

06<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Medecins Sans Frontiers welcomes the formation of Section 27 [incorporating the AIDS Law Project]. The AIDS Law Project has a formidable history of contributing to the struggle to bring down the prices of essential life saving treatment for people living with HIV. When MSF began working in South African in 2002 in Khayelitsha the historic relationship with the ALP and the TAC was grounded in the battle to do anything necessary to source the lowest cost quality antiretroviral. It is this pioneering activism that has enables us to celebrate the success of having a National Treatment Plan in South Africa today which includes the provision of ART.

Medecins Sans Frontiers sees the formation of Section 27 as a very significant development in addressing the dire need for access to quality health care for poor people in Southern Africa.

The transformation of the AIDS Law Project and the launch of Section 27 comes at the right time – when addressing the issues of treatment and quality health care for people living with HIV and AIDS requires the improving the health care system as a whole. Ensuring that there is transparency and good governance in delivery of health care especially in countries with social inequalities as experienced in Southern Africa will be a key challenge for Section 27. Having partnered with the ALP and paying tribute to its track record of excellence in the struggle for access to ARV's , MSF is looking forward to a strategic partnership with section 27 as we unite in the struggle to ensure that vulnerable populations have access to life saving treatment and quality health care.

*Nobel Peace Prize 1999*

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