



STATEMENT BY THE ZIMBABWE NATIONAL NETWORK OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV (ZNNP+) ON THE OUTCOME OF THE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING WITH THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND CHILD CARE

March 4, 2026

HARARE - The Zimbabwe National Network of People Living with HIV (ZNNP+) today concluded a high-level meeting with the Minister of Health and Child Care (MOHCC), Hon. Dr. Douglas T. Mombeshora, to understand situation surrounding the discontinuation of negotiations for the \$367 million health funding agreement between the Zimbabwe and United States governments and share concerns and the perceived impact on People Living with HIV (PLHIV).

As the representative for the over 1.3 million PLHIV in Zimbabwe, ZNNP+ sought to ensure that the lives and dignity of our community remain central to national health policy during this period.

Key Outcomes and Discussion Points:

ZNNP+ highlighted:

- The widespread fear and anxiety among PLHIV regarding long-term access to life-saving services including access to ART, viral load monitoring, and the management of Advanced HIV Disease (AHD). Since the information of Zimbabwe walking out of the MoU negotiations went public, PLHIV across Zimbabwe have been actively seeking reassurance and understanding on the impact to overall HIV services. Many fear interruptions in supply chains, leading to risks of treatment gaps, drug resistance, opportunistic infections, and increased mortality.
- Concerns over the implications to potentially focusing on ARVs provision and encouraged the ministry to also address potential gaps including support healthcare workers, nutritional and other HIV and related health support services.
- The need to resuscitate negotiations given the potential funding gaps that may not be immediately covered by alternative resources and the long-standing partnership with PEPFAR which has brought significant progress in the HIV response over the last two decades.

The Hon. Minister of Health and Child Care (MOHCC) indicated that:

- The country has sufficient ARV stocks of between 6 and 30 months with further shipments expected throughout the year.
- The government has ringfenced health related taxes to cover the expected funding gaps.
- The government is putting in place long-term measures including the identification of further revenue sources to fund HIV, TB and malaria programmes.

While we take note of the assurances, there is need for a clear and robust plan involving all stakeholders, including PLHIV. The plan and subsequent implementation will provide the much-needed assurance to PLHIV and stakeholders who have contributed to the success of the HIV, TB and malaria responses.

About ZNNP+

ZNNP+ is the national network of people living with HIV established in 1992. It is a community entity that advocates for the interests of PLHIV, to ensure they have access to quality care and treatment and are treated with dignity

For More Information

Press contacts:

General public inquiries: phone +263 (0) 774 151 276 or email info@znnp.org

Toll Free *Kutabila* PLHIV and Communities Platform: 08080441