

# The Abuja Framework for Action for the fight against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases

## Introduction

African Heads of State and Government recognize the challenge of developing feasible policies, strategies, structures and processes to ensure adequate prevention and control of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases (ORID). This Framework for Action articulates the commitments made in the Abuja Declaration on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases into strategies followed by subsequent activities. Member States will implement the activities in close collaboration with all stakeholders.

The Mechanism for Implementation, Monitoring and Follow up will ensure that the Framework for Action is implemented in a sustainable manner. It will also ensure that the actions are well coordinated and that evaluation and feedback are continuous.

The primary goal is to arrest and reverse the accelerating rate of HIV infection, TB and ORID and to achieve this, the following are the guiding objectives:

1. To advocate for optimal translation of earlier commitments of African Leaders into social and resource mobilization for sustainable programming of Primary Health Care.
2. To develop policies and strategies aimed at preventing HIV, Tuberculosis and other related infections, and at controlling the impact of the epidemic on socio-economic development in Africa.
3. To establish sustainable mechanisms for national and external resource mobilization for prevention, and treatment of the persons living with HIV/AIDS.
4. To ensure that we attend to the needs of vulnerable groups such as children, the youth, women and persons with disabilities, workers and mobile populations.

The following Framework for Action has been provided with the view to achieving those objectives:

- a. Member States are urged to adopt the Framework for Action for the continent in order to develop and strengthen their own Action Plans.
- b. The OAU Secretariat is requested to follow-up the development and implementation of national Action Plans of Member States and Mechanisms for Monitoring and Evaluation.
- c. The OAU Secretariat, in collaboration with Members of the Bureau, in consultation with Regional Economic Communities, is mandated to develop the strategic Framework into an Action Plan for the Continent to be presented to the Ministers of Health at the World Health Assembly to be held in Geneva in May 2001, and thereafter to the Heads of State and Government in Lusaka Summit in July 2001 through the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
- d. The OAU Secretariat is requested to develop its own operational plan.

Priority Areas	Strategies
I. Leadership at national, regional and continental levels to mobilize society as a whole to fight HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID.	Provision of an enabling environment at all levels of leadership in society
II. Improvement of Information, Education and Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobilize the formal and informal education sectors</li> <li>• Develop appropriate information system for the population</li> </ul>

<p>III. Protection of Human Rights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a multi-sectoral national programme for awareness of and sensitivity to the negative impact of the pandemic to people especially vulnerable groups</li> <li>• Enact relevant legislation to protect the rights of people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and TB</li> <li>• Strengthen existing legislation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ address Human Rights violations and gender inequities; and</li> <li>▪ respect and protect the rights of infected and affected people;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Harmonize approaches to Human Rights between nations for the whole continent.</li> <li>• Assist women in taking appropriate decisions to protect themselves against HIV./AIDS.</li> </ul>
<p>IV. Access to treatment, care and support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integration of HIV/AIDS and TB Programmes in primary health care services</li> <li>• Promote and strengthen the continuum of care in a decentralized mannerEnsure development of community-based networks</li> <li>• Expand Directly Observed Treatment for Tuberculosis.</li> </ul>
<p>V. Access to affordable drugs and technologies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enact and utilize appropriate legislation and international trade regulations to ensure the availability of drugs at affordable prices and technologies for the treatment, care and prevention of HIV/AIDS, TB and Other Related Infectious Diseases.</li> </ul>
<p>VI. Strengthening health Systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development and strengthening of infrastructure</li> <li>• Capacity-building</li> <li>• Human Resource Development</li> </ul>
<p>VII. Resources Mobilization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National</li> <li>• International</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration with all national partners in order to mobilize additional financial resources to fight against the pandemic</li> <li>• Create and increase of HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID national budget line to facilitate access to diagnosis, care and drugs as well as to reagents for diagnosing other infectious diseases</li> <li>• Integrate International Partnership against HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID at all levels of society in Member States</li> <li>• Integrate Regional policies and partnership programmes for migrants and refugees</li> <li>• Support the creation of the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS in Africa</li> <li>• Support the creation of the Global TB Fund”</li> <li>• Advocate for increased grants not loans</li> <li>• Advocate for debt cancellation.</li> </ul>
<p>VIII. Research and Development on HIV/AIDS, TB and Other Related Infectious Diseases including vaccines, traditional medicines and indigenous knowledge.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote and support research and development for vaccines and drugs for HIV/AIDS</li> <li>• Promote research and development of herbal medicines</li> <li>• Promote research and development on nutritionDiscourage the promotion of unproven medicines and remedies for HIV infections.</li> </ul>
<p>IX. Poverty, Health and Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop/promote income generating capacity of families particularly those affected by the epidemic</li> <li>• Promote concessionary credit facilities to families especially women in rural areasPromote good nutritional practices.</li> </ul>

X. Monitoring and Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen Health Information System</li> <li>• Establish a surveillance system for HIV infections</li> <li>• Organize regular meetings on access to treatment.</li> </ul>
XI. Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening national and regional network</li> <li>• Establishing developmental Coordinating Units</li> <li>• Development of networks of Experts and Institutions</li> <li>• Promote South-South cooperation</li> <li>• Promote public - private partnership</li> </ul>
XII. Prevention of the spread of HIV/AIDS, TB and Other Related Infectious Diseases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure access to quality voluntary confidential counseling and testing</li> <li>• Ensure blood safety</li> <li>• Promote appropriate management of STIs and TB</li> <li>• Improve access to programmes for prevention of mother-to-child transmission</li> <li>• Ensure access to barrier methods</li> <li>• Ensure prevention of occupational hazards to health workers and others from exposure to HIV/AIDS and TB</li> <li>• Improve Information, Education and Communication at community level.</li> </ul>