

## **The Global Forum on MSM and HIV (MSMGF) Quarterly Report – July 10, 2011**

### **MSMGF nominates MSM Advocates to attend the Global Fund Partnership Forum**

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) requested the MSMGF to nominate three MSM advocates to be represented at the 4<sup>th</sup> Partnership Forum in Sao Paulo, Brazil from June 28 – 30, 2011. The MSMGF nominated Laurindo Garcia from the Asia-Pacific region, MSMGF Sr. Education Associate Pato Hebert and MSMGF Steering Committee Member Samuel Matsikure to attend this meeting on behalf of the MSMGF. Their nominations were subsequently accepted. The MSMGF further helped disseminate an online survey initiated by the GFATM to solicit civil society voices which in turn is intended to shape the future direction and operations of the GFATM.

### **MSMGF Releases New Publication Targeting Physicians, Nurses and other Healthcare Providers**

On May 17, 2011 the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia, the MSMGF released a new publication “Engaging with men who have sex with men in the clinical setting: a primer for physicians, nurses and other healthcare providers.” This publication serves as a conversation starter and an initial guide for primary care providers who live and serve in communities where homosexual behavior is highly stigmatized and sometimes, criminalized. The document explains the unique health and HIV needs of MSM and underscores principles that encourage friendlier clinical environments where MSM can access care with no fear of ridicule or harassment.

Link to MSMGF Statement on the primer: <http://www.msmgf.org/index.cfm/id/11/aid/3657>

Link to the primer:

[http://www.msmgf.org/files/msmgf//Publications/MSMGF\\_Healthcare\\_Primer.pdf](http://www.msmgf.org/files/msmgf//Publications/MSMGF_Healthcare_Primer.pdf)

### **MSMGF Launches New Virtual Space for Information Exchange on the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board**

The United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) is governed by a Programme Coordinating Board of 22 Member States, 10 UN Co-Sponsors and 10 NGO Delegates representing all regions of the world. In December 2010, MSMGF Executive Officer Dr. George Ayala was nominated to serve on the UNAIDS PCB along with Ms. Ebony Johnson from the International Community of Women with HIV/AIDS (ICW) representing NGOs in North

America. In this role, the MSMGF will also bring the voices of MSM activists and communities from around the world to the PCB. In order to disseminate information concerning core PCB business, solicit meaningful input from MSM advocates and facilitate thoughtful exchange, the MSMGF recently launched a web page dedicated to the PCB. Regular updates will be posted on this website including opportunities for participating in a discussion forum and signing up for PCB-specific updates.

The new MSMGF PCB page can be accessed here: <http://www.msmsgf.org/index.cfm/id/261/>

### **MSMGF Steering Committee Members visit Washington D.C. May 16 and 17, 2011**

The MSMGF continues to lead advocacy efforts in Washington D.C. targeting PEPFAR and its administrator, the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC). MSMGF Policy Associate Krista Lauer serves as Chair of the MSM Policy Working Group at the Global AIDS Roundtable of the Global Health Council. The MSMGF brought activists from Africa to Washington D.C. for a series of meetings with various US government stakeholders. MSMGF Steering Committee Members Samuel Matsikure, Joel Nana and Paul Semugoma were accompanied by MSMGF Executive Officer George Ayala and Policy Associate Mohan Sundararaj for the following meetings:

- a. *Capitol Hill Visits*: The MSMGF met with US Senate staffers Shannon Smith (Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee) and Rich Harper (Office of Senator Dianne Feinstein)
- b. *Brown-Bag Luncheon at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)*: The MSMGF presented a brown-bag session to USAID staffers primarily working on HIV issues. This meeting was organized in collaboration with the Futures Group and USAID.
- c. *Leadership at the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC)*: The MSMGF met with leadership and staff from OGAC, the office that administers the President's Emergency Plan For AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).
- d. *World Bank Luncheon Event on International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia (IDAHO)*: MSMGF Steering Committee Member Joel Nana was invited to serve as an expert panelist for an event organized by the World Bank in collaboration with UNAIDS to commemorate IDAHO. Moderated by Mark Bromley from the Council for Global Equality, the panel also included Val Kalende (Uganda), Jaevion Nelson (Jamaica), David Wilson (USA) and Philip W. Moeller (USA).
- e. *Congressional Briefing on Capitol Hill*: The MSMGF, in close collaboration with the Congressional LGBT Equality Caucus and Congresswoman Barbara Lee organized a well-attended briefing on Capitol Hill to commemorate IDAHO to help educate congressional staffers on the health and human rights of MSM. This event was moderated by Ms. Evelyn Tomaszewski, Senior Policy Advisor at the National Association of Social Workers in Washington D.C.

