

## The Global Forum on MSM & HIV (MSMGF) Quarterly Report January 2012

### **MSMGF Monitors Changes at Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria**

Significant policy, strategy and organizational changes have taken place over recent months at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (the Global Fund). In order to stay informed about key developments and to understand the implications for our global MSM constituents, the MSMGF Steering Committee and staff have been in regular contact with representatives from Global Fund Board and Secretariat, as well as with wider civil society through the MSMGF network and the *Global Fund Advocates' Network (GFAN)*.

In November 2011, the Global Fund's Round 11 grant cycle was cancelled unexpectedly, triggered in large part by insufficient funds. The gap between forecasted resources and those actually available at the time of the Global Fund board meeting in Accra, Ghana, was too large to allow for the grant cycle to move forward. The MSMGF released a public statement urging donor nations to live up to the contributions they had pledged to donate to the Fund, highlighting the critical role of the Global Fund in providing HIV programs for MSM and other key affected groups. The range of policy and organizational changes at the Global Fund caused significant confusion among our global constituencies, especially with regard to their implications for HIV programs for key affected groups. This prompted the MSMGF to release a two-page Information Note in December 2011, outlining the major changes that have implications for HIV programming among MSM and a list of advocacy opportunities for 2012.

This quarter, the MSMGF also provided technical input to a Global Fund study analyzing representation of key populations on Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs). The MSMGF facilitated referrals and linkages between the Global Fund and MSM advocates in-country who are directly involved with Global Fund grants. The MSMGF also provided feedback emphasizing (a) the need to revise the CCM guidelines to ensure representation of MSM on Country Coordinating Mechanisms; (b) the need to build technical capacity of CCMs to develop MSM-targeted responses; and (c) the need for technical support and capacity building support for MSM organizations.

[Read the MSMGF Statement in Response to the Cancellation of Round 11](#)

[Read the MSMGF Information Note](#)

## **MSMGF Exerts a Strong Advocacy Voice at the UNAIDS PCB**

MSMGF Executive Officer, Dr. George Ayala attended the 29<sup>th</sup> UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board meeting in Geneva, Switzerland held between December 13-15, 2011. As one of two North American NGO Delegates, Dr. Ayala facilitated teleconference discussions prior to the PCB meeting for MSM advocates living in the region. The MSMGF helped to develop the NGO Delegation's annual report to the PCB focused on HIV and the law. This report included findings from 27 focus group discussions, two of which were conducted by the MSMGF. The MSMGF focus groups were conducted with MSM and transgender people living in North America.

The MSMGF facilitated civil society representation at the PCB by supporting the attendance of two MSM living with HIV – Nick Rhodes and Robert Suttle. Conveying their own personal experiences, their testimony focused on the negative public health impact of HIV criminalization laws in North America. These individuals presented their interventions on the third day of the PCB meeting during a thematic session on HIV and the law.

[Read the UNAIDS NGO Delegation Report on HIV and the Law](#)

[Watch the Testimony of Nick Rhodes](#)

[Watch the Testimony of Robert Suttle](#)

## **MSMGF Advocates for Coverage of Key Populations at the 2012 International AIDS Conference**

The MSMGF has engaged with a range of stakeholders to advocate for increased program coverage of key populations at the International AIDS Conference. Steps taken by the MSMGF include:

- (a) Letter to the Conference Coordinating Committee with a list of 8 nominees for Plenary Speakers and Overall Thematic Suggestions.
- (b) Suggestions for Plenary Speakers and Non-Abstract Driven Sessions to representatives from the Leadership and Accountability Programme Committee, Community Programme Committee and Scientific Program Committee.
- (c) Working to increase the chances of MSM-focused abstracts being accepted to the International AIDS Conference by implementing an MSMGF-based abstract technical assistance team that allows individuals to pre-submit their MSM-focused abstract for review and comments. Input from our expert reviewers has been shown to help strengthen chances of selection at previous International AIDS Conferences.

