

Grandmothers' Call to Action

We recognize and endorse the Judges' statements and recommendations.

They are a true reflection of our concerns and the measures that urgently need to be taken.

Above all what we find true in what the judges have said is that the time has come.

It's time to recognize that grandmothers at the forefront of the HIV/AIDS crisis must have our human rights respected and protected.

It's time to support our organizations fully and put systems in place to address our needs and the needs of the children in our care.

It's time to recognize our contribution to the survival of our communities and the expertise we have developed to do so, by giving us our rightful place and voice wherever decisions are being made.

We, the grandmothers of Africa, speak to you now as the guardians of the future.

Our labour, with all of its struggles, challenges, knowledge and triumphs has gone unheeded for too long.

We will not let the AIDS pandemic defeat us nor destroy our communities, but we cannot prevail alone.

Africa cannot survive without us.

We call on you to act with urgency and purpose to support our efforts to secure justice.

It is time!

*—Delivered by Zodwa Hilda Ndlovu at the African Grandmothers Tribunal
September 7, 2013, Vancouver, British Columbia*