

Fast-Track Cities Initiative: Ending the AIDS Epidemic By 2030

**Statement by José M. Zuniga, PhD, MPH, IAPAC President/CEO, on World AIDS Day 2014
December 1, 2014 – Paris, France**

The following statement was made by José M. Zuniga, PhD, MPH, President/CEO of the International Association of Providers of AIDS Care (IAPAC), at the launch of the Fast-Track Cities Initiative. The launch was hosted by the City of Paris' Mayor Anne Hidalgo and the heads of IAPAC, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). Mayors from cities around the world signed a Paris Declaration to end AIDS in their cities by 2030.

“On World AIDS Day 2014, IAPAC is proud to sign the Paris Declaration, joining Mayors from cities around the globe in pledging to place their cities on a fast-track to ending AIDS by 2030. The Paris Declaration commits us to achieve ambitious targets to reduce new HIV infections, end AIDS-related deaths, and eliminate barriers faced by people affected by and living with HIV, including stigma and discrimination.

The Fast-Track Cities Initiative will rightly be led by Mayors and city governments, closely engaged with affected communities, civil society, public health officials, clinical-providers, and other stakeholders. As core partners, IAPAC, UNAIDS, and UN-Habitat will fully support Fast-Track Cities to achieve 90:90:90 targets by 2020 – 90% of people living with HIV knowing their status, 90% of people who are diagnosed HIV positive placed on HIV treatment, and 90% of people on HIV treatment achieving viral suppression.

In our role as a core partner, IAPAC will leverage our educational activities and clinical decision support tools, our global membership network of 20,000-plus clinicians, and our Regional Capacity-Building Hubs to support Fast-Track Cities in achieving the 90:90:90 targets by 2020. In addition, an IAPAC clinician-member will serve as a technical focal point in each Fast-Track City to help guide local efforts to address gaps across the HIV prevention and treatment continua.

Given dramatic advances in prevention and treatment, we must seize this moment of unprecedented opportunity to achieve the 90:90:90 targets in Fast-Track Cities. We must think globally and partner locally to leverage existing city programs and resources. We will only be able to close HIV prevention, testing, and treatment gaps by implementing locally relevant, locally tailored, and locally led interventions, keeping people and their communities at the center of local AIDS responses.

IAPAC is confident Fast-Track Cities will reach the 90:90:90 targets. But doing so requires deliberate speed, strategic implementation, and partnerships with affected communities, city governments, United Nations and other partners, and IAPAC's clinician-members worldwide. Together, we will end AIDS by 2030.”

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About IAPAC

The International Association of Providers of AIDS Care (IAPAC) represents more than 20,000 clinicians and allied health care professionals in over 150 countries. Its mission is to improve the quality of prevention, care, treatment, and support services provided to men, women, and children affected by and living with HIV and comorbid conditions such as tuberculosis and viral hepatitis. Visit www.iapac.org for more information about IAPAC, the Fast-Track Cities Initiative, and/or its other global activities.