
UNAIDS and Youth A Pact for Social Transformation in the AIDS response

Kick-off meeting

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Executive summary

Young people and the AIDS response

Young people accounted for 40% of all new adult HIV infections in 2011. Globally, an estimated 4.6 million young people are living with HIV. Each day, about 2300 young people are newly infected with HIV. Young people have a right to take part in decisions that impact their lives, and their participation in national AIDS responses can ensure the responses are better calibrated to the needs of young people.

Half-way to the deadlines of the goals from the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS, youth-led civil society organizations requested the UNAIDS Secretariat to support the strategic meeting UNAIDS and Youth: a Pact for Social Transformation (strategic meeting), 20-22 May in Tunisia.

The kick-off meeting brought together 15 youth organization with the 16 members of the newly appointed UNAIDS Youth Advisory Forum (Advisory Forum) to create space for the youth movement on AIDS to develop key priorities for collaboration, as well as to develop strategic actions for expanding the movement. The recently established UNAIDS youth team also took part, to ensure the UNAIDS Youth Programme is fully infused by the youth movement's priorities. In the last day of the meeting, cosponsor colleagues from UNICEF and UNFPA also joined.

There were two main outputs from the meeting: (1) the PACT for social transformation: a civil society-led mutual accountability framework outlining priorities within the youth movement and with UNAIDS, and (2) an updated version of the UNAIDS and Youth: Agenda for Social Action framework based on inputs from meeting participants. An online platform for collaboration has been established to follow up on the commitments made in these outputs.

Conceptualized in full collaboration with youth organizations, the aim of the meeting was to support the creation of a cohesive, solution-oriented and coordinated global youth movement on AIDS that is committed to joint action as a youth movement, as well as with the UNAIDS Secretariat to reach the goals of the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS by 2015, and mobilized for the post-2015 negotiations.

This report outlines the main developments and outputs of the strategic meeting. It starts by describing the methodology as well as three work streams that were designed ahead of the meeting, the key outputs of the youth civil society component from the meeting, and, finally, the validation exercise related to the UNAIDS Secretariat's UNAIDS and Youth: Agenda for Social Action. The report concludes with the agreed next steps to forward the priorities and actions committed to in the PACT.

1. Full youth engagement in planning and execution of meeting

The meeting was called for by the HIV youth organizations, who acknowledged that the HIV youth-led and youth serving organizations could work more effective and efficiently together within the response. The meeting was developed in full collaboration with youth organizations (see concept note in annex 1). A working group made up of seven nominated youth activists¹ was established to steer the process. The meeting had three specific objectives:

1. Develop a strategic policy and advocacy agenda for the next three years among youth-led and youth-serving organizations that is transparent, accountable and inclusive;
2. Align programmes and activities, including division of tasks and removal of duplication between youth-led organizations, and to improve collaboration and communication to make the youth constituency more effective; and
3. Refine and validate the UNAIDS Secretariat’s *Agenda for Social Action (Agenda)*.

Global and regional youth organizations were nominated by the working group, based on a set of selection criteria as well as minimum participation requirement (see list of participants in annex 2 and selection criteria in annex 4). The UNAIDS Youth Advisory Forum (Advisory Forum) was selected by a global selection committee made up of a youth civil society representative from YouthRISE, and representatives from UNAIDS HQ and UNAIDS Regional Support Teams.

The meeting was facilitated by Caitlin Chandler, former director of *HIV Young Leaders Fund*, nominated by the working group as the community facilitator and by Beth Goodey, the global training and capacity building manager from the youth-led development organization *Restless Development*, acting as strategy facilitator.

1.1 Pre-meeting work streams

Leveraging online technology, the following pre-meeting work streams were implemented to inform the meeting:

Survey and interviews	Shared vision, key principles and draft advocacy agenda	UNAIDS Youth Advisory Forum
Global youth organizations shared annual activity plans and strategic direction, and participated in a short survey and Skype interview.	Participants took part in an online process to crowdsource the draft vision, key principles, and advocacy agenda to ensure that attendees arrive with a common	Members of the Youth Advisory Forum took part in an online discussion on its work plan via the <i>TALK</i> space on crowdoutaids.org

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¹ The members of the working group were: Anita Krug, YouthRise, Aram Barra, Espolea, Gillian Dolce, Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Jaevion Nelson, Jamaica Youth Advocacy Network (JYAN), John Murray, Youth, the Arts, HIV & AIDS Network, Pablo Torres Aguilera, HIV Young Leaders Fund, and Taiwo Oyelakin, Y+

	understanding of the process, as well as shared expectations and vision, to the extent possible.	
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1.2 Meeting outline and summary agenda

The first two days of the meeting was dedicated to an adapted version of the free space process² where youth organizations were able to discuss and reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of the movement, and to create a strategic platform to collaborate for a stronger youth movement on AIDS.

The first day started with a mapping of the youth movement history and achievements, followed by a priority setting exercise. The afternoon was dedicated to developing a “theory of change” flow-chart for the different priorities and goals identified.

Day two focused on developing concrete ways of working to achieve the goals, as well as identifying how to work better together across the youth movement. The afternoon was spent discussing opportunities for resourcing the strategy, as well as organizational commitments to the way forward. All session used participatory, non-formal methodologies to arrive at a collaboration framework (see annex 2 for full agenda).

