

# Con, Conflict and Commitment[3Cs]

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# Waves of hope, waves of change

What has this meant for the community?

- Has civil society forgotten its commitments to its constituencies?
- Have we succeeded in pushing our agenda with governments?
- Have we been able to create bridges across movements?

# **Waves of hope, waves of change**

- What are the emerging critical issues?
- Whatever happened to our activism?
- Why do we have to compete for the same limited pool of resources?
- What is pitting us against each other?
- What has weakened our solidarity and our politics?

# Community's Call

- Judge us not.
- Shatter the culture of silence that surrounds sexual relations and HIV/AIDS in public discourse
- End gender-based violence and vulnerability.
- Our involvement should be meaningful, and influence decision making. [MIPA]
- Health is the right of every human being.

# Unresolved issues

- We lament the poor progress of legal reforms – criminalisation of sex work, same-sex behavior, drug use.
- We're alarmed at the violation of people's rights on confidential HIV counseling and testing.
- We're outraged that access to treatment, care and support remains poor for communities.

# Unresolved issues

- We are concerned that denialism in low prevalence countries is preventing effective responses.
- We are shocked at the failure to recognise the human security aspects of conflict, which contributes to the pandemic

# PLWHAs demand

- Comprehensive care and support should include food, shelter and work.
- Treatments, not only ARV but also for opportunistic infections such as TB and Hepatitis C.
- Enable us to fulfill our leadership role through capacity building and networking.
- Protect us against stigma, discrimination and marginalization.

# Women demand

- National governments must commit to equal opportunity, non discrimination, and women's empowerment in every sector
- Comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services, and universal access to subsidized condoms
- Women-initiated prevention technologies and vaccines
- Comprehensive sexuality education that promotes sexual and reproductive rights for all women and girls

# Drug Users demand

- Change and harmonize drug legislation and policies to ensure that drug users are not criminalized
- Access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support with a special focus on Hepatitis C and harm reduction
- Stakeholders to consult and involve members of the Asian Network of People Using Drugs
- Invest financial and human resources as it is proportional to the epidemic in the region

# Sex Workers demand

- Rewrite the draft UNAIDS Guidance on sex work. Such guidance should be based on reducing all sex workers vulnerability to HIV and AIDS rather than the present focus of reducing sex work.
- STOP the 100% condom use programs that violate human rights of sex workers.

# Transgenders demand

- Recognition that male-to-female transgenders are not MSM
- Recognition that female-to-male transgenders are not lesbian
- Organizations working with transgender should encourage meaningful participation of the transgender community
- Respect the principle of greater involvement of transgenders and their contribution in response to the epidemic should be recognized

# Migrants demand

- Dismantle the barriers that make it more difficult for migrants, particularly those from the lower socio-economic classes, to find work.
- Migrants have a right to work and should not be subjected to mandatory HIV testing. Medical testing should be aimed at benefiting the health and well-being of migrant workers.

# Youth demand

- Access to age and exposure appropriate sex and sexuality education
- Support for advocacy capacity
- Safe learning and working environments

# MSM demand

- Recognise diversity of MSM communities
- Ensure a safe enabling space at the table of HIV prevention treatment and care.
- End discrimination by law enforcers.  
Cease the treatment of MSM communities as 'un-arrested criminals'.
- Reform laws and policies that negatively impact male-to-male sexual behavior

# Lesbians demand

- Recognition that secular and religious laws present a major problem
- Decriminalise sexual “offences” between consenting adults
- Promote education on sexuality and sexual rights – including among youth
- Encourage dialogue between civil society groups, especially with religious bodies

# What we commit to do

We can combat the con and conflict by being accountable to our constituencies, and committing to activism that is re-politicised and de-polarized. We commit to:

- Build solidarity across movements
- Work together to hold governments, bilaterals UN, Global Fund accountable to ensure equitable access to treatment, which includes treatment for Hepatitis C and TB.

# What we commit to do

- Work with government to evaluate efforts to ensure a minimum standard of participation has been reached at different stages of implementing universal access.

As a minimum standard, civil society must have influence on universal access processes, rather than being passive recipients of information or excluded from the initiative.