

The Global Forum on MSM and HIV (MSMGF) Quarterly Report of Activities April 2011

POLICY/ADVOCACY

MSMGF Prepares for the United Nations 2011 High Level Meeting on AIDS

In advance of the United Nations 2011 High Level Meeting on AIDS (June 8-10) and the associated Interactive Civil Society Hearing on AIDS (April 8), the MSMGF has ramped up advocacy and organizing efforts to ensure meaningful attention to key populations (including MSM) in the final outcome document. Activities include:

Preparation and dissemination of a two-page information note on engaging in the Universal Access regional consultations taking place around the world, which includes top-line messaging about the AIDS epidemic among gay men and other MSM with links to helpful resources and key documents. This brief was made available in English, French and Spanish and subsequently disseminated to a variety of networks. The MSMGF *Information Note on UNAIDS Regional Consultations on Universal Access* is available at:

<http://www.msmgf.org/index.cfm/id/11/aid/3118/lang/en>

Coordination of a series of international conference calls to provide updates to civil society on the meeting processes, and to strategize ahead of the April 8 Civil Society Hearing in New York;

Tracking all key processes leading up to the High-Level Meeting, and making information from regional Universal Access consultations available on our website (Note: The MSMGF will soon launch a page dedicated to MSMGF-UNAIDS business which will include relevant HLM information);

Provision of support to key partners on the High Level Meeting Civil Society Task Force, including dissemination of meeting information from Task Force members to MSMGF lists, and passing feedback and input from civil society back up to the Task Force. The MSMGF Secretariat has been working closely with MSMGF Steering Committee Member Joel Nana from South Africa who serves as the MSM focal point on the HLM Civil Society Task Force, and MSMGF Steering Committee Member Steave Nemande from Alternatives-Cameroun who was selected by the Civil Society Task Force to serve as the MSM Speaker for the April 8 Civil Society Hearing;

Provision of technical support toward participation of MSM and HIV advocates in the High Level Meeting process, including: supporting the application processes of an MSMGF Youth Reference Group Member from Nigeria to attend the UN Civil Society Hearing in April 2011 and the High-Level Meeting in June 2011; at the request of local community members, providing a letter of support asking the Government of Bolivia to include an MSM activist from the region in their country's delegation to the UN High-Level Meeting;

Coordination and collaboration with the major global HIV networks dedicated to serving the needs of key populations to produce a 2-page document detailing the vital steps needed for an effective global response to HIV: *10 Essential Steps for "Getting to Zero": Principles and Recommendations for Addressing Key Populations at the UN 2011 High Level Meeting on AIDS*. Partners included the Center of Excellence on Transgender Health, Global Action for Trans Equality (GATE), the International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD), and the Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP). Made available in English, French and Spanish, this language was disseminated widely to MSMGF networks as an advocacy tool for discussions with UN country missions

about the vital urgency of addressing key populations in the UN High Level Meeting Outcome Document. Available at: <http://www.msmgf.org/index.cfm/id/11/aid/3334/langID/1/>

MSMGF Policy Associates Krista Lauer and Mohan Sundararaj travelled to New York in advance of the Civil Society Hearings to meet with key country mission offices to share priority language on key populations for inclusion in the final High Level Meeting Outcome document;

In addition to developing priority language specific to key populations (the '10 steps for getting to zero' document) MSMGF also played a key role in broader civil society organizing efforts around the Civil Society Hearings. In the lead up to the April 8 Civil Society Hearings, advocates from around the world were convened by ICASO for various strategy sessions to develop and refine priority advocacy language for inclusion in the UN High Level Meeting Outcome Document. In addition to providing input on key populations language and comments on early drafts, MSMGF took part in a half-day meeting on the morning of April 7 with a small working group of advocates from around the world to further refine this language. Ultimately, this conversation resulted in 9 key advocacy talking points for the final High Level Meeting Outcome Document. The MSMGF then took the role of reporting these priority asks back to broader civil society on the afternoon of April 7 at the Civil Society Pre-Meeting in New York, and recording in-person feedback and input from community members through that process for incorporation into the final civil society language.

