“Africa’s response: Face the facts”
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FACTSHEET AND KEY DATES

Number of participants expected

The conference expects to welcome 5000 participants from around the world working in the field of HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections. The participation of young researchers, health care workers, and community representatives from the developing world will be strongly encouraged through the scholarship program. Scholarship recipients will be selected according to criteria established by the Organizing Committee.

From July 2007
Fundraising round

December 2007
Registration open
Call for abstracts open
Scholarship applications open

January 2008
2nd International Steering Committee Meeting

May 2008
Deadline for abstract submission
Deadline for scholarship applications

May – July 2008
Abstract review

July 2008
Marathon meeting
First draft of conference program
Selection of speakers, session chairs, and facilitators

September 2008
Notice of acceptance sent to authors
Selection of scholarship recipients
Notice of acceptance sent to scholarship recipients
Deadline for discounted registration fee
Selection of Satellite Symposia

October 2008
Production of abstract book

December 2008
15th ICASA
# CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

## Patronage

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## Organizers

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## Co-Organizers

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## Sponsors

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MESSAGE FROM THE CONFERENCE CHAIR

Senegal is proud to be the first nation to host the International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa for a second time. We look forward to welcoming the world once again to Dakar from December 3 to 7, 2008. The 15th ICASA will be defined by the principles of transparency, integrity, metamorphosis, and excellence.

- **Transparency** will be paramount in all organizational processes. It will be achieved in particular through the implementation of modern tools of communication, such as a functional and dynamic website, regular meetings that bring together all actors engaged in the conference organization, and the regular documentation of each committee’s activities.

- **Integrity and openness** will define the relationship among all actors engaged in scientific, community, and political aspects of HIV and STI research, as well as with financial partners.

- **Metamorphosis** will be our goal at all levels of conference organization and management. By creating a new management policy, this conference strives to establish an institutional memory for ICASA that reflects the procedural expectations of the most prestigious international conferences.

- **Excellence** is our guiding principle for this second meeting in Dakar. In striving for excellence, we will raise the profile of ICASA and reestablish it as an event of the highest quality.

Through tireless dedication, our team will create an ICASA that breaks from the inadequacies that have marked its recent past, to create a conference that will inspire the respect and confidence of the international community for generations to come.

Pr. Souleymane Mboup
Conference Chair
Chair:
- Pr. Souleymane Mboup

Vice Chairs:
- Dr. Ibra Ndoye
- Dr. Fathia Mahmoud

**EMERITUS CHAIRS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOST COUNTRY</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>THEME</th>
<th>CHAIR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brussels, Belgium</td>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Aids in Africa</td>
<td>Dr. N. Clumek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naples, Italy</td>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Science in challenging AIDS</td>
<td>Dr. G. Giraldo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arusha, Tanzania</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>AIDS and associated cancers in Africa</td>
<td>Pr. F. Malhu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marseille, France</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Epidemiology of AIDS in Africa</td>
<td>Dr. J.C. Chermann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinshasa, DR Congo</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Struggle against AIDS in Africa</td>
<td>Dr. B. Kapita</td>
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<td>Dakar, Senegal</td>
<td>1991</td>
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<td>Pr. S. Mboup</td>
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<td>Yaounde, Cameroon</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Clean and safe blood for all</td>
<td>Pr. L. Kaptue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marrakesh, Morocco</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>African unity against AIDS and STDs</td>
<td>Pr. A. Benslimane</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kampala, Uganda</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Challenges and Hopes</td>
<td>Dr. S. Okware</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>AIDS and Development</td>
<td>Pr. A. Kadio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ougadougou, Burkina Faso</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>The communities commit themselves</td>
<td>Pr. R. Soudre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nairobi, Kenya</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Access to Care: Challenges</td>
<td>Dr. D.M. Owili</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abuja, Nigeria</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>HIV/AIDS and the family</td>
<td>Pr. F. Soyinka</td>
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THEME AND OBJECTIVES

The central theme of the 15th International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa is:

«Africa’s Response: Face the facts»

At ICASA 2008, International and African experts will evaluate the current state of the HIV and STI epidemics with regard to science, communities, and leadership.

In addition, the conference will broach topics concerning other, equally important infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, malaria, and hepatitis.

**Conference Objectives**

1. Create an atmosphere conducive to information, exchange, experiences, and evaluation of the response to the epidemic in Africa.

2. Aim for greater coherence in the design and implementation of AIDS programs by cultivating synergy among scientific, community, and leadership approaches.

3. Heighten public awareness of the continuing impact of HIV/AIDS and STIs and the importance of international solidarity in the response.

4. Promote universal access to prevention, care, and treatment of HIV/AIDS and STIs by reinforcing the engagement of leaders through concrete action that integrates decision-makers from the public and private sectors.

5. Build an institutional memory by strengthening the SAA and follow-up to ICASA 2008

For more than two decades, the African continent has participated in the fight against AIDS and provided potential solutions to the numerous challenges posed by this epidemic.

However, even as the fight continues, it is important to stop and evaluate these many initiatives, in order to recognize their contributions, successes and ambitions, as well as to acknowledge their weaknesses and shortfalls. It is time to take stock of political commitments, unfulfilled promises, and actions and practices employed in the fight against HIV/AIDS.
Senegal is home to the westernmost point of Africa. At the center of Europe, Africa and the Americas, Senegal is a hub for both marine and air traffic. Senegal spans 196,722 square kilometers and borders the Atlantic Ocean to the west, with a 500 km-long coastline; Mauritania to the north; Mali to the east, and Guinea and Guinea-Bissau to the south. The Gambia is contained inside the borders of Senegal, with an outlet to the Atlantic Ocean. Dakar, the capital, is a peninsula.

Senegal counts 9.8 million inhabitants (2001), with an average population density of 48 inhabitants per square kilometer. More than 25 percent of the population is concentrated in Dakar. Another 35 percent of the population is based in the center of the country – the peanut basin. Eastern Senegal is very sparsely populated. Senegal is home to more than 20 ethnicities. The three largest are the Wolof (43%), the Pulaar (24%), and the Sérères (15%).

Non-citizens account for 2 percent of the population of Senegal. International expatriates have a strong presence in Dakar, where they are merchants, industrialists, and humanitarian workers. However, migrants from bordering countries, in particular, can be found throughout Senegal.

**Political Structure**

The Republic of Senegal is a secular state. It gained independence from France in 1960.
- Presidential system: The President of the Republic is elected by universal suffrage for a 5-year term. Current President Abdoulaye Wade was elected for the first time in 2000 and is now in his second term.
- The National Assembly has 120 members each elected to a 5-year term.

**Administrative Divisions**

Senegal has 11 administrative regions, each containing a major city: Dakar, Diourbel, Fatick, Kaolack, Kolda, Louga, Matam, Saint Louis, Tambacounda, Thiès, Ziguinchor.
SOCIETY ON AIDS IN AFRICA

History

The Society for AIDS in Africa was founded in 1989 at the 4th International Symposium on AIDS and Associated Cancers in Africa (the precursor to ICASA), which was held in Marseille, France.

The society was created after the third meeting in Arusha, Tanzania, when the African organizers urged that the conference be held only in Africa. Up to that point, the conference had been organized alternately in Africa and Europe.

Dr. Peter Piot, the executive director of UNAIDS, lent his support to the African scientists. At the 1990 conference in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, an executive committee was created to oversee the establishment of the society and to coordinate subsequent ICASA meetings. The society was officially registered in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1990.

Vision

The SAA envisions an African continent where people are able to live full, healthy and productive lives free of HIV/AIDS and its debilitating effects on our communal and societal structures. It works toward an Africa whose people are adequately socially and economically empowered and able to achieve their full potential as human beings.

Mission

The society’s mission is to promote policies and research that support individual governments’ national response to the epidemic on the continent.