## **MSMGF Continues Advocacy in Washington D.C.**

In November, MSMGF Policy Associate Krista Lauer joined the Council for Global Equality for a meeting with the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator. The discussion covered a range of topics, including opportunities to track the impact of the PEPFAR HIV prevention guidance on MSM, a data pull to identify MSM programs currently being implemented, and the potential for carrying out MSM size estimation exercises. Language was



proposed that would bureaucratically entrench the MSM guidance in all funding agreements relevant to PEPFAR programs; this language is being considered.

During the same trip, Krista met with key NGO partners to provide updates and solicit funding for the 2012 MSM Pre-Conference, slated to take place July 21, 2012 in Washington, D.C. She also met with key Congressional Offices on the Hill, including the Office of Congresswoman Barbara Lee to discuss issues of MSM, HIV and the law ahead of the December UNAIDS PCB meeting thematic, and in anticipation of the final report of the Global Commission on HIV and the Law (Congresswoman Lee serves on the Commission). In addition, Krista met with House Committee on Foreign Affairs in early anticipation of the 2013 reauthorization of PEPFAR, and met with Frank Mugisha and Pepe Julian Onziema before they addressed George Washington University as part of the celebration of Mr. Mugisha receiving the 2011 Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award.

Finally Krista met with staff on the U.S. Delegation to the UNAIDS PCB in advance of the December meeting, providing updates on the NGO Delegation's report and discussing critical issues on HIV, MSM and the law that were slated to be considered in the thematic day and in the decision points.

### **MSMGF Launches New Web-Page on MSM, HIV and the Law**

For World AIDS Day 2011, the MSMGF launched a new webpage on men who have sex with men, HIV and the law. The centerpiece of the webpage was a 4 minute video testimonial on legal and human right issues by three of the MSMGF's Steering Committee members from South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe, respectively. The page margins feature a collection of toolkits, policy documents and reports that highlight the connection between the law and vulnerability to HIV, helping to equip activists to take action.

The page also publicly launched the MSMGF's Specialist Submission on MSM to the Global Commission on HIV and the Law, which makes five recommendations for law-based actions that would have a game-changing impact on the HIV response for MSM:

1. Review and repeal laws that undermine the HIV response among MSM;
2. Address the inappropriate enforcement of laws that hinder access to HIV services for MSM through coordination, education and training with the judiciary and law enforcement officials;
3. Establish laws that protect the health and rights of MSM, and those that bring perpetrators of violence and other human rights abuses against MSM to justice;
4. Implement know-your-rights campaigns, and create enabling environments in which individuals can lay claim to their rights;
5. Integrate the law as a core pillar in all National AIDS Responses, and adopt a rights-based approach to the HIV response.



## **MSMGF Takes Part in AIDS Philanthropy Summit in New York City**

In December, MSMGF Policy Associate Krista Lauer presented an update to the Funders Concerned About AIDS (FCAA)'s *AIDS Philanthropy Summit: From Data to Impact* on the MSMGF's research to track global HIV spending on MSM. The report in question, *An analysis of major HIV donor investments targeting men who have sex with men and transgender people in low- and middle-income countries*, was published by the MSMGF in August, and indicates that most major bilateral, multilateral and private philanthropic funders that focus on HIV do not consistently track their investments targeting men who have sex with men and transgender people.

This was a new topic to many of the participating organizations at the D.C.-based meeting, and the discrepancy between elevated HIV prevalence among MSM and the lack of deliberately targeted investments provided a stark backdrop for discussions of effective, data-informed investments.

## **MSMGF Supports Immigration Equality**

In October the MSMGF staff submitted an affidavit on the treatment of MSM in El Salvador, supporting the immigration case of a Salvadoran man to the U.S. government. Immigration Equality in New York solicited the MSMGF's support with this case based on the client's sexual orientation.

