

Diseases - HIV/AIDS

* Canadian envoy urges joint fight against HIV/AIDS

THE Canadian High Commissioner in Nigeria, Mr. Howard Strauss, has called for concerted efforts from both government and individuals in the fight against the dreaded HIV/AIDS scourge.

The envoy made the call while signing a Canadian support initiative to boost Nigeria's anti

*From
Segun Ayeosenikan,
(Abuja)*

HIV/AIDS war.

At the inauguration of the launch of the 4.8 million Canadian dollar direct funding for Nigeria to be managed by Pathfinder Interna-

Strauss disclosed that the fund tagged "Nigeria AIDS Response Fund (NARF)" was the first part of the \$100 million promised the country by the Canadian government as support fund, last year.

The support, the high commissioner said, was targeted at four-fold areas of concern: To improve the ability of organisations and groups working for the social empowerment of people living with

the disease; promote gender equality and human rights of people living with HIV/AIDS; encourage behavioural changes and to help families in the Nigerian communities whose breadwinners have suffered from the effects of HIV/AIDS.

Also, NARF is expected to support the development of HIV/AIDS policies and strategic planning that integrate analyses on gender and human rights and respond accordingly.

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