

THEMATIC SEGMENT AGENDA

Testing and HIV

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UNAIDS/PCB - 53

DATE: 14 December 2023

VENUE: Geneva, Switzerland

TIME: 09:00 – 16:30

Key objectives and focus of the meeting

This thematic segment will provide an opportunity for the PCB to discuss the importance of HIV testing as the gateway to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services. Practical approaches of improving testing will be promoted to help countries to improve the service covering the last miles with attention to those who have been left behind. Key and relevant constraining structural and system-related factors will be addressed so that testing services can be person-centred, individual and community needs-focused, integrated, functional, effective and sustainable.

In particular, the thematic segment will focus on the following issues:

1. Analyze the gaps in HIV testing against global HIV targets and highlight priorities in meeting the unmet needs of individuals and priority communities
2. Highlight the recent and key normative policies and guidance pertaining to the area of testing and HIV
3. Identify the progress, challenges and solutions in areas of Testing for HIV, Testing for monitoring Treatment and enabling factors to assist all countries to reach the treatment cascade and HIV prevention targets by 2025
4. Explore actions to be recommended for improving access, uptake, quality, effectiveness and sustainability of testing services based on the good practices from countries; and
5. Suggest actions for the near future

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Moderator:

Angeli Achrekar, Deputy Executive Director, Programme, UNAIDS Secretariat

09:00 – 09:30 Opening dialogue and keynote addresses

The keynote speakers will provide big-picture strategic vision regarding the session objectives.

- *Winnie Byanyima*, UNAIDS Executive Director
- *Professor Kevin Fenton*, Regional Director at the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities, Department of Health and Social Care, UK
- *Daughtie Ogutu*, Programme Manager, GNP+, Kenya

09:30 – 10:00 Session overview

This session will provide the main highlights from the thematic segment background note.

- *Meg Doherty*, Director Global HIV, Hepatitis and STI Programmes, World Health Organization

Remarks from the floor

10:00 – 11:00 Panel discussion 1: Testing for HIV – HIV testing modalities

This session will feature a panel of speakers who will focus on the modalities for testing for HIV, namely on community engagement in HIV testing services and lay-providers performing testing for HIV after training; facility-based testing and using the opportunity of integrated HIV testing at primary health care facilities; as well as testing for ending pediatric AIDS, experiences from antenatal and Maternal Child Health clinics.

- *Jemma Samitpol*, Tangerine Clinic, Thailand
- *Stephen Watiti*, Positive clinician, Uganda
- *Loise Maturu*, Zvandiri, Zimbabwe

Remarks from the floor

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:30 Panel discussion 2: Testing for HIV – meet the differentiated testing, prevention and treatment needs of populations left behind

This session will feature a panel of speakers who will focus on practical ways in delivering testing services for key populations, including social network testing and community mobilization; HIV testing for adolescents and young people; and testing for the men who are missed out.

- *Sergey Dugin*, Humanitarian Action Fund, Russian Federation
- *Youba Darif*, Founder of Roots Lab for Gender and Development, Morocco
- *Mohammad Afsar*, International Labour Organization
- *Mohammed Majam*, Director Medical Technology, Ezintsha, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

Remarks from the floor

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch Break

13:30 – 14:30 Panel discussion 3: Testing for People living with HIV – Comprehensive Testing and Diagnostic Services

This session will feature a panel of speakers who will focus on viral load testing and CD4 testing, planning and implementation; integration of HIV testing services with other disease programmes (including safety of treatment, as well as testing for non-communicable diseases); as well as Public Health Laboratory systems for testing quality assurance and drug resistance monitoring.

- *Alisson Bigolin*, Head of the Diagnostics Division, Ministry of Health, Brazil
- *Maxwell Mumba*, UNITAID Community Board Delegation Member, Zambia
- *Jin Cong*, National Center for AIDS/STD Control and Prevention, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, China

Remarks from the floor

14:30 – 15:30 Panel discussion 3: Testing for People living with HIV – Ethics, Policy and Systems

This session will feature a panel of speakers who will share a country experience on age of consent for HIV testing; human rights and gender consideration in promoting testing; as well as health system support – access and procurement and supply chain management for testing.

- *Prof Anne Cécile Zoung-kani Bisseck*, Directrice de la recherche opérationnelle en santé, Ministère de la Santé, Cameroun
- *Aditia Taslim*, INPUD/UNITAID Communities Delegation, Indonesia
- *Sarah Mayuni*, Lead Pharmacist, Department of HIV, STI and Viral Hepatitis, Ministry of Health, Malawi

Remarks from the floor

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break

16:00 – 16:30 Conclusions and the way forward

- **Christine Stegling**, Deputy Executive Director, Policy, Advocacy and Knowledge, UNAIDS Secretariat