



# *United Federation for Middle East Peace*

## **Connecting Continents for Peace**

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### **USFMEP PRESS RELEASE**

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#### The United Nation High Level Meeting On HIV/AIDS

*New York, NY, June 10, 2011* - USFMEP was delighted to attend the High Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS. The meeting sought to work toward the overarching goal of ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic. This signified a turning point, encouraging civil society and the private sector to work together to ensure that past commitments to achieve universal access to life-saving treatments are met. President of USFMEP, Mrs. Sally Kader, reiterated that “years ago AIDS was petrifying, fatal and spreading rapidly; today we have the opportunity and ability to end this epidemic once and for all.”

USFMEP President and staff fight for the rights of women and children. A common misconception among the international community is that men are disproportionately affected by the HIV/AIDS virus in comparison to women and children. Nevertheless women and children too have been vastly impacted by the HIV/ AIDS epidemic. President Kader supplemented that “The HIV virus does not discriminate between men and women. Both can be infected, and can infect others. But there are considerable differences between men living with HIV and women living with HIV. In addition, the rates and prevalence of infection are not the same among men and women. There are needs and concerns unique to women living with the disease that need to be taken into consideration in designing effective approaches for women living HIV.”

USFMEP deems the goal of ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic will require a call for strengthening global healthcare systems and increasing investments in the innumerable approaches formulated to end the HIV/AIDS outbreak, including innovative financing models. President Kader added “we must strive toward simple and inexpensive diagnostics and medication for all in addition to developing a vaccine to thwart infection.”

USFMEP is certain that in order to improve our global response, we must recognize that HIV/AIDS is a widespread and international phenomenon. Consequently, it is necessary to create an integrated approach involving both governmental and non-governmental sectors in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Accordingly, USFMEP President and staff reaffirm their commitment to support all the nations to end the scourge of HIV/AIDS.

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