## **MSMGF Tracks US Foreign Policy Developments on HIV and LGBT Rights**

In October U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton made a landmark speech in advance of World AIDS Day, declaring that an "HIV-Free Generation" is within reach, and declaring its realization as official foreign policy of the United States.

Outlining a 3-point action plan emphasizing prevention of mother-to-child transmission, medical male circumcision and treatment-as-prevention, Secretary Clinton made scarce mention at all of men who have sex with men, despite being one of the world's most outspoken LGBT rights allies. [Read the MSMGF Op-Ed in reaction to the speech.](#)

On World AIDS Day (December 1<sup>st</sup>) at a star-studded public event featuring former U.S. Presidents Bill Clinton and G.W. Bush, current U.S. President Barack Obama announced that the U.S. global AIDS treatment target would be expanded from 4 million to 6 million people.

Then, in early December, a series of actions by the U.S. government codified the protection and promotion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights as official U.S. Foreign Policy. Shortly before International Human Rights Day, President Obama issued a presidential memorandum directing all U.S. agencies abroad to protect and promote the human rights of LGBT people. Secretary Clinton made another landmark speech, this time at the United Nations in Geneva, re-affirming her June 2010 statement that "LGBT rights are human rights." In a nuanced and thoughtful address, she outlined the U.S. vision for achieving LGBT equality around the world, including a new State Department Task Force on LGBT rights, new toolkits for U.S. Embassies, and a



new \$3 million Global Equality Fund to support the work of grassroots LGBT rights advocates around the world.

The MSMGF applauds these efforts and urges seamless collaboration and cooperation with global HIV and health efforts for MSM also taking place within the U.S. State Department.

[Read the MSMGF Statement on these developments.](#)

### **MSMGF Works with PEPFAR to Prepare Regional Trainings on MSM**

In the final quarter of 2011 and early January 2012, the MSMGF continued conversations with the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator regarding the first of three regional trainings on the PEPFAR Guidance on HIV Prevention for Men Who Have Sex with Men.

The MSMGF provided input on the meeting agenda, suggested topic areas and speakers, and advocated for the inclusion of key civil society advocates and MSM HIV program implementers for the meeting. The first meeting will take place in South Africa in mid-February. Conversations and follow-up are ongoing.

### **MSMGF Works with UNAIDS to Develop Guidance on the Care and Support Needs of Key Populations Living with HIV**

The MSMGF serves as a member of the UNAIDS Advisory Group working to develop an evidence-based guidance document on the care and support needs of key populations living with HIV. The MSMGF provided input and feedback during various stages of the project, suggesting (a) better linking of study outcomes with other strategic processes such as the Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework and UNAIDS Strategy 2011-2015; (b) elevating the role of community engagement in understanding the care and support needs of key populations living with HIV; and (c) ensuring that the study's outcomes and recommendations are focused and specific, indicating clear next steps.

### **MSMGF Provides Input on New Technical Guidelines from United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime**

The United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is preparing to release new technical guidelines for HIV prevention, treatment and care among people who use crack and cocaine, as well as other stimulant drugs. The MSMGF reviewed and provided input to this document in close consultation with the International Network of People Who Use Drugs. The MSMGF made the following recommendations: (a) include a more detailed discussion on HIV transmission in the context of non-injection drug use and male-to-male sex; (b) explicitly discuss the criminalization of drug use as a chief barrier to HIV prevention, treatment and care among people who use these drugs; and (c) support greater community involvement and consultation in the guideline development process.



