

## Information note

29 March 2006

### Information on civil society accreditation for the 2006 AIDS Review

On 13 January 2006 the President of the United Nations General Assembly issued details of how non-ECOSOC accredited civil society organizations could apply for special accreditation to attend the 2006 AIDS Review meeting to be held at the United Nations in New York from 31 May to 2 June 2006.

UNAIDS was asked to facilitate the collation of requests and to verify information submitted. A list was shared with Member States for their consideration on 15 February. Member States had reserved the right to object to organizations appearing on the list.

Following approval at the General Assembly on 27 March 2006 almost 800 organizations were cleared for accreditation – an unprecedented number. These organizations will be able to join organizations already accredited to ECOSOC and those that will take part as members of national delegations in the Review.

However a number of organizations do not appear on the list. Member States considered the list and exercised their right to object in six cases.

Other reasons for the organization not appearing on the list agreed by Member States include:

- The application was not received by UNAIDS.
- The request was received but well after the 3 February deadline.
- Insufficient information was available to support the application. UNAIDS did its best to obtain additional information within the timeframe – where this was not possible the application was not put forward to Member States for their consideration so as not to delay the submission of the entire list.

Civil society representatives can still take part in the Review meeting as part of national delegations whether they appear on the list or not and organizations are encouraged, where appropriate, to approach the relevant government ministry in their host country to request they are considered for inclusion in the national delegation to the meeting.

ECOSOC accredited organizations will be able to access the UN as normal during the meeting. ECOSOC accredited organizations interested in taking part in the Review have been asked to register through DESA to help secure access to sessions in the event that restrictions are applied due to limited capacity.

All civil society groups are encouraged to link to the 'Civil Society Coalition on HIV/AIDS UNGASS' to find out ways they can become involved in activities outside the formal meetings.

Information is posted on the website listed below:

[www.ungass.org/index.php/ungass/ungass/get\\_involved\\_in\\_ungass\\_2006](http://www.ungass.org/index.php/ungass/ungass/get_involved_in_ungass_2006)

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