIDA (Mali), ALCS (Morocco) and COCQ-SIDA (Québec) set up **Coalition PLUS** to promote the community-based approach in international strategies in the fight against HIV-AIDS. Today Coalition PLUS is a network of 13 NGOs from all over the world, 3 of them play a very important role to define the European political agenda from the civil society perspective: ARAS (Asociația Romania ANTI-SIDA), GAT (Grupo Portugues de activistas sobre tratamentos de VIH/SIDA) and Groupe Sida Genève

AIDES' European Legacy 1/2

- In **1994**, as civil-society host of the Paris AIDS governmental summit, AIDES established multiple relationships with fellow European organizations.
- From 1995 to 2000**, AIDES' international department has developed multiple bilateral projects in Europe, notably with community-based activists in Poland, Russia, Spain, Italy, and Portugal (as part of the ALFA project)
- As coordinator and host of the **"HIV and Work"** network, we produced joint recommendations with fellow European organizations to support the professional and social integration of PLWHIV.
- From 2001 to 2008**, AIDES with several organizations in Central and Eastern Europe coordinated the Integration-Projects a pan-European initiative focused on supporting the development of local HIV/AIDS NGOs in the countries that joined the European Union (in 2004 and 2007).



AIDES' European Legacy 2/2

- AIDES has been one of the associated partners of **Cobatest**. The general objective of this project was to promote early diagnosis of HIV infection in Europe by improving the implementation and evaluation of community-based testing practices.
- We took part in The European MSM Internet Survey (**EMIS**) which is a joint project of academic, governmental, non-governmental, and online media partners from 35 European (EU and neighboring) countries to inform interventions for a group highly affected by infections with HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs): gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (MSM).



To have a big impact you need a big network

- AIDES works on daily basis with national and international decision makers, technical experts, and civil society partners. We are a member of several civil society platforms where we design key campaigns, coordinate activities and events and develop common advocacy strategies.
- **We host several networks/coalitions:**
 - TRT 5 the leading French network working on therapeutic advocacy such as EATG at European Level
 - (im)Patients, Chroniques & Associés is the French network of patients working on chronic diseases
 - The Secretariat of Coalition PLUS

- ✓ Hi-Tech Conference Infrastructure
- ✓ Video conference system (Polycom)
- ✓ Internet access throughout
- ✓ Experienced IT & logistic support team
- ✓ HQ in Paris of 2400 m2
- ✓ Our HQ is just 45 minutes by tube from the CDG airport (the leading European hub) , 20 min from Gare du Nord and Gare de l'Est (connections with Germany, UK, Belgium and Luxembourg) and 35 from Gare de Lyon (connections with Switzerland and Italy)

Our advocacy strategy: sustained by experiences from the field and community based research

- AIDES has developed a research unit (MIRE) in order to promote community-based research in France. One of the major projects recently conducted was about **community-based testing** (COM-Test).
- **2010** : around **32 000 foreigners** have a residence permit for health reasons including around **6 000 PLWHA** = 0,9% foreigners living in France
- We built an observatory to study quality of life among PLWHA with a residence permit for health reasons in France: **437 situations collected from October 2010 to June 2013.**



- => **Strengthening and adapting advocacy**
- => **Increasing effective access to legal protection**



Hosting AIDS ACTION EUROPE a great opportunity for AIDES

- AIDES' Board members have defined development advocacy at the European level as a top priority
- AIDES/ARAS/GAT/Groupe Sida Genève have started an informal « European cooperation » among Coalition PLUS' members
- We need to work better and stronger at the European level and with our European partners, Aids Action Europe is one of the most important and powerful advocacy stakeholders at European level
- AIDES Board members would participate in the AAE Steering Committee
- Although HIV is stabilizing and declining globally, the epidemic in Eastern European and Central Asian countries continues to grow at an alarming and accelerating pace. For us it will be a challenge and a great opportunity to work with activists from these regions, as civil society must be a pivot in the response to HIV everywhere.

Matrix Candidate Hosts Evaluation**To be used for the discussion at AAE Steering Committee meeting 31/3 & 1/4 2014**

Organisation	IHAA Ukraine	All Ukrainian network	AIDES	DAH
General impression during the interview (preparedness etc.)				
Threshold criteria met? (Size, solidity of the organisation, budget etc.)				
Appropriate procedures? - GIPA, Complaint procedures, Code of conduct etc.				
Finance: - Staff costs lower than SANL? - Track record and liquidity prognosis				
Access to funding, eligibility for EU funding?				
Quality of the organisation - IT, languages - Quality management, achievements, perspectives				
Networking experience – as host or as participant – regional, national, international				
Linkages with other players in the field – national, international				
Experiences with the main functions of AAE: - Advocacy - Linking and learning - Clearinghouse				
Coverage of Europe - Western - Eastern - All EU and beyond				
View on AAE strategy				
View on cooperation with a strong Steering Committee				
Conclusion				

XXX = very good**XX = fair****X = poor**