## **MSMGF Advises on the Development of the UNAIDS Partnerships Strategy**

UNAIDS has engaged the MSMGF to advise on the development of an important UNAIDS guidance document, entitled “*Guidance for Partnerships with Civil Society, People Living with HIV and Key Populations*,” also known as the *UNAIDS Partnerships Strategy*. This document is intended to serve as a framework for UNAIDS and its co-sponsoring agencies to strengthen their engagement with civil society. The MSMGF reviewed and provided feedback on a draft iteration of the document, including the following recommendations: (a) develop robust outcome and accountability mechanisms; (b) provide resources and tools to civil society; (c) develop more detailed strategies for working with civil society in the context of hostile governments; (d) provide training and sensitization to UN workers; and (e) engage with the NGO Delegation and provide support for civil society participation at PCB meetings. The MSMGF included a separate commentary on defining key populations as men who have sex with men, people who use drugs, sex workers and transgender people. This commentary was jointly submitted by the MSMGF, Eurasian Harm Reduction Network, the International Network of People Who Use Drugs, and the Global Network of Sex Work Projects.

## **MSMGF Supports Study on Ethical Dilemmas Faced by Care Providers**

The MSMGF serves on a work group convened by the Coalition on Children Affected by AIDS (CCABA) that is tasked with the development of a guidance document for care and support workers who face ethical dilemmas. This document is specifically geared towards care and support workers who serve key populations and their partners, families and/or children. In order to gather community experiences related to ethical dilemmas that occur in HIV-related service settings among these workers, a survey was collaboratively developed and launched in English, French, Russian and Spanish to better inform the guideline development process. This survey targeted care and support workers and beneficiaries of care and support services. The MSMGF focused its recruitment efforts for survey respondents on wider LGBT groups and MSM care and support organizations worldwide.

## **MSMGF is *Speaking Out* in Honduras, Vietnam and in the MENA Region**

*Speaking Out* has achieved important milestones during the fourth quarter of year, with ongoing projects in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region, Honduras, and Vietnam. From October to December 2011, the project’s three country-leads developed three respective facilitator guides, outlining a 5-day “training of trainers” (TOT) curriculum for *Speaking Out* and implementing 5-day TOT sessions in Morocco, Honduras, and Vietnam. MSMGF staff worked with local consultants and partner organizations to provide technical support during the TOTs in Morocco, Honduras and Vietnam.

As a result of the regional TOT in North Africa, national TOT in Honduras, and national TOT in Vietnam, there is now a cadre of 40 trained MSM and transgender advocates.



The MENA Region had a total of 12 participants at the TOT in Marrakech, Morocco, from October 25 – October 29, 2011. The participants included MSM advocates, advocates working with MSM and transgender communities, people living with HIV, and leaders from non-government organizations. Participants were from Algeria, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, and Tunisia.

A total of 14 individuals attended the TOT in Copan, Honduras, from October 24 – October 28, 2011. Most participants had knowledge and experience in advocacy. Advocates came from the three main cities in the country: Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula and La Ceiba. All participants came from LGBT, MSM-led and HIV organizations in the country.

The TOT in Vietnam was hosted in Ho Chi Minh City from October 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011. A total of 14 participants attended the training. Attendees included MSM-led group leaders and members of the MSM Technical Working Group from the following provinces/cities: Ho Chi Minh City, Ha Noi, Hai Duong, Da Nang, Hue, Hai Phong, Ben Tre, Can Tho, An Giang and Khanh Hoa.

The trainings in Morocco, Honduras and Vietnam took a highly participatory approach with interactive exercises, activities, presentations and group discussions. All participants were given an opportunity to facilitate learning sequences. Participants and trainers evaluated the relevance and quality of the content and methods used in the training, providing a vital collection of feedback and recommendations to improve the *Speaking Out Toolkit*.

On December 15<sup>th</sup>, a final report on the accomplishments in Vietnam was submitted to UNAIDS (the primary funder of the initiative in Vietnam), and a progress report was submitted to Levi-Strauss Foundation on December 15<sup>th</sup> as part of the first year of the project.

Honduras and Vietnam are currently developing their own breakthrough initiative proposals for year two of the project. One or two small advocacy projects will be supported through the *Speaking Out Initiative* depending on availability of funds.

