

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am from Yunnan Province, People's Republic of China.

I am Vice-Governor of the People's Government of Yunnan Province. At the same time, I am also an organizer, participant, promoter and witness to HIV/AIDS prevention and care in Yunnan Province, having worked on HIV/AIDS control for 11 years.

I would like to extend my great gratitude to UNAIDS and H.E. Mr. Sidibé for inviting me and my colleagues to be here and to have the opportunity to participate in this Board meeting and to share our experiences on HIV/AIDS prevention and control.

As we all know, HIV/AIDS is still one of the most important public health issues in the world. It is also the common challenge and responsibility of all governments. In Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China, HIV/AIDS prevention and control is an important task.

Yunnan Province is located in the southwestern tip of China and has a population of 47 million. There are 25 ethnic minority groups in Yunnan Province, which comprise 33% of the total population. Yunnan Province covers a land area of 394,000 square kilometers and is bordered with

Myanmar, Laos and Viet Nam. It shares a 4060-kilometre border with these three countries and is in the vicinity of the Golden Triangle.

Yunnan Province is one of the areas worst affected by drug trafficking.

It is also one of the most important areas for HIV/AIDS prevention and control in China. By October 2016, 93,437 people had been diagnosed and reported to be living with HIV, which is 14% of the total cases in China.

HIV has spread in Yunnan Province for 28 years; 92% of people living with HIV acquired the virus through sexual transmission. The number of foreigners living with HIV increases year by year (10,198 cases in total). These issues have made HIV/AIDS prevention and control extremely difficult in Yunnan Province.

We have never stepped back from facing the challenges. With strong support from the central government, Yunnan Province has concentrated its efforts on the People's Campaign of HIV/AIDS Prevention, with a strong emphasis on commitment to leadership and community engagement.

To take leadership, we have strengthened top-level design, set examples for government organizations and fully showcased the government's leadership. We have pushed forward to ensure that governments at different levels have achieved "three haves" (i.e. have political

commitment, have coordination mechanism and have supervision and assessment) and “four guarantees” (i.e. legal, funding, technology and personnel guarantees), formulated local regulations and laws on HIV/AIDS prevention and control and provided free testing, treatment and prevention of mother-to-child transmission, etc.

In the past 10 years, we have invested a total of US\$ 670 million on HIV/AIDS prevention, built a team of 4800 professional HIV/AIDS prevention personnel and were the first in China to carry out prevention and control strategies such as sentinel surveillance, expanded antiretroviral treatment for all regardless CD4 count and one-stop services, etc.

To strengthen community engagement, we have given support to grass-roots community organizations and we have made sure that all prevention measures cover all grass-roots communities. We have established 3585 HIV/AIDS prevention and care service sites, covering 99% of towns and key villages. We have established 58 confirmatory laboratories, 182 screening laboratories, 2368 rapid testing sites, 173 methadone maintenance treatment sites, 232 antiretroviral treatment institutions and 290 prevention of mother-to-child transmission institutions.

In Dehong Dai and Jingpo Autonomous Prefecture, which is severely affected by the AIDS epidemic, HIV rapid testing is covered in 100% of towns and 90% of villages and antiretroviral treatment and prevention of mother-to-child transmission are carried out in 90.7% of townships. Currently, there are 213 community based organizations participating in HIV/AIDS prevention.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The HIV/AIDS prevention and control efforts in Yunnan Province have achieved “four transitions”: from concealing to making public, from being passive to being proactive, from focusing on certain areas to looking at the whole province and from department responsibility to government responsibility.

With 10 years’ intense efforts:

§ We have provided 43.83 million people with testing services and 85,973 people with antiretroviral treatment. Compared with 2005, HIV detection rates have been raised from 40% to 78% in 2016.

§ The HIV incidence rate of injecting drug users has dropped from 5.19% to 0.97%, a decrease of 81%.

§ The HIV incidence rate of sex workers has decreased by 92%, from 0.79% in 2005 to 0.06% in 2015.

§ Mother-to-child transmission rates have dropped from 8.8% to 3.1% in 2015, a decrease of 65%.

§ Antiretroviral treatment rates have gone from 12.1% to 74.1% and AIDS mortality rates have fallen from 24.2% to 3.8%.

In the past 10 years, we have in total reduced 36,600 new HIV infections, lowered the mortality by 24,100 people and prevented 2697 cases of mother-to-child transmission.

Meanwhile, we have trained 3021 professionals from neighboring countries, provided free antiretroviral treatment and PMTCT services to 1106 foreigners living with HIV and offered free testing and services for 70,000 foreigners. Yunnan has turned into an HIV/AIDS prevention demonstration province from a province severely affected by HIV/AIDS.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We will stay true to our mission, keep moving forward and consolidate what we have achieved. In the following five years, we will provide HIV testing services to no less than 50 million people in the province and life-saving treatment to another 50,000 people. We have every confidence that with determination we will be the first to achieve the “three 90s” goal in China. I am firmly convinced that this dream will bring hope, and our pragmatic actions will result in great achievements.

Last but not least, I welcome all of you to visit Yunnan Province, to share your precious experience with us and to offer your guidance to our work.

Thank you!