



Decade of Declarations: Are they needed?



Daniel Wolfe
Int'l Harm Reduction Development Program
Open Society Institute

Decade of Declarations

- **UN General Assembly Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (2000)**
- **UN General Assembly Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS (2001)**
- **UN General Assembly 2005 World Summit (2005)**
- **UN General Assembly Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS (2006)**

- **The Baltic Sea Declaration on HIV/AIDS (2000)**
- **The Balkan Declaration (2001)**
- **Central Asian Declaration (2001)**
- **Dublin Declaration (2004)**
- **Vilnius Declaration (2004)**
- **Bremen Declaration (2007)**

In Defense of Declarations

- Product of substantial work and achievement of consensus
- Chance for government/civil society interaction
- Moral standard and blueprint for action

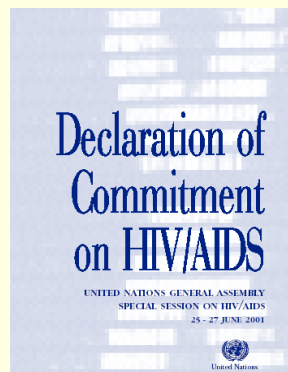
Protection for women and girls

- adequate and affordable treatment, monitoring and care for all people, especially women and girls, infected with sexually transmitted diseases or living with ...HIV/AIDS...and tuberculosis.
 - (Beijing+5, 2000)



Availability of condoms and sterile needles and syringes

- expanded access to essential commodities, including male and female condoms and sterile injecting equipment
 - UNGASS on HIV/AIDS, 2001



Treatment for all

- “Universal access to effective, affordable and equitable prevention, treatment and care including safe anti-retroviral treatment to people living with HIV/AIDS”
 - Dublin 2004
 - World Summit, 2005
 - Political Declaration, 2006



