



For Immediate Release

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NGOs commit to a shared vision of good practice in responding to HIV/ADS

The Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS North America (GNP+NA) and the International Community of Women in North America (ICWNA) join over one hundred and sixty NGOs from around the world in signing on to *Renewing Our Voice: Code of Good Practice for NGOs Responding to HIV/AIDS*. The Code was launched globally on December 1, 2004.

“The global momentum to address the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS is now greater than ever. This has brought fresh hope, but also new challenges. Now, more than ever, it is vital that the plethora of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) commit to a shared vision of good practice in our programmes and advocacy efforts so we can harness that momentum,” stated Deloris Dockrey, Steering Committee and Global Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS North America member.

“The proliferation of NGOs involved in responding to HIV/AIDS has led to a fragmentation and dilution of our voice, and has sometimes come at the expense of accountability and quality programming” she added.

A diverse range of NGOs have signed on to the Code. Among them, organisations of people living with HIV/AIDS; faith based organisations as well as humanitarian and development NGOs. All are now adapting their programmes to respond more effectively to the challenges of HIV/AIDS. Sexual and reproductive health-focused NGOs are integrating HIV/AIDS within their work.

Dockrey said “The wide scope of signatory NGOs augurs well the idea that the Code can renew our collective advocacy voice in the HIV/AIDS response. It is hoped that governments and donors will also welcome the contribution of the NGO voice reflected in this Code, as it pushes us all closer to the goal of more effective responses to HIV/AIDS.”

Further information about the project and the full version of *Renewing Our Voice: Code of Good Practice for NGOs Responding to HIV/AIDS* are available on line. The direct link to Code: www.ifrc.org/what/health/hivaids/code/

The NGO HIV/AIDS Code of Good Practice Project is a joint initiative of ActionAid International • CARE USA • Global Health Council • GNP+ • Grupo Pela Vidda • Hong Kong AIDS Foundation • ICASO • International Federation of Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies • International Harm Reduction Association • International HIV/AIDS Alliance • World Council of Churches

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