



What?

The 5th World AIDS Orphans Day.

Why?

Because every 15 seconds, a child loses one of his parents to AIDS. There are already more than 15 millions orphans.

“The crisis of AIDS orphans is a major humanitarian, economic, social and security challenge that our society must urgently address.” Albina du Boisrouvray.

Goal?

To focus public attention – for one entire day – on the plight of these vulnerable and destitute children and on the consequences of their social exclusion.

Where?

Everywhere in the world.

When?

May 7, 2006.

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What Promise?

Commitments: Declaration of Commitments on HIV/AIDS in 2001

In 2001, the governments of the world committed to building their political and national strategies to provide a favorable environment to orphans and children made vulnerable by AIDS. (These commitments were made during the United Nations Declaration of Commitments on HIV/AIDS (UNGASS) in New York).

Report: Examination of projects accomplished in 2006

From May 31 to June 2, 2006, governments will be called on to make a report on their progress in fulfilling the commitments made during the 2001 UNGASS. On the eve of the presentation of the progress reports, we can conclude that the goals are far from being reached. The national action and the donations received are not enough to respond to the world AIDS crisis and more particularly the crisis of orphans and children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS.

What is the Call Action?

Supported by mayors and leaders of the world, by civil society as well by thousands of young people who will mobilize on May 7, we exhort political, economic, religious and cultural leaders to mobilize all necessary resources to reach the objectives set out in the 2001 United Nations Declaration of Commitments on HIV/AIDS and to urgently grant the special assistance needed by orphans and all children made vulnerable by AIDS.



For more information: www.7may.org / www.fxb.org



WORLD AIDS ORPHANS DAY

FXB created a worldwide network of solidarity to protect the most vulnerable children of our planet. World AIDS Orphans' Day (WAOD) is its showcase: it focuses public attention on the distress of these children with the assistance of:

- **Mayors and elected representatives** – guarantors of the Rights of the Child in their districts – who commit their constituencies to respect the rights of these vulnerable children by officially supporting the Call to Action of the 2006 World AIDS Orphans Day.
- **Children and youth** who mobilize and participate in the building of the world they will be living in tomorrow.
- **Media** – carriers of the message – who create awareness and relay information about the situation of AIDS orphans and vulnerable children.

In general, WAOD highlights the necessity of providing comprehensive care for vulnerable and resourceless children.

The crisis of AIDS orphans is a major humanitarian, economic, social and security challenge that our society must urgently address.

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A Humanitarian Challenge: Despite the quasi-universal adoption of child protection norms, more than half of the world's children are deprived of their basic needs because of poverty, war or HIV/AIDS. As a result, they miss out on their childhood and are unable to become the productive and responsible citizens of tomorrow.

An Economic Challenge: HIV/AIDS has a devastating direct economic impact on communities, jeopardizing children's futures and breaking up family units. Because of the added financial pressure of HIV/AIDS, many children - particularly girls - are forced to drop out of school to work or take care of their families.

A Social Challenge: The pandemic has ripped apart the social fabric of communities and it must be mended in order to successfully respond to HIV/AIDS. AIDS weakens the whole support network of adults, not just parents. The sick and dying include teachers, medical personnel and other adults on whom children depend.

A Security Challenge: AIDS orphans and vulnerable children often lack the means to survive. They are easy prey and need to be protected so that they don't fall victim to prostitution or crime. Furthermore, the economic and social destabilization of children and adolescents threatens to contribute to increased violence and conflict if their survival instincts are not channelled towards more constructive, life-affirming activities.

This crisis will inevitably affect our children, their future and that of our global village: its stability, its economy, its security and its social fabric.



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Commitments: the 2001 United Nations Declaration of Commitments on HIV/AIDS.

GOVERNMENTS OF THE WORLD COMMITTED TO BUILDING THEIR POLITICAL AND NATIONAL STRATEGIES TO PROVIDE A FAVORABLE ENVIRONMENT TO ORPHANS AND CHILDREN MADE VULNERABLE BY AIDS.

These commitments were made during the 2001 Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGASS) on HIV/AIDS.

Excerpt from the Declaration of Commitments:

"65. By 2003 develop, and by 2005 implement national policies and strategies to: build and strengthen governmental, family and community capacities to provide a supportive environment for orphans and girls and boys infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, including providing appropriate counselling and psycho-social support; ensuring their enrolment in school and access to shelter, good nutrition, health and social services on an equal basis with other children; to protect orphans and vulnerable children from all forms of abuse, violence, exploitation, discrimination, trafficking and loss of inheritance;

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66. Ensure non-discrimination and full and equal enjoyment of all human rights through the promotion of an active and visible policy of de-stigmatization of children orphaned and made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS;

67. Urge the international community, particularly donor countries, civil society, as well as the private sector to complement effectively national programmes to support programmes for children orphaned or made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS in affected regions, in countries at high risk and to direct special assistance to sub-Saharan Africa.”

Report: Progress Accomplished in the Fulfillment of Commitments in 2006

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ON THE EVE OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE PROGRESS REPORTS, WE CAN CONCLUDE THAT THE GOALS ARE FAR FROM BEING REACHED.

The national action and the donations received are not enough to respond to the world AIDS crisis and more particularly to the crisis of orphans and children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS.



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