International AIDS Society Industry Liaison Forum

Annual Report 2014







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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It has been a ground-breaking year for the International AIDS Society's (IAS's) Industry Liaison Forum (ILF). The programme was restructured following a consultative process involving the entire ILF Advisory Group (including input from its industry partners). The ILF now focuses on all aspects of IAS work, and the multi-stakeholder advisory group has expanded to include an even broader range of industry and non-industry actors. As part of this modernized approach, the ILF introduced a tiered Corporate Partnership Programme, allowing corporations with different roles, interests and capacities to participate meaningfully. The ILF also recruited several additional non-industry advisory group members from the IAS Governing Council and such sectors as regulatory/normative agencies, procurement/ implementing organizations, intergovernmental organizations and civil society (see the organogram). Finally, the ILF launched two new types of high-impact activities: the IAS-Industry Consultation Series and the ILF Thematic Roundtable Series (presented on page 3 of this report).

Two IAS-Industry Consultations took place in 2014. More than 25 companies active in HIV took part in a unique open discussion with the IAS leadership about what industry's interests and challenges are and how collaboration with the IAS can contribute to creating solutions to advance the fight against the global epidemic. In addition, the ILF organized an open symposium to educate attendees on viral load monitoring following the 2013 recommendations by the World Health Organization. One ILF Thematic Roundtable took place and, for the first time, brought together ARV manufacturers (originators and generics) and nine of the largest paediatric HIV cohorts worldwide. Finally, planning started for an ILF Thematic Roundtable, to take place in early 2015, to bring together representatives of key populations, stakeholders involved in providing HIV care to these populations and the broader industry.

In 2015, the ILF will continue to address intersecting issues between IAS Member Priorities and the interests and challenges facing industry in the modern response to HIV. In particular, the ILF Thematic Roundtable Series will cover all four IAS Member Priorities, which focus on the topics of Key Populations, Paediatric HIV, HIV Co-Infections, and Towards an HIV Cure. Moreover, recruitment of additional advisory group members will continue, with efforts to include a broader representation of industry involved in prevention, diagnostics and generic drugs, ensuring that all partners are engaged meaningfully and as part of constructive processes.



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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The ILF is a mechanism to constructively engage all stakeholders (industry and others) on issues in line with IAS Member Priorities. It is designed to take advantage of the IAS's key strengths: its well-respected convening power; its acknowledged independence from industry and other key partners and stakeholders; and its diverse working groups composed of some of the world's top thought leaders and scientific experts in a wide array of fields.

The ILF activities include the ILF Advisory Group, IAS-Industry Consultations and ILF Thematic Roundtables. Key parts of most activities involve the preparation and lead up to these discussions, advocacy matched with broad dissemination of the proceedings, and follow up on action points. Activities are chosen to strengthen IAS Member Priorities and to highlight challenges and opportunities for industry. This work is guided by a strong, multi-stakeholder advisory group; it aims to enhance the impact of the global response to HIV and related co-morbidities.

ILF activities



ILF Advisory Group

The ILF Advisory Group is composed of representatives of industry, together with non-industry representatives knowledgeable in the topics covered by the IAS Member Priorities and other aspects of its work. The ILF Advisory Group not only allows the IAS to interact with industry, but it also allows non industry and industry stakeholders to interact together, a hallmark of the ILF since its inception. The responsibilities of the advisory group are three-fold. First, the ILF Advisory Group provides advice on the key issues to be addressed by the ILF. Second, it provides a balanced perspective on how to best engage with industry in current and future IAS programmes. Third, it serves as a platform for discussion by its diverse group of experts from different backgrounds.

IAS-Industry Consultation Series

The IAS convenes industry in consultations to openly discuss the interests and viewpoints of the IAS and industry in a bi-directional manner. These consultations provide opportunities for industry to share their views on how the IAS and its large membership can work closely with industry in responding to the global HIV epidemic. The consultations are also a platform for senior executive representatives from different companies to network with peers from a variety of other companies, including antiretroviral manufacturers (both originators and generics), diagnostics companies, condom manufacturers, circumcision device manufacturers, companies involved in vaccine and cure research, and firms involved in programme implementation.

