

**We invite** partners of [aidsfocus.ch](http://aidsfocus.ch) and representatives of Swiss non-governmental organisations working in International cooperation as well as of any other interested institution. The Conference will be conducted predominantly in English, with one presentation in French.

**Registration for the Conference "Living with HIV/AIDS. Treatment and Care for All"**

Name

Organisation

Address

Email

I am not able to attend, but please send me the documentation

**Conference fees:** for partners of [aidsfocus.ch](http://aidsfocus.ch) free of charge. Others: Fr. 80.-

Please send back your registration by April 10, 2004, preferably by Email to: [info@aidsfocus.ch](mailto:info@aidsfocus.ch). The number of participants is limited. Your participation will be confirmed by E-Mail.

**Further information:** [www.aidsfocus.ch](http://www.aidsfocus.ch)

**Coordination:** Helena Zweifel, Medicus Mundi Schweiz, Murbacherstrasse 34, 4031 Basel, [info@aidsfocus.ch](mailto:info@aidsfocus.ch)

The conference is financially supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health



*Sheila is HIV positive. Thanks to ARV treatment she has a second chance at life. Photo: WHO/Eric Miller.*

## **Living with HIV/AIDS Treatment and Care for All**

**A conference of [aidsfocus.ch](http://aidsfocus.ch), Swiss platform  
for HIV/AIDS and International cooperation**

**April 20, 2004, 9.00-16.30, Hotel Kreuz, Berne**

[www.hotelkrenz-bern.ch](http://www.hotelkrenz-bern.ch)

A second chance at life! This is the way people infected with HIV/AIDS experience the blessings of antiretroviral treatment. However, this is only true for those living in Northern countries, while the 6 million infected people in the South and the East are left out and continue to struggle with the devastating effects of HIV/AIDS.

Médecins sans Frontières as well as other organisations have demonstrated with pilot projects that antiretroviral treatment can be used safely and effectively even in settings where the health infrastructure is poor and resources are scarce. At global scale, the World Health Organisation (WHO) launched the 3 by 5 Initiative, a commitment to get three million people on antiretroviral therapy by the end of 2005.

Effective treatment and care goes beyond providing pills. Better access to treatment needs to occur through approaches of comprehensive care, linking other efforts such as HIV prevention and psycho-social support. Responses should be embedded in a continuum of care, and should actively involve people with HIV, their families and communities.

Improving access to treatment and care is a humanitarian imperative – and a great challenge for Swiss NGOs and institutions.

#### **Objectives of the conference:**

- Understanding of the challenges of comprehensive HIV/AIDS treatment and care in resource poor settings in the South and the East
- Getting to know the 3 by 5 initiative of the WHO, the state of its implementation and the challenges for Swiss NGOs and institutions
- Sharing of experiences and lessons learnt of Swiss NGOs in the implementation of HIV/AIDS related treatment and care in resource poor settings
- Clarifying personal commitments for practical implementation

#### **Program**

9.00 *Welcome coffee*

9.30 Helena Zweifel, Coordinator aidsfocus.ch, Medicus Mundi Switzerland, Basel: Welcome

9.40 Dr. Claudia Kessler, Swiss Tropical Institute, Basel: Access to treatment and care: An introduction

10.00 Dr. Alexandra Calmy, Médecins Sans Frontières, Geneva: Antiretroviral treatment in resource-poor settings - Feasibility and challenges

10.20 Dr. Paulo Teixeira, Director of the HIV/AIDS department, World Health Organisation, Geneva: The 3 by 5 initiative

*Discussion*

11.10 Jeanne Gapiya Niyonzima, Fondatrice de ANSS, Burundi: De la prévention au traitement. Expérience d'une association burundaise

11.40 Beata Umubyeyi, Médecins Sans Frontières, Cameroon: Providing antiretroviral treatment in a continuum of care - The Cameroon experience

12.10 Dr. Jamiu Peleowo, Medical Doctor, Swiss Red Cross, Swaziland: Implementation of ARV-Therapies in rural areas of Swaziland - Problems, constraints and strategies

*Discussion*

13.00 – 14.00 *Lunch*

14.00 Working groups with resource persons: Challenges for Swiss NGOs and institutions and steps to take

15.45 Conclusions and Commitments by participants

16.30 *Closing*