Goal

The overall goal of the SAA is to reduce the spread and mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS and other STIs on the African continent through various activities.
MINISTRY OF HEALTH, SENEGAL

Under the auspices of the Prime Minister, the Minister of Health and Medical Prevention prepares and implements the policies developed by the Head of State in the fields of health, health education and medical prevention.

The Ministry is charged with making health care accessible to all Senegalese citizens, in both urban and rural areas. To achieve this, it supports medical training of doctors and nurses and facilitates their deployment to underserved areas.

The Ministry implements the national immunization policy and manages epide-
mics, communications concerning health and partnerships with local health cooperatives and associations. It supervises the procurement of medicines and coverage of the population’s health needs.

The Ministry must also prepare and apply legislation and regulations concerning the medical, paramedical and pharmaceutical professions. It devotes particular attention to the protection of women, children, labor, seniors and disabled people.

Finally, it assures supervision of all public health establishments.
CONFERENCE CO-ORGANIZERS

AFRICAN AIDS VACCINE PROGRAM

Initiative for Vaccine Research
Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals World Health Organization [WHO]
20 Avenue Appia - 1211 Geneva 27 - Switzerland
Tel: +41 (22) 791 43 95 - Fax: +41 (22) 791 48 60
VaccineResearch@who.int

The mission of the African AIDS Vaccine Programme (AAVP) is to advocate and support a coordinated effort to contribute to the global HIV vaccine development goals, ensuring that appropriate and affordable vaccines are developed for Africa in the shortest possible time.

Epidemiological data indicate that 70% of all HIV infections are occurring in Africa and the high rates of HIV transmission across sub-Saharan Africa emphasize the need to develop additional biomedical preventive tools such as preventive HIV vaccines, which are simple, affordable and effective. The AAVP, as a WHO-UNAIDS supported program, was conceived in 2000 as a network of African experts, working together to promote and facilitate HIV vaccine research and evaluation in Africa through capacity-building and regional and international collaboration.

The secretariat of the AAVP is hosted by the WHO-UNAIDS HIV Vaccine Initiative [HVI], which provides technical, financial and administrative support to the AAVP. A governance mechanism is proposed to coordinate the interests and responsibilities of all parties.

The scientific activities of the AAVP are guided by a Steering Committee and implemented through five Thematic Working Groups: Biomedical sciences; Population-based studies; Ethics, Law and Human Rights; National Strategic Planning; and Advocacy and Resource Mobilization. An additional Community Preparedness Group is being established, to ensure meaningful community participation in all AAVP activities. These activities support a proposed seven year work plan, with specific milestones defined by the conduct of HIV vaccines clinical trials. A network of experts and institutions in Africa will ensure the efficient implementation of the proposed activities.

AFRICAN COUNCIL OF AIDS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Secrétariat Régional :
9513, Sacre-Coeur 3 - Bp : 28366 Dakar-Medina
Dakar-Senegal
Tel: (221) 33 867 35 33 - Fax: (221) 33 867 35 34

Established in 1991, The African Council of AIDS Service Organizations (AfriCASO) is a network of Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Groups of People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV), and other African HIV/AIDS community groups.

AfriCASO is a nonprofit organization affiliated with the International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO).

AfriCASO is a Regional Network that exists to promote and facilitate the development of the community response to HIV and AIDS in Africa. It works through advocacy, networking, development of sustainable organizational systems and capacity building for networks, NGOs, CBOs and PLHIV groups to improve the quality of life of communities.

AfriCASO envisions an African continent where HIV and AIDS are fully controlled; new infections are stopped; people infected or affected have wide access to prevention, care and treatment services; and stigmatization and discrimination are eradicated.
The International AIDS Society (IAS) is the world’s leading independent association of HIV professionals, with more than 10,000 members from 171 countries. The IAS is a non-profit organization founded in 1988, and acts as an independent voice in the global response to AIDS on behalf of its members. The organization’s official journal is AIDS, which has a broad, cross-disciplinary focus. The IAS is the custodian of the International AIDS Conference, the paramount gathering of all HIV/AIDS disciplines, held every two years.

The IAS is also the organizer of the highly successful IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention. This conference occurs every two years and focuses on the scientific and medical aspects of HIV/AIDS. These prestigious conferences provide a unique forum for the interaction of science, community and leadership, with the goal of sharing the latest research findings, best practices and lessons learned in order to strengthen the global response to the epidemic.

By organizing the world’s most important HIV/AIDS meetings, the IAS offers an exceptional medium for presentation of new research, sharing of good practices, and progress in the fight against HIV/AIDS. By promoting dialogue, education, and networking, the IAS fills in gaps in knowledge and skills at all levels of the response. The IAS’ support of its members helps them accomplish what they do best: make progress in the fight against HIV/AIDS, extend access to prevention and treatment, and mitigate the impact of the epidemic.

In addition to the conferences, the IAS has two ongoing initiatives: The Industry Liaison Forum (ILFI), with the goal of accelerating scientifically promising, ethical HIV research in resource-constrained settings; and the electronic Journal of the International AIDS Society (eJIAS), a peer-reviewed, primary-source online journal dedicated to the publication and dissemination of HIV/AIDS research relevant to developing countries.

The International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI) was founded in 1923. It is the oldest international organization with the objective of fostering international cooperation in the control of sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS.

IUSTI is concerned with the medical, scientific, social and epidemiological aspects of sexually transmitted infections and their control.

IUSTI is on the Roster of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. It is an Official Non-Government Organization in Consultative Status with the World Health Organization. IUSTI organizes frequent international and regional conferences on sexually transmitted infections and, in collaboration with the International Journal for STD and AIDS, publishes expert clinical guidelines for their management.

IUSTI is a registered charity in the United Kingdom.

Membership of IUSTI is open to individuals or organizations with a professional interest in the control of sexually transmitted infections. A medical qualification is not necessary to join IUSTI.
NAP+ is a pan-African network of African people living with HIV and AIDS. The Network of African People Living with HIV and AIDS (NAP+) was founded in 1994 with the aim to improve the quality of life of African men, women and children living with HIV and AIDS.

NAP+’s strategy is to ensure a strong voice and greater visibility for people living with HIV.

NAP+ seeks to create a continent, indeed a world, in which women, men, children and youth living with and affected by HIV and AIDS enjoy dignity, rights, freedoms, opportunities and responsibilities without discrimination.

The mission of NAP+ is to improve the quality of life of people living with HIV and AIDS through co-ordination, advocacy, information sharing and strengthening of national networks and associations of people living with HIV and AIDS.

NAP+’s objectives are:
• The dignity of people living with HIV and AIDS is affirmed and our right to a quality life is vigorously pursued
• We, the members of NAP+, accept our obligations to the group and shared governance guides our behaviour for the common good
• The well-being of each member is supported and service to others, both in and outside our Network, is encouraged
• Freedom of expression, respect and civility are affirmed
• The multi-cultural perspectives (religion, culture, etc) and the diversity of our membership are respected and celebrated
• Our heritage as Africans is remembered and drawn upon in such a way that both tradition and change are embraced.

NAP+’s key functions are:
• Leadership and co-ordination
• Advocacy
• Networking and partnership building
• Capacity building
• Communication, research and documentation

RESAPSI was founded in Dakar, Senegal, on September 06, 2003. As a not-for-profit, apolitical organization, it brings together medical practitioners from Africa and Europe involved in the treatment and care of African patients living with HIV/AIDS.

RESAPSI’s purpose is to enhance the treatment and care of people living with HIV/AIDS in Africa through sharing of knowledge and experiences. It encourages the development of relationships between practitioners on a national and international level, ensuring the widespread dissemination of knowledge.

