



DECLARATION OF THE  
YOUTH AT THE  
HEAIDS NATIONAL  
YOUTH CONFERENCE 2017

11 June 2017



Recalling the recently adapted Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the current National Strategic Plan on HIV, STIs and TB, the youth delegates of the HEAIDS National Youth Conference hereby call on our political leaders to pledge on their sustained and full-hearted commitment towards achieving the below objectives:

1. Implementing free education for the economically vulnerable, as we understand that HIV status and financial status are interlinked
2. Supporting us in implementing women empowerment programmes that include men, so that they can actively participate in discussions on gender and the fight against patriarchy



3. Addressing patriarchy and male privilege within our own government, so that our policy makers can understand the importance of fighting Gender Based Violence and empowering women and young girls

4. Creating emergency medical and counselling services for survivors of Gender Based Violence that are accessible to students and young people



5. Finding a sustainable solution to provide sanitary towels for our female students at universities, colleges and schools

6. Addressing the needs of LGBTI persons and holding universities and colleges accountable to respond to these needs



7. Making the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) accessible to all youth in South Africa, so that those that don't have access to the internet can also apply for the NYDA grant programmes

8. Helping us in activating the youth sector of the South African National AIDS Council



9. Funding regular youth summits and dialogues at universities, TVET colleges and schools to give youth the opportunity to raise their concerns directly with our political leadership

10. We would like to propose that the results of the government in achieving these goals will be monitored regularly and evaluated by an autonomous National Youth Forum