## **SENSE Takes a New Editorial Approach**

*Sense* (the MSMGF's online multimedia publication by and for MSM living with HIV) has been involved in a restructuring process since October. As part of this process, the MSMGF decided to replace the Guest Editor model with a new advisory board of MSM living with HIV to advise and assist the Editor in developing three to four editions per year. A call for letters of interest was sent out to members of the MSMGF's Survey Panel at the end of December. We have received several letters of interest from MSM living with HIV and plan to have the first call with the new advisory board in mid to late January 2012.



## **MSMGF Forging Closer Ties with Regional MSM Networks to Synergize Communications**

Over the past quarter, the MSMGF has been engaged in discussions with regional MSM networks around the world to coordinate communications and networking efforts. The goal of these conversations is to ensure that the MSMGF's communications and networking efforts are supporting and promoting the work of regional networks, as well as to identify potential areas for collaboration and partnership. These conversations are ongoing and involve over a dozen different networks.

## **MSMGF Transgender Reference Group is Officially Launched**

A group of 11 transgender advocates from around the world, in collaboration with the MSMGF, have launched the MSMGF Transgender Reference Group. The purpose of this reference group is two-fold: (a) to jointly organize advocacy action at the global level on behalf of MSM and transgender people, and (b) to provide guidance to the MSMGF on trans and gender variance issues in the context of health, HIV and human rights. The MSMGF Transgender Reference Group is comprised of individuals currently living in the following countries: Argentina, Australia, India, Malaysia, Peru, the Netherlands, Romania, South Africa, Sweden, and the United States. [Read the official announcement.](#)

## **Daily Visits to the MSMGF Website Increase by 32%**

From October 15 – January 1, the MSMGF website received a total of 16,355 visits, of which 12,496 were absolute unique visitors. The average number of visits a day was 263. This is a 32% increase in daily visits over the average for the previous quarter (198). During the current quarter, the majority of visits came from the United States (3,743), followed by China (858), Brazil (745), Canada (683), the United Kingdom (583), Russia (526), France (497), India (486), Australia (361), and Ukraine (307). Segmenting by language, the 54% of visits occurred in English and 46% of visits occurred in non-English languages. The breakdown by language is as follows: English (10,023), Spanish (1,156), French (1,073), Russian (990), Chinese (945), Portuguese (879), and Arabic (444).

## **MSMGF Gains More Than 100 New Members**

From October 15 – January 1, the MSMGF gained 124 new members from 54 different countries, bringing the total membership to 2,709. Of the new members that joined during this period, 80% are from the Global South (99) and 20% are from the Global North (25). Segmenting by region, the majority of new members are from Sub-Saharan Africa (47), followed by Western Europe, Northern Europe and North America (22), Latin America (16), the Caribbean (11), Asia (9), Eastern Europe and Central Asia (9), the Middle East and North Africa (7), and Oceania (3).

In terms of language, 70% of members joining during this period use the website in English (87), and 30% use the website in languages other than English (37). Segmenting by non-English languages, the majority of



members signed up to use the website in Spanish (16), followed by French (10), Arabic (5), Russian (3), and Portuguese (2). One new member specified a language other than the seven languages supported by the MSMGF platform.

## **MSMGF Gets Press Coverage**

From October 15 – January 1, the MSMGF issued three press releases and five statements. In total, the MSMGF was the subject of 17 media hits; of these hits, 15 were in English, one was in Russian and one was in Chinese. All materials are listed below.

