

AIDS Action and Botswana:
Lessons in Capacity Building and Importance of Research
Gaborone, Botswana
January 21-24, 2007

Preliminary Program

Sunday, January 21, 2007 - Reception/Dinner

* to be confirmed

6:00-7:00PM Registration and Reception

7:00-9:00PM Keynote address and Dinner*

Monday, January 22, 2007: DAY ONE

7:00-8:00AM Breakfast and registration

8:00-8:30AM Welcome and Introduction

Speaker Balopi, Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum

Joseph Makhema, Botswana-Harvard Partnership

8:30-10:00AM **Session 1: HIV/AIDS: Disease Characteristics**

Epidemiology

- Pathophysiology
- Subtypes and recombinants
- Transmission

Chair: **Kasonde Bowa**, University of Zambia

Max Essex, Harvard AIDS Initiative

Discussion

10:00-10:15AM Tea break

Monday, January 22, 2007: DAY ONE (continued)

10:15AM-12:30PM **Session 2: HIV/AIDS: Advances in Treatment**

Chair: **Rajendrakumar Mungur**, Parliament of Mauritius
Co-Chair: **Christine Sadia**, United Nations Development Fund for Women

Treatment

- ARVs (What can parliamentarians do to facilitate access to treatment by all)
Richard Marlink, Harvard School of Public Health
- Drug resistance
Hermann Bussmann, Botswana-Harvard Partnership
- Clinical spectrum and treatment of HIV-related diseases
Bill Wester, Botswana-Harvard Partnership

Discussion

12:30-1:30PM Lunch

1:30-3:30PM **Session 3: HIV/AIDS: Prevention Strategies**

Chair: **T.C. Fantan**, African Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Partnerships
Co-Chair: **Sara Page**, SAFAIDS

Prevention

- Monitoring Implementation of Universal Access to Prevention, Treatment, and Care
Mark Stirling, UNAIDS, East and Central Africa.
- Male Circumcision/Condoms (Commodity security issues, circumcision, the need for coordinated action by all of society-government, traditional leaders, religious leaders, civil society actors and parliamentarians)
Kasonde Bowa, University of Zambia
- VCT
Claire Moffat, Botswana-Harvard Partnership
- PMTCT
Carolyn Wester, Botswana-Harvard Partnership
- Cost effectiveness of prevention, care and treatment programs
Richard Marlink, Harvard School of Public Health
- Microbicides
Saidi Kapiga, Harvard School of Public Health
- Vaccines
Joseph Makhema, Botswana-Harvard Partnership

Discussion

Monday, January 22, 2007: DAY ONE (continued)

3:30-3:45PM Tea break

3:45-5:30PM **Session 4: HIV/AIDS: Understanding the Impact of the Epidemic**

Impact

- Advocacy and Governance issues for Member states
- Africa's Common position on HIV/AIDS political commitment
- Orphan crisis-Parliamentary implementation of UNGASS commitments
- Resources for information on HIV/AIDS in the SADC region

Chair: **Job Sithole**, Parliament of South Africa

Co-Chair: **Brionne Dawson**, National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

Caroline Sande, ActionAid

Christine Sadia, United Nations Development Fund for Women

Boemo M Sekgoma, Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum

Rodwell Shamu, Save the Children UK

5:45PM Closing remarks/Housekeeping Notes

No formal dinner scheduled.

Tuesday, January 23, 2007: DAY TWO

7:30-8:00AM Breakfast and check-in
Welcome-Housekeeping notes

8:00-9:00AM **Session 5: Research as Means to Build Capacity**

Chair: **Blessing Chebundu**, Parliament of Zimbabwe

Co-Chair: **Bookie Kethusegile**, Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum

Building Capacity: Lessons learned from Botswana

– Overview of the BHP and its research activities

Joseph Makhema, Botswana-Harvard Partnership

– Community participation and impact of findings on community and policies

Rupert Hambira, Botswana-Harvard Partnership

Margaret Davis, BOTUSA*

– Issues of participant protection/Ethics

Shenaaz El-Halabi, Botswana Ministry of Health

Daniel Wikler, Harvard School of Public Health

9:00-10:00AM – Building blocks of a treatment program
Tendani Galoathe, Botswana-Harvard Partnership

– How to build laboratory capacity

Rosemary Musonda, Botswana-Harvard Partnership

- HIV/AIDS care and treatment: Training healthcare workers
Ndwapi Ndwapi, Botswana-Harvard Partnership
Christine Bussmann, Botswana-Harvard Partnership

Tuesday, January 23, 2007: DAY TWO (continued)

Discussion

10:00-10:15AM

Tea break

10:15AM-12:30PM

Session 6: Benefits and Challenges of Studies in Southern Africa: Examples from SADC Countries

Botswana, Lesotho, South Africa, Swaziland, Namibia

- Generalized epidemics groups
- Risk behaviors
- Prevalence changes

Chair: **Joseph Makhema**, Botswana-Harvard Partnership

Co-Chair: **Innocent Modisaotsile**, Southern African Development Community

Keketso Sefeane, Lesotho National AIDS Commission

Nomonde Xundu, HIV&AIDS/STI&TB (South Africa)

