STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 14, 2013

AIDS 2014 welcomes the visit by Aung San Suu Kyi to Melbourne for World AIDS Day

Official countdown commences to AIDS 2014.

On December 1st, 2013, Nobel Laureate, Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairperson of the National League for Democracy in Myanmar and UNAIDS Global Advocate for Zero Discrimination, will join Sharon Lewin, Co-Chair for AIDS 2014, and Michel Sidibé, Executive Director of UNAIDS, in Melbourne to participate in activities to mark World AIDS Day and to raise awareness of AIDS 2014, taking place in Melbourne, July 20-25, 2014.

'It is a great honour to host a world leader in the HIV response and the fight against stigma and discrimination for World AIDS Day. Next year, we will gather in Melbourne for the 20th International AIDS Conference, AIDS 2014, which I hope will inspire current and future generations to step up the pace in all our efforts to one day see an end of HIV." Lewin said.

Mr Sidibé also stated that he was honoured to be visiting Australia, and Melbourne, with Aung San Suu Kyi. "She will inspire the people of Australia to speak out against stigma and discrimination on World AIDS Day."

Aung San Suu Kyi will attend a World AIDS Day reception to be held at Government House, in Melbourne, on December 1st. This event will also officially commence the countdown to AIDS 2014.

"The World AIDS Day reception provides an opportunity to reflect upon and celebrate the resilience of people living with HIV and the achievements of the many people who have passionately fought this epidemic." said Victorian Minister for Health, David Davis.

Ends

Visit www.premier.vic.gov.au for the original media release from the State Government Victoria.

About AIDS 2014

@AIDS_conference #AIDS2014

The 20th International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2014) is the premier gathering for those working in the field of HIV, including scientists, medical practitioners, activists, policymakers, people living with HIV and others committed to ending the epidemic. It will be a tremendous opportunity for researchers from around the world to share the latest scientific advances in the field, learn

from one another's expertise, and develop strategies for advancing all facets of our collective efforts to treat and prevent HIV. AIDS 2014 is expected to convene over 14,000 delegates from nearly 200 countries, including 1,200 journalists. The conference will be held from 20–25 July 2014 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

http://www.aids2014.org/

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AIDS 2014 Conference Organization

AIDS 2014 is convened by the IAS and permanent partners the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+); the International Council of AIDS Service Organizations (ICASO); the International Community of Women with HIV/AIDS (ICW), and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

Non-permanent partners are the Positive Women's Network and Sidaction.

The Australian based partners are: AusAID; the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM); and the National Association of people with HIV Australia (NAPWHA).

The Asia Pacific Partners are: The Asia Pacific Network of Sex Workers (APNSW); the AIDS Society of Asia and the Pacific (ASAP); and the National AIDS Research of India (NARI).

AIDS 2014 on Social Media
Facebook: www.facebook.com/InternationalAIDSConference
Twitter: @AIDS_conference_#AIDS2014
YouTube: www.youtube.com/iasaidsconference

About the IAS

The International AIDS Society (IAS) is the world's leading independent association of HIV professionals, with over 16,000 members from more than 177 countries working at all levels of the global response to AIDS. The IAS members include researchers from all disciplines, clinicians, public health and community practitioners on the frontlines of the epidemic, as well as policy and programme planners.
The IAS is custodian of the biennial International AIDS Conference, which will be held in Melbourne, Australia, 20-25 July 2014 and lead organizer of the IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, which will be held in Vancouver, B.C., Canada, 19-22 July 2015.
www.iasociety.org | www.aids2014.org | www.ias2015.org