



INTERNATIONAL  
PARTNERSHIP FOR  
MICROBICIDES

**Journalists Association Against AIDS (JournAIDS)**

P.O Box 2862, Lilongwe, Malawi  
Assemblies of God Complex, Off Paul Kagame Highway  
Email: jaaidsmalawi@gmail.com  
Phone: 01 927 984  
**Contact Person:** Dingaan Mithi  
**Mobile Phone:** 0999 694 832  
**Email:** dingaanmithi@yahoo.com  
**Skype Address:** dingaan.mithi

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**May, 2015**

**Invitation letter to media training workshop on microbicides and new HIV prevention technologies**

Dear Media Colleagues

Journalists Association Against AIDS (JournAIDS) in collaboration with the International Partnership for Microbicides (IPM) is raising awareness on the need to promote microbicides as an important HIV prevention technology especially towards women. According to the 2015-2020 Malawi National HIV Strategic Plan, the most recent definitive population survey data for Malawi, the Malawi Demographic Health Survey (MDHS) 2010, pegs HIV prevalence amongst the 15-49 year old population at 10.6%.

JournAIDS is organizing a media capacity building workshop to equip local journalists with knowledge on reporting on microbicides which are part of ground breaking research in new HIV prevention technologies.

Many women are unable to negotiate condom use with their male partners and abstinence is not an option for women who are married, who want children or who are at risk of sexual violence. Heterosexual sex is the primary mode by which HIV spreads in developing countries, and women have a heightened risk of infection due to a combination of biology and gender inequities. This is why women urgently need new HIV prevention strategies like microbicides that they can use themselves. ***(See attached a workshop background note accompanying the invitation letter)***

**Venue:** MEDI, Mponela

**Time:** 8:00AM

**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2015

**Travel logistics; Please note that the departure day to the workshop venue is 12<sup>th</sup> May, make sure to use the shortest route and affordable means of transport, reimbursement for transport will be provided upon issue of valid receipts. The meeting point for participants to get per diems upon arrival is at the PTC Mponela at 5 O'clock**

**R.S.V.P; Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, Maria Joseph on 0994602062 Email: jaaidsmalawi@gmail.com**

**Yours Sincerely**

Dingaaan Mithi  
Programme Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DM' with a flourish, positioned below the printed name.