RESAPSI’s objectives are:
• To promote collaboration and communication both within the developing world, and between the developing world and the North.
• To produce a directory of practitioners involved in the treatment and care of people living with HIV. The directory is updated semi-annually.
• To ensure technical support for development and dissemination of tools for treatment and care.
• To promote clinical trials and research projects using a multi-centric approach.
• To build capacity for treatment and care by practitioners.
AFRICAN AIDS RESEARCH NETWORK

Hôpital Aristide le Dantec - BP 7318
DAKAR - Sénégal
Téléphone : 33 842 92 33
Télécopie : 33 842 95 10

The African AIDS Research Network is a not-for-profit non-governmental organization (NGO). It brings together researchers with a common dedication to AIDS and STI research. AARN is a multidisciplinary scientific organization, welcoming as a member anyone in the biomedical, social, or behavioral sciences working on HIV/AIDS and STIs. The fundamental mission of the AARN is the promotion of multidisciplinary research on HIV/AIDS, as well as the mobilization of the African scientific community in the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS.

Its specific objectives are:
- To establish collaboration and communication among African researchers
- To reinforce members’ capacity for research through training programs
- To create a system that allows easy and rapid access to information on AIDS in Africa
- To encourage the incorporation of scientific information in HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention programs through improved dissemination of the results of that research
- To formulate and promote a set of ethical regulations for AIDS research, vaccine trials, the treatment of PLWHA, and other relevant issues
- To be a forum for information exchange and communication both within Africa, through the collection and promotion of African scientific literature; and with the global community, through the promotion of that literature on an international scale

SOCIETY FOR WOMEN AND AIDS IN AFRICA

Sicap Sacré Coeur II - Villa No. 8608F
B.P 16-425 - Dakar-Fann
Sénégal
(221) 824 59 20 [221] 865 26 07
contact@swaainternational.org
www.swaainternational.org

In 1988, several key African women leaders met at the 4th International AIDS Conference in Stockholm, Sweden and accurately predicted that HIV/AIDS would most severely impact women on their continent. It was at that moment that the seeds for the creation of SWAA were planted. Today SWAA is the only pan-African AIDS organization working with and for women and their families based on locally determined needs and priorities. Today, SWAA is a network of 40 grassroots country offices.

SWAA’s mission is to advocate on behalf of women, children and families in the fight against HIV/AIDS. SWAA mobilizes communities by strengthening capacity to prevent, control, and mitigate the impact of the epidemic.

SWAA’s institutional vision is a world free of HIV/AIDS, where African women and children are empowered to claim equal rights, access to health care, education, and economic and socio-cultural opportunities.
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

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Switzerland
Tel.: +41 22 791 2111 - Fax.: +41 22 791 3111

WHO is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system. It is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries and monitoring and assessing health trends.

In the 21st century, health is a shared responsibility, involving equitable access to essential care and collective defense against transnational threats. WHO operates in an increasingly complex and rapidly changing landscape. The boundaries of public health action have become blurred, extending into other sectors that influence health opportunities and outcomes.

WHO responds to these challenges using a six-point agenda. The six points address two health objectives, two strategic needs, and two operational approaches. The overall performance of WHO will be measured by the impact of its work on women’s health and health in Africa.

1. Promoting development
2. Fostering health security
3. Strengthening health systems
4. Harnessing research, information and evidence
5. Enhancing partnerships
6. Improving performance

WHO fulfills its objectives through its core functions:

- providing leadership on matters critical to health and engaging in partnerships where joint action is needed;
- shaping the research agenda and stimulating the generation, translation and dissemination of valuable knowledge;
- setting norms and standards and promoting and monitoring their implementation;
- articulating ethical and evidence-based policy options;
- providing technical support, catalyzing change, and building sustainable institutional capacity; and
- monitoring the health situation and assessing health trends.

These core functions are set out in the 11th General Programme of Work, which provides the framework for organization-wide program of work, budget, resources and results. Entitled “Engaging for health”, it covers the 10-year period from 2006 to 2015.

SENEGALESE IMMUNOLOGY SOCIETY

Hôpital Le Dantec - Laboratoire Bactériologie – Virologie
Tel./Fax: 33 842 95 10 - B.P. 7318 Dakar
E-mail : 6confais@orange.sn

The Senegalese Immunology Society (SSI) is a group of scientists involved in promotion of research and training in immunology. It counts more than 100 members from the University Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar; Le Dantec Hospital; Pasteur Institute, Dakar; Bio 24 Laboratory; The Hospital Center of Fann; Grand Yoff Hospital; the National Blood Transfusion Center, Dakar; and Principal Hospital, Dakar.

The society’s mission is to contribute the development of all aspects of immunology and to promote contact and close collaboration of its members via exchanges of scientific information during the workshops and seminars it organizes.

The Senegalese Immunology Society organizes a national immunology day every year and coordinates its annual scientific meetings.

The society was created in 1997. It is affiliated with the Federation of African Immunological Societies (FAIS) and has been a member of the International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS) since 2003.

The SSI organized the 6th International Congress of the Federation of African Immunological Societies from March 20-23, 2006, in Dakar.
UNAIDS

Established in 1995 by a resolution of the UN Economic and Social Council and launched in January 1996, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS [UNAIDS] is an innovative joint venture of the United Nations, bringing together the efforts and resources of the UNAIDS Secretariat and ten UN system organizations to respond to AIDS:

1. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR),
3. World Food Programme (WFP)
4. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
5. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
6. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
7. International Labor Organization (ILO)
8. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
9. World Health Organization (WHO)
10. World Bank (WB)

The UNAIDS Secretariat headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland with staff on the ground in more than 80 countries. Coherent action on AIDS by the UN system is coordinated in countries through the UN theme groups, and the joint programs on AIDS. Together we seek to build and support an expanded AIDS response—one that engages the efforts of many sectors and partners from government, civil society and the private sector.

We are guided by a Programme Coordinating Board with representatives of 22 governments from all geo-graphic regions, six Cosponsors, and five nongovernmental organizations, including associations of people living with HIV.

UNAIDS has five cross-cutting functions:
- mobilizing leadership and advocacy for effective action on the epidemic;
- providing strategic information and policies to guide efforts in the AIDS response worldwide;
- surveillance, monitoring and evaluation of the epidemic and the response to it
- the worlds leading resource for AIDS-related data and analysis;
- engaging civil society and developing partnerships; and
- mobilizing financial, human and technical resources to support an effective response.
### INTERNATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

1. Dr. Akwasi Aidoo  
   2. Dr. Seth Berkeley  
   3. Dr. Deborah Birx  
   4. Dr. Charles Candillier  
   5. Pr. Jean Francois Delfraissy  
   6. Pr. Alioune Dièye  
   7. Daouda Diouf  
   8. Dr. Max Essex  
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54. Pr. Papa Salif Sow  
55. Pr. Femi Soyinka  
56. Fatimata Sy  
57. Dr. Cheikh Tidiane Tall  
58. Sangeeta Tripathi  
59. Dr. Abdoulaye Wade  
60. Dr. Ruiz G. Vaz  
61. Dr. Debrework Zewdie

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SWAA  
GYCA  
SIDA/SAREC  
IAS  
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AAVP  
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DLSI  
WHO Afro  
World Bank

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Chair: Pr. Souleymane Mboup

Members:
1. Pr. Papa Salif Sow
2. Dr. Ibra Ndoye
3. Magatte MBodj Gueye
4. Pr. Phyllis Kanki
5. Dr. Meskerem Grunitzky-Bekele
6. Eric Fleutelot

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Scientific Program Committee (SPC)
Co-Chair: Pr. Papa Salif Sow
Co-Chair: Pr. Phyllis Kanki

The objective of the SPC is share knowledge and experiences on strategies for access to services, treatment and prevention through:
• Forum for exchange on best practices
• Capacity building

ABSTRACT CATEGORIES

Track A: Biology and Pathogenesis of HIV

Scope and Objectives
This track will encompass all aspects of fundamental HIV biology and the host response to HIV. Areas of focus will include HIV infection and replication, transmission, genetics, evolution, structure and function, pathogenesis, adaptive and innate immune responses to HIV, genetic susceptibility to HIV, co-infection and progress in animal models. Pre-clinical vaccine, microbicide and drug development will be important themes of this track.

