



UNAIDS statement, World Health Assembly 77th.

Agenda item: **29 _ Matters for information: progress reports (the global health sector strategies on, respectively, HIV, viral hepatitis, and sexually transmitted infections, resolution WHA75.20 (2022))**

Delivery: **UNAIDS**

- Chair, Excellencies, delegates, as one of the 11 cosponsors of the Joint United Nations Programme on AIDS (UNAIDS), WHO leads on technical aspects of the health sector response to HIV and AIDS.
- The global HIV response has been - a successful whole of government, whole of society comprehensive multisectoral response to one of the deadliest pandemics of our time – and WHO's leadership has been critical to this.
- Despite there being no cure for AIDS nor a vaccine for HIV, we have achieved record-breaking declines in new HIV infections and in AIDS-related deaths.
- We have brought down the price of treatment and diagnostics, strengthened health systems and infrastructure, and witnessed the rise of a unique cadre of community-led organizations and community health workers.
- HIV services have been tailored to reach those who need them the most, also where they do not engage or trust the traditional health system.
- HIV has shown us that beyond being a health issue, a pandemic is a gender, social, economic, security, legal and human rights issue.
- Where we are not seeing progress is where the evidence-informed progress, including on sexual and reproductive health and rights, the human rights of LGBTQI people and women and girls in all their diversity is being challenged.
- UNAIDS congratulates WHO's HIV Department for its engagement in multisectoral approaches with civil society, community leadership and its focus on human rights at the centre.
- These are valuable approaches for better health outcomes across the Board and the HIV Department is showing the way.
- Thank you.