On the final day of the meeting the UNAIDS Secretariat presented its draft *Agenda for Social Action*, the secretariat-wide plan that guides its newly augmented Youth Programme. On the afternoon of the third day, the PACT framework was populated with both youth organizations’ and the UNAIDS Secretariat’s commitments, as well as agreement on the vision and key principles for collaboration.

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² The free space process was developed in 2009 by a Dutch-based organization called International Civil Society Support (ICSS) in reaction to an increasingly fractured civil society movement working on AIDS - despite numerous civil society successes, organizations with similar interests were often isolated in their own spheres, frequently competing for resources and influence.

Summary agenda

	Monday 20 May	Tuesday 21 May	Wednesday 22 May
9:00 – 11:00	Youth Free Space Process: Our Journey	Youth Free Space Process: ‘How?’ to achieve our goals’	UNAIDS Youth Policy & Action Plan: a critical review
11:15 – 13:00	Youth Free Space Process: Our Priorities	Youth Free Space Process: ‘How?’ to work better together	Youth & UNAIDS: Working together
14:00 – 15:45	Youth Free Space Process: Understanding our Theory of Change	Youth Free Space Process: ‘How?’ to resource our strategy	Our PACT: Youth and UNAIDS
16:00 – 17:15	Youth Free Space Process: Understanding our Theory of Change <i>cont.</i>	Youth Free Space Process: Our Commitments	Our PACT – commitments and way forward

2. The PACT: youth free space and the UNAIDS Agenda for Social Action in the AIDS Response

2.1 Youth free space process

The first two days of the strategic meeting were devoted to the youth free space process. The foundational work of the meeting emerged from an online collaboration process through the customized online platform, CoDigital. On CoDigital, meeting participants were able to crowdsource (1) the draft vision statement, (2) the guiding principles for collaboration across youth organizations and (3) advocacy priorities for the movement.

2.1.1 Refining the vision statement and guiding principles

As a vision statement and guiding principles are key tenets of movement building, the online pre-work focused on developing draft language and ideas on both topics.

Vision Statement

The draft vision statement developed through CoDigital was: “*a movement to safeguard the sexual and reproductive health and rights of all young people; advancing universal access to quality health care services through effective mobilization of resources, community support and political will*”. After presenting this statement at the meeting, several participants expressed concerns about its wording. Some participants suggested that the statement should refer explicitly to broader health and well-being for young people (as opposed to referring only to sexual and reproductive health); others noted that it did not capture the “vision” of what the movement wants to achieve, while others said that there should be a stronger focus on delivery of youth-friendly services. The vision discussion was parked until the end of the meeting, where it was decided to change the vision statement to:

A PACT [framework] that creates solidarity across youth organizations to work strategically and collaboratively in the HIV response towards ensuring the health, well-being and human rights of all young people.

Guiding Principles

Through CoDigital, meeting participants were also asked to brainstorm various guiding principles for collaboration across the youth movement. The following list emerged: *transparency, meaningful youth participation, diverse representation of different youth communities, honesty, equity in decision-making and the whole is greater than the sum of its parts*. Participants agreed with these principles, and only added *commitment*, to the list.

2.1.2 Setting priorities for the youth movement in the AIDS response

Participants were first presented with research undertaken by Caitlin Chandler on the current priorities of their organizations, as well as their own perceived strengths.³ Findings from key informant interviews were also presented. The key

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³ For more information on this work including methodology, please refer to the report Chandler, C. Understanding the global HIV youth movement (2013) (forthcoming).

findings included:

- Current level of advocacy from youth organizations around HIV was not specific or focused enough to achieve change at country-level.
- Lack of transparent systems for collecting input at the country-level, as well as lack of consultations at country-level were also concerns in the current work of youth organizations.
- International networks and organizations need to do a better job opening up spaces for participation for young people at the community and country-level, rather than just “supporting the same people over and over to attend meetings.”
- A gap between the local and international youth-led movements – a more effective youth response would ensure strong movement at the local level feeding into the regional and then international level.⁴

Participants developed thematic priorities for the youth-led HIV movement within the framework of these findings; the refining and elaboration of these priorities occurred in six steps:

1. Priorities were crowdsourced in the lead-up to the meeting on the CoDigital platform.
2. Priorities were refined in the meeting in small working groups using the following criteria: likelihood of success, potential for allies, the youth movement’s contribution, the movement’s expertise on a particular topic and timeline.
3. A “theory of change”⁵ was developed for each priority, including the outcomes at the short-term, intermediate, long-term, and impact levels.
4. Participants identified key processes, individuals, governments and other organizations to influence in order to attain their advocacy priorities.
5. Current activities around the priority areas were mapped to identify gaps.
6. Participants outlined how UNAIDS and the UNAIDS Youth Advisory Forum could help to achieve the priorities.

At the end of this process, five main priorities emerged each with specific sub-priorities:

1. Integrate HIV into Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services and policies;
2. Increase access to evidence-informed prevention and treatment;
3. Remove laws that prevent young people from accessing services;
4. Resources for young people and HIV are allocated based on need and evidence; and
5. HIV and the Post-2015 development agenda.

The priorities are organized into the PACT framework, with one youth organization leading on each sub-priority area. In addition to the lead organizations, each sub-priority has other youth organizations that have volunteered to support the advancement of the work.⁶

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⁴ Caitlin Chandler, *Understanding the global HIV youth movement* (2013) (on file with UNAIDS Youth Programme).