Categories
A1. HIV structure and function
A2. Genetic diversity of the virus
A3. Viral dynamics and latency
A4. HIV pathogenesis and viral determinants of pathogenesis
A5. Mechanisms of T cell depletion and dysfunction
A6. Humoral immunity
A7. Cellular immunity
A8. Mucosal immunity/defenses
A9. Cytokines and chemokines
A10. Acute and primary infection
A11. Superinfection
A12. HIV-2 and HIV-2/HIV-1 co-infection
A13. Co-factors and co-infection (TB, Malaria, and Hepatitis viruses)
A14. New antiretroviral development – including Immune-based and gene therapies
A15. Mechanisms of antiviral resistance
A16. HIV vaccine development
A17. Clinical vaccine studies: Immuno-genicity
A18. Preventative vaccines e.g. pneumococcal, hepatitis and HPV
A19. Pre-clinical microbicide studies
A20. SIV and other animal retroviruses
A21. Animal models for transmission, progression and disease resistance
A22. Diagnostic and laboratory monitoring tools in the context of resource-limited settings (including rapid tests)

Track B: Clinical research, treatment and care

Scope and Objectives
This track will highlight the latest research findings, complexities and controversies related to the diagnosis, natural history and management of HIV infection; prevention, diagnosis and treatment of opportunistic infections; co-infection and other co-morbidities; antiretroviral therapy and immunotherapy. Issues for discussion related to antiretroviral therapy will include new drug therapies, pharmacokinetics, drug interactions, adherence, short- and long-term
adverse events, clade types and drug resistance. Approaches to treatment, care and support in specific populations including infants and children, adolescents, women (including prevention of mother-to-child transmission) and marginalized groups and innovations related to diagnosis and to provision of HIV care in resource-limited settings will be addressed.

Categories
B1. Natural history, prognostic staging and evolution of infection
B2. HIV in pediatric populations
B3. Immune reconstitution Syndrome
B4. Initiation of therapy and first line regimens – switching criteria
B5. Clinical efficacy of ART and viral resistance
B6. Antiretroviral therapies and clinical trials
B7. Long-term monitoring of HIV cohorts – treatment monitoring
B8. Drug interactions (ARVs and others) and adverse reactions
B9. HIV Morbidity and mortality
B10. Decentralization of ARV therapy: strategies and models
B11. HIV-1 and HIV-2 Opportunistic infections (excluding TB)
B12. Mycobacterial (including TB and MAC) infections
B13. Antituberculosis drugs and Antiretroviral therapies
B14. Neurologic manifestations
B15. Malaria and other parasitic infections
B16. Other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HPV
B17. Psychiatric conditions
B18. Lipodystrophy, metabolic abnormalities, cardiovascular disease
B19. Nutrition and HIV
B20. Traditional medicines
B21. Palliative care
B22. Malignancies (KS, lymphoma, cervical and anal carcinoma)
B23. Voluntary counseling and testing

Track C: Epidemiology, prevention and prevention research

Scope and Objectives
This track will focus on HIV/AIDS prevention research and issues related to the design, implementation and evaluation of prevention programs. It will include examination of methodological and programmatic advances in the continuum of prevention research, particularly best practices in HIV prevention for vulnerable populations in resource-limited settings. Strategies to put HIV prevention research into practice, efforts to promote preparedness for bio-medical prevention technologies, and research on new prevention approaches including microbicides, vaccines, pre-and post exposure prophylaxis, circumcision and other methods will be presented.

Categories:

Prevention of mother-to-child transmission
C1. Infant feeding
C2. Antiretroviral treatment
C3. Clinical trials

Microbicides
C4. Acceptability
C5. Adherence
C6. Efficacy trials

Preventive vaccine
C7. Early phase trials
C8. Efficacy trials

Biomedical interventions to prevent HIV
C9. Blood safety
C10. Organ and tissue safety
C11. Community involvement in blood safety
C12. Circumcision
C13. STI control
C14. Pre- and Post-exposure prophylaxis
C15. Blood exposure accidents
C16. Antiretroviral therapy as prevention
Track D: Social and Behavioral Sciences

**Scope and Objectives**
This track deals with issues related to vulnerable populations, the social and cultural realities of HIV/AIDS and the way in which patients and their families perceive long-term chronic disease management. Patient behaviors and daily life will also be described and debated.

**Categories**
- D1. Vulnerable populations
- D2. Gender and age vulnerability and risks
- D3. Socio-cultural realities and HIV
- D4. Living with HIV
- D5. ART Adherence including treatment observance
- D6. Anthropology of clinical research
- D7. Social perceptions and long-term disease management
- D8. Behavior change interventions – efficacy trials

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Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS

C17. HIV/AIDS epidemiology
C18. Determinants of the HIV epidemic
C19. Socio-cultural practices
C20. Behavioral research
C21. Community involvement
C22. Drug addiction and HIV prevention
C23. Ethical issues in biomedical prevention

Track E: Policy and Health Economics

**Scope and Objectives**
This track will analyze the quality of health systems in the context of the decentralization of treatment and care, as well as the funding of those systems. At the same time, issues related to health economics, integration of health programs, and the role and responsibilities of media will be discussed. Ethics and human rights are also important issues in sharing experiences of HIV/AIDS and STI infection management.

**Categories**
- E1. Human Rights, law and ethics
- E2. Quality of clinical service and laboratories
- E3. Strengthening of health systems
- E4. Funding health systems
- E5. Human resources and decentralization of treatment and care
- E6. Health Economics – costing analyses
- E7. Integration of health services: TB/HIV, reproductive health
- E8. Drug quality and Procurement channels for drugs and reagents
- E9. Sustainability of international and national programs
- E10. The role and responsibilities of the media
COMMUNITY PROGRAM

COMMUNITY PROGRAM COMMITTEE (CPC)

Co-Chair: Magatte MBodj Gueye
Co-Chair: Eric Fleutelot

Sub-themes:
1. Stigma and Discrimination
2. Good governance and accountability (roles and responsibilities of civil society)

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM COMMITTEE (LPC)

Co-Chair: Dr. Ibra Ndoye
Co-Chair: Dr. Meskerem Grunitzky-Bekele

Sub-themes
1. Politics, policies and action
2. Accelerating universal access to prevention,
treatment, care and support by 2010
3. “Make the money work”
4. HIV, Gender and Human Rights: It’s time to Act
5. Government Action – Community Response
AIDS is a plague in Sub-Saharan Africa, the region most affected by the epidemic. Africa’s already high and still rising HIV prevalence rates have dramatic consequences for the continent. While some African countries have succeeded in slowing the spread of the disease, primarily via effective prevention campaigns, prospects for the future remain worrisome.

At the same time, the true extent of the problem of other sexually transmitted infections in Africa today remains unknown, demonstrating the need for a revival of interest in the field.

Senegal has been selected to host for a second time the International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa (ICASA). The 15th ICASA will take place in Dakar from December 3-7. Bringing together more than 5,000 participants from across the globe, ICASA 2008 will be organized by the Society on Aids in Africa (SAA) under the patronage of the Government of Senegal.

The 15th ICASA promises to be a space of vibrant exchange where academics, community members and leaders the world over can gather for careful reflection on various aspects of the disease.

As the organizers of ICASA 2008, it is our hope that the conference will be a prelude to a new era of openness and action to better the lives of those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and STIs.
FORMAT OF THE CONFERENCE

The 15th ICASA is designed to encourage the dissemination of recent findings on HIV/AIDS and STIs in Africa. The meeting will act as a framework to facilitate cooperation and exchange and encourage greater synergy in future activities.

