

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ELLY KATABIRA (UGANDA) BECOMES IAS PRESIDENT,
FRANÇOISE BARRE-SINOUSSE (FRANCE) BECOMES IAS PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Dr. Elly Katabira named as new President of International AIDS Society as the XVIII International AIDS Conference closes in Vienna. Professor Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, Nobel Laureate, becomes new President-Elect.

23 July 2010 (Vienna, Austria) – The International AIDS Society (IAS), principle organizer of the XVIII International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2010) in Vienna, today announced Dr. Elly Katabira, Professor of Medicine and former Deputy Dean for Research, Faculty of Medicine at Makerere University, Kampala, as its new President for the next two years. Katabira takes over from outgoing President, Dr. Julio Montaner, and becomes the first African representative to hold the position.

The new President-Elect is Professor Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, Director of the Regulation of Retroviral Infections Unit at the Institut Pasteur in Paris. Prof. Barré-Sinoussi is a 2008 Nobel Laureate of Medicine for her contributions to the discovery of the AIDS virus.

Dr. Elly Katabira trained as a medical doctor at Makerere University and later trained as a physician, specializing in Neurology at the University of Manchester in the UK. Since his return to Uganda in 1985, he has worked extensively in the field of care and support for people living with HIV. He is the Clinical Advisor at the AIDS Clinic in Mulago Hospital and at the Infectious Diseases Institute of Makerere University College of Health Sciences. In 1990, he was recognized as a World AIDS Foundation International Scholar. Dr. Katabira is the author of more than 200 published scientific articles and abstracts. In June 2000 Dr. Katabira was elected a member of IAS Governing Council in the African Region. Since then he has actively participated in many IAS activities including Co-Chair of the IAS-Industry Liaison Forum (IAS-ILF) and Co-Editor of the *Journal of the International AIDS Society (JIAS)*. Dr. Katabira has undertaken several consultancies on HIV and AIDS care and support for UNAIDS and WHO, both for the headquarters in Geneva and for the African Regional Office, as well as for Family Health International. He is also co-founder of The AIDS Support Organization (TASO) and has served as their Medical Advisor since 1987. Dr. Katabira is a founding member of the Academic Alliance of AIDS Care and Prevention in Africa.

Prof. Françoise Barré-Sinoussi has been involved in retrovirology research since the early 1970s and is recognized for her contributions to HIV and AIDS research, in particular as the first author of the publication that reported in 1983 the discovery of a retrovirus, later named HIV, in a patient at risk for AIDS. Between 1988 and 1998, Prof. Barré-Sinoussi was involved in collaborative programmes on HIV vaccine research. Today, her research unit is working on mechanisms of protection against HIV/SIV infection or AIDS using different models. Along with her research activities, Prof. Barré-Sinoussi has been strongly involved in promoting integration between HIV/AIDS research and actions in resource-limited countries, in particular through the Institut Pasteur International Network and the coordination of the Agence Nationale de Recherches sur le Sida et les Hépatites Virales (ANRS) research programmes in Cambodia and Vietnam, reflecting her strong commitment to building capacity, training and technology

transfers on site in Africa and Asia. Prof. Barré-Sinoussi is author and co-author of 249 original publications and more than 120 articles in book reviews, and has been and remains a member of a number of national and international scientific committees, including the scientific committees of several International AIDS Conferences. She has received more than 10 national or international awards and has also been awarded *Doctor Honoris Causa* of a number of universities. In February 2009, she was elected a member of the French Academy of Science.

Prof. Barré-Sinoussi will assume the Presidency of the International AIDS Society on the closing day of the XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012) to be held in Washington D.C, USA, in July 2012.

End

About the IAS:

The International AIDS Society (IAS) is the world's leading independent association of HIV professionals, with 14,000 members from 190 countries working at all levels of the global response to AIDS. Our members include researchers from all disciplines, clinicians, public health and community practitioners on the frontlines of the epidemic, as well as policy and programme planners. The IAS is the custodian of the biennial International AIDS Conference, which will be held in Vienna, Austria from 18 to 23 July 2010.

For more information:

Alan Brotherton (Geneva, Switzerland)
Director of Policy and Communications
Email: Alan.Brotherton@iasociety.org
Tel: +43 699 172 844 53

Michael Kessler
Media Consultant, AIDS 2010
Email: mkessler@ya.com
Tel: +34 655 792 699

Lindsey Rodger
Communications Assistant
Email: Lindsey.Rodger@iasociety.org
Tel: + 43 699 172 85 623