MSMGF Actively Engaged on the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board

In December of 2010, the MSMGF became the North American Delegate to the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB). Since then, staff has input on key documents and opportunities including:

Guidance Document on Partnership with Civil Society and People Living with HIV

The MSMGF provided comments on the background paper prepared for the 1st Multi-stakeholder Consultation on the Development of UNAIDS UBRAF (Unified Budget Results and Accountability Framework), a stakeholder meeting organized in Geneva for the development of a UNAIDS guidance document on partnership with civil society and people living with HIV. The MSMGF's comments highlighted the need for clarity on the role of civil society in the context of UNAIDS' partnership framework, the role of civil society leadership and ownership, close partnerships with established networks of key populations and the resourcing of business cases developed in this regard. They further stressed the importance of mapping out UNAIDS partnerships, the related activities that evolve from these partnerships, the results of partnership evaluations if any, and their implications for the future of UNAIDS partnership work. Finally, the MSMGF asked for more details concerning the gains to be had at the levels of civil society, key populations, people living with HIV and other country-level stakeholders when signing on to UNAIDS partnership strategies overall.

Draft Outline of the Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework

MSMGF input to the Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework Draft Outline highlighted the necessity of effective human-rights language to address the needs of men who have sex with men and other key populations in this policy document. We further advocated for robust reporting of UNAIDS spending broken down by geographical regions and level of operation (Secretariat, Co-Sponsor etc) as well as the need to prioritize "intended use" of already dwindling resources. We asked that, when the current UNAIDS four year strategic plan comes to an end, UNAIDS be able to report on how many dollars went toward targeted efforts for men who have sex with men. The MSMGF also asked that UNAIDS create clear and robust reporting mechanisms to ensure operational and financial accountability. This will help drive the strategic framework for the Joint Program, which emphasizes the need for mutual accountability as a core element in the AIDS response.



Proposals Submitted for Thematic Sessions at UNAIDS PCB Meeting

The MSMGF submitted proposals for thematic sessions which eventually become decision points in subsequent PCB meetings. These submissions included, *The 'prevention revolution' and the urgent need to reinvigorate HIV prevention responses globally to halt and reverse the spread of the AIDS epidemic*, and *Generating principles for meaningful, respectful and sensitive engagement with civil society within the UN family and beyond*.

MSMGF Youth Reference Group Member Joins Global Fund Communities Delegation

Ifeanyi Orazulike, a member of the MSMGF Youth Reference Group, was appointed to the Communities Delegation to the Global Fund. Engaging the MSMGF's global network, the MSMGF was able to connect Ifeanyi with numerous MSM advocates across the globe to help inform his advocacy for MSM and Transgender people at the Global Fund. MSMGF members from Paraguay, Philippines, India, Cameroon, Uganda, Burundi, Zambia, Ukraine, Cambodia, Liberia, Botswana and Thailand spoke with Ifeanyi about their experiences with the Fund.

MSMGF Expands Prevention Science Advocacy

The MSMGF has nearly finished analyzing the data from the MSMGF prevention and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) survey targeting MSM and providers of MSM. The Secretariat plans to release a full report later this spring, complete with survey findings, a corresponding webinar, and a series of discussions with global advocates to address implications for meeting the prevention needs of MSM worldwide.

The MSMGF continued discussions with key partners to develop an ongoing series of web-based forums. Plans are underway for a "Next Steps for PrEP with MSM" webinar with the AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition (AVAC), a "Lube 101" webinar with the International Rectal Microbicide Advocates (IRMA), and a "Treatment 2.0" webinar with Pangaia Global AIDS Foundation, all to take place this spring. The MSMGF will also develop webinars and technical bulletins on circumcision and MSM and sero-sorting strategies and MSM for launch in late spring.

