

## Statement

### **UNAIDS mourns the death of prominent AIDS activist Wellington Solomon Adderly**

**Geneva, 28 May 2008** - It is with profound sadness that UNAIDS mourns the death of AIDS activist Wellington Solomon Adderly who was killed at his home in Nassau, Bahamas earlier this week. Mr Adderly was one of the leading figures in the response to HIV in the Bahamas having served for many years as President of the Bahamas National Network of Positive Living. He was also a prominent member of the Bahamas Resource Committee and Administrator of the Bahamas AIDS Foundation.

“Wellington Solomon Adderly’s untimely death is not only a loss to the AIDS movement in the Bahamas and the Caribbean, but the world as a whole,” said Miriam Maluwa, UNAIDS Country Coordinator for Jamaica, the Bahamas and Belize. “He was a great advocate for people living with and affected by HIV and made a huge contribution in the delivery of HIV prevention programmes and support services in the Bahamas and the Caribbean.”

Mr Adderly was well known as one of the first people to openly declare his HIV status in the Bahamas, which played an important role in helping to reduce the widespread stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV in the region.

“Wellington cared about people, he put a human face to HIV in the Bahamas and went out of his way to advance the cause,” said Mrs Rosa Mae Bain, Director of The Bahamas National AIDS Centre. “His courage and determination were outstanding and his commitment exemplary. He will be sorely missed.”

UNAIDS expresses its sincere condolences to his family, friends and colleagues.

#### **Contact**

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UNAIDS is an innovative joint venture of the United Nations, bringing together the efforts and resources of the UNAIDS Secretariat and ten UN system organizations in the AIDS response. The Secretariat headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland—with staff on the ground in more than 80 countries. Coherent action on AIDS by the UN system is coordinated in countries through UN theme groups, and joint programmes on AIDS. UNAIDS’ Cosponsors include UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, ILO, UNESCO, WHO and the World Bank. [www.unaids.org](http://www.unaids.org)