

IAS hires a new Executive Director

December 23, 2010 – Geneva, Switzerland. The International AIDS Society (IAS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Bertrand Audoin as its new Executive Director.



In his role as executive director, Bertrand will head the IAS secretariat based in Geneva, Switzerland. Responsible for the overall management of activities for the organization, he will be charged with implementing the organization's strategic and operational plans under the direction of the IAS' Governing Council and membership base. The Acting Executive Director Mats Ahnlund will go back to his job as Deputy Executive Director.

Bertrand joins the IAS's Geneva headquarters from Paris where he was the General Director of Sidaction, a leading French HIV/AIDS NGO and civil society partner for the upcoming XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012). Bertrand also works with the Pierre Bergé and Yves Saint Laurent Foundation as coordinator of its "Fonds de dotation Pierre Bergé" committee for HIV/AIDS programmes, an organization led by the former founder and co-owner of Yves Saint Laurent which supports health projects with a specific focus on HIV/AIDS.

Bertrand holds a post-graduate degree from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales (EDHEC), Lille, France and completed the 61st National Session's auditor programme at the Institut des Hautes Etudes de la Défense Nationale (IHEDN), Paris, France. Bertrand is fluent in both English and French.

"We are delighted to find a candidate of Bertrand's expertise for this position," said IAS president Elly Katabira. "Responsible for the roll out of public funds to Sidaction's programmes in France and in more than 30 low and middle-income countries, Bertrand is adept at managing complex budgets and teams, and brings years of experience of working on diverse HIV issues to the IAS. He is a strong and respected leader, and I have no doubt that he will make a significant contribution to the IAS and to the global response to the HIV epidemic."

Bertrand will take up the position on 1 February 2011. Until April 2011, when he will join the IAS full-time, Bertrand will still be involved with Sidaction in order to ensure its main fundraising program, held at the end of March, will be a success.

About the IAS

The International AIDS Society (IAS) is the world's leading independent association of HIV professionals, with over 19,000 members from more than 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 and lead organizer of the IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, which will be held in Rome, Italy in July 2011.

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