

No.: 54-CT/TW

Hanoi, November 30, 2005

Directive of the Party central committee's secretariat

Re.: Strengthening the leadership in HIV/AIDS prevention and control in new situation

HIV/AIDS has been becoming a pandemic and a danger for humanity in the world. Recognizing the danger of HIV/AIDS, the Party Central Committee's Secretariat (tenure VII) issued the Directive No. 52-CT/TW on the leadership in AIDS prevention and control on March 11, 1995. After 10 years of implementation of the Directive of the Party Central Committees' Secretariat on HIV/AIDS prevention and control, there have been certain results in limit of a growth speed in a number of PLWHAs.

However, at present, HIV/AIDS infection tendency is still complicated in our country. HIV/AIDS occurs in all provinces/cities and has a trend to expand. Beside high risk groups of HIV/AIDS infection (injecting drug use, prostitution, homosexual intercourse etc), an HIV/AIDS infection rate of expecting women, children and youth has rapidly increased. HIV/AIDS is threatening people in terms of health, life, social order and safety, development of the country and future of human race.

The above-mentioned situation is due to many reasons, but the main reason is that the party executive committee and government at all levels are not aware well enough of the leadership responsibility for caring, monitoring and supervision of the implementation of the Directive No. 52-CT/TW of the Party Central Committee's Secretariat. The popularisation and education is still limited; collaboration among levels, sectors and organisations in the political system is not close and still not effective enough; personnel organisation for HIV/AIDS prevention and control is not stable and the personnel specializing in this activity is lacking and poor in terms of quality; investment is too small in comparing with requirements and tasks.

With spirit of preventing HIV/AIDS from spreading as a pandemic in our country in coming time, the Party Central Committee's Secretariat requests the party executive committees at all levels to strengthen the leadership in HIV/AIDS prevention and control and to well implement the following requirements:

1. To create full awareness of attitude and responsibility of the party executive committees, government agencies, mass organisations at all levels and all people for the leadership and participation in HIV/AIDS prevention and control. The party executive committees and government agencies at all levels should clearly identify that HIV/AIDS prevention and control is an urgent as well as long-term task; to regularly supervise, analyse and evaluate the situation of HIV/AIDS infection in sectors and localities, develop action plans for necessary solutions for HIV/AIDS prevention and control together with drug use, prostitution prevention and control and in co-ordination with socio-economics development programs; to strengthen the leadership and guide the implementation, monitoring and supervision.
2. Functioning sectors should pay enough attention to preparing and completing a consistent legal documents system for creation of a favourable legal environment for HIV/AIDS prevention and control; to issue policies for support and care for PLWHAs, and encouragement for people participating in HIV/AIDS prevention and control.
3. To renovate, diversify and promote nationwide information, education and communication in the society, communities, for each citizen, each household, especially youth and adolescents and among high risk groups of HIV/AIDS infection (injecting drug use, prostitution and male homosexual intercourses etc.) for building up an appropriate awareness of HIV/AIDS's risks and dangers, an appropriate attitude, behaviour and treatment towards PLWHAs and active participation in prevention and control of this disease; to co-ordinate HIV/AIDS prevention and control and building a culture of Vietnamese families, villages,

- institutions and units; to build up a positive and healthy lifestyle in line with standards of social ethics.
4. To complete the organisation, improve capacity of cadre preventing and controlling HIV/AIDS from the central to local levels; to improve effects of multisectoral collaboration in HIV/AIDS prevention and control.
 5. To increase State's investment, mobilize contribution from the whole society, expand relations with international communities for full utilization of their support for HIV/AIDS prevention and control; to strictly manage and effectively use investments; to prioritise investment for expansion and quality improvement of information, education and communication activities, for care and treatment for PLWHAs, for management and supervision of epidemiology, for promotion of scientific research and implementation of application of domestic as well as foreign scientific achievements in HIV/AIDS prevention and control.
 6. To speed up social mobilization in HIV/AIDS prevention and control, promote tradition of humanity, care and support from communities, prevent stigma and discrimination towards PLWHAs; to facilitate PLWHAs and their families to understand duties and deliberately take active part in HIV/AIDS prevention and control; to encourage socio-political mass organisations, non-governmental organisations, domestic and foreign individuals to participate in HIV/AIDS prevention and control; to establish a Vietnamese Social Organisation for HIV/AIDS prevention and control in coming time.

The National Assembly's party executive committee shall guide preparation, modification and completion of the legal system; the Management Board of Government's party executive committee shall guide preparation and implementation of an action plan, mechanisms, related policies for implementation of the Directive.

Party executive committees at all levels, party management boards of ministries, sectors, Party Executive Committee of Vietnam Fatherland Front Commission, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, Vietnam Youth Alliance, Party of socio-political mass organisations shall develop programmes, specific action plans for

implementation of the Government's Action Programme and the Directive of the Party Central Committee's Secretariat.

The Central Commission for Ideology and Culture shall chair in collaboration with the Party Management Board of the Ministry for Culture and Information and authorised agencies to guide strengthening and improving information, education and communication about HIV/AIDS prevention and control.

The Central Commission for Science and Education shall chair in collaboration with the Party Management Board of the Ministry of Health to guide, monitor, evaluate and periodically report on the implementation of the Directive to the Party Central Committee's Secretariat.

This Directive is popularised and strictly followed by the party committees at all levels.

Copy to:

- Province/city party executive committees
- Party central commissions, party management boards, party executive committees of party central commissions and mass organisations
- Members of the Party Central Committee
- Filed at the Office of the Party Central Committee

**FOR THE PARTY CENTRAL
COMMITTEE'S SECRETARIAT**

(Signed and sealed)

Phan Dien