These exchanges will take the form of plenary sessions, lectures and discussion sessions, poster presentations, symposia, and round table discussions, as well satellite symposia and practical training sessions.

**Plenary Sessions**

The plenary sessions will review the state of research on several major topics related to the HIV/AIDS and STI epidemics.

**Parallel sessions**

These sessions will be centered on a specific theme. They consist of both lectures and discussions.

**Posters**

Research that is not covered in the parallel sessions will be presented as posters.

**Symposia**

Designated speakers will introduce a specific theme, which will then be open to debate by participants.

**Round table discussions**

These discussions focus on narrowly defined problems. Following a formal introduction by a moderator, four or five participants will share their own experiences with the issue.

**Skills building workshops**

Participants will take part in practical training sessions, which will focus on the exchange of tools and strategies for addressing various aspects of HIV/AIDS and STIs.

**Community Conversations**

These are places for interaction among community actors who can discuss community successes, challenges and concerns regarding provision of community and home care. They allow dialogue and spontaneity, and they put experiences and daily realities in perspective. Each session is led by a facilitator.

**Field visits**

Field visits aim to share knowledge and experiences of community responses to the HIV epidemic. Field meetings will be organized in the host country at several sites involved in the struggle against HIV/AIDS in the community.

**Satellite Symposia**

The conference will partner with international institutions, organizations, and pharmaceutical companies, which will organize satellite symposia and will have access to exposition space.
# Preliminary Conference Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday December 3</th>
<th>Thursday December 4</th>
<th>Friday December 5</th>
<th>Saturday December 6</th>
<th>Sunday December 7</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07:30</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
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<td>BREAK</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>08:30</td>
<td>Plenary Session</td>
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<td>Plenary Session</td>
<td>Plenary Session</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Posters &amp; Satellite Symposia</td>
<td>Posters &amp; Satellite Symposia</td>
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<td>Rapporteurs' Session</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00</td>
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<td>BREAK</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:30</td>
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<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00</td>
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<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:00</td>
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<td>17:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:30</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
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<tr>
<td>18:00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:30</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
<td>Parallel Sessions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:00</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:30</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20:00</td>
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<td>BREAK</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>20:30</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
<td>Satellite Symposia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REGISTRATION

All forms of registration must be completed either online at the official website of the conference:
http://www.icasadakar2008.org/
or on site at the conference.

TYPES OF REGISTRATION

**Participant Registration**

Full registration as a conference participant provides access to the conference session rooms, exhibition spaces, posters, the global village, the opening and closing ceremonies and the welcome cocktail.

If the registration form and payment are completed before October 15, 2008, it also includes the conference documents (Program, Abstract book or CD) and participant items (conference bag, etc.). The conference cannot guarantee a conference bag or conference documents to participants who register after that date.

**Accompanying Persons Registration**

This special form of registration allows those accompanying participants to attend the opening and closing ceremonies as well as the welcome cocktail.

Only children (under 18) registered as accompanying persons will be admitted to all conference sessions.

**Press registration**

Registration is free for accredited members of the press. This type of registration includes access to all conference sessions, exhibition spaces, posters, the global village, the opening and closing ceremonies and the welcome cocktail. Members of the press will be provided with the conference documents (Program, Abstract CD, press kit). A media center with Internet access will be made available.

In order to register as a member of the press, the person registering must provide a copy of press credentials and a letter from the editor-in-chief, on official stationery, affirming that he or she will represent the publication or production at the conference. The conference will admit one journalist and one photographer per press outfit.
## Registration fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARTICIPANTS</th>
<th>Fee before August 2008</th>
<th>Fee after August 2008</th>
<th>Fee on site after December 2, 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PARTICIPANT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High income countries</td>
<td>419 EUR 275 000 FCFA</td>
<td>495 EUR 325 000 FCFA</td>
<td>518 EUR 340 000 FCFA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Low-middle income</td>
<td>267 EUR 175 000 FCFA</td>
<td>343 EUR 225 000 FCFA</td>
<td>366 EUR 240 000 FCFA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACCOMPANYING PERSONS (over 18)</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>All countries</td>
<td>152 EUR 100 000 FCFA</td>
<td>152 EUR 100 000 FCFA</td>
<td>152 EUR 100 000 FCFA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ACCOMPANYING PERSONS (under 18)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High income countries</td>
<td>38 EUR 25 000 FCFA</td>
<td>38 EUR 25 000 FCFA</td>
<td>38 EUR 25 000 FCFA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-middle income</td>
<td>267 EUR 175 000 FCFA</td>
<td>343 EUR 225 000 FCFA</td>
<td>19 EUR 12 500 FCFA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PRESS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All countries</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Registration Confirmation and Forms of Payment

Only fully completed registration forms will be accepted. Registration will not be confirmed until the conference has received payment in full.

To validate registration, payment must be made in full, and proof of payment must be sent via fax to: +221 33 842 95 10; or via email to: registration@icasadakar2008.org. If the Secretariat does not receive payment in full or the respective proof of payment, the conference reserves the right to refuse and cancel your registration.

Payment can be made via credit card or wire transfer in euros, US dollars or FCFA. Company checks must be crossed and issued to “15ème ICASA/Dakar”. Certified personal checks will be accepted.

Please note that all bank fees and wire transfer commissions must be paid in advance by the person registering.

If the maximum participant capacity is reached, ICASA 2008 reserves the right to refuse any registration.

After the online pre-registration form is completed, a confirmation email and an identification email will be sent to the email address provided. The emails will contain your confirmation number, pre-registration number, and other important information. You will also be able to print out a pro forma invoice. When payment in full has been made, you will receive confirmation of registration.

Cancellation policy

The secretariat of the conference must be notified of cancellation in writing at registration@icasadakar2008.org. The notification letter must indicate a bank account to which a possible refund may be remitted. Before August 2008, the conference will reimburse registration fees, less a 60 EUR administrative fee. After that date, the conference will provide no reimbursements.

Conditions of event cancellation

In the event that ICASA 2008 cannot be held or has to be changed due to events beyond the control of the Conference organizers (force majeure) or due to events that are not attributable to wrongful intent or gross negligence of the Conference organizers, the Conference organizers cannot be held liable by delegates for any damages, costs or losses incurred, such as transportation costs, accommodation costs, financial losses, etc.

Under these circumstances, the Conference organizers reserve the right to either retain the entire registration fee and use it for a future conference, or to reimburse the delegate after deducting costs already incurred for the organization of the Conference and which could not be recovered from third parties.

The Conference organizers reserve the right to modify the program, which is published as an indication only.

Participant replacements

A handling fee of 45 EUR will be charged for every change made to an existing Conference registration. A new registration form for the substitute participant should not be completed or sent to the ICASA 2008 Secretariat. Name changes will only be accepted by e-mail or fax indicating the new and old names. The changes can be sent electronically to registration@icasadakar2008.org.
**FORMS OF PAYMENT**

- **Credit card**
  VISA, American Express, Eurocard / Mastercard, JCB and Diner's Club - Secure online payment
- **Company / certified personal checks**
  Company checks crossed and issued to 15th ICASA/Dakar or certified personal checks
- **Wire transfer**
  Note on the transfer order the name of the participant and reference ID. and fax a copy of the transfer order to the Secretariat at +221 33 842 95 10.

Participant replacements will only be processed until 01 November 2008. After this date, all replacements must be made on site at the registration counter.

**Lost Name Badge**

If a participant loses, misplaces, or forgets the name badge, a handling fee of 45 EUR will be charged for every replacement name badge. Upon activation of the replacement name badge, the old name badge will be deactivated and become invalid.

**Sharing of Contact Details**

The conference will collect and store all personal data for the preparation and execution of the Conference. In addition, the conference may periodically share contact details of participants with third parties who may use these details to contact participants regarding activities at ICASA 2008 or other communications which may be of interest. Data may be passed on to third parties if authorized by the participant on the registration form.