⁵ International HIV/AIDS Alliance & ICASO, *Measuring Up: A Guide for Learners*, page 15 (July 2010), available at <http://www.aidsalliance.org/includes/Publication/Measuring-up-a-guide-for-learners.pdf>.

⁶ For more information on leading and supporting organizations, please see the ANNEX ##, finalized PACT framework.

Priority #1: Integrate HIV into Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services and policies education.

In the group work, participants refined this priority and outlined four sub-priorities:

1. Advocate for the disassociation of age of consent or marital status requirements from access to services,
2. Access to, and availability of, youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services, commodities and support for all young people, including access to comprehensive sexuality education,
3. Address harmful social norms including prejudices against young people based on HIV status, gender and sexual orientation, and
4. Advocate for disaggregated data by age, gender and group, as well as the collection of new data with regard to gaps in strategic information for young people.

Participants agreed that sub-priority 3 (harmful social norms) should be covered by the group working on laws (priority #3).

In the “theory of change” exercise, the group focused on linking HIV with sexual and reproductive health with emphasis on government accountability.

The group then mapped out on-going activities, which can be summarized under the following themes: outreach and peer education, with a focus on comprehensive sexuality education, edutainment on sexuality education and campaigns to inform the general public about HIV-related issues.

Participants also discussed requests for UNAIDS’ support on this priority, which included: consolidating data on HIV integration into sexual and reproductive health services, as well as data on the quality and availability of comprehensive sexuality services, brokering space for youth organizations to meet with relevant government bodies, such as the ministries of health and education, and capacitating youth organizations on advocacy and lobbying skills. Participants also requested that members of the UNAIDS Youth Advisory Forum to ensure that youth voices are coordinated and to act as links between campaigns at country, regional and global levels.

By the end of the meeting, participants agreed that the first theme and sub-priority of the PACT would be:

Theme 1 Integrate HIV into sexual and reproductive health services and policies	Sub-Priority 1.1 Governments are held accountable for delivering on global, regional and national commitments made for SRH, including comprehensive sexuality education (CSE)
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Priority #2: Increase access to evidence-informed prevention and treatment

In the group work, participants refined this priority and outlined three sub-priorities:

1. Improve access to prevention tools (e.g. condoms, harm reduction, voluntary testing and counselling, positive health, dignity and prevention

- etc.),
2. Remove legal barriers for achieving universal access to treatment, and
 3. Advocate for policies to invest in capacity of youth groups for participation, including provision of resources and additional relevant research.

The working group around priority #2 created its “theory of change” and the following key issues were raised in the group work: to focus specifically on access to treatment, the importance of sharing monitoring and evaluation data on programmes for prevention and treatment between youth organizations, the importance of obtaining more research on treatment coverage and access for young people and the use of tactics such as using innovative media, building an evidence base, capacity building and partnership development.

On-going activities were mapped which have been summarized under the following themes: research on treatment access and adherence, provision of critical sexual and reproductive health services with an emphasis on prevention, advocacy for affordable treatment, advocacy for accessible harm reduction services and building capacity on treatment literacy.

Participants also discussed requests for UNAIDS’ support on this priority, which included: developing partnerships for research, as well as advocating for youth involvement in the development of National Strategic Plans (NSPs). They asked Advisory Forum members to assist in lobbying with other civil society organizations to strengthen youth involvement in NSPs, as well as to lobby pharmaceutical companies to increase access to generic antiretroviral medication.

By the end of the meeting, participants agreed that the second theme and sub-priorities of the PACT would be:

<p>Theme 2 Increase access to evidence-informed prevention and treatment</p>	<p>Sub-Priority 2.1 Harm reduction for young people is included in HIV National Strategic Plans (NSPs) in countries where drug use constitutes a significant proportion of new infections among young people</p>
	<p>Sub-Priority 2.2 Knowledge is increased among policymakers and programme developers about treatment gaps for YPLHIV</p>

Priority #3: Remove laws that prevent young people from accessing services:

The third priority identified by the pre-work was “advocating for an enabling environment and for the removal of laws and policies that prevent young people from living healthy lives”. The working group on this theme decided on three sub-priorities:

1. Support young people living with HIV and young key populations to have the same rights as everyone else and to work towards the removal of laws and policies that are barriers to an effective HIV response (with an emphasis on decriminalization of key populations),

2. Reduce HIV-related stigma and discrimination against young people, with a focus on affected communities, and
3. Advocate that protective laws are well implemented in the context of HIV.

The group created its “theory of change” for the priority. In the exercise, the following key issues were raised: “should we be focusing on age-related barriers to accessing services” and “is law reform a realistic goal for the youth movement”? Furthermore, the group highlighted several advocacy tactics similar to the working group for the prevention and treatment priority, including the use of innovative media, building an evidence base, capacity building and partnership development.

On-going activities were mapped which can be summarized under the following themes: campaigns on HIV-related issues such as drug use, HIV-related discrimination, and sexuality/sexual orientation, strategic litigation and advocacy on removing legal barriers (including decriminalization of homosexuality).

Participants also discussed requests for UNAIDS’ support on this priority, which included: capacity-building on legislative lobbying and advocacy at the international level (i.e. with UN mechanisms), as well as technical training and support for criminalized key populations. They also asked for Advisory Forum members to collect good practices on service provision for criminalized populations and to map legal restrictions for young people to access SRH services, as well as harm reduction.

