

UNAIDS CONDEMNS KILLING OF GAY RIGHTS ACTIVIST

Geneva, 5 October 2004 – UNAIDS is deeply shocked at the recent killing of FannyAnn Eddy, a leading pan-African gay rights activist and founder of the Sierra Leone Lesbian and Gay Association (SLLAGA).

Her death is a profound and distressing loss, not only to the human rights movement in her country and in Africa, but to the world as a whole. UNAIDS expresses its sincere condolences to her friends and family.

“We have lost a voice which had the courage to raise the alarm, at home and abroad, about the mistreatment of sexual minorities,” said Dr Peter Piot, UNAIDS Executive Director. “Ms Eddy advocated compassion for all, regardless of sex or sexuality. She was a woman who dreamt of a world free from discrimination and violence.”