**Letter of Invitation**

Participants requiring an official letter of invitation to obtain a visa and participate in the conference should pre-register online. Following pre-registration, please send a request for a letter of invitation to visa@icasadakar2008.org and provide name, address, passport number and any other relevant information.

Letters of invitation do not under any circumstances imply financial commitment by the conference organizers. All expenses paid for the conference are the full responsibility of the participant.

**International Scholarship Program**

To promote the participation of all actors in the fight against AIDS and STIs, particularly persons living in resource-limited countries and young scientists, the organizers of the 15th ICASA have created a scholarship program.

More than 500 citizens of developing countries, NGO workers, members of marginalized communities, PLHIV, young scientists and other youth will receive financial aid to participate in the 15th ICASA.

Anyone can apply to the International Scholarship Program. Priority will be given to those whose participation will enhance their work in their own communities, to those who are able to transfer skills and knowledge acquired at the conference, and to those whose abstracts have been selected for the Conference Program.

Although every attempt will be made to assist as many Africans as possible to attend, the number of international scholarships available is limited. Participants are therefore strongly encouraged to seek other funding.
**Full and partial scholarships**

There are two types of international scholarships: full and partial.

- **Full scholarships** include the conference registration fee, economy-class airfare, shared accommodation in university residences and a daily allowance.

- **Partial scholarships** include any combination of the above.

The decision to award a full or partial scholarship will be made by the Scholarship Program Committee.

**Applying for a scholarship**

If you would like to apply for a scholarship, please pre-register for the conference online at www.icasadakar2008.org, and check “Apply for a scholarship” when presented with the option. The deadline for applying for a scholarship is **May 15, 2008**.

The results of the allocation of scholarships will be sent out on September 30, 2008, at the latest.
ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

All abstracts must be submitted online at the official website of the conference: http://www.icasadakar2008.org/

1. The conference will only accept abstracts submitted on the web site.

2. Abstracts can be submitted in English or French.

3. Abstracts must adhere to one of the following formats:

   a. Format 1:
      i. Objective
      ii. Methods
      iii. Results obtained
      iv. Conclusion

   b. Format 2
      i. Abstract title
      ii. Description of the problem
      iii. Activities carried out and results obtained
      iv. Lessons learned and next steps

4. Please use the font Arial, font size 10pt for your abstract.

5. The abstract must not exceed 2300 characters (including spaces).

   Authors may indicate their preference for an oral presentation or a poster.

However, the Scientific Program Committee will make the final decision for the type of presentation, taking into account time and space constraints.

Once an abstract has been submitted, an email containing a confirmation of receipt will be sent to the email provided. Notices of abstract acceptance will be sent out at the end of August 2008.

Oral presentations

Each presentation will be 10 minutes long, followed by 5 minutes of discussion.

Presentations should be prepared using Microsoft PowerPoint or compatible software and brought to the conference on CD-ROM or USB flash drive. All presentations will be stored in the conference center network in order to ensure availability in all session rooms.

Posters

• The poster panels are 0.95 m (3.11 ft) wide X 2.28 m (7.48 ft) high.
• Authors will hang their materials (graphics, diagrams, films, data tables and concise text) using double-sided tape.
• The title and authors must be indicated in the poster heading.
• A copy of the abstract must be placed on the upper left corner of the poster.
• All posters should be visible and legible at a distance of 1.5 m (approx. 5 ft).
• Body text characters must be at least 8 mm (0.3 inches) high. Graphics, drawings and illustrations must be prepared in advance and must be at least 20 cm (8 inches) wide by 25 cm (10 inches) high.
• All materials must be removed from the poster panels as soon as the session ends.

NB. The deadline for submission of abstracts is May 15, 2008. Submission of an abstract implies consent to its publication in the abstract book and on the web site if it is accepted.
EXHIBITION SPACE

Exhibition stands of 9 square meters (approximately 97 square feet) each will be present during all five days of the conference. There will be three exhibition spaces (Zone K, Zone A and Zone B) on the grounds of the Meridien President.

Zone K is a privileged area in the hallways that lead to the conference rooms, where all conference sessions will take place.

Zone A will house both exhibition stands and posters.

Zone B, in the global village, is intended for NGOs and associations. The village will be a crossroads for conference participants.

Renting a stand

Exhibition spaces of 9 square meters (approximately 97 square feet) are available. Groups may reserve several spaces.

Each stand will be equipped with 2 spotlights, a heading, one electrical outlet, 2 walls, one table and three chairs.

The following prices for each zone are cited per nine square meters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Price (EUR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zone K</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International companies</td>
<td>4000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International companies</td>
<td>3000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutions and International NGOs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutions and Regional NGOs</td>
<td>2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zone B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutions and International NGOs</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutions and Regional NGOs</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The installation and take down of the typical conference stand is included in the price.

Installation and take down of exhibitor materials are the responsibility of the exhibitor.

Reserving a stand

Beginning in January 2008, reservation of exhibition space will be available online at the official conference website: http://www.ica-sadakar2008.org/

Stands will be reserved on a “first-come, first-served” basis.

Full payment is due at the time of reservation. The conference will not reserve a stand without payment in full.

The conference reserves the right to refuse reservation of a stand that is inconsistent with the conference objectives.

Exhibitor badges

Exhibitors will be provided with a certain number of badges according to the amount of space purchased:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Space purchased</th>
<th>No. of Badges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 27 m²</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27-54 m²</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>54-81 m²</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
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<td>81-108 m²</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 108 m²</td>
<td>20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Additional badges can be purchased for 75 EUR.

Guidelines for exhibitors

Exhibitors are subject to the rules and guidelines set by the Meridien President Hotel and the conference. The terms of the agreement will be available online before reservations open.
SATELLITE SYMPOSIA

Satellite meetings will begin Wednesday, December 3, 2008, in the morning. They will take place during mornings, lunch hours and evenings during the four remaining days of the conference.

Satellite meeting organizers must take into account the objectives of the conference.

**Satellite meeting requests**

Requests to organize satellite meetings will be available online at the official website of the conference: [http://www.icasadakar2008.org/](http://www.icasadakar2008.org/).

Requests will be accepted beginning in January 2008. The request must include a proposal for the content of the meeting.

The deadline for submission of a request is **August 1, 2008**.

Notices of selection of satellite meetings will be sent out in September 2008. Confirmation and payment must be received by October 15, 2008. If the conference organizers do not receive confirmation and payment before that date, another proposal will be selected.

**Satellite fees**

The fees for satellite symposia vary based on the time of the meeting and the capacity of the session room. Symposia are either 1 hour or 2 hours long.

The organizer of the satellite meeting is responsible for all costs incurred in holding the meeting.

Three 1000-person rooms, three 350-person rooms and five 150-person rooms are available.

**Scheduling**

The conference organizers are responsible for the scheduling of all satellite meetings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1000 person room</th>
<th>350 person room</th>
<th>150 person room</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 03/12</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td><strong>11 433 EUR</strong></td>
<td><strong>7 622 EUR</strong></td>
<td><strong>3 811 EUR</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>7 500 000 FCFA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday - Saturday 04/12 - 06/12</strong></td>
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<td>7:00 - 8:00</td>
<td><strong>6 098 EUR</strong></td>
<td><strong>3 811 EUR</strong></td>
<td><strong>2 287 EUR</strong></td>
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<td>4 000 000 FCFA</td>
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<td>1 500 000 FCFA</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 14:00</td>
<td><strong>9 909 EUR</strong></td>
<td><strong>6 098 EUR</strong></td>
<td><strong>3 049 EUR</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>6 500 000 FCFA</td>
<td>4 000 000 FCFA</td>
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<td>18:30 - 20:30</td>
<td><strong>11 433 EUR</strong></td>
<td><strong>7 622 EUR</strong></td>
<td><strong>3 811 EUR</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>7 500 000 FCFA</td>
<td>5 000 000 FCFA</td>
<td>2 500 000 FCFA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday 07/12</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 - 8:00</td>
<td><strong>6 098 EUR</strong></td>
<td><strong>3 811 EUR</strong></td>
<td><strong>2 287 EUR</strong></td>
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<td>6 500 000 FCFA</td>
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<td>2 000 000 FCFA</td>
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</table>
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The 15th International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa will provide potential sponsors a number of opportunities to increase their visibility at the conference.