By the end of the meeting, participants agreed that the third theme and sub-priorities priorities of the PACT would be:

<p>Theme 3 Remove laws that prevent young people from accessing services</p>	<p>Sub-Priority 3.1 Age-related laws and policies identified and awareness raised among policy makers</p>
	<p>Sub-Priority 3.2 Contribute to efforts towards the decriminalization of sex work, drug use and sexuality</p>

Priority #4: Resources for young people and HIV are allocated based on need and evidence

The fourth and final priority identified in the pre-work was “ensuring [that] resources are spent effectively for young people in the HIV response”. The working group for this thematic reframed the priority as *ensuring political commitment and evidence-based investment in young people and HIV, especially in young people living with HIV and young key populations*. The group also identified three sub-priorities:

1. Strengthening partnerships with donors, governments, youth organizations and other civil society organizations,
2. Capacity building for youth organizations, and
3. Evidence of needs and documentation of successful investment.

The group then developed its “theory of change” for the resource thematic. Some broad patterns which emerged included utilization of existing data (information sharing with other organizations) and disaggregation of spending data by age, gender and population/group.

On-going activities were mapped which have been summarized under the following themes: capacity building for organizations to effectively use resources, advocating with various donors to ensure funding for youth organizations and acting as a watchdog for the use of Global Fund resources for young people.

Participants also discussed requests for UNAIDS’ support on this priority, which included tracking the level of youth participation in the Global Fund, with a particular emphasis on the country coordinating mechanisms. In addition to tracking youth participation, they also requested UNAIDS to capacitate youth organizations to access Global Fund resources. Furthermore, they noted that it would be helpful to have UNAIDS establish a baseline for youth participation to encourage funders/donors to contribute to youth initiative in the context of HIV.

By the end of the meeting, participants agreed that the fourth theme and sub-priorities of the PACT would be:

<p>Theme 4 Resources for young people and HIV are allocated based on need and evidence</p>	<p>Sub-Priority 4.1 Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB & Malaria (GFATM) resources spent on young people are allocated appropriately, and existing decision-making mechanisms include the participation of young advocates</p>
	<p>Sub-Priority 4.2 Other donors revisit their spending on HIV and youth to ensure resources are allocated for young people and HIV based on need and evidence</p>

Priority #5: Post-2015 development agenda

In discussing the priorities emerging out of the pre-work, participants also felt strongly that the youth movement should be working to ensure that HIV is kept as a priority in the Post-2015 development framework as this will be the guiding framework in terms of national priority and target setting leading up to 2030.

Participants also discussed requests for UNAIDS’ support on this priority, which included: sharing information on how young people can be more involved in the process (including information on the current gaps) and distributing information on key events in the lead-up to 2015. They also asked UNAIDS country offices to advocate for youth representatives in the delegations that are sent to the UN General Assembly meetings. In addition, participants specifically asked for UNAIDS to support a meeting of youth organizations prior to the General Assembly meeting in September 2013.

By the end of the meeting, participants agreed that the fifth theme and sub-priority of the PACT would be:

<p>Theme 5 Post-2015 development agenda</p>	<p>Sub-Priority 5.1 HIV articulated as a priority within the post-2015 framework</p>
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2.2 Validation of UNAIDS and Youth: Agenda for Social Action

The morning of the third day focused on generating feedback on the *UNAIDS and Youth: an Agenda for Social Action in the AIDS Response*. As the UNAIDS Youth Programme aims to support the work of the youth movement, it was vital for youth-led and youth-serving civil society organizations to validate the objectives and activities of the *Agenda*. Cosponsor colleagues from UNICEF and UNFPA also joined this session.

The *Agenda* has four overarching objectives; each objective also included several related activities for the UNAIDS Youth Programme. The objectives of the Framework were broadly presented to the participants.

Following the presentation, participants engaged in an exercise where they marked each objective, as well as all specific activities of the *Agenda*, with either a pink or blue dot for agree or concern respectively; group discussions were then held to answer questions and document specific feedback for improvement.

Overall, there was consensus that the UNAIDS *Agenda for Social Action in the AIDS Response* constituted a major step forward in terms of how the Secretariat engages and supports the youth movement in the AIDS response. A number of recommendations for improvements were made, and the Secretariat committed to incorporating them into the *Agenda*.

The following section details the specific feedback discussed:

In reference to objective 1: strengthening young people's leadership skills and ability to operate within a framework that advances human rights and gender equality, several activities revolved around developing new resources and trainings for young people; meeting participants felt that it was important that UNAIDS first perform a mapping of the information, resources and trainings that are currently available to ensure that there is no duplication in work.

With regard to objective 2: support a decentralized, organic youth-led movement in the HIV response, participants stressed the importance of ensuring transparency in the selection process for any young people selected by UNAIDS to be representatives at the regional or global level. It was also requested that feedback mechanisms be established so that these representatives could share information and experiences with the broader movement. Participants also thought it would be helpful to have a mentoring system for youth organization representatives working at international levels.

For objective 3: increase access to knowledge and strategic information on issues related to HIV and young people, participants felt that it was important to focus on ensuring that tools are available for data disaggregation, citing that political commitment is not necessarily the problem, but that availability of technical tools to disaggregate was an issue. Participants also discussed the possibility of making monitoring and evaluation systems more youth-sensitive.

Finally, for objective 4: mainstream a three-lens approach to working with young people within the UNAIDS Secretariat, participants made several remarks around the concept of expanding internship opportunities. Some participants felt that if the work of young people is valued, then UNAIDS should come up with some resources to reimburse its interns. Another participant questioned if UNAIDS

should be increasing the number of interns as opposed to increasing the number junior staff. Others suggested that interns should reflect or be connected to the HIV youth movement. Another speaker noted the importance of making internships more accessible to young people, both at UNAIDS headquarters, but also in the country offices.

