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SOCIAL POLICIES ON HIV INFECTED MIGRANTS

Submitted by: For the Bright Tomorrow

**APEC SEMINAR ON SOCIAL POLICIES FOR MIGRANTS TO
PREVENT THE TRANSMISSION OF HIV/AIDS**

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Social policies on HIV infected migrants

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Group: Bright Futures Network

Briefings on the group

- For The Bright Tomorrow Hanoi was founded in 1/2003 with its current members of 300.
- 20% of its 300 members are migrants and mobile people moving to Hanoi to work and live on a long-term basis
- Besides there are many HIV infected migrants travelling to Hanoi seasonally for working
- The Group HN is one of 22 member groups joining the For the Bright Tomorrow network

Common Difficulties facing HIV infected migrants

- It's hard for them to access to health care services due to their lack of registration book of permanent residence
- Procedures for registration of registration book of permanent residence remain complicated. They must be bailed out by a person living in Hanoi.
- Employees' rights have not been sufficiently included in agreements of labor contract.
- Sometimes, due to lack of labor contract, when being ill, they are not provided with social assistance.

Difficulties

- When working away from family, they shall send money home, therefore they do not dare to go for periodic health check. They just do that when suffering from terrible diseases. However, health service costs is much higher than their income.
- If being known as HIV-infected people, they will be isolated by their colleagues and sacked by their boss by some ways. As a result, they don't dare to receive HIV/AIDS information for self-care and protection.

Migrant and mobile populations receiving HIV/AIDS information



Difficulties

- Not being taken care of when going down with illness
- Unable to access to information about sex safety so they are vulnerable to reinfection of some other diseases
- Unable to access to various sources of information about sex safety and health care
- Afraid of social communications

- Discrimination against HIV infected migrants and mobile people remain severe
- Migrants and mobile people's children that start their 1st year of primary education shall pay higher tuition fees as their school is outside their administrative residential area .
- When go for medical examination, migrant and mobile people's children are often refused and suggested to go back to their administrative residential area for treatment.

Recommendations

- It is necessary to have popular information about beneficial regulations that migrant workers could enjoy
- Policies on health care, access to treatments and HIV tests are not reached to migrants and mobile people
- There is no technical group in charge of migrant and mobile populations and HIV/AIDS for information sharing

Recommendations

- As the existence of sex prejudices, migrants do not dare to use safe sex measures such as regular use of condoms
- Promoting HIV/AIDS programs towards vulnerable migrant and mobile populations
- Procedures for granting number of inhabitants of permanent residence should be simplified for more convenience.

Thank you