### Press Releases:

[\*MSMGF Applauds New U.S. Foreign Policy to Promote and Protect LGBT Human Rights Worldwide\*](#)

December 7, 2011

[\*On World AIDS Day, New Online Resource Illustrates Impact of Legal Environment on Gay Men's Health and Human Rights\*](#)

November 29, 2011

[\*Global Coalition for MSM Health and Human Rights Announces Five-Year Strategy\*](#)

November 16, 2011

### Statements:

[\*Changes at the Global Fund and Advocacy Opportunities for MSM in 2012\*](#)

December 21, 2011

[\*Action Alert for Young MSM and Young PLHIV! Provide input into the UNAIDS New Generation Leadership Strategy\*](#)

December 5, 2011

[\*MSM and the Global Fund: Where Do We Go From Here?\*](#)

December 1, 2011

[\*Transgender Advocates and Global Forum on MSM & HIV Launch New Collaborative Effort\*](#)

November 10, 2011

[\*Op-ed: A Closer Look at Hillary Clinton's AIDS Strategy\*](#)

November 9, 2011

[\*The MSMGF Calls on Malaysian Authorities to Lift Ban on Seksualiti Merdeka Festival\*](#)

November 9, 2011



Press coverage:

*Ugandan activist honoured with new awards*

Gay Star News, December 20, 2011

<http://www.gaystarnews.com/article/ugandan-activist-honoured-new-awards>

*Jamaican Wins 'Visionary' LGBT Activist Award*

care2 News, December 15, 2011

<http://www.care2.com/causes/jamaican-wins-visionary-lgbt-activist-award.html>

*'Visionary' Jamaican gay rights activist announced as recipient of inaugural David Kato Award*

International Resource Network, December 15, 2011

<http://www.irnweb.org/en/blog/post/view/visionary-jamaican-gay-rights-activist-announced-as-recipient-of-inaugural-david-kato-award>

*MSMGF: New U.S. foreign policy on LGBT human rights to help in AIDS fight globally*

San Diego Gay & Lesbian News, December 9, 2011

<http://sdgln.com/causes/2011/12/09/msmgf-applauds-new-us-foreign-policy-promote-protect-lgbt-human-rights>

*U.S. promotes gay rights abroad, urges lagging nations to fall in line*

Science Speaks, December 9, 2011

<http://sciencespeaksblog.org/2011/12/09/u-s-promotes-gay-rights-abroad-urges-lagging-nations-to-fall-in-line/>

*Bold Actions to Fight HIV/AIDS*

San Francisco AIDS Foundation, December 4, 2011

<http://www.sfaf.org/hiv-info/hot-topics/from-the-experts/bold-actions-to-fight-hiv-aids.html>

*How law blocks HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment*

San Diego Gay & Lesbian News, December 2, 2011

<http://www.sdgln.com/causes/2011/12/02/how-law-blocks-hiv-aids-prevention-and-treatment>

*How law blocks HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment*

LGBT Asylum News, December 1, 2011

<http://madikazemi.blogspot.com/2011/12/how-law-blocks-hiv-aids-prevention.html>

*On World AIDS Day, New Online Resource Illustrates Impact of Legal Environment on Gay Men's Health and Human Rights*

Echelon Magazine, December 1, 2011

<http://www.echelonmagazine.com/index.php?id=2459>

*AIDS: Still a Gay Disease in America*

The Atlantic, November 30, 2011

<http://www.theatlantic.com/life/archive/2011/11/aids-still-a-gay-disease-in-america/249242/#.TtZuwzo5KZs.twitter>



*Global Coalition for MSM Health and Human Rights Announces Five-Year Strategy*

Behind the Mask, November 18, 2011

<http://www.mask.org.za/global-coalition-for-msm-health-and-human-rights-announces-five-year-strategy/>

*New Five-Year Strategy for Global Forum on MSM & HIV*

POZ.com, November 17, 2011

[http://www.poz.com/rssredir/articles/Global\\_Forum\\_Coalition\\_I\\_21490.shtml](http://www.poz.com/rssredir/articles/Global_Forum_Coalition_I_21490.shtml)

*"Follow the Voice of Life": HIV Prevention and Empowerment of MSM in Orenburg, Russia*