At these meetings, the MSMGF stressed on the need for continued and greater leadership on behalf of the US government. This includes the resourcing of MSM communities and MSM-led organizations with financial and technical support at the global, regional, sub-regional and national levels. The US must continue its efforts to mitigate homophobia and alleviate human rights abuses among this population worldwide.

On Capitol Hill and at OGAC, the MSMGF had the opportunity to thank leaders and staff members for their support to marginalized communities of MSM and other key populations around the world. We stressed the need for OGAC to urgently release the PEPFAR Technical Guidance on Prevention among MSM. The MSMGF highlighted the global lack of information regarding the proportion of PEPFAR resources reaching MSM communities in PEPFAR-countries and therefore encouraged OGAC to invest in enhanced tracking and reporting mechanisms. Lastly, the MSMGF advocated for the meaningful and respectful engagement of civil society at all levels including when planning, designing, implementing and evaluating HIV-related programs on the ground.

### **MSMGF Welcomes PEPFAR's release of new Technical Guidance for HIV Prevention among MSM, Stresses Community Engagement**

The MSMGF has been advocating for the need for a PEPFAR technical guidance dedicated to the prevention needs of MSM since 2009. In collaboration with the MSMGF and other civil society advocates, OGAC developed and released the MSM Guidance for use by country missions and other implementers who in turn will execute PEPFAR programs at the country-level. The MSMGF responded immediately with a statement analyzing the Guidance. This guidance is a step in the right direction but questions remain as to how OGAC will hold implementers accountable for the meaningful roll-out of the Guidance. This is of particular concern given that the Guidance was posted on the PEPFAR website with no formal announcement. The MSMGF also believes that MSM communities must be actively engaged and utilized in training US missions so that programs are sensitive and responsive to the unique needs of MSM.

Link to MSMGF Statement on the new PEPFAR MSM Guidance: [http://us1.campaign-archive1.com/?u=1efcb45b2d3a4abde06876054&id=d0954693d1&e=\[UNIQID\]](http://us1.campaign-archive1.com/?u=1efcb45b2d3a4abde06876054&id=d0954693d1&e=[UNIQID])

### **MSMGF Analyses Global Fund of Round 8, 9 and 10 HIV Proposals**

The MSMGF issued a statement in response to a new report launched by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM). This report is an analysis of funding trends and representation of MSM, sex workers and transgender people across all HIV proposals and Country Coordinating Mechanisms. While congratulating the GFATM on its bold leadership on

behalf of most-at-risk populations, the MSMGF also noted the unacceptably low rates which render communities at higher risk under resourced in the AIDS epidemic at the country level. The MSMGF will continue to track Global Fund mechanisms that support the health and human rights of MSM and other key populations worldwide.

Link to MSMGF Statement on the GFATM Analysis: [http://us1.campaign-archive1.com/?u=1efcb45b2d3a4abde06876054&id=906ade1369&e=\[UNIQID\]](http://us1.campaign-archive1.com/?u=1efcb45b2d3a4abde06876054&id=906ade1369&e=[UNIQID])

## **MSMGF Conducts Intensive Advocacy for the 2011 United Nations High-Level Meeting on AIDS**

Subsequent to the Civil Society Hearing at the UN in New York in April, the MSMGF has continued to ramp its efforts to ensure the meaningful inclusion of MSM, people who inject drugs, sex workers and transgender people in the Outcome Declaration of the 2011 High-Level Meeting on AIDS. The MSMGF has particularly targeted its advocacy efforts on country missions and country delegations to ensure that Member States explicitly name the four key populations in the Outcome Declaration and that they commit to time-bound targets in reaching these vulnerable populations.

