

# About AIDS Watch Africa

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## About AIDS Watch Africa

AIDS Watch Africa (AWA) is a statutory entity of the African Union, created in 2001 with the specific mandate to lead advocacy, accountability and resource mobilisation efforts to advance a robust African response to end AIDS, TB and malaria by 2030. AWA occupies a distinct space in global health and continues to play an influential advocacy role to increase resource allocation to health in countries and mobilising global resources including supporting global financing institutions working in AIDS, TB and Malaria such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.

The AWA platform contributes to the paradigm shift of Africa's response to AIDS, TB and Malaria from a predominantly biomedical and behavioural approach to a transformative approach focusing on diversified health financing, access to affordable and quality assured medicines, leadership, governance and accountability as the path to universal access to health.

AWA's unique mandate empowers it with a role as a convener, directly leveraging the highest-level leadership of the AU Member States into action. AWA has a critical role to catalyse implementation Abuja Declarations committing to sustained actions to end AIDS, TB and Malaria as public health threats by 2030. The AIDS Watch Africa Statutory annual experts and Heads of State and Government meetings provide a platform for forging partnerships for strong coordination, cooperation and collaboration to define continental policies, key advocacy and accountability issues, share best practices and monitor implementation. In order to effectively implement continental policies and Heads of State

and Government decisions AIDS Watch Africa has established a collaborative framework with all the key AU organs, Regional Economic Communities, Regional Health Organisations, Civil Society, the private sector and development agencies including UN entities who all participate in the African Union coordination forums for the development, joint planning and review of the implementation of continental policies and programmes.

AWA advocates for the implementation of the Catalytic Framework to End AIDS, TB and Eliminate Malaria in Africa by 2030. Furthermore AWA's work supports the implementation of the Africa Health Strategy (2016-2030) that seeks to strengthen health systems and achieve universal health coverage. Moreover, the AWA Strategic Framework is aligned with Africa's blueprint for inclusive socio-economic and structural transformation, Agenda 2063 and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

## AWA VISION, MISSION & OBJECTIVES

### VISION



**End AIDS, TB and Malaria by 2030.**

### MISSION



**Lead evidence-based advocacy, data-driven accountability and resource mobilisation efforts to end AIDS, TB and Malaria by 2030.**

## OBJECTIVES



### Advocacy

- Mobilise and sustain high level leadership and commitment in the fight against AIDS, TB and Malaria;
- Galvanise all stakeholders and actors to form partnerships to end AIDS, TB and Malaria by 2030;
- Generate and disseminate strategic, culturally sensitive information to partners and others to ignite action at the international, regional, national and grassroots levels.

### Accountability

- Strengthen accountability by Member States for measurable results and impact at the grass-root level;
- Hold ourselves accountable for delivering on advocacy, accountability and resource mobilisation efforts;
- Encourage community participation in monitoring health programmes;
- Develop resources and tools such as the Africa Scorecard on Domestic Financing for Health that provides data -driven results to conduct evidence-based advocacy.

### Resource Utilisation and Mobilisation

- Promote national level ownership among governments, the private sector and civil society;
- Mobilise domestic and international resources to accelerate implementation of AIDS, TB, and Malaria commitments;
- Increase efficiency of funding flows and spending.

## AWA STRUCTURE

### AWA Action Committee of Heads of State and Government

The AWA Heads of State and Government Action Committee (AWA Action Committee) serves as the primary structure of AWA. The African Union Chairperson serves concomitantly as the Chairperson of AIDS Watch Africa (AWA). The AWA Action Committee meets on an annual basis during the mid-year African Union Summit.

### AWA Consultative Expert Committee

The AWA Consultative Expert Committee is constituted of Member States Experts working in AIDS, TB and Malaria. The committee plays an important role in reviewing continental policies and progress towards meeting commitments on AIDS, TB, and malaria. It determines policy priorities and provides recommendations to the AWA Secretariat on priorities for consideration by the AWA Heads of State and Government. The AWA Consultative Expert Committee also invites civil society, private sector and multilateral organizations to its meetings.

### AWA Secretariat

The AWA secretariat is within the Division of AIDS, TB, Malaria and Other Infectious Diseases in the Department of Social Affairs. The secretariat prepares draft policy and strategic documents as well as prepares for AWA Statutory Meetings. The AWA secretariat also follow-up on the implementation of the AU Summit Decisions and the AU health policy frameworks.

AWA Website:

[www.aidswatchafrica.net](http://www.aidswatchafrica.net)