This quarter, the MSMGF released two statements regarding pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP): *MSMGF Welcomes CDC's Interim PrEP Guidance for MSM in the United States*; and *The Global Forum on MSM & HIV supports FDA review of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)*. The MSMGF will continue to advocate for principled inquiry into the safety, efficacy and applicability of potential new additions to the HIV prevention toolkit. The MSMGF will also urge prevention activists worldwide to adopt a big-picture approach to HIV prevention — one that is balanced and responsive to the respective local realities of MSM and transgender people.

Major findings from MSMGF Analysis of 2010 International AIDS Conference Reveals Poor Program Coverage of Four key Populations

An MSMGF-led analysis of abstracts and sessions from the International AIDS Conference (IAC), a biennial event convened by the International AIDS Society (IAS), revealed that MSM, transgender people, sex workers and people who use drugs were grossly underrepresented across the conference program. The independent audit confirmed suspicions long-held by activist groups and called for a comprehensive review of IAC governing structures. Produced in response to growing concern among community groups that the IAC has repeatedly neglected these key populations, the report focused on program content at the most recent IAC, held in Vienna, Austria in July 2010. The analysis revealed that the percentage of all sessions at the conference exclusively focused on these groups was limited to 2.6% for MSM, 1.1% for transgender people, 3% for sex workers and 4.5% for people who use drugs.



MSMGF Input to Final Draft of World Health Organization's HIV Prevention and Treatment Guidelines for MSM and Transgender People

The MSMGF has been continually engaged by the WHO toward the development of their Guidelines for the Prevention and Treatment of HIV and other Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) for MSM and Transgender People in Low- and Middle-income Countries. In addition to providing the WHO with a full report last quarter, entitled *In Our Own Words: Preferences, Values, and Perspectives on HIV Prevention and Treatment*, this quarter the MSMGF provided a series of comments to the final draft of these guidelines, including linking the leadership of the Center of Excellence for Transgender Health (University of California, San Francisco) with the WHO so that these guidelines were sensitive and responsive to unique trans needs.

MSMGF, IPPF and UNFPA Draft MSM HIV Prevention Report Cards for Macedonia and Cambodia

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), in collaboration with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and with technical support from MSMGF, has developed report cards for HIV Prevention among MSM in Macedonia and Cambodia. Each report card will be based on four cross-cutting components: (a) Legal, policy and cultural context, (b) Availability of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and HIV services, (c) Accessibility of SRH and HIV services, and (d) Participation and rights. This quarter the MSMGF prepared a technical report summarizing its review of a draft version of the Report Card for Macedonia and will continue to provide similar support through the completion of this project; the Report Card for Cambodia is in progress.

MSMGF Joins Advocacy Efforts around the World

Sign-On Letters

1. AIDS and Rights Alliance for Southern Africa (ARASA) – Sign-on letter on behalf of civil society organizations that targets the Malawian government's amendments to the Penal Code to extend criminalization of same-sex behavior to women.
2. Jamaica Forum for Lesbians, All-Sexuals and Gays (J-FLAG) - Advocacy effort to include sexual orientation-based discrimination in the nation's *Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms*
3. Asia Pacific Alliance for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (APA) – Regional recommendations to the 2011 Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation on Universal Access in March 2011.
4. International Civil Society Support (ICSS) – Advocacy letter targeting the Department For International Development (DFID) – UK Government to double their contribution to the Global Fund to secure sufficient resources to ensure the Fund can scale up to deliver universal access and raise the pressure on both traditional and new donors to contribute their fair share.
5. Center for Health Policy and Innovation – Sign-on letter targeting delegates attending the United Nations Commission on Population and Development leading up to negotiation processes for the resolution on fertility, reproductive health and development.

