



ONUSIDA
PROGRAMA CONJUNTO DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS SOBRE EL VIH/SIDA

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INTENTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION, UNICEF & ONUSIDA

HIV/AIDS threaten the life of infants as never before. Even though the vast majority of people that live with HIV are adults, a sixth part of the total number of people that die due to AIDS related causes and a seventh part of people that acquire HIV in the world are boys and girls under the age of 15 years old. As we reach the beginning of the third decade of this disease, **a boy or a girl dies every minute due to diseases related with Aids and a young person acquires HIV every 15 seconds.**

As of two decades since the beginning of the epidemic, the area which has shown the least progress is the one concerning boys, girls and adolescents affected by HIV/AIDS. **Less than 10%** of the pregnant women at a global level and less than 30% in Latin America and the Caribbean, that live with HIV have access to information in order to avoid the transmission of the virus to their sons or an antiretroviral treatment to try and avoid the progress of the disease: **less than 3% of the boys and girls** who have lost their father or mother, or both, due to AIDS, receive support or have access to these services.

Therefore, the United Nations Joint Program for AIDS, ONUSIDA, UNICEF and the Lions Club International Association in Central America have agreed to establish a cooperation alliance in relation to the Commitment Declaration of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session about HIV/AIDS, celebrated in 2001 – UNGASS.

This Cooperation Alliance will allow us to work jointly in order to move human and financial resources, in accordance with the nature of the activities, with the objective of promoting the Universal Access in the Prevention, Treatment and Care as well as education and information in regards to the transmission of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

and the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), as well as other sexual transmitted infections.

Our cooperation interest has as a framework of reference, the Millennium Development Objectives No.6: Battle HIV/AIDS, Paludism and other diseases. Having detained and starting to reduce, for the year 2015 the spread of HIV/AIDS. The 189 State Members of the United Nations have set these goals and are committed in achieving them. Besides, the present cooperation should be guided by the parameters of the Human Rights for those peoples that live with HIV, the fight against any type of stigma, discrimination, equity and equality of the gender.

The Lions Club International Association, as an important partner of the United Nations Organization, since its foundation, will work during the year 2008, and the following years, as required, in providing support to the activities of the regional Campaign who's leader will be UNICEF, "*Únete por la niñez, Únete con la juventud, Únete para vencer el SIDA*". The campaign offers a framework based on human rights and is centered in infancy matters for the programs in the Central America countries that revolve around four urgent imperatives which may truly change the life's and possibilities of the boys and girls affected by HIV/AIDS. The "Four P's" are:

- Prevention of the transmission from mother to child
- Provide pediatric treatment
- Prevent infections between adolescents and young people
- Protect and provide care for boys and girls affected with HIV/AIDS

In order to perform the activities the Lions Club will receive the technical support and collaboration from the United Nations Joint Program for HIV/AIDS (ONUSIDA) and the Regional office of UNICEF for Latin America and the Caribbean.

This agreement must be implemented in Central American countries, therefore the elaboration of a Strategic Plan will be done in order to take care of the epidemiological conditions and provide answers to each country. We suggest that said plan be signed by the national authorities, by the governors of the Lions Clubs of the country and by the representatives of the ONU agencies. The plan must contemplate a description of the activities to be developed, an estimated budget, a division of labors, responsibilities and resources between the signing organizations.

Given in the City of Panama on the 21st day of February, 2008.

Signatures:

PDG. Ricardo Domínguez Posada
President of the Governor`s Council
Multiple District D Istmania

Mr Nils Kastberg
Regional Director of UNICEF
for Latin America & Caribbean

Dr. César Antonio Núñez
Regional Director of ONUSIDA for
Latin America