2.3 UN “asks” of the youth movement

After reviewing the *Agenda for Social Change*, meeting participants asked the UN representatives to brainstorm on concrete “asks” for the youth movement. Staff from UNAIDS and cosponsor colleagues from UNFPA and UNICEF thought of several requests from the youth movement.

Requests of the youth movement included that youth organizations:

1. Act as watch-dogs to hold governments accountable to their international and regional obligations, as well as domestic spending on HIV;
2. Ensure collaborative approaches across youth organizations working on HIV and create strategic alliances with other health and development movements;
3. Build capacity to interact and create relationships with leaders and policy makers to affect change; and,
4. Ensure global advocacy is fully informed by regional and country level priorities through transparent engagement mechanisms.

3. UNAIDS Youth Advisory Forum Work Plan

The third day of the meeting also provided the newly formed UNAIDS Youth Advisory Forum an opportunity to develop their workplan. Ideas for the workplan were first discussed on the TALK application of the CrowdOutAIDS website – these discussions were further refined at the strategic meeting. In discussing the role of the Advisory Forum, members felt that both UNAIDS and the Advisory Forum need to be well coordinated and alert on major global and regional events and that there is a need to link the Advisory Forum members with the UNAIDS regional directors and country coordinators. Members also agreed that a timeline for the workplan should be developed after the strategic meeting.

By the end of the meeting, Advisory Forum members decided on two main outcomes of the workplan, with related outputs:

<p>Outcome 1: Strategic information related to young people and HIV effectively disseminated to the wider youth constituency</p>	<p>1.1 Assessment of young people’s participation in the HIV response at global and regional levels, including a mapping of young leaders and youth-led initiatives.</p>
	<p>1.2 The Crowd Out AIDS platform as an online collaboration tool for information sharing and knowledge management among youth networks and activists strengthened.</p>

	1.3 On-going advice on key emerging issues amongst HIV youth movements on regional and global developments provided.
Outcome 2: Tools to deliver technical inputs to the UNAIDS Secretariat on policies and programs developed.	2.1 Online and offline open forums, the latter aimed at young people with limited access to technology and young key populations, as an effective strategy to empower young people to take social action in their local communities supported.
	2.2 The online learning platform on CrowdOutAIDS as an open platform for skills building of young people in the response, focusing on human rights, leadership, advocacy and project monitoring and evaluation developed.
	2.3 Elaborate and implement periodic YAF work plan monitoring and evaluation assessments for public dissemination.

4. Moving forward

During the last session of the day, key commitments were made within the PACT both on the part of youth-led organizations and on behalf of UNAIDS. The following immediate next steps were agreed to, to ensure the momentum generated at the meeting was sustained:

- **Finalizing the PACT framework.** It was agreed that the community facilitator and the UNAIDS Secretariat would edit and finalize the PACT framework, based on the discussions and comments in the meeting. The lead organizations would then populate the accountability framework for final round of review by all members before the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board at the end of June.
- **Set up an online collaboration space** for on-going communications. The UNAIDS Secretariat offered to help establish a basecamp for organizations working on the PACT – this platform would allow civil society organizations to work on their priorities. The UNAIDS Youth team was invited to join the basecamp as observers.
- **Expanding the PACT.** The need for opening up the PACT to additional organizations including amending the original criteria for inclusion. The following change was made: instead of having at least one paid staff member, organizations *must have the necessary financial and human resources to contribute to the PACT for the following year*. This amendment led to participants asking (1) “if there needs to be an annual renewal process for the PACT organizations?” and (2) “how big the PACT should be?” The organizations agreed to have a follow-up conversation on this topic.
- **Develop joint decision-making related to the PACT.** MSMGF, IGLYO, dance4life and Espolea volunteered to develop and present 3 proposed options on decision-making criteria that could be shared with the other PACT members.

- **Monitoring and evaluating the progress of the PACT.** Participants agreed that the focal points for each priority area and the UNAIDS Youth team would work together to develop a system for monitoring progress.

Overall, the strategic meeting was a resounding success for the youth movement within the HIV response. It has produced an innovative framework that relies on the concepts of solidarity and mutual accountability to advance the joint advocacy priorities of youth-led and youth-serving civil society. The strategic meeting re-energized participants' enthusiasm for the future of the HIV response – a passion that aims to be carried on further through the PACT itself.

Annex 1: Concept Note

Setting the scene: a new wave of activism on AIDS

The UNAIDS Secretariat (Secretariat) launched the New Generation Leadership Project (NGL) the fall of 2011 to successfully integrate the principles of meaningful youth participation and leadership into the Secretariat's work, methods and approaches, to make the Secretariat more responsive to the needs and challenges faced by young people and youth networks and organizations on the ground in the AIDS response.

A two pronged approach was developed: i) an online youth-led policy project, CrowdOutAIDS⁷, where social media tools and crowd-sourcing technology were used to enable young people from around the world to develop recommendations on how the Secretariat can work more effectively with young people; and ii) an organizational assessment of the Secretariat's current and past engagement and work on youth activities.

The outcome of the NGL project was the establishment of a UNAIDS Youth Programme with a nine member youth team across the regions and at the Secretariat headquarters.