MSMGF Advocacy in Washington DC

The MSMGF continues to Co-Chair the MSM Policy Working Group based in Washington D.C. via Policy Associate Krista Lauer. In collaboration with this group, the MSMGF hosted an advocacy action alert campaign urging the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator to issue the PEPFAR MSM Guidance without delay. By February 1, 2011, this initiative garnered support from over 140 organizations, networks and civil society organizations from 50 countries worldwide. The MSM guidance has not yet been issued at this time.



COMMUNITY SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

MSMGF Working at Country Level in Honduras, Morocco, and Vietnam

The MSMGF kicked off the *Speaking Out* Community Strengthening Initiative, designed to support grass-roots activists with trainings and funding to develop and implement innovative rights-based advocacy projects, by reaching out to partners in Morocco, Honduras and Vietnam in early 2011. From January to March 2011, the *Speaking Out* team has held weekly meetings to strategize and move forward with the project by developing a work plan and time table, as well as periodic calls with our partner organizations to develop a working plan specific to each region. This quarter also saw the translation of the *Speaking Out* toolkit into Spanish and French. The Vietnamese version is under translation and should be completed by mid-April.

Honduras

The MSMGF has partnered with Asociacion Kukulcan in Honduras. The project began with an assessment of organization's experience in advocacy focused on MSM and HIV. Kukulcan has a staff with 20 years of combined experience.

Vietnam

With the support and consultation from the Purple Sky Network and different local organizations, the MSMGF has identified Glink, a small MSM-led organization in Ho Chi Ming City to partner with for the *Speaking Out* initiative. The MSMGF reviewed profiles of different organizations working with MSM, ultimately choosing Glink as partner because of its focus on HIV.

Morocco

The *Speaking Out* Initiative team conducted an assessment of Association de Lutte contre le Sida (ALCS) to determine its capacity and experience to implement the initiative in North Africa. The assessment interview provided a solid picture of the advocacy work that has taken place in Morocco and the region focused on MSM and HIV. Interviews with ALCS staff and other advocates are planned to take place in April.

MSMGF Provides Support to Peruvian Trans Activists

The MSMGF supported travel to the United States for two transgender experts from Peru so that they could participate in the US National Transgender Health Summit and give a lecture on HIV among transgender people in Lima at the University of California San Francisco.

COMMUNICATIONS/MEDIA

MSMGF Gets Press Coverage

From 1 January – 15 April 2011, the MSMGF issued one press release, entitled "New Report: World's Premier AIDS Event Neglects Populations Most at Risk for HIV," and conducted a mailing to promote the release of *War Diaries*, a recent literary collaboration between AIDS Project Los Angeles and the MSMGF. In total, the MSMGF was the subject of 17 media hits this quarter, all in English. The full list can be found below.

War Diaries, The Next Fairytale and the KPFK Fund Drive with Premium Promos on the February 21st Edition of IMRU

IMRU Radio on KPFK 90.7, Air Date 21 February 2011, English

<http://imru.posterous.com/war-diaries-the-next-fairytale-and-the-kpfk-f/>



New Report: World's Premier AIDS Event Neglects Populations Most at Risk for HIV
Gay Rights News Today, 2 March 2011, English

<http://gayrights.einnews.com/pr-news/336543-new-report-world-s-premier-aids-event-neglects-populations-most-at-risk-for-hiv>

New Report: World's Premier AIDS Event Neglects Populations Most at Risk for HIV
AEGIS.org, 2 March 2011, English

<http://www.aegis.org/news/pr/2011/PR110304.html>

New Report: World's Premier AIDS Event Neglects Populations Most at Risk for HIV
Positively Positive, 2 March 2011, English

http://www.positivelypositive.ca/hiv-aids-news/New_Report-World_s_Premier_AIDS_Event_Neglects_Populations_Most_at_Risk-for_HIV.html

New Report: World's Premier AIDS Event Neglects Populations Most At Risk For HIV
Medical News Today, 3 March 2011, English

