



THE COMMUNITIES DELEGATION TO THE UNITAID BOARD

Who we are. What we do. Why it matters.

WHO WE ARE

We bring real people's voices to global health decision-making

The Communities Delegation is a group of advocates, young people, women, and community leaders from around the world who are living with or affected by HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, hepatitis, cervical cancer, and other health challenges.

We sit on the Unitaid Executive Board – the place where big decisions are made about lifesaving health tools, medicines, diagnostics, and innovations for communities everywhere.

Unitaid invests in new health products and works to make them affordable, accessible, and available in countries that need them most. Our delegation makes sure the people most affected by the diseases are part of those decisions from the very beginning.

Our vision

A world where communities have fair access to the tests, medicines, and prevention tools they need – without barriers, without stigma, and without delay.

Our mission

To bring the real experiences, needs, and priorities of communities directly into Unitaid's policies, projects, and strategies so they truly work for the people they are meant to serve.

WHAT WE DO AT THE UNITAID BOARD

We represent community voices at the highest level

The Unitaid Board includes governments, foundations, civil society, and the communities delegation. We make sure no decision is taken without considering how it affects real people.

We shape Unitaids's priorities

We review and influence all major documents, strategies, and funding proposals. We push for solutions that meet community needs – especially for groups often left out, like young people, women, key populations, people in rural areas, and people facing stigma or criminalization.

We protect equity and access

Our role is to make sure Unitaid's investments reach the people who need them most. That includes advocating for:

- Affordable medicines and diagnostics
- Innovations designed for real-life conditions To bring the real experiences, needs, and priorities of communities directly into Unitaid's policies, projects, and strategies so they truly work for the people they are meant to serve.
- Products that work for children and adolescents
- Tools for prevention, early diagnosis, and community-led delivery

We strengthen meaningful community engagement

We work with Unitaid to ensure communities are not just consulted but fully involved in designing, testing, introducing, and scaling up new health products. This includes our contributions to Unitaid's Community Engagement Framework and helping shape how Unitaid listens and responds to people on the ground.

We hold the system accountable

We monitor decisions, budgets, and performance to make sure Unitaid stays transparent, community-driven, and focused on impact.

We work with partners

We collaborate with community networks, civil society organizations, advocates, and health activists around the world – ensuring that lived experience informs global health policy.



OUR IMPACT & HOW WE WORK

A track record we're proud of

Over the years, the Communities Delegation has helped make sure Unitaid:

- Includes community engagement in every step of its strategy and investments
- Expands access to lifesaving tools such as oxygen for newborns and cervical cancer treatment
- Funds innovations that make treatment easier for children and people with advanced HIV
- Creates programs that respond to real needs raised by communities globally
- Strengthens partnerships with civil society and community-led organizations

These achievements come from constant advocacy, document review, speaking up in Board and Committee meetings, and bringing community realities into decision spaces where they are often missing.



How our delegation works

We are a diverse group of up to 35 people from different regions, backgrounds, and experiences. Delegation members:

- Review Unitaid Board and Committee documents
- Engage communities to gather their priorities
- Provide feedback, analysis, and speaking points
- Join thematic working groups on HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, maternal health, market access, community engagement, and more
- Participate in meetings, retreats, trainings, and consultations
- Use social media and outreach to share information with communities
- Advocate for rights, access, and dignity

Why this matters

Communities are closest to the challenges – and often closest to the solutions. When our voices are at the table, global health programs are more equitable, more effective, and more sustainable.

ABOUT UNITAID

Unitaid is a global health agency that invests in new and better ways to prevent, test, and treat major diseases. It works with governments, communities, and partners to speed up the availability of innovative health tools—from affordable medicines and rapid diagnostics to lifesaving treatments for HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, and other global health challenges.

By turning breakthrough ideas into practical solutions, Unitaid helps countries save lives, strengthen health systems, and move closer to health for all.

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