



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The International AIDS Society announces the appointment of new Executive Director

Tuesday, 27 May, 2014 (Geneva, Switzerland) - The International AIDS Society (IAS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Owen Ryan as its new Executive Director and head of the IAS secretariat based in Geneva, Switzerland.

Owen will be responsible for the overall management of the organization, its financial sustainability and the implementation of its strategic plans.

Owen has nearly twenty years' experience in HIV programming, policy and advocacy. While Deputy Director of Public Policy at amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research, he led a groundbreaking study of donor financing for HIV among key populations in partnership with the Center for Public Health and Human Rights at Johns Hopkins University. Prior to amfAR, Owen was a Program Officer at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation where he directed the organization's HIV policy and advocacy portfolio. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and the Board of Funders Concerned About AIDS.

He has been a dedicated advocate for the prevention, treatment and care of people living with, or at risk of HIV, working at all levels of the HIV effort, including initiatives in Zimbabwe and Malawi.

Owen was awarded a Master's degree in Public Health and a Master's degree in International Affairs from Columbia University, New York and has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature and Language.

"The IAS is delighted to welcome Owen as its new Executive Director. We are confident that his extensive expertise and enthusiasm will give fresh input to the organization, strengthening its role as the world's leading independent association of HIV professionals," said IAS President Françoise Barré-Sinoussi. "Owen is no stranger to the IAS and its work. We have collaborated with him closely for several years. I therefore look forward to having him on board in this key position"

Owen will take up his position in July 2014 and will be present at AIDS 2014 in Melbourne.

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About the IAS

The International AIDS Society (IAS) is the world's leading independent association of HIV professionals, with members from more than 170 countries working at all levels of the global

response to AIDS. The IAS 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 custodian of the biennial International AIDS Conference, which will be held in Melbourne, Australia, 20-25 July 2014 and lead organizer of the IAS Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, which will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, 19-22 July 2015

www.iasociety.org | www.aids2014.org | www.ias2015.org

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