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/218031.php>

More IAC Trouble: Report Documents Gross Underrepresentation of At-Risk Populations
The Body, 3 March 2011, English

<http://www.thebody.com/content/art60755.html>

Biennial AIDS conference suffers under-representation of gay men, study says
PinkPaper.com, 3 March 2011, English

<http://news.pinkpaper.com/NewsStory.aspx?id=4942>

Biennial AIDS conference suffers under-representation of gay men
actup.org, 3 March 2011, English

<http://www.actup.org/forum/content/biennial-aids-conference-suffers-under-representation-gay-men-3513/>

New report: World's premier AIDS event neglects populations most at risk for HIV
European AIDS Treatment Group, 3 March 2011, English

<http://www.eatg.org/eatg/Global-HIV-News/MSM/New-report-World-s-premier-AIDS-event-neglects-populations-most-at-risk-for-HIV>

IAC Criticized for Lack of Focus on High-Risk Groups
POZ, 4 March 2011, English

http://www.poz.com/rssredir/articles/1_20013.shtml

Report: Int'l AIDS Conference shortchanges at-risk populations
Bay Windows, 7 March 2011, English

<http://www.baywindows.com/index.php?ch=news&sc=glbt&sc2=news&sc3=&id=117090>



International HIV Sidelines Gay Men

George House Trust, 7 March 2011, English

http://www.ghf.org.uk/news/article/39194/07/03/2011/International_HIV_Sidelines_Gay_Men

Report: Int'l AIDS Conference shortchanges at-risk populations

Pride Source, 10 March 2011, English

<http://www.pridesource.com/article.html?article=45873>

Report: AIDS confab shortchanges at-risk populations

Bay Area Reporter, 10 March 2011, English

<http://www.ebar.com/news/article.php?sec=news&article=5540>

Report: Int'l AIDS Conference shortchanges at-risk populations

2B Magazine, 13 March 2011, English

<http://www.2bmag.com/tag/global-forum-on-msm-hiv>

Remember Books? Lambda Literary Announces Award Finalists

LGBT POV, 16 March 2011, English

<http://www.lgbtpov.com/2011/03/remember-books-lambda-literary-announces-award-finalists/>

Spotlight: War Diaries

A&U Magazine, 22 March 2011, English

<http://aumag.org/wordpress/?p=1183>

MSMGF Hub for Global Information Exchange

Between 1 January and 15 April 2011, the MSMGF identified 640 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 also circulated through the MSMGF's member networks and Twitter channels. In addition, the MSMGF website allows users to vote for important articles to be translated by MSMGF volunteers. Since the launch of the website last August, more than 60 articles have been translated using this system.

The MSMGF also sent 16 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 region. The full list of announcements can be found below:

Two Opportunities to Be Heard at the Global Fund!

(English - 4/5/11)

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: Latin America Regional Dialogue (Global Commission on HIV and the Law)

(English - 4/5/11)

Language on Key Populations for the UN High Level Meeting on AIDS!

(English, French, Spanish - 4/4/11)



The 2010 Annual Report of the Global Forum on MSM & HIV (MSMGF) Now Available!
(English - 3/28/11)

The MSMGF supports FDA review of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)
(English - 3/21/11)

Announcing Call for Submissions for the EECA Regional Dialogue - Global Commission on HIV and the Law
(English, Russian - 3/18/11)

Acción urgente: la declaración LGBTI
(Spanish - 3/16/11)

URGENT: Please Endorse - Intimidation of Rights Defenders in Malawi
(English - 3/15/11)

New Report: World's Premier AIDS Event Neglects Populations Most at Risk for HIV
(English - 3/2/11)

Make MSM a strategic priority at the UN High-Level Meeting on AIDS!
(English, Spanish, French - 2/28/11)

New Report: Top 10 Key Global Policy Developments Concerning MSM & HIV
(English - 2/17/11)

