

## The Launch off the Choice Manifesto

8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Lake Victoria Serena Resort, Kampala, Uganda

### Brief Introduction:

On 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023, the African Women HIV Prevention Community Accountability Board (AWPCAB) in partnership with UNAIDS launched the Choice Manifesto in Kampala, Uganda. The launch brought together an array of critical stakeholders in HIV prevention including representation from Uganda AIDS Commission, Ministry of Health, UNICEF, PEPFAR, UNWOMEN, ViiV, Population Council, AIDS FONDS and young women from 8 countries. The countries represented were Rwanda, Malawi, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, South Africa and Zimbabwe. The HIV Prevention Choice Manifesto is a collection of voices of African women and girls in all their diversity, feminists and HIV prevention advocates across Southern and Eastern Africa who are united in calling for continued political and financial support for HIV prevention choice. The manifesto envisions a future free of HIV for girls and women in Africa.

Following the launch of the manifesto, partners signed and committed to the choice manifesto. Below are highlights of the commitments made by key stakeholders.

### Commitments to the CHOICE Manifesto

Organization	Name of individual	Position	Commitment
ViiV	Shaun Mellors	Director - Community Stakeholder Engagement	<p>Committed to communicate and operationalize the Choice Manifesto internally at ViiV so that the guiding principles of the manifesto shape the work around product access, price and affordability.</p> <p>Committed to share the principles of the choice manifesto in public platforms where possible and to share why this work matters.</p> <p>Continue to support the work of the African Women HIV Prevention Community Accountability Board; so that the voice for women and young women continue to be amplified.</p>
UNAIDS	Winnie Byanyima	Executive Director	<p>Committed first at a personal level as an African Woman, a feminist to the cause and campaign of women's choice agenda.</p> <p><i>"I remain committed to be one of you as an African woman".</i></p> <p>As UNAIDS:</p>

			<p>Will support and amplify the voices of young women by providing platforms where dialogue around choice in HIV prevention can be tabled.</p> <p>UNAIDS will convene meetings by bringing an array of partners (governments, funders, manufacturers) to support the roll out and implementation of HIV prevention options. Even if it mean bringing the partners on the community table.</p> <p>UNAIDS will work with governments to address financing and sustainability of HIV programs. Governments should take ownership of providing HIV prevention options to populations who need them most.</p>
<b>UNICEF</b>	Dr. Mohamed Elmunir Safieldin	Country Representative- Uganda	<p>UNICEF commits to work with the AWPCAB, the government and donors to disseminate information about all the possible options for young women to protect themselves from HIV.</p> <p>UNICEF commits to dedicate and use its procurement services and capacity in Uganda to work with the government and donors to expand the range of choices available in Uganda to protect themselves.</p>
<b>PEPFAR</b>	Mary Borgman	PEPFAR Coordinator	<p>EQUITY is at the center of all the work that PEPFAR does globally. In that sense the Choice Manifesto aligns directly to the ethos of the work that PEPFAR is doing to deliver person centered HIV Prevention Program</p> <p>At country level and as PEPFAR Coordinator, she committed to work in a manner that allows for dialogue and conversation around choice to continue in the work that PEPFAR does.</p>
<b>AIDS FONDS</b>	Nienke Westerhof	Advisor - SRHR and Gender	<p>Committed to share the Choice Manifesto internally within AIDSFONDS and to align the work that is done with their global partners to the Choice agenda.</p>
<b>ICWEA</b>	Ruth Akulu	<p>Young Women Prevention Council Member/</p> <p>AVAC Fellow 2021</p>	<p>Committed to ensure that the Choice Manifesto does not end with her; but it gets shared, communicated and understood by more young women in Uganda so that there is continuity.</p>

<b>TALC</b>	Ida Mulala	Young woman	Committed to advocate for the Choice Manifesto to be known and understood by different stakeholders in Zambia. This means going back to Zambia and collaborating with other partners to ensure the choice manifesto become a reality at national level
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## **USG DELEGATES**

- Mary Borgman – PEPFAR Coordinator
- Bwanika Dennis – PEPFAR Country Program Advisor
- Estella Birabwa - DoD Program Manager
- Sara Melillo – Senior HIV Prevention Advisor -USAID
- Stella Alamo – Associate director programs -CDC
- Lily Asrat- Country Director - PC
- Cotious Tukashaba - Health Program Specialist -PC
- Bethany Levy- Peace Corps Volunteer -PC
- Charlie Tooch - Peace Corps Volunteer –PC
- Anna Awor – Prevention Branch Chief - CDC