

Seventh-day Adventist Church

AAIM **Adventist AIDS International Ministry** (GC-HIV/AIDS Africa Office)

A Ministry of Hope, Love, and Compassion

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES OCTOBER 2011 – APRIL 2012

Presented at the GC-AAIM Board Meeting
GC-Headquarters – Silver Spring - MD
April 15, 2012

AAIM - Adventist AIDS International Ministry
(GC-HIV/AIDS Africa Office)

AAIM's IDENTITY STATEMENT

The Adventist AIDS International Ministry (AAIM) is an international ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, that brings hope, love and compassionate care and support to the people touched by the HIV epidemic. It serves the territory of the sub-Saharan Africa and the Indian-Ocean.

AAIM's MISSION STATEMENT

To coordinate actions and resources, to bring comfort, healing and hope to people infected and/or affected by HIV/AIDS, share a message of education and prevention to the general population, and present a united front in order to accomplish what our Lord Jesus Christ has commissioned each of us to do in Matthew 25:35-36 and 28:19-20.

AAIM's VISION STATEMENT

We are creating "Centers of Hope and Healing" through our network of churches, medical and educational institutions, and church members. We are mobilizing our congregations through church based support groups. We are bringing practical solutions to those infected and affected by HIV and AIDS. We are applying the practical Gospel of Jesus Christ, field by field, church by church, person by person, on a one-to-one basis. We are committed to the social responsibility of our church. We are helping create a new generation of parents and children, free of AIDS!

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1 – INTRODUCTION

AAIM, the Adventist AIDS International Ministry continues to share the Hope, Love and Compassion of Jesus Christ in the vast territory of Africa. From complete denial to active participation, many of our churches are breaking the barriers of stigma, discrimination and fear related with HIV/AIDS.

During the year 2011, AAIM worked in the three divisions' headquarters, sensitizing and equipping the leaders of the three African Divisions including all the Unions across the sub-Saharan region.

The beginning of a new quinquennium was also a great opportunity to participate in many Departmental Advisories, and to establish associations with key ministries like Youth, Women, Health, Chaplaincy, and Family Ministries, which offer very promising opportunities for blended ministries and rich interactions.

Through AAIM's Country Coordinators, this Ministry is providing Prevention, Care and Support to many people infected and affected in the communities we serve.

The AAIM network throughout Africa is growing and it is also becoming stronger, as our churches and members get more and more involved in this Ministry of Compassion!

Many of the challenges of the HIV epidemic remain, and need to be addressed. Our church is an active participant in the fight against the epidemic in the majority of the countries in Africa, and most particularly in the areas of highest HIV prevalence and incidence.

With the help of God and in the years to come, many more people will avoid becoming infected and/or find healing and hope in Jesus through AAIM.

In the following pages, you will find a summarized review of the main activities and projects AAIM is embarked on.

2 – STATE OF THE HIV EPIDEMIC

WHO & UNAIDS Progress Report December 2011

Table 1.1 Key indicators for the HIV epidemic, 2002-2010

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Number of people living with HIV (in millions)	29.5 [27.7-31.7]	30.2 [28.4-32.1]	30.7 [28.8-32.5]	31.0 [29.2-32.7]	31.4 [29.6-33.0]	31.8 [29.9-33.3]	32.3 [30.4-33.8]	32.9 [31.0-34.4]	34.0 [31.6-35.2]
Number of people newly infected with HIV (in millions)	3.1 [3.0-3.3]	3.0 [2.8-3.1]	2.9 [2.7-3.0]	2.8 [2.6-3.0]	2.8 [2.6-2.9]	2.7 [2.5-2.9]	2.7 [2.5-2.9]	2.7 [2.5-2.9]	2.7 [2.4-2.9]
Number of people dying from AIDS-related causes (in millions)	2.0 [1.8-2.3]	2.1 [1.9-2.4]	2.2 [2.0-2.5]	2.2 [2.1-2.5]	2.2 [2.1-2.4]	2.1 [2.0-2.3]	2.0 [1.9-2.2]	1.9 [1.7-2.1]	1.8 [1.6-1.9]
% of pregnant women tested for HIV ^a				8%	13%	15%	21%	26%	35%
Number of facilities providing antiretroviral therapy ^a						7 700	12 400	18 600	22 400
Number of people receiving antiretroviral therapy ^a	300 000	400 000	700 000	1 330 000	2 034 000	2 970 000	4 053 000	5 255 000	6 650 000
Number of children receiving antiretroviral therapy ^a				71 500	125 700	196 700	275 400	354 600	456 000
Coverage of antiretroviral medicines for preventing mother-to-child transmission (%) ^a			9% ^b	14% ^b	23% ^b	33% ^b	43% ^b	48% ^b	48% ^c

a In low- and middle-income countries.

b The coverage data includes provision of single-dose nevirapine which is no longer recommended by WHO.

c This data does not include single-dose nevirapine regimen which is no longer recommended by WHO. It should not be compared with the previous years. When including single-dose nevirapine, the coverage in 2010 is 59%.