The aim of the UNAIDS Youth Programme is to contribute to achieving the bold targets set in the *2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS* by increasing youth leadership, ownership, and mobilization in the AIDS response at the country, regional, and global level by 2015 and beyond.

To achieve this aim, the Secretariat is looking to work closely with organizations of young people living with HIV and young key populations at higher risk to create broad alliances for social change within the broader health, development and social justice movements. This work will have a particular focus on high impact countries where legal, policy and/or programmatic reform is needed to advance the AIDS response.

Supporting young activists to increase demands on their political leaders for progressive change strengthens national ownership and can help shift political positions on controversial-yet-important issues such as sexuality, sexuality education and LGBT rights.

A kick-off meeting for social transformation

As the foundation for the Youth Programme and in response to the youth-led CrowdOutAIDS strategic recommendations and the internal assessment on youth within the organization, the Secretariat will develop a short, succinct **Youth Policy and Action Plan** in consultation with civil society youth organizations and the UNAIDS cosponsors.

Based on a request from youth-led organizations, the Secretariat's Youth Programme also seeks to support greater alignment of efforts between existing youth-led and youth-serving organizations working on HIV and the broader health, development and social justice agendas.

This is particularly crucial, since many small organizations lack the time, resources, and strategic space to reflect on their work, forge new alliances, discuss duplication of activities and strengthen the overall movement. It is also critical for young leaders to understand how the youth movement can strategically leverage and mobilize its constituency ahead of the post-2015 development framework negotiations.

⁷ For more information on the CrowdOutAIDS process and the related recommendations, please see http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/unaidspublication/2012/JC2338_CrowdOutAIDS_en.pdf

To solidify the partnerships with youth organizations, support a process to ensure that global and regional youth organizations are better coordinated and strategically focused on country results, as well as align the UNAIDS Youth Programme with the youth movement, the Secretariat will convene a strategic meeting from the 20-22 of May, in Hammamet, Tunisia.

What do we hope to achieve?

- 1 Develop a strategic policy and advocacy agenda for the next three years among youth-led and youth-serving organizations that is transparent, accountable and inclusive;
- 2 Align programmes and activities, including division of tasks and removal of duplication between youth-led organizations, and to improve collaboration and communication to make the youth constituency more effective; and
- 3 Refine and validate the UNAIDS Secretariat's Youth Policy and Action Plan.

Who will attend this meeting?

Young people attending this meeting belong to either one of three groups: 1) members of global and regional youth organizations working in the AIDS response and adjacent agendas. These organizations have been nominated through a selection process developed by UNAIDS and a meeting working group of youth organizations; 2) the newly established regionally representative 16 member UNAIDS Youth Advisory Forum; or, 3) staff members of the recently formed UNAIDS youth team. The final day of the meeting is also open to UNAIDS Cosponsors and development cooperation agencies.

Expected outputs

- 1 A common advocacy and policy platform for the global youth movement on AIDS;
- 2 A PACT for social transformation incorporating the commitments among the youth constituency, as well as between the youth constituency and the UNAIDS Secretariat, through 2015;
- 3 A work plan for the UNAIDS Youth Advisory Forum; and
- 4 A strengthen and endorsed UNAIDS Youth Policy and Action Plan.

Expected outcome

A cohesive, solution-oriented and coordinated global youth movement on AIDS, that is committed to joint action with the UNAIDS Secretariat to reach the goals of the *2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS* by 2015, and mobilized for the post-2015 negotiations.

Commitment required of participating organizations

To ensure the Youth and UNAIDS meeting in Hammamet is as productive and creative as possible in moving forward the youth movement in a solution oriented direction, a set of criteria for participation as well as pre-meeting work-streams have been designed.

Participating organizations must agree to send someone in a leadership position, preferably the Executive Director or Coordinator, to the meeting. If an organization wishes to send someone who is not in a leadership position, the participant must have the mandate to be able to make reasonable commitments on behalf of the organization during the meeting.

The following pre-meeting work streams have been designed:

Survey and interviews	Shared vision, key principles and draft advocacy agenda	UNAIDS Youth Advisory Forum
Global youth organizations must be willing to share annual activity plans and strategic direction, and participate in a short survey and Skype interview. All must be willing to engage in the process with an open mind towards better alignment of shared long-term goals.	All participants take part in an online process to develop the draft vision, key principles, and advocacy agenda to ensure that attendees arrive with a common understanding of the process, as well as shared expectations and vision, to the extent possible.	Members of the Youth Advisory Forum are requested to take part in an online discussion on its work plan via the <i>TALK</i> space on crowdoutaids.org

Follow-up: Global and regional youth organizations must agree to follow up on commitments made post-meeting, which will likely include: a) information sharing; b) programmatic collaboration; c) joint advocacy; d) possible joint funding requests; and e) evaluating individual and collective impact at the country-level.

Final note: a youth-led process

The Youth and UNAIDS: A pact for social transformation meeting has been conceptualized by UNAIDS youth programme in full partnership with an ad-hoc youth working group ahead of the establishment of the UNAIDS Youth Advisory Forum.

