

## **Communication from Uganda AIDS Commission**

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### **Opening**

- ❖ Welcome to the second session of the Uganda Think Tank on AIDS
- ❖ Appreciation for stakeholder contributions towards the 1<sup>st</sup> session on “The impact of HIV funding on macro-economic stability: what is the middle line?”
  - Report being finalized with the input of the UTTA Technical Working Group on strategies for implementing the recommendations of the session
  - Action has already been initiated on implementing the recommendations with discussions at national and global levels
- ❖ UAC and the Uganda HIV/AIDS Partnership looks forward to an established public dialogue system to enhance focus on controversial and emerging issues for an effective response
  - This includes Stakeholder identification of issues that should be addressed through this approach
- ❖ The 3<sup>rd</sup> session is tentatively scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> July 2005 on the topic “Is ABC still an effective message in contemporary Uganda”
  - Details to be communicated in due course

### **Why the Think Tank**

- ❖ To challenge the status quo and promote innovation in policy and programme development and implementation
- ❖ Harness existing knowledge, from research and practice, to generate strategic information to address challenges in the response
- ❖ Facilitate public dialogue on key issues and promote consensus building for a harmonized response

## **Objectives of the 2<sup>nd</sup> UTTA session**

Topic: **HIV prevention in the era of universal access to ART: opportunities and challenges**

Topic selected in recognition of the debate among stakeholders on the benefits of the free access to ART versus the prevention challenges

Objective of the session is therefore to arrive at consensus on how to address the following:

- ❖ Does universal ART have an impact on the long term evolution of the epidemic?
- ❖ How does it interact with current prevention strategies?
- ❖ How can we reduce/mitigate the negative impacts of ART on prevention strategies?
- ❖ What will be the impact of ART on individual preventive behaviour?

Wishing fruitful deliberations