ILF Thematic Roundtable Series

The IAS convenes industry and other stakeholders in multi-stakeholder, thematic roundtables for discussions to catalyze progress in specific fields where industry has important roles and interests. The ILF Advisory Group develops these multi-stakeholder meetings in collaboration with advisory groups of other IAS programmes. The format involves overview presentations to set the stage and make sure that non-typical participants are aware of the main challenges; the core of these meetings is the interactive roundtable discussion during which all attendees are invited to contribute. The outcomes of thematic roundtables are disseminated through meeting reports.

Other activities

Other activities, often in line with IAS Member Priorities and industry's interests, can be designed. These include but are not limited to workshops, satellite sessions or symposia (sometimes in conjunction with IAS conferences), as well as the publication of scientific or white papers.

2014 OUTPUTS

The year 2014 saw the ILF broaden its constructive interactions with industry and other stakeholders. This revisited ILF builds on the successes of the ILF at embracing a multi stakeholder approach, but in an expanded context and with an enhanced portfolio of impactful activities. Outreach efforts and the organization of key activities proceeded throughout the year.

ILF Advisory Group

The ILF Advisory Group convened for a face-to-face meeting in conjunction with AIDS 2014 (20-25 July 2014, Melbourne, Australia). The meeting was the occasion for discussion of various items, including completed and planned activities, revision of the ILF Terms of Reference (in light of the modernizing of the ILF), nomination of new ILF Non-Industry Advisory Group members, and revision of the ILF Industry Co-Chair election procedure. The meeting was also an occasion to thank outgoing advisory group members and to welcome newly appointed members.

Other activities related to the ILF Advisory Group included quarterly newsletters and conference calls, the implementation of the benefits of the ILF Corporate Partnership Programme, and the recruitment of both non industry and industry advisory group members.

IAS-Industry Consultation Series

The ILF held the first IAS-Industry Consultation in Boston, USA, on 4 March 2014. This closed meeting was an occasion for the IAS to present its strategic priorities while getting insights from industry partners regarding their interests to foster further collaboration. The theme was: "What is industry interested in and how can the IAS support it and benefit?" Following short presentations by IAS Governing Council members and staff, the meeting was devoted to a roundtable discussion about industry partners' interests and how the IAS can support industry and benefit from this interaction. The broad, high-level industry representation included antiretroviral manufacturers, diagnostics companies, condom manufacturers, circumcision device manufacturers. companies involved in HIV cure and vaccine research, and programme implementers. The topics covered overlapped with the IAS Member Priorities: Key Populations, Paediatric HIV, Towards an HIV Cure, and HIV Co-Infections.

In conjunction with AIDS 2014, the ILF convened a second IAS-Industry Consultation, bringing together a large number of industry stakeholders and a similarly large number of IAS Governing Council and staff members, highlighting the continued mutual interest in such discussions. The topics covered included HIV co-infections, diagnostics, generic drugs, prevention, regulatory processes and treatment. The roles and modalities of industry involvement with the IAS, as well as the roles of the IAS in advocacy and education, were also discussed. The information gathered by this consultation helped inform the work of the IAS and its various programmes and will hopefully lead to the creation of enduring collaborations. It became obvious that industry is willing to interact beyond financial contributions and to become more and more involved in the various efforts of the IAS.

The IAS-Industry Consultations meeting reports are available on request from Sébastien Morin, ILF Research Officer (sebastien.morin@iasociety.org).

ILF Thematic Roundtable Series

Following the success of the IAS-ILF Industry Roundtable on Paediatric Antiretrovirals, held in Geneva, Switzerland, in November 2013, the ILF and the Collaborative Initiative for Paediatric HIV Education and Research (CIPHER, the IAS Member Priority on Paediatric HIV) teamed up to organize a follow-up roundtable on paediatric HIV. This closed meeting was held in conjunction with AIDS 2014. It was aimed at bringing the largest paediatric HIV cohorts (through the CIPHER Cohort Collaboration) and industry together for an informal discussion and knowledge sharing between stakeholders, hoping to extend collaboration between cohort investigators and industry. Normative and regulatory agencies were also represented. The IAS-ILF/CIPHER Thematic Roundtable on Paediatric HIV was co-chaired by Lynne Mofenson (National Institutes of Health, USA) and Shaffiq Essajee (Clinton Health Access Initiative, USA). The discussion highlighted the common goal shared by stakeholders: contributing to the development and distribution of better antiretroviral regimens to more infants, children and adolescents. Challenges and opportunities were emphasized, as well as several avenues for follow up through the CIPHER Cohort Collaboration. The meeting report is available on the ILF website.