Opportunities are available in three places:
- On site at the conference center
- Delegate items
- The official conference web site

Advertisement in the Conference Program:
- 11 433 EUR quarter-page
- 13 339 EUR insert
- 15 245 EUR inside back cover
- 19 056 EUR back cover

Advertisement in the Abstract book:
- 3 811 EUR half-page
- 9 147 EUR full page
- 11 433 EUR page 3
- 11 433 EUR inside back cover
- 15 245 EUR back cover

Exclusive sponsorship of Abstracts on CD at 11 433 EUR plus production costs

On-site video advertisements at 1 905 EUR per 30 seconds:
A large screen will be installed in the main conference hall. Participants, speakers, and exhibitors will continually pass through this area. Video spots will be sold by the second.

Web café with Internet access at 30 490 EUR:
The sponsor will provide at least 10 powerful computers with Internet access, a wireless access point, basic office supplies, tables, and chairs for the duration of the conference. The café will be accessible in the Conference center.

The web café will promote visibility through decorations featuring the sponsor’s name and logo. The sponsor’s logo will also be found on the time tickets used to access the Internet.

Exclusive sponsorship of the Conference bags at 41 923 EUR plus costs of production:
The sponsor will place its logo on the delegate bags, pens, and notepads. This is an excellent form of marketing both during and after the conference.

The bag must feature the official conference logo.

PLHIV lounge at 7 622 EUR:
A lounge will be provided to persons living with HIV/AIDS to allow them to rest in a private place.

Delegate badges at 15 245 EUR plus production costs:
The badge cord can present the name and logo of the sponsor. The name of the participant must be easily visible on the name badge. The conference must agree to the color of the badge cord and the placement of the logo.

Exclusive sponsorship of the Conference fabric at 38 112 EUR plus production costs:
The sponsor’s logo and the conference logo must appear on the fabric. The fabric will be worn by the hosts and hostesses throughout the conference.
Conference website at 7 622 EUR:
The logo of the sponsor will feature on the conference website, with a link to the sponsor’s website. The official conference website is the portal for registration, abstract submission, and scholarship applications. With a forum, a virtual media center, and webcasts of select conference sessions all under construction, the web site will be widely viewed before, during, and after the conference.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SPONSORSHIP

The offers described are subject to availability. Organizers reserve the right to accept or refuse the sponsor’s product. The sponsor is responsible for confirming that its products respect the established local laws for commercials.

Payment

The sponsor’s order is confirmed after receipt of payment by the organizers. If payment has not been made within one month of reservation, the product may be sold to another sponsor.

The organizers will accept the following forms of payment:

  a) Credit card
     VISA, American Express, and Eurocard / MasterCard, JCB and Diner’s club are accepted-Secure online payment
  b) Corporate checks
     Corporate checks must be crossed and issued to: 15th ICASA/Dakar. Personal certified checks are accepted.
  c) Wire transfer
     Please note on the transfer order the name of the client and reference ID. Please fax a copy of the transfer order to the Conference secretariat.

Production costs

All production costs, technical fees and delivery costs are the responsibility of the sponsor.

Delays

It is the sponsor’s responsibility to ensure that all products are delivered by the deadline established by the organizers. The conference is not responsible for any products received after the deadline. If products are to be distributed by the conference, the sponsor will be responsible for all additional charges associated with the delay. If the conference is unable to distribute a product, the sponsor will not be reimbursed.

The regulations outlined above also apply to advertisements that are not provided in the correct format, or those given to the sponsors after the deadline.

Cancellation policy

The sponsor’s payment will be reimbursed, less a 10% administrative fee, if the secretariat of the Conference is notified of cancellation in writing not more than one month after confirmation of the order and before September 1, 2008.

If cancellation is made after September 1, 2008, no reimbursement will be provided.
ADVANTAGES OF SPONSORSHIP

The participation of partners and donors will be extremely important to fund the 15th ICASA. The sponsors will be classified into different categories according to the size of their contribution.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsorship Category</th>
<th>Contribution Amount</th>
<th>Advantages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>250 000 EUR</td>
<td>Free exhibition stand, logo featured in conference documents, plaque of recognition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>50 000 – 250 000 EUR</td>
<td>Free exhibition stand, logo featured in abstract book, plaque of recognition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronze</td>
<td>50 000 EUR</td>
<td>Logo featured in abstract book</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONFERENCE VENUE

The 15th International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa will be held at the Meridien President, Dakar. The conference center is located on the Pointe des Almadies, just a few minutes from Léopold Sédar Senghor International Airport and 30 minutes from downtown Dakar.

Nestled in the heart of 86 acres of greenery on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean, this jewel of a setting will allow participants to combine work and relaxation in a comfortable environment.

LE MERIDIEN PRESIDENT
Pointe des Almadies · B.P. 8181 · Dakar · Sénégal
Telephone: (221) 33 869 6969
Website: www.starwoodhotels.com
GENERAL INFORMATION

Weather

Weather in Dakar is very pleasant in December, with temperatures varying around 22°Celsius (72°Fahrenheit).

Official Languages

The official languages of the conference will be English and French.

Audio-visual equipment

The session rooms will be sufficiently equipped to allow for high-quality presentations.

Currency and Credit Cards

The currency of Senegal is the franc CFA. It is pegged to the euro, with 1 Euro equaling 655,957 FCFA. Credit cards are generally accepted in hotels and banks.

Time Difference

Senegal is on Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). Daylight saving time is not observed.

Air service

Several major airlines provide service to Dakar’s Leopold Sedar Senghor Airport. These include:

- Air Algeria (Saturdays)
- Air France (daily service)
- Air Iberia (daily service)
- Air Portugal (daily service)
- Air Senegal International (daily service)
- Alitalia (daily service)

- Bellview Airlines (Thursdays and Sundays)
- British Airways (daily service)
- SN Bruxelles (Tuesday-Sunday)
- Delta Airlines (daily service)
- Ethiopian Airlines (daily service)
- Kenya Airways (Tuesday, Friday-Sunday)
- Royal Air Maroc (daily service)
- South Africa (daily service)
- Tunis air (daily service)
- Virgin Nigeria (Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday)

Formalities for entry in Senegal

Visitors to Senegal must possess a valid passport. Citizens of member countries of the European Union, ECOWAS countries, Israel, Japan, Taiwan, the United States, Canada, Switzerland and some North African countries do not need a visa to enter Senegal.

Citizens of other countries must consult their local embassy, consulate or other representative institution of Senegal to obtain a visa.

Please contact the conference secretariat to obtain documents that may facilitate the acquisition of a visa.

In exceptional cases, a local committee will be appointed to help the participant acquire a visa when he or she arrives at Dakar's Leopold Sedar Senghor airport.

Letter of Invitation

By request, a formal letter of invitation can be provided to the participant. However, this letter does not imply financial commitment by the conference.
**ACCOMMODATIONS**

We have selected a large number of hotels ranging from 2-star to 4-star quality near the of the Meridien President Conference Center.

These hotels will provide ICASA 2008 participants with reduced, preferential prices. Breakfast and visitor’s tax are included in the price of the room.

