

Amsterdam Office Eerste Helmersstraat 17B3 1054 CX Amsterdam The Netherlands

Cape Town Office Workshop17 32 Kloof Street, Cape Town South Africa

t +31-20-423 4114 | e info@gnpplus.net | w www.gnpplus.net

Written statement in consideration of the Negotiating text of the WHO Pandemic Agreement-INB7:6-10/11/2023

The Global Network of people living with HIV, GNP+, seize the opportunity to provide inputs on the Negotiating Text of the WHO pandemic Agreement. Our comments are based on both the UN general Assembly adopted Political declarations respectively on HIV and AIDS, (A/RES/75/284) and on Pandemic Prevention Preparedness and Response (A/RES/78/3), and the experiences of People living with HIV around the world gathered in GNP+ report titled living with HIV in the time of COVID-19

In many countries COVID 19 led to massive disruption of access to HIV live saving treatment (UNAIDS 2020), increasing the vulnerability of people living with HIV. Similarly, stigma and discrimination exacerbated,

In line with the above evidence, GNP+ suggest the following inputs:

1. Article1. Use of terms

(i) Persons in vulnerable situations: When defining and referring to Persons in vulnerable situations, we strongly recommend adding people living with Chronic health Conditions, inter alia, people living with HIV as spelled out the political declaration on PPR in Paragraph 7

Article 6-2-a: 2

The continued essential health services must recognize the unconditional continuity of access to services and live saving treatment for population with chronic health condition. Reference paragraph 34 and 67 of the Political declaration.

3. Article 17.3

While we are welcoming the whole of government and whole of society approaches, the agreement cannot only promote the meaningful engagement of communities and civil society, it must seek for commitment for establishment of mechanisms for meaningful and effective engagement of communities and civil society as spelled out in the political declaration on PPR par 67.

Text suggestion:

Each Party shall, [REMOVE: in accordance with its national context, promote the] [ADD : establish mechanism for] effective and meaningful [ADD: leadership and] engagement of communities, civil society and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, as part of a whole-of-society response in decision-making, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and shall also provide effective feedback opportunities.