



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

22 April 2016

Excellency,

In accordance with sub-paragraph 2a and paragraph 14 of resolution 70/228 entitled Organization of the 2016 high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS, I have the pleasure to inform you of the themes for the five panel discussions, to be held as part of the high-level meeting. The panel themes are as follows:

**Panel 1:** AIDS within the SDGs: leveraging the end of AIDS for social transformation and sustainable development

**Panel 2:** Financing the end of AIDS: the window of opportunity

**Panel 3:** Getting ahead of the looming treatment crisis: an action agenda for getting to 90-90-90

**Panel 4:** Leaving no one behind: ending stigma and discrimination through social justice and inclusive societies

**Panel 5:** Children, adolescent girls, and young women: preventing new HIV infections

The panel discussions will be interactive and multi-stakeholder in nature. They will provide opportunities for Member States to engage in a dialogue to promote political commitment, share good practices, draw on lessons learned and foster innovation and partnerships towards a paradigm of global solidarity and shared responsibility to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030.

I take this opportunity to thank all delegations for their interest and support to the high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS and look forward to your continued active engagement in its preparations.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mogens Lykketoft', written in a cursive style.

Mogens Lykketoft

To all Permanent Representatives  
And Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York

### **Thematic panel discussions**

The 2016 high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS can help bring needed services to people living with, affected by and at risk of HIV and advance efforts to leave no one behind. The panels set out to highlight progress and challenges in the AIDS response to date and focus on what is required to end AIDS by 2030, including by promoting political commitment, drawing on lessons learned and sharing good practices. The panels provide opportunities for Member States to engage in a dialogue with the United Nations system, civil society, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to foster innovation and partnerships towards a paradigm of global solidarity and shared responsibility.

#### **Panel 1: AIDS within the SDGs: leveraging the end of AIDS for social transformation and sustainable development**

The AIDS response is interwoven with, and interdependent upon, progress across a range of Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs (including poverty eradication, gender equality, education, access to justice and inclusive societies and institutions) as well as across targets within the health goal. This panel will discuss how to best leverage these synergies, as well as distil key lessons learned from the AIDS response that can help to accelerate progress across SDGs.

#### **Panel 2: Financing the end of AIDS: the window of opportunity**

Fast tracking the response in the next five years is critical to ending AIDS by 2030. Without sufficient and sustainable financing, we risk losing the gains made so far and could potentially face a rebound of the epidemic. This panel will explore how to frontload investments both in high burden and low prevalence countries, in line with the principle of shared responsibility and global solidarity. It will also discuss how to foster new and invigorated partnerships among Member States, the private sector and civil society, building on the commitments of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development.

#### **Panel 3: Getting ahead of the looming treatment crisis: an action agenda for getting to 90-90-90**

Ensuring healthy lives and promoting wellbeing for all and at all ages, including people living with and at high risk of HIV, is essential for sustainable development. This panel will address the critical issue of scaling up and sustaining access to treatment for all people living with HIV. The panel will focus on efforts to get to 90-90-90 and ensure access to quality and affordable medicines and commodities, including through the use of TRIPS flexibilities.

#### **Panel 4: Leaving no one behind: ending stigma and discrimination through social justice and inclusive societies**

The AIDS epidemic and response brought to light the urgency of leaving no one behind as a public health necessity and as a moral and human rights imperative. However, data indicates that many have no access to HIV services. Vulnerability to and the impact of HIV is fuelled by stigma, discrimination and exacerbated by unequal access to social goods and services. This panel will explore the opportunity offered by the 2030 Agenda to realize the vision and commitments to advance the principles of equality and inclusion and achieve the health targets for people living with, affected by and at risk of HIV.

#### **Panel 5: Children, adolescent girls, and young women: preventing new HIV infections**

In 2014, there were close to 350,000 new HIV infections among young women aged 10 to 24 globally. The greater risk of exposure, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa, combined with biological susceptibility, means HIV continues to disproportionately affect young women and adolescent girls. Empowering adolescent girls and young women to claim their rights, protect their sexual and reproductive health, access services and live free of violence and discrimination is at the core of ending the AIDS epidemic. The panel will discuss addressing the particular needs of children, adolescent girls and young women as a central part of the effort to end AIDS.