Thanks to the Global Fund-supported programs, incredible progress has been achieved in the fight HIV/AIDS over the past 15 years.

However, access to appropriate and quality treatment and care remains a challenge for many countries and underserved populations. More than ever, the fight against HIV/AIDS is a political fight, which calls for political responses.

While about 18.2 million people have access to ARV treatments worldwide in 2016 - compared to 7.5 million in 2010 - it represents only about the half of people in need of ARV treatment and about 20% of HIV-positive pregnant women awaiting a treatment to prevent mother-to-child transmission. Moreover, the geographical distribution of access to treatment is unequal: more than 75% of HIV-positive people in West and Central Africa do not benefit of ARVs and nearly one in two children born HIV-positive in this region.

Without removing barriers accessing treatment and optimal care – especially those limiting access for people facing vulnerable situations as adolescents, young girls, women of childbearing age, and marginalized populations - it will be impossible to effectively and sustainably control the HIV epidemic.

Barriers - weak health systems, financial limitations, weak governance systems and low involvement of CSOs, discriminations, denial of rights and criminalization - are not only slowing down the decreasing trend of the HIV/ AIDS epidemic, they are potentially a cause of the resurgence of the epidemic when every year about 2.1 million people are newly HIV infected and 1.1 million people die of Aids.

Friends of the Global Fund Europe, in partnership with the Global Fund, UNITAID, Coalition PLUS and Political Science Institute of Paris, is organizing a side-event to the IAS Conference in Paris in order to raise awareness on the threats weighing on the course of the HIV/AIDS epidemic driven by an excess of optimism about access to ARV treatment and care.

To register, please send an email to: confirmation@afmeurope.org by indicating your first name, name, organisation and function.
9.30 – 10.00 – Registration

10.00 – 10.05 – Welcome - Laurent VIGIER – Chair of Friends of the Global Fund Europe

10.05 – 10.15 – Opening: Dr KEBEDE Worku, State Minister of Health, Ethiopia (TBC)
A representative of the French Government (TBC)

10.15 AM–11.05 AM – Debate: Challenges ahead to foster access to treatment and care

- Moderator: Laurent VIGIER, Chair of Friends of the Global Fund Europe

  o Heidemarie WIECZOREK-ZEUL, former German Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development – Challenges facing women and adolescents

  o Michèle BOCCOZ, French ambassador in charge of HIV and communicable diseases

  o Michel KAZATCHKINE, UN Secretary-General Special Envoy on HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia - Challenges facing transitioning countries

  o Marijke WIJNROKS, Interim Executive Director of the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria – Operational challenges of access to ARV treatment and care - Lessons learned from the Global Fund-supported programs and upcoming challenges

  o Jean-François DELFRAISSY, President of the French National Committee of Ethics – Ethical principles about access to HIV treatment and care

11.05 AM – 11.25 AM – Coffee Break

11.25 AM–12.25 PM – Round Table: Addressing financial barriers and facilitating access to innovation

- Moderator: Luiz LOURES, Deputy Executive Director of UNAIDS

  **Addressing financial barriers**

    o Mit PHILIPS, Health policy analyst at Médecins sans Frontières, Belgium

  **Addressing access to innovation**

    o Stefano VELLA, Director, Center for Global Health, National Institute of Health, Italy; President, Italian Medicines Agency

    o Lelio MARMORA, executive director of UNITAID

Political Science Institute of Paris: Opening of the Q&A discussion by students

12.25 PM – 13.20 PM – Debate session – Human rights, critical to accelerate access to HIV treatment & care and ending the epidemics.

Moderator: Ingrid THERWATH, journalist at Courrier International

Erika CASTELLANOS, Director of Programs, GATE – Global Action for Trans* Equality

Dr KHUAT THI HAI Oanh, Executive Director of the center for supporting community development initiatives, SCDI

Ralf JURGENS, Senior Technical Coordinator Human Rights, Community Rights and Gender Department, The Global Fund

Serge YOTTA, Executive Director of Affirmative Action, Cameroon

Political Science Institute of Paris: Opening of the Q&A discussion by students

13.20 PM – 13.30 PM – Closing remarks – Marc ANGEL, Chair of Foreign Affairs and Development Committee of the Luxembourg Parliament and UNAIDS Champion for the 90-90-90 targets

13.30 – 14.30 – RECEPTION

To register, please send an email to: confirmation@afmeurope.org by indicating your first name, name, organisation and function

Contact
Friends of the Global Fund Europe
2, rue Cognacq-Jay I 75007 Paris
+33 (0)1 44 07 08 66
confirmation@afmeurope.org