MSMGF Releases Second Edition of SENSE, a Multimedia Publication by and for MSM Living with HIV
(English, Spanish, Portuguese, French - 2/10/11)

Call for Submissions - Caribbean Regional Dialogue
(English, French, Spanish - 2/9/11)

MSMGF Welcomes CDC's Interim PrEP Guidance for MSM in the United States
(English - 2/2/11)

MSMGF Condemns Vicious Murder of David Kato
(English - 1/27/11)

Sign on letter: Urge PEPFAR to release the MSM Guidance now!
(English - 1/20/11)

MSMGF.org Receives a 40% Increase in Visits

This quarter, the MSMGF website received a total of 13,417 visits, of which 8,609 were absolute unique visitors. This is more than a 40% increase over the previous quarter's numbers (9,355 visits, with 5,774 absolute unique visitors). During the current quarter, the majority of visits came from the United States (4,275), followed by China (827), India (588), Canada (576), United Kingdom (533), Brazil (372), Russia (344), Australia (336), Kenya (316), and Nigeria (233). Segmenting by language, the majority of visits occurred in English (9,187), followed by Chinese (824), Russian (594), French (580), Spanish (428), and Portuguese (370). The total number of page views during this period was 62,534.



MSMGF Membership Numbers Continue to Climb

Over the past quarter, the MSMGF website gained 198 new members from 89 different countries, bringing the total number of MSMGF members to 2,028. Of all new members that joined this quarter, 67% were from the Global South (133 members) and 32% were from the Global North (65 members). Segmenting by region, the majority of new members come from North America, Northern and Western Europe (56), followed by Sub-Saharan Africa (35), Asia (34), Latin America (16), the Caribbean (15), Oceania (15), Eastern Europe and Central Asia (12), the Middle East and North Africa (9), and Central Europe (6).

In terms of language, 58% of members joining over the last quarter use the website in English (115 members) and 42% use the website in languages other than English (83 members). Segmenting the non-English speakers by language, the majority signed up to use the site in French (19), followed by Russian (18), Portuguese (12), Chinese (10), Spanish (10), and Arabic (5). Nine new members specified a language other than the seven languages supported by the MSMGF web platform.

New Advanced Search Feature for MSMGF.org

In order to make this database as useful as possible, the MSMGF released a new Advanced Search tool this quarter. The tool allows users to search the MSMGF's full database of over 3,500 recent articles by keyword, language or content tag. This allows the user to cross-reference tags like country, sub-population and cross-cutting theme to find the most relevant articles to the topic the user is interested in. For example, a user searching for content on MSM sex workers in Asia can easily cross-reference those two tags and come up with more than 50 articles that deal with that subject.

MSMGF on Facebook

Over the past quarter, the MSMGF's Facebook page has also received considerable traffic. Between 1 January and 15 April 2011, the MSMGF's page received 42,341 post views and 169 pieces of post feedback from visitors. As of 12 April 2011, 1,627 people "Liked" the page, and the number of Monthly Active Users was 816. People who follow the MSMGF on Facebook can be segmented into the following demographics:



Countries?	Cities?	Language?
500 United States	98 Taipei	916 English (US)
115 Taiwan	63 New York	188 English (UK)
78 India	56 Seattle	115 Traditional Chinese (Taiwan)
63 Germany	37 Makati	110 Spanish
54 Australia	36 Jakarta	64 German
53 United Kingdom	36 Mexico City	40 French (France)
52 Philippines	28 Mumbai	27 Spanish (Spain)
46 Mexico	25 Lima	22 Indonesian
45 Canada	25 Sydney	18 Russian
40 Indonesia	24 Los Angeles	11 Swedish
39 South Africa	23 Lagos	10 Dutch
26 Malaysia	22 Kuala Lumpur	8 Portuguese (Brazil)
25 Peru	22 Nairobi	8 Thai
25 Spain	18 Bangkok	8 Italian
25 Nigeria	17 Berlin	6 Portuguese (Portugal)
24 Thailand	16 Chicago	5 Simplified Chinese (China)
23 Kenya	15 London	4 Greek
19 France	15 Madrid	4 French (Canada)
16 Argentina	15 Delhi	4 Danish

MSMGF on Twitter

As of 12 April 2011, the MSMGF sent out 836 Tweets, received 98 mentions, and accumulated 401 Followers.

