

21 September 2011

WASHINGTON, DC – The AIDS 2012 Conference Coordinating Committee (CCC) have selected Turning The Tide Together as the theme for the XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012), which will be held in Washington, D.C. from 22 – 27 July 2012.

Turning The Tide Together reflects a unique moment in time, emphasizing that the AIDS epidemic has reached a defining moment. By acting decisively on recent scientific advances in HIV treatment and biomedical prevention, the momentum for a cure, and the continuing evidence of the ability to scale-up key interventions in the most-needed settings, we now have the potential to change the course of HIV and AIDS.

Capturing the current sense of hope and the renewed optimism that a change of course in the HIV epidemic is possible, Turning the Tide Together also serves as an urgent call to action. It acknowledges that seizing this potential and actually turning the tide on HIV will require commitment and action on many levels: that each and every stakeholder in the AIDS response must play their role.

A broad number of issues will be required to actually change the course of the epidemic, including continued investments and collaboration in research, more operations research and more efficient delivery systems, significant programme scale-up in resource-limited settings, commitment to evidence-based interventions, and promotion of human rights.

Turning The Tide Together evokes both the scale of the task in hand and the power of AIDS 2012 to mobilize governments, NGOs, policy makers, scientists, civil society organizations, journalists and people living with HIV to join forces and build the necessary momentum to turn the tide of the AIDS epidemic.

### **About AIDS 2012**

The International AIDS Conference is the largest gathering of professionals working in the field of HIV, including people living with HIV and other leaders in the HIV response. It plays a fundamental role in shaping the global response to HIV and in keeping HIV and AIDS on the international political agenda. Conference registration,

individual hotel reservations, and abstract submissions will open in December 2011. As more details about these and other matters become available, they will be posted at [www.aids2012.org](http://www.aids2012.org).

#### *Conference organization:*

AIDS 2012 is convened by the International AIDS Society and the conference's permanent partners are the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+); the International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO); the International Community of Women with HIV/AIDS (ICW) and the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

The U.S.-based Black AIDS Institute; the District of Columbia Department of Health (DOH); the HIV Medicine Association (HIVMA) of the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA); the National Institutes of Health (NIH); the Office of National AIDS Policy (ONAP) at the White House; and the U.S. Positive Women's Network (USPWN) are serving as local partners.

#### **AIDS 2012: Join the Conversation**

Get the latest conference updates and share your thoughts and ideas through the Conference Facebook and Twitter.

We are tweeting ? [@aids2012](https://twitter.com/aids2012) ? and hope many of you will tweet along with us, using #AIDS2012 to keep the conversation going.

Become a fan of AIDS 2012 on Facebook and stay in touch with the latest conference updates and developments. Please visit [www.facebook.com/aids2012](http://www.facebook.com/aids2012) to become a fan. If your group or organization is participating in AIDS 2012, we welcome posts of photos and videos of your work on this page. Tell us why you are coming to Washington and what you hope to gain from AIDS 2012.

#### **About the IAS**

The International AIDS Society (IAS) is the world's leading independent association of HIV professionals, with over 16,000 members from more than 196 countries working at all levels of the global response to AIDS. Our members include researchers from all disciplines, clinicians, public health and community practitioners on the frontlines of the epidemic, as well as policy and programme planners. The IAS is the custodian of the biennial International AIDS Conference and lead organizer of the IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention,

which will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 30 June? 3 July 2013.

[www.iasociety.org](http://www.iasociety.org) | [www.ias2011.org](http://www.ias2011.org)

For more information about this release:

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