

**Technical Meeting for the Development of a Framework for Universal Access to HIV/AIDS  
Prevention, Care, Treatment and Support in the Health Sector in Geneva,  
18-20 October 2005**

WHO hosted a Technical Meeting for the Development of a Framework for Universal Access to HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care, Treatment and Support in the Health Sector in Geneva, 18-20 October 2005. The purpose of the meeting was to consider a framework to enable universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment and support in the health sector. This meeting was held in response to the July 2005 G8 Summit commitment to work "... with WHO, UNAIDS and other international bodies to develop and implement a package of HIV prevention, treatment and care, with the aim of as close as possible to universal access to treatment for all those who need it by 2010."

During the meeting the following issues were discussed:

- (1) Considerations of a number of provisional definition(s)/scope for universal access and universal coverage and their implications for sustained scale-up of prevention, care, treatment and support services in the health sector with the objectives:
  - to reach a common understanding on how to define and use these concepts of universal access and coverage in the context of HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care, based on reviewing the current debate around these concepts in the health sector;
  - to agree on a number of principles to take into account in defining targets for universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care;
  - to review the lessons learnt from the scale-up of treatment intervention for target setting.
  
- (2) Consideration of a proposal for a framework for prevention, care, treatment and support - the core elements and the enabling conditions with the objective:
  - to provide an overview of the proposed framework for prevention, care, treatment and support and engage in a discussion of the framework and its various elements.
  
- (3) Consideration of the operational implications and scaling up requirements for achieving universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment and support including:
  - to provide an opportunity to discuss the operational implications for achieving universal access by 2010;
  - to provide an opportunity to identify the key components for advancing the goal of universal access in the health sector;
  - to identify opportunities to coincidentally promote a scaled up response to HIV/AIDS as well as other health priorities.

The meeting outcomes included:

- Agreement for a working definition for universal access and coverage based on globally accepted guidelines for adaptation at the country level;
- General endorsement for a framework with recommendations for further development including the requirement for operational guidance for scaling up interventions;
- Promote a public health approach that integrates HIV/AIDS work in a manner that strengthens the broader health system and promotes prevention, care, treatment and support;
- A requirement to determine the participation of non-state critical stakeholders/partners (e.g. FBO, CBO, private sector), and other state partners delivering health services (e.g., corrections); Clarity required regarding the roles and mandates of the UNAIDS co-sponsors, especially for prevention strategies.

The meeting concluded with a number of next steps supporting the continued dialogue on universal access at regional and sub regional meetings, with the goal to prepare a final resolution and documentation for the WHO Executive Board Meeting (January 2006) and World Health Assembly (May 2006).