

WORLD AIDS DAY 2014

Joint statement by UNAIDS International Goodwill Ambassadors



Today on World AIDS Day 2014 we ask you to join us and speak out in solidarity with people living with and affected by HIV.

We have come such a long way—today new HIV infections are declining, better and simpler treatment is now available and people living with HIV are now living longer and healthier lives.

But significant challenges remain and we need to fast-track change.

We must close the gap between people who have access to HIV prevention and treatment and people who do not. We must close the gap between people with opportunities and people who are being left behind.

We want more results

We want to end the AIDS epidemic

We know that together we can do it

We are seeing remarkable progress, but we are not there yet

But gender inequalities, violations of human rights and even our own attitudes can leave people behind. People most affected by HIV often don't have access to the HIV services they need. Stigma and discrimination drive people underground and away from lifesaving HIV prevention and treatment.

HIV is about people, communities and humanity. To end the AIDS epidemic we need change. We need to transform attitudes, improve health systems and respect human rights.

This is not a time to step back. This is the time to innovate, to close the gap and to make sure that everyone, everywhere has access to live-saving HIV services.

Support the work of UNAIDS

Annie Lennox, OBE

Michael Ballack

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan

Myung-bo Hong

Toumani Diabaté

Naomi Watts

David Luiz

Victoria Beckham

HRH Crown Princess Mette-Marit of Norway

HSH Princess Stéphanie of Monaco