

Remarks by Prof Sheila Tlou, Co-Chair of GPC.

Hon. VP of Zimbabwe, Ministers and delegates, NAC Directors, civil society, Global Fund, UNFPA and UNAIDS EXDs, BMGF, members of the Global HIVC Prevention Coalition Working Group.

I bring you greetings from my fellow Co-Chair, Alvaro Bermejo. As Co-Chair of the GPC I am truly honoured to be part of this committed family.

Today we have heard how we have all successfully contributed to re-establishing national and global leadership around HIV prevention. The country reports are very impressive and as Co-Chair, of course this is music to my ears.

BUT we also acknowledged that we need to do more because, as has already been stated, we are far from reaching our targets in most countries, and key populations are being left behind. Indeed, with our collective engagement in the GPC we have seen that it can be done.

Distinguished participants, colleagues, we are confronted with a new global health challenge of COVID-19 that has impacted us all; but we have also heard of the lessons and strengths to build on from the AIDS response and HIV prevention. Yes, together we can confront COVID and HIV.

We have listened to the External Review recommendations and all your interventions thereof, and this is what I heard you say:

- that we will continue strengthening HIV prevention through our joint leadership as part of the GPC
- that Coalition countries and partners stand ready to renew their commitment to the GPC and Road Map for 2021–2025, taking into account new conditions and opportunities.
- that we need to work to ensure increased domestic and external investment including in national stewardship and coordination.

- that civil society and community engagement in both national and global HIV prevention coalitions must be increased and we must all work to address the legal and policy barriers that are hindering progress, and lastly
- that only by engaging all partners and investing in our AIDS responses can we accelerate our pace to ensure that the most vulnerable and all key populations can access HIV prevention and SRHR services that respond to their needs.
- Colleagues, on behalf of the GPC Working Group and the Secretariat, let me say that we are inspired and re energised to keep working. We have just started and we are ready for 2021-25.

I Thank You