5.1 What can Parliamentarians do to protect infants and adolescents from HIV?
- Focus on high prevalence and treatment services in the constituency. How many mothers and infants were diagnosed and treated for HIV last year? What are the treatment centers that can be accessed in the area? What services including PMTCT, treatment, care, and support are available for people living with HIV/AIDS?

5.2 What can Local Governments do to protect infants and adolescents from HIV?
- Become an outspoken advocate against stigma and discrimination around HIV/AIDS. Begin by knowing your own HIV status and getting tested with your spouse.
- Ensure health facilities follow national guidelines on HIV/AIDS. Advocate for a strategy to reach the most at risk populations.
- Collaborate with local government on programmes to promote HIV awareness and testing on the one hand and to help empower adolescent girls and reduce their vulnerability to sexual violence.
- Support community-based interventions as part of the Multi-Sectoral Strategic Framework for HIV/AIDS. Advocate for local leadership to promote HIV awareness and training on life skills to help adolescents get tested and know their HIV status.

5.3 What can CSOs do to protect infants and adolescents from HIV?
- Join with local leaders, local mass media and other CSOs to plan how to reach more families and children in need of elimination.
- Work with other CSOs, including people living with HIV/AIDS to lobby local government and parliamentarians to take the actions recommended above.
- Collaborate with local government on programmes to promote HIV awareness and testing on the one hand and to help empower adolescent girls and reduce their vulnerability to sexual violence.
- Support community-based interventions as part of the Multi-Sectoral Strategic Framework for HIV/AIDS. Advocate for local leadership to promote HIV awareness and training on life skills to help adolescents get tested and know their HIV status.

5.4 What can the mass media do to protect infants and adolescents from HIV?
- Give editorial and feature space to show the value of investing in children's health and rights.
- Encourage all staff, including senior management, to get confidentially tested for HIV/AIDS.
- Support community-based interventions as part of the Multi-Sectoral Strategic Framework for HIV/AIDS. Advocate for local leadership to promote HIV awareness and training on life skills to help adolescents get tested and know their HIV status.
- Support the establishment of youth-friendly health services and support in both mainland and Zanzibar.

5.5 What can the private sector do to protect infants and adolescents from HIV?
- Give continuous, active support to campaigns to reduce stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV. Give editorial and feature space to show the value of investing in children's health and rights.
- Encourage all staff, including senior management, to get confidentially tested for HIV/AIDS.
- Support community-based interventions as part of the Multi-Sectoral Strategic Framework for HIV/AIDS. Advocate for local leadership to promote HIV awareness and training on life skills to help adolescents get tested and know their HIV status.

5.6 What can children do to protect infants and adolescents from HIV?
- Never discriminate against anyone infected or affected by HIV.
- Encourage all staff, including senior management, to get confidentially tested for HIV/AIDS.
- Support community-based interventions as part of the Multi-Sectoral Strategic Framework for HIV/AIDS. Advocate for local leadership to promote HIV awareness and training on life skills to help adolescents get tested and know their HIV status.

For more information about the Children's Agenda please contact the Secretariat which is based at UNICEF Tanzania at dawan@unicef.tz.
About 1.6 million Tanzanians are living with HIV and AIDS. By the end of 2012, about 40 per cent of health facilities were providing HIV testing for children, yet only 26 per cent of positive mothers were tested within 36 weeks of birth. Overall, almost three quarters of pregnant women and children under 15 are not receiving required treatment.

Fig 1. Prevalence of HIV/AIDS among women aged 15 to 49 years (THMIS 2011/12)

**1. HIV AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

1.1 TREATMENT DURING PREGNANCY AND CHILD-BIRTH: An estimated 2.3 million children born to HIV-positive women and 3 million children born to HIV-negative women are infected compared with 86 per cent of males. Nationally, 2.7 per cent of females aged 15-49 years are HIV-positive compared with 1.2 per cent of males. Nationally, 2.7 per cent of females aged 15-49 years are HIV-positive compared with 1.2 per cent of males. Nationally, 2.7 per cent of females aged 15-49 years and 2.1 per cent of males aged 15-44 years were receiving treatment. Investing in prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS reduces the number of HIV-infected children. In Tanzania, where, on average, the duration of exclusive breastfeeding is 16 months, only 64 per cent of pregnant women were tested for the virus. However, in 2012 due to erratic supply of HIV test kits and test kits. However, in 2012 due to erratic supply of HIV test kits and test kits.

Fig 3. Prevalence of HIV among women aged 15 to 49 years (THMIS 2011/12)

**2. MOTHER TO CHILD TRANSMISSION OF HIV**

2.1 Prevalence of HIV/AIDS: In Tanzania, where, on average, the duration of exclusive breastfeeding is 16 months, only 64 per cent of pregnant women were tested for the virus. However, in 2012 due to erratic supply of HIV test kits and test kits. However, in 2012 due to erratic supply of HIV test kits and test kits.

Fig 2. Prevalence of HIV/AIDS among women aged 15 to 49 years (THMIS 2011/12)

**3. HIV/AIDS:** Comprehensive knowledge about HIV/AIDS can help young people to avoid infection. Some of the strategies that can help young people to avoid infection include:

- Using condoms: Using condoms is an important strategy to prevent HIV infection. It is estimated that around 40 per cent of young people in Tanzania are aware of the importance of using condoms to prevent HIV infection. However, only about 15 per cent of young people in Tanzania are consistently using condoms.

- Avoiding high-risk behaviors: High-risk behaviors such as multiple sexual partners, early sexual debut, and unprotected sex can increase the risk of HIV infection. Young people should avoid engaging in such high-risk behaviors to reduce their risk of HIV infection.

- Seeking treatment: Early access to antiretroviral treatment can greatly reduce the risk of HIV transmission. Young people should seek treatment as soon as they become aware of their HIV status.

- Educating others: Educating others about HIV/AIDS can help to reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with the disease. Young people can play an important role in educating others about HIV/AIDS.

**4. COMBATTING STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION**

Widespread stigma and discrimination towards HIV-infected individuals can be harmful and also adherence to antiretroviral therapy (ART). Thus, reduction of stigma and discrimination is an important component of the national strategy of targeting HIV/AIDS prevention and control.

**5. THE CHILDREN’S AGENDA FOR PROTECTING INFANTS AND ADOLESCENTS FROM HIV**

Parliamentarians, local leaders (counsellors, religious and traditional leaders, teachers, health workers, community leaders, child rights organizations, and civil society organizations (CSOs), the private sector,