Annex 2: Detailed Agenda

Sunday 19th May 2013

9:00 – 13:00	Participants arrive
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Participants arrive
19:30 – onwards	<p><u>Welcome Event</u></p> <p>Session Aim:</p> <p>For all attendees to learn more about one another, to celebrate recent successes that have brought us here, and to create an environment in which all attendees feel comfortable and committed to participate fully.</p> <p>Session Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome from the youth working group and UNAIDS Secretariat • Introductions • Proposed Meeting Outputs and Outcomes

Monday 20th May 2013: Day 1

9:00 – 11:00	<p><u>Session 1: Youth Free Space Process: Our Journey</u></p> <p>Session Aim:</p> <p>For all participants to understand how the youth movement's journey has brought us here and for all to affirm a jointly-owned vision and guiding principles for the youth movement.</p> <p>Session content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Agenda • Expectations, Concerns and Agreeing our Code of Cooperation • Our journey: the Free Space Process to date and highlights from Background Analysis • Where we want to go: affirming our Vision • How we are going to get there: affirming our Guiding Principles
11:00 – 11:15	Break
11:15 – 13:00	<p><u>Session 2: Youth Free Space Process: Our Priorities</u></p> <p>Session Aim: To affirm a set of jointly-agreed and owned advocacy priorities for 2013-2015.</p>

	<p>Session content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring our respective priorities, in light of our draft advocacy agenda • Affirming our jointly-owned advocacy priorities for 2013-2015
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:45	<p><u>Session 3 a): Youth Free Space Process: Understanding our Theory of Change</u></p> <p>Session Aim: To understand the theory of change for our identified advocacy priorities for 2013-2015</p> <p>Session content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a theory of change visual map for our advocacy priorities to identify what we need to do to achieve our advocacy priorities by 2015
15:45 – 16:00	Break
16:00 – 17:15	<p><u>Session 3 b): Youth Free Space Process: Understanding our Theory of Change cont.</u></p> <p><i>At the end of each afternoon session, the Youth Advisory Forum will reflect on the outcomes of the Free Space Process and share with the rest of the group how these will be featured in the Youth Advisory Forum Work Plan.</i></p>
17:15 – 17:30	End-of-Day Reflection

Tuesday 21st May 2013: Day 2

9:00 – 11:00	<p><u>Session 4 a): Youth Free Space Process: Understanding the ‘How?’</u></p> <p>Session Aim: To identify actions and ways of working needed to meet our identified advocacy priorities for 2013-2015, clearly articulating respective roles, responsibilities and accountabilities.</p> <p>Session content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building on our established Theory of Change: Planning – WHO do we want to target? WHERE can we influence? WHAT actions can we as a movement take?
11:00 – 11:15	Break
11:15 – 13:00	<p><u>Session 4 b): Youth Free Space Process: Understanding the ‘How?’</u></p> <p>Session Aim: <i>As above</i></p>

	<p>Session content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding HOW – the need, opportunities, capacity (including resourcing) and relationships needed for effective collaboration to deliver on our identified actions
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:45	<p><u>Session 4 c): Youth Free Space Process: Understanding the ‘How?’</u></p> <p>Session Aim and Content: <i>As above</i></p>
15:45 – 16:00	Break
16:00 – 17:15	<p><u>Session 5: Youth Free Space Process: Our Commitments</u></p> <p>Session Aim: To populate the PACT Framework, outlining our goals, respective commitments and timeframe</p> <p>Session content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on our identified Theory of Change and associated action, identify respective commitments Populate the PACT Framework with the youth movement’s key commitments for 2013-2015 <p><i>At the end of each afternoon session, the Youth Advisory Forum will reflect on the outcomes of the Free Space Process and share with the rest of the group how these will be featured in the Youth Advisory Forum Work Plan.</i></p>
17:15 – 17:30	End-of-Day Reflection
17:30 – 19:00	Dinner and relax
19:00 – 20:30	<p>Session Aim: To critique and co-create a youth position on the concept ‘end of AIDS’ to feed into upcoming UNAIDS high-level discussion</p>

Wednesday 22nd May 2013: Day 3

9:00 – 11:00	<p><u>Session 6: UNAIDS Youth Policy & Action Plan: Our Commitments</u></p> <p>Session Aim: For all attendees to validate UNAIDS’ Youth Policy and Action Plan.</p> <p>Session content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participant input to, and revision of, UNAIDS’ Youth Policy and Action Plan UNAIDS’ key commitments endorsed Understanding common and divergent action between UNAIDS and the youth movement
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11:00 – 11:15 Break	
11:15 – 13:00	<p><u>Session 7: Youth & UNAIDS: Working together</u></p> <p>Session Aim: To establish areas of joint working between UNAIDS and the youth movement to reach the goals of the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>Session content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articulating actions to be taken by UNAIDS to support the youth movement in realising their identified priorities • Establishing areas of joint working between UNAIDS and the youth movement to reach the goals of the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS
13:00 – 14:00 Lunch	
14:00 – 15:45	<p><u>Session 8: Our PACT: Youth and UNAIDS</u></p> <p>Session Aim: To populate the PACT Framework, outlining UNAIDS' key commitments for 2013-2015</p> <p>Session content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Populating the PACT Framework with UNAIDS' key commitments for 2013-2015
15:45 – 16:00 Break	
16:00 – 17:30	<p><u>Session 9: Our PACT</u></p> <p>Session Aim: To finalize and endorse our jointly-owned PACT Framework and gain clarity on our immediate next steps</p> <p>Session content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisiting our populated PACT Framework and ensuring it is comprehensive and cohesive • Identifying immediate next steps for youth movement and UNAIDS <p style="text-align: center;">- CLOSE -</p>
- Participants depart -	

