



The 20th anniversary of AIDS World Day will be commemorated on 1 December 2008.

Since 1988, the fight against AIDS has revealed positive results. However, the last UNAIDS report indicates that it has not yet been entirely eradicated in any part of the world.

The concept of AIDS World Day was created in 1988 during the World Summit of Health Ministers on AIDS prevention. Since, all UN bodies, governments and civil societies meet every year to discuss issues related to that illness (Source: World Campaign against AIDS).

In collaboration with all partners, the World Campaign against AIDS will develop the theme “Incite, Be responsible, Take Action” thereby developing last year theme “Appeal for Leadership”. To instigate this theme is to avail ourselves of this opportunity to emphasize the importance of political leadership in the fight against AIDS, including worldwide access to prevention, treatment, financial and social support until 2010; and praise success attained so far.

During this commemoration, MINURCAT together with other UN Agencies and NGOs operating in the Eastern part of the country will organize activities in Abeche, in the refugee and IDP camps for the benefit of the population. MINURCAT will particularly focus on sensitization, counseling and voluntary screening as well as the fight against stigmatization and discrimination.

Since September 2008, the HIV-AIDS Unit has launched the campaign on counseling and voluntary screening. This campaign aims at encouraging all UN personnel to learn about their HIV status. Since, the number of tests performed ranged from 17 to 170 in November. Counseling and voluntary screening is now available in two UN clinics (N’Djamena and Abeche) as well as the HIV-AIDS Unit. This service will also be available in other facilities with the expansion of MINURCAT in the Eastern part of the country.



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