Khanya Mabuza, Swaziland National HIV/AIDS Programme

Ella Kaunapawa Shihepo, Namibia National AIDS Coordinating Programs

Mauritius, Angola, Madagascar, DRC

- Prevention efforts to support low HIV prevalence rates
- Links between higher- and lower-risk populations should be investigated

Chair: **Poloko Kebaabetswe**, Baylor AITRP

Co-Chair: **Caroline Sande**, ActionAid International

Dra Ducelina Serrano, Angola National Institute of HIV/AIDS

Mosa Milaso, Emergencies and Fight Against Communicable Diseases (Madagascar)

Discussion

12:30-1:30PM

Lunch

Tuesday, January 23, 2007: DAY TWO (continued)

1:30-2:30PM **Session 6: Benefits and Challenges of Studies in Southern Africa: Examples from SADC Countries (cont'd)**

Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique

- Behavioral data collection
- Sero-surveillance activities
- Monitoring HIV in the general population, especially in youth

Chair: **Rupert Hambira**, Botswana-Harvard Partnership

Co-Chair: **Khumo Seipone**, Botswana HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care

Herman Lupogo, Tanzania Commission for AIDS

Arnon Mpfu, Zimbabwe National AIDS Council

Bizwick Mwale, Malawi National AIDS Commission

Joana Lisboa Mangureira, Mozambique National AIDS Commission

2:30-4:30PM
*Buses to pick-up
at Gaborone Sun*

Concurrent tour groups (15pp) of BHP and study sites

[Each group will tour in a circuit to see all of the sites below]

- Group A – Lab 1
Rosemary Musonda, Botswana-Harvard Partnership
- Group B – Data Management Center
Eric Widenfelt, Botswana-Harvard Partnership
- Group C – Tshepo
Bill Wester, Botswana-Harvard Partnership
- Group D – MTCT/MASA
Carolyn Wester, Botswana-Harvard Partnership
- Group E – Vaccine Clinic
Lawrence Mwananyanda, Botswana-Harvard Partnership

4:30-5:45PM Plenary Session – Remarks/Housekeeping Notes

7:00PM Reception and Dinner
How Research Transformed Botswana
Sheila Tlou, Botswana Ministry of Health

Wednesday, January 24, 2007: DAY THREE

7:30-8:00AM Breakfast and check-in
Welcome-Housekeeping notes

8:00-10:30AM **Session 7: HIV/AIDS Capacity Building in SADC Countries**

Program Implementation and Parliamentary Engagement

- Sustainability of capacity building for members of Parliament-“ The Case of a SADC Parliamentary leadership centre”
- Domestic and international cooperation and mobilization
- Roles of MP’s on budget tracking
- The role of Parliamentary oversight and legislative Function in responding to HIV/AIDS
- TIPS and access to treatment by all citizens
- Standard of care
- Quality Assurance

Chair: **Nora Schimming-Chase**, Parliament of Namibia

Co-Chair: **Isabella Magetse**, Republic of Botswana

Panel discussion:

Bookie Kethusegile Juru, Southern African Development Community
Parliamentary Forum

Josina Machel, IDASA

Brienne Dawson, National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

Tenu Avafia, UNDP Regional Support Office

10:30-10:45AM Tea break

10:45AM-12:30PM **Session 7: HIV/AIDS Capacity Building in SADC Countries (continued)**

- Country specific challenges to implementing AIDS research
- Country and regional action plans to guide the processes of HIV and AIDS, gender and development

Chair: **Rotimi Johnson**, CREDO AFRICA

Co-Chair: **Lediana Mafuru Mng'ong'o**, Parliament of Tanzania

Panel discussion:

Mary Crewe, Centre for the Studies of AIDS

Boemo Sekgoma, Southern African Development Community Parliamentary
Forum

Innocent Modisaotsile, Southern African Development Community

12:30-1:30PM Lunch

Wednesday, January 24, 2007: DAY THREE

1:30-3:30PM

Session 8: Benefits of SADC Countries Working Together

- a) How southern African countries can build a united response to HIV/AIDS
- b) How Members of Parliament can facilitate research findings to shape public policies
- c) Research as a tool to develop national responses/capacity building
- d) Review best practices in developing international partnerships to further research and development

Chair: **Alfredo Junior**, Parliament of Angola

Panel discussion:

Discussant to be SADC Secretariat, Pan African Parliament. TBC*

Sheila Tlou, Botswana Ministry of Health*

Ntlhoi Motsamai, Lesotho Parliament*

Mary Crewe, Centre for Human Rights*

3:30-3:45PM

Conclusion – Open Plenary Discussion

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- **The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation**
- **Botswana Harvard School of Public Health AIDS Initiative Partnership for HIV Research and Education**
- **Fogarty International Training Program in AIDS-related Epidemiology**
- **Harvard School of Public Health AIDS Initiative**
- **The Parliament of Botswana**
- **Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum**
- **UNAIDS East and Central Africa**