

2009

Policy Analysis
Report

on the HIV/AIDS

Response in Thailand:
A Civil Society
Perspective

2009 Policy Analysis Report on the HIV/AIDS Response in Thailand: A Civil Society Perspective

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Preface

Two major goals of HIV/AIDS response include a reduction of new cases and enhancement of access to care and treatment as well as other relevant services. This should help PLHIV and AIDS patients to live their lives happily with others in society and attain a good quality of life. The UNAIDS has spelled out measures for achieving the goals including the promotion of access to comprehensive prevention, care and treatment or what is known as Universal Access (UA).

As a part of NGO network working on HIV/AIDS in Thailand, the Thai NGO Coalition on AIDS (TNCA) finds it important to encourage the Thai government to provide for policy and service delivery in accordance to the principle. In 2009, TNCA held meetings with 15 networks under its umbrella. It was agreed that in order to have the policy making and access to services in place, we have to give attention to the issues of Sexual rights and AIDS rights, both of which are human rights. The campaign was thus launched during the 2009 World AIDS Day under the slogan “Sexual Rights and AIDS Rights are Human Rights: Respect, Understand, safety and Happiness”. This is in line with the slogan on the UNAIDS’s World AIDS Day, “Universal Access and Human Rights”. In addition, TNCA agreed to set Sexual rights, AIDS rights are human rights as our advocacy issues for the years 2009-2010 as well.



In addition, TNCA sets up a Policy Watch group composed of veteran campaigners on HIV/AIDS policy in Thailand including Mr. Nimit Tienudom, Ms. Sureerat Treemanka, Mr. Niwat Suwanphatthana, and Ms. Kanjana Thalaengkit. Issues about key policy regarding HIV/AIDS during the year 2009 have been compiled and a number of meetings called to review the policy. Sexual rights and human rights based approaches are employed in the analysis. Representatives from civil society organizations working on HIV/AIDS countrywide have been asked to share their views and the proceeding has been printed as “The 2009 Analysis of Policy Response toward HIV/AIDS in Thailand: A civil society’s perspective”, the volume of which rests in your hands now.

Pursuant to the completion of this report, TNCA has developed a proposal to set up a subcommittee to monitor and follow up on the stigmatization and discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS. It is supposed to enhance the implementation of strategies aiming to protect AIDS rights. The agenda is being proposed for discussion at the meeting of the National AIDS Prevention and Alleviation Committee (NAPAC)

Next, we shall monitor how concerned agencies respond to our proposal. Meanwhile, efforts shall be made to encourage civil society organizations and state agencies





to use Sexual rights and human rights based approaches to mobilize more effectively policy on HIV/AIDS and sexual health at all levels. We shall work through the Provincial Coordinating Mechanism (PCM) in order to enhance more effective policy on prevention, care and treatment and to reduce impact on all groups of population in Thailand.

In behalf of Thai NGO Coalition on AIDS (TNCA), I would like to thank Ford Foundation for making possible the publishing of this report and the 15 civil society networks which help to brainstorm and the Policy Watch group for giving us time and resources. Special thanks go to Ms. Sutthida Malikaew, for researching and compiling relevant documents and Mr. Niwat Suwanphatthana for writing the short version of the report which we enjoy to read. Our gratitude also goes to many other whose names cannot be mentioned here.

Last but not least, I hope everyone enjoy her or his good sexual health and consensual sex without the use of force. We all should stay free of STIs, unwanted pregnancy, have access to the information and be proud of one's gender identity which shall be respected, understood, safe and happiness.

Supatra Nacapew
Chairperson, Thai NGO Coalition on AIDS (TNCA)

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