



+ *Improving the quality of life*

## **GNP+ FACT SHEET**

### **THE GLOBAL ADVOCACY AGENDA: GNP+ POLICY PLATFORM**

#### **I. Introduction**

The Global Advocacy Agenda is the policy platform that guides the advocacy work of GNP+. It was developed at a series of workshops during the 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference for People Living with HIV/AIDS, which took place in 1999 in Warsaw, Poland.

While global advocacy was always within the mandate of GNP+, the scope and direction of the activities related to the concept had not always been clearly defined, action-oriented, or perceived as broadly including the participation of the constituency of GNP+. To correct this situation and create true and achievable results for the advocacy work of GNP+, the workshops at the Warsaw Conference focused on two objectives. The first one was to target specific areas of concern regarding the advocacy role of GNP+, and the second was to define concrete actions to drive activities in real terms. The workshops were successful in both of the above areas.

#### **II. The Global Advocacy Agenda has three key components:**

##### **A. Promoting global access to HIV/AIDS care and treatment**

GNP+ advocates for: access for primary care, including HIV testing, counseling, and support, development of health infrastructures, and development and equitable distribution of affordable anti-retrovirals and medications for opportunistic infections for all the millions infected worldwide.

Within the scope of the component of the Global Advocacy Agenda, GNP+ supports a number of strategies including parallel importing, compulsory licensing, and lobbying for lower drug pricing and a massive increase in money pledged to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria (for more

information see *GNP+ Position Statement on Global Access to Care and Treatment.*)

## **B. Combating stigma and discrimination**

As part of its advocacy work, GNP+ supports mechanisms to campaign on a worldwide scale against the severe stigma people living with HIV/AIDS face in their communities and in their countries.

In particular, GNP+ supports mechanisms to combat stigma resulting in people not seeking testing and care services and stigma that results in acts of violence.

Stigma and discrimination are catalysts for the pandemic. People do not seek testing and care, because they fear stigmatization and discriminatory treatment, causing prevention interventions to be blocked.

GNP+ also supports mechanisms to combat state sanctioned discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS in travel and immigration.

## **C. Promoting the greater and more meaningful involvement of people living with HIV/AIDS in the decisions that affect their lives and the lives of their communities**

We see three major issues concerning the GIPA principle. The first is that HIV+ people are often used as tokens and are not included as equal partners in decision-making and in policy and program design and implementation.

The second issue is the lack of continuous and ongoing follow-up regarding implementation of GIPA.

The third major issue concerns the need for HIV to be seen as a problem that affects a number of different sectors of society and that interventions must also include all concerned sectors.