

## **INTRODUCTION**

There is no known incidence of HIV infection among the population in DPRK. Till now, there are no reported people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). Due to gradual increase of movement for better economic opportunities, the likelihood of people of DPRK becoming vulnerable to HIV has been increasing. The challenge for DPRK is to maintain HIV free status and generate required data to develop, maintain and sustain preventive activities with limited resource. In the context, “maintenance of the country as HIV free is the ultimate national goal”.

National AIDS Program (NAP), DPRK has developed the National Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control for 2008-2012 in 2007. The surveillance system based on the sentinel surveillance sites is in place. Due to lack of resources, Voluntary counseling and HIV tests are limited to the abroad travelers, blood donors and service people. In the biennium of 2010-11, NAP has established the e-reporting system in the surveillance units with the technical and financial support from WHO/SEARO, which will contribute the improvement of data management and reporting system in the program.

Primary objective of the National AIDS Program, DPRK is to strengthening of existing surveillance system and to conduct serological and behavioral surveillance, which will provide necessary data to lay the foundation of future prevention strategy. This is followed by initiation of standard prevention package of STI management, condom promotion, awareness raising in selected perceived risk areas through existing health system. This will include involvement of community organization in social mobilization.

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