



UNAIDS ADVISORY GROUP (UAG)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

RATIONALE

“Since taking up my appointment as the Executive Director of UNAIDS, I have been inspired by the passion and determination of people living with and affected by HIV and their many allies in the global response to AIDS. Progress is widespread but uneven and there are many mountains to climb. I have been hugely encouraged by the appreciation I have heard for the unique role played by the Joint Programme in supporting communities and countries, but also made aware of its unrealized potential and the need to adjust and adapt it to a rapidly changing world.

As we enter the Decade of Action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals, I am convinced that we need a deep and critical reflection on where and why things are and are not working in the AIDS response. We need this reflection to inform our actions that will lead to the dismantling of the main barriers that still hold us back from meeting the needs of millions of people with health, human rights, and life-saving services. We also need to confront several strategic issues closer to home, namely how the changing environment will condition the expectations placed on the United Nations Joint Programme on AIDS and how it must evolve.

I am determined to use the window we have this year to work with all partners to set a new course for the AIDS response and identify how best to reposition and reconfigure the Joint Programme to advance this objective. It is also imperative that we use this year to translate our new shared vision into a Global UNAIDS Strategy, to set the stage for a UN High-Level Meeting on AIDS in 2021 and put us on a firm footing to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

In order to guide me in this process, I have decided to establish the UNAIDS Advisory Group.”

Winnie Byanyima,
UNAIDS Executive Director

1. PURPOSE OF THE UNAIDS ADVISORY GROUP

The UNAIDS Advisory Group (UAG) will provide the Executive Director (EXD) of UNAIDS with strategic guidance across a range of issues to reposition the Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS (UNAIDS) and the UNAIDS Secretariat in light of the changing global context and the window of opportunity that a leadership change offers.

The UAG will support the EXD to leverage the full potential of the transition period during 2020.

The overall aims of the UAG are to advise EXD on:

- the development of strategic priorities for the Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS (UNAIDS) for the period 2020 and beyond;
- the transformation of UNAIDS organizational culture and management;
- the post-2021 UNAIDS Global AIDS Strategy.

In addition to the knowledge, experience and networks that UAG members bring directly to these issues, it is expected that the UAG may also convene external consultations and secure external inputs to inform the UAG's analysis of global trends and contexts, how these impact on the global response and UNAIDS, and how they could and should inform the leadership that the EXD exercises to shape the global response and UNAIDS going forward.

2. SCOPE OF WORK

The UAG members' responsibilities include:

- Promote innovative or non-traditional opportunities and solutions
- Inform the development of the next UNAIDS Global AIDS Strategy
- Identify and inform thinking around critical strategic questions confronting UNAIDS, including the Secretariat, as it repositions itself to support the implement of the next Strategy in a shifting global context
- Participate in break-out groups that will contribute to the implementation of the objectives of this time-limited initiative.

3. TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE UAG

The UAG shall be composed of experts with a range of experience and with diverse backgrounds. The contributions of the members will be on a pro bono basis, for a one-year term. The co-chairs of the UAG may be offered compensation to off-set the cost of their time and to backfill their day-to-day responsibilities so they can contribute fully to the UAG. The other external members of the UAG will participate on a pro-

bono basis, with UNAIDS covering the cost of their travel and per diem to participate in face-to-face meetings. In some cases, external UAG members may be requested to take on additional responsibilities for which compensation may be provided. UNAIDS staff selected to serve as reference persons for the UAG and/or break-out groups will be paid their regular UNAIDS salary, and not be entitled to any additional compensation. UNAIDS will provide the Secretariat for the UAG and support for its break-out groups.

4. WAYS OF WORKING

The modus operandi, nomination of break-out group chairs, deliverables, communications and other details will be set out in a draft workplan for the UAG which will be updated periodically.

5. CO-CHAIRS

The following co-chairs have been selected by the Executive Director to lead the UAG:

- Quarraisha Abdool Karim, Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa, South Africa;
- Matthew M. Kavanagh, Georgetown University, USA.

6. MEMBERS

The current membership of the UAG is available in annex.

The EXD and the co-chairs will review the composition of the UAG and its break-out groups and will appoint additional members or make modifications to serve the objectives of the group.

7. MEETINGS & PARTICIPATION

The time-limited UAG will hold not more than three physical meetings at venues to be discussed and agreed to by the UAG co-chairs. Additional teleconferences will be held to advance the work of the UAG, including addressing specific topics identified by the break-out groups. Advisory Group members are requested to attend or join several of these meetings / calls per year. The first meeting of the UAG will be in Johannesburg, South Africa late February 2020.

8. MANAGING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The co-chairs and members of the UAG serve in their individual capacity. The co-chairs and members of the UAG and its break-out groups are entrusted to conduct their work in an ethical manner, and thus avoid conflicts between the interests of their organization and/or their personal or other interests and the interests of UNAIDS. Given the wide remit of the UAG, it is expected that some members of the UAG may be involved in UNAIDS-related research, funding or other aspects of its work that could represent a conflict of interest. UAG members are expected to declare any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest and to recuse themselves from deliberations, as necessary.