



ORGANISATION OF EASTERN CARIBBEAN STATES

Roseau Declaration on the Education Sector's Response to HIV & AIDS

We, Ministers of Education of the OECS, participating in the special session on the response of the education sector to HIV & AIDS in Roseau, Dominica, on January 27, 2007:

1. Recognising with concern the current impact that the HIV epidemic can have on the societies and economies of the Eastern Caribbean and the risk to the future of the region if the epidemic is not controlled
2. Reaffirming our commitment to the Port of Spain Declaration on the Education Sector's Response to HIV and AIDS made at the special meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD) on Education and HIV and AIDS, June 10, 2006.
3. Agree to establishing harmonised comprehensive policies defining our Ministries' response to the HIV and AIDS epidemic.
4. Agree to implementing HIV/AIDS workplace policy, taking into consideration the recommendations in the ILO/UNESCO work place policy for the education sector in the Caribbean.
5. Agree further to ensuring access for all HIV infected and affected children in the OECS to educational opportunities and healthcare.
6. Identify a focal point in their Ministries of Education who will implement HIV and AIDS policies and plans, in close collaboration with the National HIV and AIDS coordinators.
7. Endorse the membership of our Ministries' HIV & AIDS focal point in the Caribbean Network of Education Sector HIV/AIDS Coordinators.
8. Request PANCAP and the OECS Secretariat to mobilise resources to strengthen the HIV and AIDS response of the education sector in the OECS.
9. Agree to the need for urgent research on HIV and Education in OECS.
10. Agree to the greater involvement of persons living with HIV and AIDS in the planning and implementation of our programmes.

11. Request the National AIDS Programme Coordinators of the OECS to ensure collaboration with Ministries of Education in supporting HIV and AIDS programming in the education sector.
12. Request the OECS Secretariat to support the efforts and interventions of the education sector in the OECS, and to coordinate HIV and AIDS education initiatives of the OECS.
13. Request the UNESCO Office for the Caribbean to assist the OECS Secretariat in the formulation of a harmonized comprehensive policy and development of national implementation plans consistent with national strategic plans.
14. Request the ILO sub-regional Office for the Caribbean to support the implementation of HIV and AIDS workplace policy in educational institutions in the OECS.
15. Request Education International and the teacher organisations of the OECS to collaborate with Ministries of Education in teacher education on prevention and care of HIV and AIDS in the schools and communities.

We further instruct the OECS Secretariat to report on action taken on the above resolutions at the next meeting of the OECS Ministers of Education.