

UNAIDS – HR, gender, CS & PLHIV

1. To what extent has UNAIDS
 - a) incorporated gender & human rights issues into its own policies & programmes and
 - b) supported efforts by countries to address these issues?
1. Has UNAIDS succeeded in supporting the active and meaningful engagement of civil society & PLHIV in the response to HIV & AIDS at global and national levels?

- Moderately positive on both issues – global & country level
- Need to make a difference between Human Rights & gender.
- Generally more positive about human rights than gender – however there are groups not addressed (eg migrants, refugees, internally displaced people)
- However, advocacy for ART in humanitarian situations is improving
- IV drugs users need more attention

Gender

- definition is unclear and does not account for transgender
- More attention to sexual minorities needed
- Sexual reproductive health & rights still very sensitive – influences policy
- Big issue around access for youth to information & commodities – for girls & boys
- Incorporated at global level but is it activated at country level?
- Global Fund is ahead on Gender issues – UNAIDS lagging behind

Engaging with Civil Society & PLHIV

- Reaction: Global level - very positive Country level – positive (also a role of national government)
- India – very positive experience of engaging Civil Society at large – mainly due to active role of UCC
- Joint teams at Country level - Joint programmes give agencies the power to address sensitive issues – more outspoken than individually.
- Issues not considered adequately – Sex workers, children with HIV

Recommendations to ET

- Look at effectiveness of UNAIDS advocacy tools for influencing national policy & legislation
- Look at the influence of preconditions for funding on policy
- Include groups not currently targeted by UNAIDS (SH willing to share contact lists)
- Look at role of UNAIDS in humanitarian situations
- Global level – look at engagement NGOs in PCB – including voting rights, might have implications for ECOSOC