### Group reservations

Reservation for groups is subject to specific conditions. Group reservation is available for parties of 10 or more participants. For more information and reservation procedures, please contact the ICASA 2008 secretariat at accommodation@icasadakar2008.org

### Questions about accommodations

For more information about hotels and updates on accommodations options, please regularly consult the conference web site: http://www.icasadakar2008.org/

Please note that the list of hotels is not final. The Local Organizing Committee is in continuing negotiations with other hotels and the list will be frequently updated.

You must register for the Conference before reserving a room.

### Other types of accommodation

Information concerning accommodation in University residences will be made available on our web site:
http://www.icasadakar2008.org/
TOURISM IN SENEGAL

The 15th International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa will give participants the opportunity to experience the culture and natural beauty of Dakar and Senegal.

**Lac rose (Pink Lake)**

The Pink Lake’s bright pink, sometimes purple, color is due to its elevated salinity and the bacteria that inhabit it. A drive around the lake, seated comfortably in a Jeep, will allow you to discover Peuhl villages, women collecting salt, and quarries made of shells, with meetings with the locals and visits to local huts.

**Lac rose – half-day**

30,44 euros per person

**Departure at 15:00** for Lac Rose by bus. Board Marmon-type SUVs for a drive across the dunes and around the lake. Return trip via Cayar, where you will witness the extraordinarily colorful and animated sight that is the return of the fisherman. Return to hotel around 19:00.

**Lac rose with lunch and drinks:**

41,15 euros per person

**Departure at 9:00** by air-conditioned bus. Board Marmon-type SUVs for a drive across the dunes and around the lake. Stop at the lake to observe the process of salt extraction (a beautiful sight!). Salt extraction is the primary economic activity of the area population. Optional dip in the lake followed by a fresh-water shower. Lunch at the lake camp. Return to hotel after lunch.

**Lac rose + lunch under Mauritanian tent + drinks by the pool + guide:**

74,70 euros per person (min. 15 people)

**Departure at 8:30** for Lac Rose by air-conditioned bus. Board Marmon-type SUVs for a drive across the dunes and around the lake. Lunch and a drink will be served at the Mauritanian tent by the pool of the Lac Rose camp.

**Lac rose + lunch under Mauritanian tent + drinks on the beach + guide:**

80,8 euros per person (min. 30 people)

Departure for Lac Rose by air-conditioned bus. Board Marmon-type SUVs for a visit to a Peuhl village and a drive across the dunes and around the lake to the beach, where lunch will be served under a Mauritanian tent.

**Option : Dance show during lunch (folk dance troupe with female and male dancers and traditional African instruments)**

152,45 euros

**Nomad soirée on the beach at Lac Rose:**

53,36 euros per person

**Departure at 17:00** for Lac Rose, arrive around 19:00, where you will be met by a welcome party. Board SUVs for a drive across the dunes to the beach, where you will rest under the Mauritanian tent. The soirée will begin with a dance show by a professional African dance troupe around a large wood fire. You
will be served an aperitif before the barbecue dinner. This is a unique experience. Return to the hotel around 23:30.

Option: Folk dance show - 304,90 euros

Gorée Island

Gorée Island, a UNESCO heritage site, is one of the most fascinating places in Senegal. Today a charming island, it once saw the departure of millions of slaves for the New World. We take a ferry to Gorée. Visits include the museum and the “House of slaves”.

Gorée (+ lunch, drinks not incl.)
47,26 euros per person

You will visit different parts of the capital including the city center, typical African markets (Tilène, Sandanga, Kermel) and the artisanal village of Soumbedioune (sculpture, weaving, jewelry, baskets, etc.)

Around noon you will head to the port of Gorée to take the ferry. A short 30-minute ride on the ferry will lead you to Gorée Island, one of the most important African centers of the slave trade, where the maltreatment of slaves still weighs heavily. A guided tour of the museums will provide more information. Lunch will be served at the restaurant “Les Chevaliers de Boufflers”.

Dakar/Gorée + lunch + drinks + guide
62,5 euros per person

Visit the artisanal village of Soumbedioune (sculpture, weaving, jewelry, baskets, etc.), where you can make last-minute purchases. Around noon you will head to the port of Gorée to take the ferry. A short 30-minute ride on the ferry will lead you to Gorée Island, one of the most important African centers of the slave trade, where the maltreatment of slaves still weighs heavily. Lunch included on Gorée at the restaurant “Les Chevaliers de Boufflers”

After lunch, a guided tour of the museums, followed by a walking tour through the charming streets and alleyways of the island. Return to Dakar on the 16:30 ferry.

Dakar

Dakar, a crowded and windy city, is located on a natural harbor at the southern tip of the Cap Vert peninsula. It is the western-most point of Africa. The capital of the state of Senegal since 1960, Dakar remains home to colonial architecture. Today, Dakar is a large, modern city where the Western lifestyle and the traditional lifestyle are juxtaposed. Dakar has more than 1 million inhabitants.

Tour of the city + shopping :
22,87 euros per person

Tour of the city: Independence Square, at the heart of the city, houses most of the city’s banks and airlines. Many of the buildings are French, including the Chamber of Commerce, the monument to the dead and the Ministry of
the home village of Senegal’s first president, Leopold Sédar Senghor; Joal was his primary source of inspiration in his poetry. From Joal, you will board a pirogue and see wheat granaries on stilts. You will cross a wooden bridge to see the famous cemetery of shells at the Catholic village of Fadiouth. Lunch will be served at the hotel Laguna Beach at Mbodiène before your return to Dakar around 17:30.

Saloum

Saloum special picnic
50,31 € per person

Via Mbour and Joal, you will arrive in the brush by the trails of “Thanss” or by the Fimela route. You will visit characteristic villages before arriving at Ndangane. At Ndangane, you will board a motor pirogue that will take you through the Bolons of Saloum, the natural canals lined by mangroves that grow in swamps. This is a favorite area for early bird-watching, inhabited by pelicans, herons, egrets, pink flamingos, etc. A picnic will be served with drinks. Return in the afternoon.

Bandia Reserve

Bandia + lunch
60,98 € per person

You will leave the hotel to arrive at Bandia Reserve, located in the heart of a baobab
forest. You will visit the reserve in an open SUV. During your drive, you may see giraffes, antelopes, monkeys, ostriches, wart hogs, buffalos, crocodiles, rhinoceros, tortoises and various birds. On the way back to the hotel, you will witness a beautiful sunset over the baobab forest.

**Fishing**

**Big game fishing:**
- One day / 05 people per boat 608,90 euros per boat
- Fishing permit 7,62 euros per person
- Lunch basket 12,2 euros per person
- Drinks extra (payment upon return)

**Line fishing:**
- One day / 06 people per boat 457,30 euros per boat
- Fishing permit 7,62 euros per person
- Lunch basket 12,2 euros per person
- Drinks extra (payment upon return)

**Swordfish fishing:**
- One day / 06 people per boat 457,30 euros per boat
- Fishing permit 7,62 euros per person
- Lunch basket 12,2 euros per person
- Drinks extra (payment upon return)

**Djoudj Bird Park**

The Djoudj bird park is the third largest bird park in the world. 60 kilometers north of St. Louis, on a branch of the Senegal River, it includes part of the river with numerous canals, creeks, lakes, basins, tide pools and reeds. It also encompasses the neighboring wooded savanna. With 12 000 hectares and permanent availability of water, the park attracts numerous species of birds. Every year about 3 million birds pass through the park. Four hundred different species have been identified.

Classified as a UNESCO heritage site, Djoudj National Park contains entire colonies of pelicans and pink flamingos. One may also see the red heron, the egret, the jacana, the spoon-bill monarch, the cormorant, the marabou, etc. Between November and May, migratory birds fleeing the European cold, waders and several species of duck nest at Djoudj. One can also see mammals, reptiles, jackals, monkeys, hyenas and gazelles.

*The tours above have been proposed by Mr. François Boissy, Tourism Service Manager, Africar Tours. This tour group will be one of the official agencies of the conference.*

*The prices quoted are estimates and can change without notice.*