



MÉXICO

**Statement by Dr. Jose Angel Cordova Villalobos,
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United Nations High Level Meeting for HIV/AIDS

Intervention as Chief of the Mexican Delegation

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(check against delivery)

Good afternoon to everyone,
Distinguished personalities who join us today.
Dear Ministers, ladies and gentlemen, friends all.

We know that there are about 33,3 million people living with HIV in the world and that the new infections diminished in 20% in the past decade. Speaking about one of the most exposed issues in terms of universal access, we had global antiretroviral treatment coverage of the 36% by 2009. Latin America is nowadays the region with the largest percentage of covered people in need for the antiretroviral treatment, with a 51%.

As national representatives, we need to join forces and establish regional and global alliances between ourselves and other actors such as organized civil society, people living with HIV, academy, scientific community, United Nations and other cooperation instances, in order to articulately respond to the HIV/AIDS epidemic and fulfill with the compromised goals by our countries when we adopted the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS; also fulfilling the 6th Objective of the Millennium Development Goals.

Now is time to reaffirm our obligation to have a strong, effective and sustainable multisectorial response for the next decades.

In order to improve and make more effective the response to this epidemic, I would like to highlight the following points. As soon as possible, it is essential that all countries have sustainable mechanisms and are able to offer an opportune, sustainable and permanently free antiretroviral treatment to every person who is medically indicated.

We require working along in the cost reduction and the purchase price of the antiretroviral treatment, in low-income as well as middle-income countries. We also

call to redouble efforts in order to increase in a significantly way the prevention and promotion strategies on health, focusing in the most risk and vulnerable groups to the HIV, without disregarding other groups from general population.

UNAIDS says it, “know your epidemic, know your response”; for Mexico it is essential that in the context of a comprehensive response to the HIV/AIDS, the best possible data is generated in order to know which are the social and personal determinants for health that are influencing in this context.

Considering what was mentioned before, it is highly important to give more exposure and attention to the need of the men that have sex with men, sex workers, people that use drugs, transsexuals, transgender, the youngest people in this group are the most vulnerable within vulnerable.

We cannot forget about teenagers, mobile populations, women in vulnerability and detainees, who are also placed in context of high vulnerability to HIV.

The elimination of vertical transmission of HIV and congenital syphilis is also essential for Mexico. We need to strength forces to implement immediate actions. It is unacceptable that children are still being born with HIV and / or syphilis.

We will continue our efforts to convince foreign countries about the importance of promoting the promotion of friendly healthcare systems, as well as comprehensive sex education as bases for prevention in order to avoid new HIV infections in our present and future generations.

To achieve this, we call to all the countries congregated here today in order that your actions are based in the framework of respect to the human rights and focusing on gender equity, that allow to consolidate an effective response to the HIV/AIDS without stigmas, discrimination, homophobia, transphobia; as well as any type of violence.

To the extent that we achieve a response for the HIV/AIDS that join these elements, we will guarantee a solid and successful response to this epidemic.

This is not the time for complacency or censorship. This is the time to energetically confront the AIDS from our domains: governments, scientific community, civil society and the United Nations system.

Let's walk forward TOGETHER.

Thank you very much.