

The Government of Viet Nam

Ref.: 1122/1997/Q§-TTg

Hanoi, 24 December 1997

**Decision of the Prime Minister of the Government
on the tasks, Authority and organizational structure
of the National AIDS Committee and other AIDS Committees at different governmental levels and in
different sectors**

The Prime Minister of the Government

Pursuant to the Law on Organization of the Government, dated 30 September 1992; Pursuant to the Ordinance on Control of Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus Infection causing Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS), dated 31 May 1995; Pursuant to Government Decree No. 34/CP of 1 June 1996 providing guidelines for the implementation of the Ordinance on Control of Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus Infection causing Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS); Pursuant to Decision No. 358/CT of 6 October 1990 by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers on establishment of the National AIDS Committee of Viet Nam (now called the National AIDS Committee);

In consideration of recommendations by the Chairman of the National AIDS Committee and the Minister - Chairman of the Government Committee for Organization and Personnel,

makes the following decision

Article 1: The National AIDS Committee, which assists the Prime Minister in guiding and co-ordinating the implementation of HIV/AIDS prevention and care activities, shall assume the following tasks and authority:

- a. Developing relevant strategies, policies and plans for HIV/AIDS prevention and care; playing the lead role in the formulation of relevant legal documents on HIV/AIDS prevention and care in collaboration with related Ministries and organizations .
- b. Working with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Planning and Investment and Ministry of Finance to plan annual budgets for HIV/AIDS Program and submit them to the Government for approval and distribute the approved budgets to related Ministries, social organizations and localities on the basis of their respective tasks.
- c. Guiding, co-ordinating and monitoring the implementation of HIV/AIDS prevention and care activities in the whole country; Managing and administering the implementation of the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Programme in compliance with regulations issued by the Prime Minister on the management of national targeted programmes; Guiding and co-ordinating related Ministries, social organizations and local people's committees to:
 - Closely monitor the spread of HIV/AIDS infection in different areas of the country;
 - Set up an HIV/AIDS Counselling Service Network;
 - Control and give medical treatment, care and counseling services to HIV/AIDS infected;
 - Strengthen technical facilities of the health sector for HIV/AIDS control and ensure the highest safety level of medical services;
 - Conduct research projects and training programmes in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of HIV/AIDS control activities.

- a. Acting as a focal point in international relations as well as co-ordination and management of bilateral and multi-lateral cooperation programmes on HIV/AIDS control at the national, local and sectoral levels.
- b. Work with related Ministries and organizations to examine, verify and settle complaints as well as give relevant punishment to violations of HIV/AIDS control regulations.
- c. Making review and assessment of HIV/AIDS prevention and care activities every year and through each stage.

Article 2: The National AIDS Committee shall have its office located in Hanoi. The organizational structure and staffing of this office shall be decided by the Chairman of the National AIDS Committee in consultation with the Government Committee for Organization and Personnel.

Article 3: The National AIDS Committee shall be permitted to use its own stamp bearing the National Emblem and open its own account in local and foreign currencies at the State Bank of Viet Nam.

Article 4: The implementation arrangements for AIDS prevention and care at different governmental levels and in different sectors shall be as follows:

- Ministries, ministry-equivalent organizations, Government's offices, mass and social organizations which are closely related to AIDS prevention and care shall respectively establish their own AIDS Committee headed by a Vice Minister (or a holder of an equivalent post) and employing full-time staff who are also permanent staff of those respective Ministries, organizations and offices.
- Provinces and cities (under the direct management by the Central Government) shall respectively establish their own AIDS Committee. Its Chairman is a Deputy Chairman of the respective Provincial/City People's Committee; its Vice Chairman is the Director of the respective Provincial/City Department of Health; and its full-time staff are also permanent staff of the Department of Health or other member departments or organizations of the Provincial AIDS Committee.
- Districts and provincial towns/cities shall respectively establish their own AIDS Committee headed by a Deputy Chairman of the District People's Committee and employing either full-time or part-time staff who are permanent staff of the member bodies of the District AIDS Committee. AIDS prevention and care at the commune level shall be guided by the Chairman or Vice Chairman of each commune people's committee and carried out by the commune health staff as their part-time jobs.
- The functions, tasks and authority of AIDS Committees at different governmental levels and in different sectors shall be decided by the Chairman of the people's committee at each corresponding level and the Head of each corresponding sector in accordance with the guidelines issued by the National AIDS Committee.
- This decision shall be effective 15 days from the date of its signature. All previous regulations which contradict with the ones stipulated in this decision shall be null and void.

The Chairman of the National AIDS Committee, Ministers, Heads of ministry-equivalent organizations, Heads of Government's offices and Chairmen of Provincial/City People's Committees shall be responsible for implementing this decision./.

Prime Minister, Phan Van Khai (signed)