During April and May 2011, MSMGF Policy Associate Krista Lauer organized a series of strategy and briefing calls to relay information from UNAIDS and the Civil Society Task Force to MSMGF constituencies and feedback information from advocates to inform MSMGF HLM strategies. The MSMGF also worked closely with ICASO to ensure alignment with advocacy efforts of wider civil society and endorsed a Civil Society Declaration on the High-Level Meeting.

The MSMGF has participated and provided significant input in a number of conference calls organized by various stakeholder groups including the United States government that held a civil society hearing in preparation for the High-Level Meeting.

MSMGF Policy Associate Krista Lauer traveled to New York weeks ahead of the High-Level Meeting to meet with country missions and to impress upon them the need to prioritize key populations (including MSM) in the Outcome Declaration. Receptive Country Missions have in turn relied on the MSMGF for technical support and research on an as-needed basis to better describe the unique needs of MSM during negotiation processes.

The MSMGF has continued to track and gather intelligence by building relationships with various country mission delegates and civil society representatives within country delegations to better understand the HLM process and provide advocacy input in the hours leading up to the HLM and finalization of the Outcome Document.

The MSMGF will attend and participate in a number of official side-events organized around the High-Level meeting to elevate the needs of MSM. The MSMGF has worked closely and as supporting partner to a side-event focused on human rights and key populations on June 9<sup>th</sup> at the United Nations in collaboration with the UK and South African governments and the International HIV/AIDS Alliance. MSMGF Steering Committee Member Othman Mellouk from Morocco has been invited to speak at this event on global and regional MSM issues.

The MSMGF Secretariat will be represented at the High-Level Meeting by MSMGF Policy Associates Krista Lauer and Mohan Sundararaj. MSMGF Steering Committee Members Don Baxter and Carlos Garcia were invited to attend the High-Level Meeting as part of the Australian and Mexican Country Delegations respectively. MSMGF Steering Committee Member Joel Nana serves on the Civil Society Task Force. MSMGF Steering Committee Members Othman Mellouk and Leonardo Sanchez will also be represented at the High-Level Meeting.

### **MSMGF Continues Prevention Science Advocacy**

The MSMGF completed an embargoed draft of our report for the prevention and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) survey targeting MSM and providers of MSM. A cadre of community advocates and researchers is now reviewing the report and will provide feedback in advance of its release in July. The report will feature major survey findings. The MSMGF is planning corresponding webinars and a series of discussions with global advocates to address implications for addressing the prevention needs of MSM worldwide.

On May 18, 2011, the MSMGF partnered with the International Rectal Microbicide Advocates (IRMA) to present a webinar by Mar-André LeBlanc entitled “Are Lubes Safe for Rectal use? What MSM Need to Know.” The webinar was attended by 71 participants from 13 countries.

On June 15, 2011 we will conduct our next webinar entitled, *Rectal Microbicides 101: Some Basics for MSM to Know*. The webinar will be led by Kadiri Audu, a Lagos-based social work and head of the Nigerian chapter of IRMA.

A webinar is being planned in collaboration with Pangaea Global AIDS Foundation focused on Treatment 2.0. The webseminar will take place later this spring. During the summer months we will also develop webinars and technical bulletins focused on treatment as prevention and the new *WHO HIV/STI Prevention and Treatment Guidelines for Men who have Sex with Men and Transgender People*. The new guidelines are expected to be available in late June.

## MSMGF Joins Other Activists through Advocacy Sign-Ons

1. **Beirut Harm Reduction Declaration:** The MSMGF signed-on to the Beirut Declaration on HIV and Injection Drug Use: A Global Call to Action that was officially launched at the 22<sup>nd</sup> International Harm Reduction Conference in Beirut, Lebanon in April 2011. The Declaration can be accessed here: <http://www.ihra.net/declaration>
2. **Civil Society Declaration for UN High-Level Meeting:** The MSMGF added its endorsement to the ICASO-led Zero Draft of the Civil Society Declaration for the High-Level Meeting on AIDS that was prepared with broad civil society input. This declaration builds on key messages brought together by civil society around the CS hearings organized at the UN in April.
3. **H.R. 1880: Status Report on the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of HIV/AIDS Act:** The MSMGF endorsed a new bill introduced in the United States Congress by Congresswoman Barbara Lee (Representative of California's 9<sup>th</sup> District) to commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of AIDS. The bill if passed will generate stock-taking reports on progress made by relevant US government agencies on the HIV/AIDS National Strategy and on Universal Access at the country/regional/global levels that in part includes USG responses on behalf of most-at-risk populations.