Annex 3: List of Participants

Name	Title
Pablo Aguilera	Director, HIV Young Leaders Fund
Florin Alexandrescu	Youth Delegate, Youth RISE
Lorraine Anyango	Peer Monitor, Next Step
Zakaria Bahtout	Regional Coordinator Association de Lutte Contre le SIDA
Zahra Benyahia	Youth Delegate, Y-Peer
Merel May Heilmann	Advocacy Officer, Dance4life
Jackline Kemigisha	Executive Director, Girl-Talk Foundation
Bolivia Jeremiah	Youth Delegate SRHR advocate
Ralph Kwame	Regional Focal Point, Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS
Josko Mise	Liaison Officer on Reproductive Health, International Federation of Medical Students Associations
Ian Royer	Creative Director - Proudfoot Communications
Gautam Yadav	Youth Delegate, Youth Voices Count
Annette Remme	Youth Delegate, Global Fund
Mario Christodoulou	Trusts and Grants Coordinator, MTV Staying Alive Foundation
Sulivenusi Waqa	Founder and Creative Director, Haus of Khameleon
Nekeisha Lewis	Youth Delegate, Women Deliver Organization
Serge Yotta	Executive Director, Association Affirmative Action, Yooundé
Jaevion Nelson	Executive Director, Jamaica Youth Advocacy Network
Aram Barra	Projects Director, Espolea
Anita Krug	Executive Director, Youth RISE (Resources.Information.Support.Education) for reducing drug related harm
Taiwo Oyelakin	Network Representative, Global Network of People Living with HIV, Y+ Initiative

Thaw Zin Aye	Project Coordinators, Youth LEAD
Helena Nangombe	Youth Delegate, International Community of Women Living with HIV
Beth Goodey	Global Training and Capacity Building Manager, Restless Development
Gillian Dolce	Programme Coordinator, Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS
Caitlin Chandler	Consultant, Addis Ababa
Daniel Townsend	Youth Delegate, Men who Have Sex with Men Global Forum
Aries Valeriano	Executive Officer and Youth Focal Point, Asia Pacific RST
Mikaela Hildebrand	Youth Programmes Coordinator, UNAIDS HQ
Nina Sun	Programme Officer, UNAIDS HQ
Antonio Ruben Pages	UNAIDS Latin America Youth and Social Organization Officer
Ashot Gevorgyan	Secretary of the Executive Board, IGLYO
Felix Mugumya	UNAIDS Caribbean Youth and Social Organization Officer
John Murray	Project Coordinator, Youth, the Arts and HIV & AIDS Network (YAHANet)
Ricardo Baruch	Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights
Taghreed El-Hajj	International Planned Parenthood Federation
Diego Agostinho Calixto	Zara-Grupo Inditex
Adriana Hewson	UNAIDS Dakar Youth and Social Organization Officer
Rupa Bhadra	UNAIDS RST MENA, Youth Initiatives Coordinator
Paska Kinuthia	UNAIDS Eastern and Southern Africa Youth and Social Organization Officer

Annex 4: Selection criteria

Selection criteria and commitment of participating organizations

The Youth FSP delivers joint advocacy and increases programmatic collaboration of youth-led and youth-serving international organizations working on HIV with the ambition to support country level youth organizations to effectively advocate for legal, policy and programme reform that currently prevent young people from accessing HIV services.

The first in-person Youth FSP meeting in May 2013 will bring together major international and regional youth-led and youth-serving networks and organizations. However, due to time constraints, it is not possible to do an open selection process. The following selection process has been outlined, with opportunities as the Youth FSP scales up engagement. Although the process is not open, it can be transparent through public sharing of information.

1. UNAIDS drafts selection criteria; Ad-hoc FSP Advisory Group suggest any critical revisions and approves proposed selection criteria.
2. Based on existing research, sector mappings, and discussions with key informants, UNAIDS identifies organizations which meet the selection criteria. Ad-hoc FSP Advisory Group reviews proposed list, makes suggestions as needed, and signs off on list.
3. Invitation is extended to selected organizations, with the caveat organizations be willing to fully participate according to criteria outlined below.
4. UNAIDS posts publicly information about the Youth FSP on CrowdOutAIDS.org, including the participation criteria and names of the current organizations participating in the process in May 2013.
5. If any organizations feel they fit the participation criteria and would like to join the Youth FSP, they can self-nominate.

Current FSP partners and UNAIDS will determine if a self-nominating organization fits the criteria, and if so, invite the organization to participate post-May 2013 in whatever shape the Youth FSP takes at the time (for instance online engagement platform, etc).

Commitment required of participating organizations:

- Participating organizations must agree to send someone in a leadership position, preferably the Executive Director or Coordinator, to the meeting. If an organization wishes to send someone not in a leadership position, the participant must have the mandate to be able to make reasonable commitments on behalf of the organization during the meeting.
- Organizations must be willing to share their annual activity plans and strategic direction prior to the meeting, as well as participate in a short Skype interview. Organizations must be willing to engage in the process with an open mind towards better aligning all of the organizations towards shared long-term goals.
- Participating organizations must be willing to dedicate time ahead of the meeting to participate in an online process to develop the draft vision, key principles, and advocacy agenda to ensure

participants arrive with a common understanding of the process as well as shared expectations and vision to the extent possible.

- Participating organizations must also agree to engage in the FSP process post-meeting, which will likely include: a) information sharing; b) programmatic collaboration; c) joint advocacy; d) possible joint funding requests; and e) evaluating individual and collective impact at the country-level.

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