

*Executive Director*

*Reference: EXO/2019/550*

For the attention of all  
Permanent Representatives  
to the United Nations Office  
in Geneva

13 December 2019

Dear Ambassador,

I have the honour to refer to the “Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS: On the Fast-Track to Accelerate the Fight against HIV and to End the AIDS Epidemic by 2030” (General Assembly resolution A/70/L.52) adopted at the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting on AIDS in June 2016. While it is the first time that I am addressing you on this issue as the new Executive Director of UNAIDS, I request your continued support in maintaining the outstanding record of national reporting on the global AIDS response. It continues to be one of the leading international accountability mechanisms on any global commitment.

Just ahead of World AIDS Day, we were able to announce that a record 24.5 million of the 37.9 million people living with HIV globally are on treatment using your country reported data. There are only 18 months left to close the gap and reach the 2020 targets of 30 million people receiving treatment. Measuring progress is crucial for reaching the Sustainable Development Goals and keeping us all accountable towards the global commitment and targets.

Country-reported data on the global AIDS monitoring (GAM) framework for 2016–2021 were used to inform the “Communities at the centre – defending rights, breaking barriers, reaching people with HIV services” report, which was released at World AIDS Conference in July 2019. Full datasets are available through AIDSInfo (<http://aidsinfo.unaids.org/>). This year’s report paid special attention to addressing the barriers that stand in the way of better health, including stigma and discrimination, lack of knowledge and gender-based violence. Collective efforts are called for to expand HIV prevention, testing and treatment, as well as to implement structural actions to reach the targets.

UNAIDS  
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UNHCR  
UNICEF  
WFP  
UNDP  
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UN WOMEN  
ILO  
UNESCO  
WHO  
WORLD BANK

20 Avenue Appia  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

+41 22 791 4722 office  
+41 22 791 4179 fax

[unaids.org](http://unaids.org)

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To inform the Secretary-General and General Assembly on the progress in the AIDS response, as well as contribute to improved understanding of the country's response to the epidemic, we invite your country to submit its monitoring data and a narrative report for the year ending in December 2019. The GAM indicator set for 2020 reporting is minimally modified, by including one new indicator, and with the removal of three indicators. The data should be entered in the GAM online reporting tool by **31 March 2020**. Technical guidance on the 2020 reporting process is sent electronically to country rapporteurs and is available on the UNAIDS website. Your office may send any questions to [AIDSreporting@unaids.org](mailto:AIDSreporting@unaids.org).

Let me express my appreciation to your Government for continuing its efforts in the AIDS response and reiterate the commitment of UNAIDS to support you in monitoring, reviewing, reporting and using evidence on progress towards the targets contained in the Political Declaration, and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Yours sincerely,



Winnie Byanyima