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



2005 WORLD SUMMIT



UNITED NATIONS



Assessing progress



4 Elements of Accountability

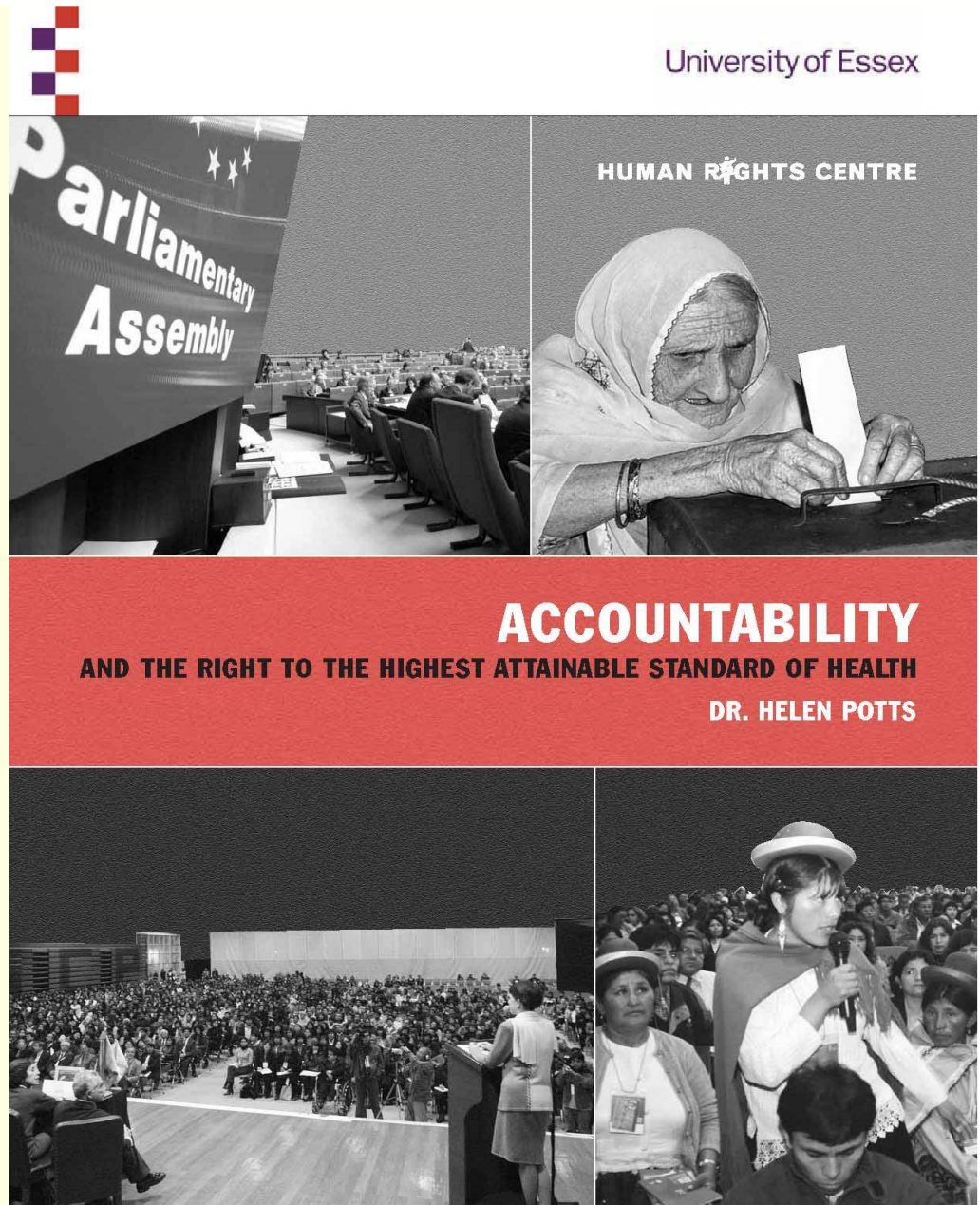
1. Monitoring

2. Mechanisms

(political, administrative, judicial, social)

3. Effective remedies

4. Participation



EECA--Great Progress, great challenges

Information challenges

- Need differential analysis (currently on tx, women v. men, active v. former IDUs, clear definition of “coverage”)

Regulatory challenges

- Move beyond waivers and perpetual pilots
 - ARV import
 - Substitution treatment

Financial challenges

- ARV pricing?
- Government commitments to sustainability?

Universal access?

- Formal or informal exclusions
- Patient misunderstandings of treatment efficacy
- Need for integration of TB, drug dependency, HIV, obstetric treatment
- Patients blamed for system failure

A photograph of a handwritten note on a piece of paper, pinned to a wall. The text is in Russian and reads: "ЕСЛИ ВЫ В СОСТОЯНИИ НАРКОТИЧЕСКОГО ОПЬЯНЕНИЯ - ПРИХОДИТЕ ЗАВТРА!". The note is written in black ink on a white background. The paper is slightly wrinkled and is pinned to a light-colored wall. The text is arranged in five lines, with the last line ending in an exclamation mark.

ЕСЛИ ВЫ В
СОСТОЯНИИ
НАРКОТИЧЕСКОГО
ОПЬЯНЕНИЯ
- ПРИХОДИТЕ
ЗАВТРА!

Policy Challenges

- Law and order vs. public health
 - 63% of countries report laws that interfere with HIV response (UN Sec'y General, 2008)
- Declaration from 1998 UNGASS on Drugs didn't mention HIV
 - High Level Meeting in 2009 on drug policy needs commitment to HIV and spirit of HIV process

Participation?

- 10 countries in EECA offer patients methadone or buprenorphine
- Many community leaders on substitution treatment could not come to Russia

REMEMBER THE MISSING!

Administering the Epidemic?

- AIDS growing fastest in this region (UNAIDS 2002,2003,2004,2005...)
- Clear that EECA, and many actors here, are moving forward
- Question is when we will move fast enough so that the reports for the next five years tell us a different story