7,400 newly infected people/day (worldwide)
5,200 newly infected people/day (sub-Saharan Africa)
(6,000 in 2004)

UNAIDS, December 2011 Facts

“Sub-Saharan Africa continues to bear a disproportionate share of the global HIV burden.”

“In mid-2010, about 68% of all people living with HIV resided in sub-Saharan Africa, a region with only 12% of the global population.”

Why?

•The vast majority of people newly infected with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa **acquire the virus during unprotected heterosexual intercourse** (including paid sex) **or as newborns and breastfed babies** (via mother- to-child transmission).

•Having unprotected **sex with multiple partners and having other sexually transmitted infections** (especially genital ulcers caused by herpes simplex virus type 2) are the **greatest risk factors** for HIV infection in this region.

Source: *UNAIDS - Progress Report 2011 - p.24*

•Audio-Visual

AAIM Prevention, Care & Support all over Africa

Program with a 30 Video-Clips Production made at the SID Media Center

Projection of one clip

“Remember... There is Hope with HIV & AIDS”

3 – ADVENTIST CHURCH RESPONSE AAIM PROGRAMS OCTOBER 2011 - MARCH 2012

The continuous support received from the General Conference, the three African divisions, Loma Linda University, ADRA International, GC Health Department, plus the generous contributions of donors and friends of AAIM, has made the following possible:

Answering to the call to Compassion to HIV & AIDS

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is actively involved in actions of
Prevention, Care and Support in the continent of Africa

AAIM Programs in Africa:

1. Centers of Hope & Healing - Each Church a Health Center for the Community - Church Based Support Groups

2. Giving Hope to the Hopeless - Home Based Care, Income Generating Activities, Sewing Workshops & other Skills Development Activities, Food Gardens.

3. Caring for the Vulnerable Children - Orphans Care, Feeding Programs, Clothing and Shoes Distribution.

4. Caring for the Youth - Special Programs for the Youth, Resilience Development & Prevention of Risky Behaviors

5. Caring for the Care-Givers - HIV/AIDS Education and Support for the Grandmothers & Grandfathers' Clubs

Note: this list is included in the bookmark enclosed in your folder

• AAIM AFRICA REGIONAL ADVISORIES - ECD

Between June 2011 and March 2012, two very important AAIM Regional Advisories took place in ECD and SID.

The majority of the HIV/AIDS Coordinators from each region participated in these events.

AAIM intends to have the same program in WAD, once the network of Coordinators will be organised.

The advisories are already producing very good results like the ones reported by NECAT (East Congo):

- **North-East Congo Attached Territory (NECAT)**
- **1st Quarter 2012**
- Support Groups Members: 192
- Number of HIV+: 56
- Quarterly meetings: YES
- People Trained by the Group: 203
- Distribution of Printed Material to 103 people
- Help provided to 101 PLWHA
- Orphans reached: 42
- Witnessing for Jesus to 87 people
- Bible Studies 12

This is just one territory in one of the most challenging areas in Africa. We praise the name of the Lord for His abundant blessings

Maasai-land

We received good news from Maasailand (Group #2). The AAIM HIV/AIDS Coordinator, Solomon Lenana reported the following from Oloorgunman:

- **“Food gardening is growing larger and larger among the Maasai people,** this time many Elders have joined up, it has become very popular among the ladies and the youth as well.”
- **“We need seeds** since it has started raining, **we plan to extend the garden to serve more than 200 families, since it is serving 100, for now.** People prefer buying the vegetables from Maasai people, than the ones from town areas, since ones from town are grown with sewerage-water, which is causing a lot of sickness.”

This community of Maasai is suffering the impact of the HIV epidemic. AAIM is helping their village to develop food gardens, as an income generating activity as well as food security, particularly for the infected and affected.

ECD & AAIM Video Production “The Enemy Within”

In association with AAIM, the ECD Media Center finished the production of the DVD “The Enemy Within.” AAIM appreciates very much the great work done by the ECD Media Team. A clip of 1:57’ was projected to the board members.

This DVD will be duplicated by AAIM, and distributed in Africa as a contribution in the fight of HIV and AIDS.

AAIM AFRICA REGIONAL ADVISORIES - SID

SID - 2012 Regional HIV/AIDS Advisory

It was a very important event that gathered for the first time all the SID HIV/AIDS Coordinators for a Division wide Advisory on the epidemic.

