

UNITED NATIONS



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*Message/ granted  
UN AIDS*

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THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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**FOREWORD TO "GLOBAL CRISIS - GLOBAL ACTION:  
DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT ON HIV/AIDS  
ADOPTED AT THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SPECIAL SESSION ON HIV/AIDS,  
New York, 25 - 27 June 2001**

For there to be any hope of success in the fight against HIV/AIDS, the world must join together in a great global alliance. The Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS is the culmination of a year-long process of awareness, engagement and mobilization. My great hope is that it signals the emergence of a response to this deadly disease -- by Governments, multilateral organizations, the private sector and civil society -- that could soon match the scale of the epidemic itself.

To date, HIV/AIDS has infected an estimated 36 million people and claimed 22 million lives. In adopting this Declaration at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session, held on 25-27 June 2001, the international community set common targets for reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS and alleviating its impact.

Although the Declaration sets a wide agenda, our priorities should be clear:

- \* First, to ensure that people everywhere -- particularly the young -- know what to do to avoid infection;
- \* Second, to stop perhaps the most tragic of all forms of HIV transmission -- from mother to child;
- \* Third, to provide treatment to all those infected;
- \* Fourth, to redouble the search for a vaccine, as well as a cure; and
- \* Fifth, to care for all whose lives have been devastated by AIDS, particularly more than 13 million orphans.

The battle against AIDS will not be won without the necessary resources. We need to mobilize seven to ten billion dollars a year for all aspects of this struggle in low- and middle-income countries. Part of these funds will be found in those countries themselves. In Africa, leaders are already rising to the challenge, and African governments have pledged to increase their health budgets significantly. This is laudable, but it is not enough.

African and other developing countries will need substantial assistance to meet the needs of their peoples. That is why, in this Declaration of Commitment, the General Assembly endorsed the establishment of the Global AIDS and Health Fund, which all sides now agree must be operational by the end of this year. The Fund has already received more than \$1 billion in contributions and pledges -- from governments, foundations, businesses and private citizens. This is a very good beginning, but much, much more is needed. I therefore appeal to Governments, civil society, the private sector, foundations and individuals to contribute to the fight against AIDS in any way they can.

In the war against HIV/AIDS, there is no us and them, no developed and developing countries, no rich and poor -- only a common enemy that knows no frontiers and threatens all peoples. But we must all remember that while HIV/AIDS affects both rich and poor, the poor are much more vulnerable to infection, and much less able to cope with the disease once infected. The leadership and commitment shown in this Declaration will give new strength and inspiration to the thousands of health care workers, teachers and community leaders fighting this disease in the poorest parts of the world, and to the millions suffering from its effects. They will now know that the world is finally summoning the will -- and committing the resources -- to win this war for all humanity.

Kofi A. Annan

Pragati 6870

Randolph Eddy

31/07/2001 03:34 PM

To: Pragati Pascale/NY/UNO

cc: Edward Mortimer/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Marta  
Mauras/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Shala Mokgethi/NY/UNO@UNHQ,  
Shashi Tharoor/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Therese  
Gastaut/NY/UNO@UNHQ

Subject: Re: Draft SG Foreword for AIDS Declaration of Commitment  
booklet

Pragati,

Thank you, I think this is great.

As I suspect the second phase of the SG's Call to Action will revolve around recruiting allies to the 'Global Alliance' I would suggest we maintain this theme. I also think we should not be too optimistic, we should not suggest we have turned-the-corner in mounting a response to the pandemic - we are only just getting underway. I suggest some slight changes to the intro paragraph:

*"AIDS is the greatest single disaster the world has seen in 500 years. For there to be any hope of success we must join together in a great global alliance to meet this shared threat. The Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS is the culmination of a year-long process of awareness, engagement and mobilization and I hope it is evidence that we - as one world - are finally waking-up and joining together to fight our foe. For the first time, we are finally seeing the emergence of a response to this deadly disease that could soon match the scale of the epidemic itself. Governments, multilateral organizations, the private sector and civil society are all engaged in an unprecedented effort to defeat an epidemic that to date has infected an estimated 36 million people and claimed 22 million lives. In adopting this Declaration at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session, held on 25-27 June 2001, the world came together to set common targets for reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS and alleviating its impact."*

ALSO: This sentence should be amended as follows:

OLD: The battle against AIDS will not be won without the necessary resources. We need to mobilize an additional seven to ten billion dollars a year to fight this disease worldwide.

NEW: The battle against AIDS will not be won without the necessary resources. We need to mobilize an additional seven to ten billion dollars a year to fight this disease worldwide.

Many thanks,

R.P. Eddy  
Pragati Pascale



**Pragati Pascale**

27/07/2001 07:45  
PM

To: Edward Mortimer/NY/UNO@UNHQ  
cc: Marta Mauras/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Shashi Tharoor/NY/UNO@UNHQ,  
Therese Gastaut/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Randolph  
Eddy/NY/UNO@UNHQ, Shala Mokgethi/NY/UNO@UNHQ  
Subject: Draft SG Foreword for AIDS Declaration of Commitment booklet

Hello --

Attached is a draft Foreword by the Secretary-General for the AIDS Declaration of Commitment booklet. It's taken from the SG's press statement at the G8 Summit, with a few adaptations.

We are aiming to have the booklet published in six languages by mid-September, so it will be available for Children's GASS and then GA. Our idea is to adapt the photo of the HQ building with red ribbon for the cover. Thanks and regards,  
Pragati



ForewordSG.doc