So far, the connections between the IAS Member Priority on Key Populations (KPs) and industry have been limited. In fact, industry has often been left out of discussions around KPs (including men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, sex workers and transgender people). Upon review of emerging questions on ensuring that the world reaches UNAIDS's "90-90-90" goals by 2020, it is clear that further engagement of industry partners around the challenges posed by the situations that KPs encounter would be beneficial to the global response to HIV. To complement the work of the IAS Member Priority on KPs, the ILF started planning a thematic roundtable on KPs. This activity will address issues around the delivery of prevention, diagnostics and treatment for KPs in the context of discrimination. It will provide a space for a multi-stakeholder dialogue, serving as the basis to inform about the situation (i.e., raise mutual awareness) and quantify the size of the problems. It will also be a space for discussion of interventions and organizations that can support existing efforts for wider access to HIV services, including through the creation of an enabling environment to end stigma and discrimination, for difficultto-reach populations and communities. The meeting will take place in Seattle, USA, on 24 February 2015.

Other activities

The ILF held a symposium titled "Expanding Access to Viral Load Monitoring in Resource-Limited Settings" at the 8th INTEREST Workshop 2014 in Lusaka, Zambia, on 5 May 2014. Attendees got an opportunity to learn about the benefits of viral load monitoring as the best predictor of virologic failure. Overview presentations and a panel discussion highlighted evidence that systematically acting on detectable viral load (i.e., improving adherence and/or switching from a failing regimen to a second- or third-line regimen) is an integral part of expanding access to viral load monitoring in resource-limited settings, and should not be under-appreciated. Linda-Gail Bekker (Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation, South Africa) and Catherine Hankins (Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development, The Netherlands), both ILF Advisory Group members, co-chaired the meeting. Following the symposivum, the meeting report has served as an advocacy tool, for example, with Deborah Birx, U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, being handed the report by Catherine Hankins. The meeting report is available on the ILF website.

Additional work by the ILF Research Officer included representation at strategic meetings relevant to industry's interests.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ILF Advisory Group members in 2014

Martin Auton §	Switzerland	The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria	
John Bannister §	UK	Omega Diagnostics	
Linda-Gail Bekker	South Africa	Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation	
Chris Beyrer §	USA	Johns Hopkins University	
Celia Christie-Samuels	Jamaica	University of the West Indies	
Gavin Cloherty §	USA	Abbott	
Bryan Cobb	USA	Roche Molecular Systems	
Elliott Cowan §	USA	Partners in Diagnostics	
Colleen Daniels §	USA	Treatment Action Group	
Joel Gallant *	USA	Southwest CARE Center	
Manuel Gonçalves §	UK	ViiV Healthcare	
John Hackett §	USA	Abbott	
Catherine Hankins	The Netherlands	Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development	
Nicholas Hellmann	USA	Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation	
Mike Iddon §	UK	Omega Diagnostics	
Elly Katabira *	Uganda	Makerere Medical School	
Sandra Lehrman	USA	Merck	
Francesco Marinucci §	Germany	Sysmex Partec	
Kenneth Mayer §	USA	Fenway Institute	
Perry Mohammed	UK	Janssen	
Jeffrey Murray §	USA	U.S. Food and Drug Administration	
Rahab Mwaniki	Kenya	National Empowerment Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Kenya	
Heidi Nass *	USA	AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition	
Joseph Perriëns §	Switzerland	WHO HIV/AIDS Department	
Scott Purdon *	UK	ViiV Healthcare	
Boris Renjifo *	USA	AbbVie	
Jürgen Rockstroh §	Germany	University of Bonn	
James Rooney	USA	Gilead Sciences	
Paul Schaper §	USA	MSD	
Cheryl Smith *	USA	Burkina Foundation	
Stefano Vella §	Italy	Istituto Superiore di Sanità	

* Left the ILF Advisory Group in 2014

 $\$ Joined the ILF Advisory Group in 2014

IAS Secretariat

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