

Rapporteur's report:

Panel 1: Universal Access and HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence

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Speakers: *Mariangela Simao, Brazil*
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Highlights

- Heard a lot of things, including about the personal impact – unusual because most people affected stay hidden; heard about the experience of one country that provides ART to migrants and has not been “overwhelmed”
- Talking about something bigger than HIV – the human rights and treatment of migrants. It is bigger than a health issue and have to work with people from ministries of migration, interior and justice to get the solutions.
- Task Team created a lot of momentum, and have to keep this up, keep up the pressure/dialogue with those who have restrictions. Have seen tremendous examples of governments being champions, taking this up with other governments – this is immensely powerful. ***The 108 have to talk to the 59!***

Barriers to Universal Access

- Restrictions increase stigma around HIV and discourage *all* people from taking up HIV prevention, treatment, care and support
- Restrictions mean HIV testing without counselling, confidentiality, informed consent, and access to treatment
- Restrictions may create a false sense of security for the national population
- Migrants in a country with restrictions fear getting tested, and if positive, fear accessing health services
- Travellers stop taking their medication

Examples of action that needs to be taken

Solutions	Actors
Bilateral/regional government advocacy and action for the elimination of restrictions (e.g. EU, AU)	Ministries of Foreign Affairs, national AIDS programmes; health and migration authorities
Integrating HIV into the work of migrant organisations; creation of national/regional “task teams”	Networks of people living with HIV; migrant, HRts groups
Working with/educating Ministries of Interior, Migration, Foreign Affairs, HRts on HIV and need to separate out health	Min of Health, national AIDS programmes; UNAIDS Programme
Donor strong encouragement of grants to people on the move, lifting restrictions	Global Fund, PEPFAR and other bilaterals

Conclusions and Recommendations

- Restrictions represent an outdated, discriminatory and ineffective approach to HIV
- Universal Access for *everyone* – nationals and non-nationals – is a more effective way to protect the public health than restrictions
- Governments need to expand HIV programmes and services for people on the move in national AIDS strategies; where necessary, be supported by funding (Global Fund, bilaterals)
- Great need to create political will for change through continuous and strong pressure by governments, civil society, and international organisations