

“Promote the greater participation of all key affected women and girls in decision-making that affects their lives.”

Concluding Comments

The virtual consultation was developed with the ethos and intent of democratizing international processes – and to provide a vehicle whereby women and girls from all walks of life and in all regions of the world can have their say on the achievements, challenges, and opportunities for change as the global community looks to the 2011 High Level Meeting on AIDS.

What we have learned through the development of the consultation and through our analysis of what women are saying is

simply that women seek and are thirsty to be engaged and viewed as equal, active stakeholders and as agents of change rather than as subordinate, passive recipients. The responses we have received demonstrate that women want to enjoy opportunity, independence, sexual and physical autonomy – and as such, women seek an HIV response that is holistic, shared sector-wide, gendered, comprehensive, equitable, and deeply rooted in human rights. Women all over the globe

are taking initiative and are on the front-lines of the response, implementing programs with their own capacity, and bringing about change in their communities.

The most affected women and girls must be most central to the response, and as history has shown us repeatedly where true social transformation has taken place, if these same women’s visions and aspirations were adequately supported, then the aspirations of us all would fall into place.

Acknowledgements

The ATHENA Network and the Global Coalition on Women and AIDS acknowledge and appreciate our outstanding team whose collaboration, investment, and shared expertise has made a virtual consultation for women and girls, and this call to action, toward the 2011 High Level Meeting on AIDS possible.

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This regional call to action is co-sponsored by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

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