The main characteristics of this event:

- The first one of this kind in SID
- Joint effort SID-AAIM
- Participation of 8/10 Country Coordinators
- Participation of 2 Conference Presidents (Lesotho and Swaziland)

- Participation of 2 invitees from Kenya and one from Lesotho
- Participation of SID Key Departmental Directors
- Great opportunity for interaction and mutual enrichment. (18 participants)
- **Consolidation of the SID network of HIV/AIDS Coordinators in the highest HIV Prevalence Region in the World.**

•**Audio-Visual**

***AAIM Prevention, Care & Support all over Africa
Grandmothers & Orphans Training and Skills Development Center with
Agricultural and other IGAs - Leribe - Lesotho***

Projection of a slide show

•**Audio-Visual**

***SID - HIV/AIDS Advisory
Extracts from Presentations and Interviews***

Audiovisual Projection

4. Visit of Pastor Geoffrey Mbwana (Chairman of the GC-AAIM Board)

February 11, 2012

- Our team at AAIM had the privilege of welcoming the visit of our chairman, Pastor Geoffrey Mbwana, at the AAIM's Office in Johannesburg on February 11.
- Pastor Mbwana was photographed standing in front of the map of Africa, with the red ribbon on the 25 countries where AAIM implemented programs.
- Standing with Pr. Mbwana were Oscar & Eugenia, and Belle Cappellar, AAIM's Administrative Assistant

Special Planning for WAD

May 2012

WAD Mid-Year Meetings

- ***West-Central Africa Division - Abidjan, Ivory Coast***
- Interaction with all Division and Unions Officers - Organization of AAIM Programs at Union and Conference levels.
- Personal interaction with the new Leaders AAIM Strategic Planning - Survey

June 1-15, 2012

- *Planning underway with Dr. Andree Ndaa (HMD & HIV/AIDS Coord.), to reach 2 WAD Unions in June*

July 2012

WAD-HM & HIV/AIDS Advisories

- **West-Central Africa Division - Abidjan, Ivory Coast**
- Great Opportunity to Organize AAIM Programs at Union and Conference levels.
- Personal interaction with new Coordinators
- Presentation of AAIM's Strategic Planning & Survey
- Planning with Dr. Andree Ndaa (HM & AAIM WAD-Coordinator) to reach two Unions/year, and appoint coordinators in Unions and Conferences

5. CHALLENGES

- 1) Need of Coordinators at Union, Conference and Churches' levels
- 2) Need of Adequate Financial Support for AAIM and the Coordinators' Programs
- 3) Need of Strong Commitment at Leadership Level

6. TENTATIVE ITINERARIES 2012-2013

APRIL

- GC-AAIM Board

MAY

- SID Health Ministries and HIV/AIDS Advisory - Bulawayo, ZIM
- WAD - Mid Year Meeting - Abidjan, Ivory Coast
- ECD - Mid Year Meeting
- Country Programs:
- Kinshasa, WAU, Lubumbashi, East Congo
- SID – Mid Year Meeting

JUNE

- AAIM Country programs
- Mozambique with LLU Team
- WAD - 1st. part of June
- Cameroon, Univ. of Cosendai, Libreville-Gabon.
- Ivory Coast and Valley View University
-

JULY

- AAIM Country programs:
- Sao Tome
- WAD Health Ministries and HIV/AIDS Advisory
- International AIDS Society - Washington

AUGUST

- AAIM Country programs
- Swaziland

SEPTEMBER

- SAU Queens-town, Bloemfontein, SA

OCTOBER

- GC-AAIM Board

NOVEMBER

- ECD – End of the Year Meeting
- SID - End of the Year Meeting
- WAD - End of the Year Meeting

DECEMBER

- AAIM Country programs
- IOUM - HIV/AIDS Advisory
- Maasailand - Kenya

7. CONCLUSION

We praise the name of God for His goodness and many blessings for this Ministry.

Jesus Method continues to inspire the AAIM Team and network of Coordinators all over Africa.

CHRIST'S METHOD

"Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people.

The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good.

He showed His sympathy for them,

ministered to their needs,

and won their confidence.

Then He bade them 'Follow me.'"

E.G. White, The Ministry of Healing, p. 143

AAIM continues to serve those less fortunate, that have been touched by the HIV epidemic, and the many at risk to be infected by the virus. Programs of Prevention Care and Support are being implemented in all the countries associated with this program. So far, twenty-five countries received training and materials from AAIM.

AAIM thanks its partners in Ministry, the General Conference, the GC-Health Ministries Department, East-Central Africa Division, Southern Africa Indian-Ocean Division, and West-Central Africa Division, ADRA International and Loma Linda University for their constant encouragement and support.

AAIM thanks its generous donors for their financial support, which facilitated the majority of the country programs,

We thank our Lord Jesus Christ for His love and His guidance!