Abstracts Accepted at 1st International HIV Social Sciences and Humanities Conference:

Locating the Social

The MSMGF Secretariat was invited to present two abstracts at the upcoming 1st *International HIV Social Sciences and Humanities Conference* in Durban, South Africa. The abstracts are titled, "Building a multilingual dialogue to increase coverage and quality of HIV-programming for men who have sex with men," and "Stigma, Discrimination and the Health of MSM and Transgender People across Six World Regions."

MSMGF Social Discrimination Publication Featured in Gay Men's Health Crisis Quarterly Journal

A previously released MSMGF publication *Social Discrimination against Men Who Have Sex With Men: Implications for HIV Policy and Programs* was adapted and featured in the Winter 2011 issue of *Achieve* – the quarterly journal on HIV prevention, treatment and politics distributed by Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) based in New York. GMHC staff worked with MSMGF staff in finalizing a version that helped describe the complex relationships between homophobia and HIV vulnerability and risk among gay men and other MSM.

MSMGF Authors Article on Sexual Health of MSM in *Adherence* - HIV Newsletter of the International Planned Parenthood Federation

Sexual and reproductive health (SRH) of gay men and other MSM cannot be viewed as the mere absence of disease. It encompasses the physical, emotional, mental and social well-being of these individuals in relation to their sexuality. In recognition of the need to sensitize AIDS stakeholders to these issues, MSMGF Executive Officer Dr. George Ayala and Policy Associate Dr. Mohan Sundararaj authored an article that was published in International Planned Parenthood Federation's HIV Newsletter, *Adherence*. The article included a broad set of principles, the adoption of which will provide a common foundation for effective HIV prevention and sexual health services that address the specific needs of MSM.



Sense – Second Issue launched in February

The second issue of *Sense* was launched in February 2011. Featuring writers from three different continents, the publication's second issue offers a wide range of stories about the concept of "access" as experienced in relationships, communities, love and self. Guest editor Qiu Feng, an HIV advocate based in Kunming, opens the issue with a candid look at discrimination and access to services for MSM living with HIV in China. Colombian psychologist Juan Calderón writes of overcoming suspicions that positive men cannot find healthy relationships. PhD candidate Matthew Thomann discusses the importance of community among MSM in a West African city. And Carlos Rivas, a Venezuelan artist living in Toronto, examines the need for gay men to understand their sexuality as a form of positive communication and self-expression.

MSMGF Debuts First Annual Report

The MSMGF debuted the 2010 Annual Report, the organization's first, at its Global Stakeholders Meeting held in Amsterdam in early March, 2011. The report outlines a timeline for the MSMGF's development since 2004 and its rapid growth in 2010. The report also highlights key strategic activities of the MSMGF in the organization's core areas of Advocacy, Information Exchange, Knowledge Production, Research, Networking and Capacity Building. Hard copies of the 2010 Annual Report will be distributed at key global gatherings in the coming months, and digital copies are available at www.msmsgf.org.

War Diaries Named a Finalist for Lambda Literary Award

"War Diaries" was named a Lambda Literary Award Finalist for the category of best LGBT Anthology. The winners will be announced in May at a special awards ceremony in New York City. In December 2010, Editors Tisa Bryant and Ernest Hardy spoke about "War Diaries" and did a public reading over the air on progressive radio station KPFK 90.7 FM in Los Angeles. In May, 2011, Editor Tisa Bryant will do a public reading in Los Angeles as part of the Lambda Literary Award community building and celebration process.