AIDSTAR-One, November 11, 2011

[http://www.aidstar-one.com/focus\\_areas/gender/resources/case\\_study\\_series/follow\\_voice\\_of\\_life\\_russia](http://www.aidstar-one.com/focus_areas/gender/resources/case_study_series/follow_voice_of_life_russia)

*Gay Rally Banned in Malaysia*

Asia Sentinel, November 10, 2011

[http://www.asiasentinel.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=3931&Itemid=189](http://www.asiasentinel.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3931&Itemid=189)

*Op-ed: A Closer Look at Hillary Clinton's AIDS Strategy*

The Advocate, November 9, 2011

[http://www.advocate.com/Politics/Commentary/Oped\\_A\\_Closer\\_Look\\_at\\_Hillary\\_Clinton\\_AIDS\\_Strategy/](http://www.advocate.com/Politics/Commentary/Oped_A_Closer_Look_at_Hillary_Clinton_AIDS_Strategy/)

*29-те засідання ПРГ-Україна (АНОНС)*

PRG Ukraine, November 3, 2011

<http://prg-ukraine.blogspot.com/2011/11/29.html>

*沈阳市举办第一届东北同性恋文化节*

佛男, November 3, 2011

<http://fogay.blog.163.com/blog/static/184947312201110310350213/>

*SDGLN exclusive: Knocking down hurdles to global decriminalization of homosexuality*

San Diego Gay & Lesbian News, October 20, 2011

<http://sdgln.com/news/2011/10/20/sdgln-exclusive-hurdles-decriminalization-homosexuality>

## **MSMGF Facilitates Global Information Exchange**

Between October 15 and January 1, the MSMGF identified 685 new articles on the health and human rights of MSM around the world and uploaded them to the MSMGF's searchable online database. These articles were circulated through the MSMGF's Eblast in all seven target languages as well as the MSMGF's Twitter channels.

The MSMGF also sent 8 direct announcements to MSMGF members to ensure advocates around the world were aware of key advocacy opportunities in their regions and beyond. These communications were sent to different segments of the MSMGF network depending on members' language and focus area. When



appropriate, the MSMGF invests in translating these announcements to connect non-English speaking advocates with important opportunities they might otherwise be unable to access. The full list of announcements can be found below:

*Survey Opportunity: Help Inform New WHO Guidelines on HIV Testing and Counseling for Young People!*  
November 3, 2011  
(English, French, Russian, Spanish)

*Désormais disponible en français : Contribuer à l'avancement de la santé sexuelle et reproductive et des droits de l'homme des HSH vivant avec le VIH*  
October 27, 2011

*Новая публикация МСМГФ на русском языке: Сексуальное и репродуктивное здоровье и права МСМ, живущих с ВИЧ*  
October 27, 2011

*Ahora en español: Avanzando en la Salud Sexual y Reproductiva y Derechos Humanos de los HSH viviendo con VIH*  
October 27, 2011

*Call for Applicants: Allan Rosenfield Public Policy Fellowship*  
October 27, 2011

*Reform Laws to Stop HIV! Defend Call from within the Commonwealth!*  
October 22, 2011

*Funding Opportunity: amfAR MSM Initiative – Caribbean*  
October 20, 2011  
(English, French, Spanish)

*Webinar Recording Now Available! The New Global Fund Equity Assessment Process: What MSM Advocates Need To Know*  
October 19, 2011  
(English, Spanish)

## **MSMGF Facebook and Twitter Following Grows**

From October 15 – January 1, the MSMGF Facebook page's average "Weekly Organic Reach" (the weekly number of people who visited our page, or saw our page or one of its posts in their News Feed or ticker) was 499. The average number of people sharing stories about our page was 30 per week. During this period, 102 new people "Liked" the page, bringing the page's total number of Likes to 1991.

Over the past quarter, the MSMGF sent out 320 tweets and gained 93 new followers. The total number of tweets sent from the account is now 1,861, and the MSMGF now has 711 followers.