## MSMGF Working at Country Level in Honduras, Morocco, and Vietnam

From April to June 2011, the *Speaking Out* team has held weekly meetings to strategize and move forward with the project by developing a work plan and time table, as well as periodic calls with our partner organizations to develop a working plan specific to each region. The Vietnamese version of the toolkit was finished and sent to our partners in Vietnam.

### *Honduras*

The MSMGF has formally signed a contract with Asociacion Kukulcan in Honduras to perform all the activities relate to *Speaking Out*. Asociacion Kukulcan's staff has its technical team working on the adaption of the toolkit and the MSMGF will be providing technical support during this process. The first iteration of the adapted toolkit is expected at the end of July.

### *Vietnam*

The MSMGF has signed an agreement with GLink, a small MSM-led organization in Ho Chi Minh City to partner with for the *Speaking Out* initiative. GLink's staff and an in-country consultant are working on revising and adapting the Vietnamese version of the toolkit. The MSMGF staff will be providing technical support during this process. The first adapted version is due at the end of July.

*Morocco*

The *Speaking Out* Initiative team has worked with Association de Lutte Contre le Sida (ALCS) to determine starting dates of project and work plan for the coming months. Based on initial agreements, the *Speaking Out* training of trainers will have a regional reach with participants from North Africa region.

### **MSMGF Launches *Speaking Out* Toolkit**

We launched the *Speaking Out Toolkit*, a training-of-trainers designed to support grassroots activists in the development and implementation of rights-based advocacy projects. Focusing specifically on men who have sex with men (MSM) and HIV, the toolkit addresses key issues for this population, including stigma and discrimination, service provision for MSM, fund raising for MSM projects, working in hostile environments, and United Nations Human Rights mechanisms. From May 24<sup>th</sup> to June 7<sup>th</sup>, the *Speaking Out* webpage had been viewed over 650 times. The toolkit has also been well received by constituencies around the world.

### **The Third Issue of *Sense* Expected in Late July**

The MSMGF staff is working on producing the third issue of *Sense* to be released in late July. This third edition will focus on obstacles gay men and other MSM have overcome to access healthcare and treatment for HIV and AIDS.

### **MSMGF Gets Press Coverage**

From April 1 – June 8, the MSMGF issued nine statements and one press release. In total, the MSMGF was the subject of 21 media hits, all in English. The MSMGF also published an Op-Ed in the Bay Area Reporter focused on the United Nations High Level Meeting. All materials are listed below.

#### **Op-Ed:**

- *What the UN Can Learn from Gay Activism*  
Bay Area Reporter, 25 May 2011

## **Press Releases:**

- *MSMGF Encouraged by New PEPFAR Guidance on HIV Prevention for MSM*  
19 May 2011

## **Statements:**

- *Language on Key Populations for the UN High Level Meeting on AIDS!*  
4 April 2011
- *Two Opportunities to Be Heard at the Global Fund!*  
5 April 2011
- *New Analysis of HIV Proposals from Global Fund Rounds 8, 9 and 10 Shows Progress, Reveals Gaps*  
5 May 2011
- *Uganda's Anti-Homosexuality Bill Hits Parliament*  
9 May 2011
- *Remembering Robert Carr*  
10 May 2011
- *New Primer for Healthcare Providers Aims to Improve Clinical Care for Men Who Have Sex with Men*  
17 May 2011
- *New Toolkit on HIV and Human Rights Advocacy for Men Who Have Sex with Men*  
24 May 2011
- *New MSMGF Web Portal Connects MSM Advocates with the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board*  
1 June 2011
- *Help Shape UNAIDS Strategy and Budgeting for the Next Five Years!*  
7 June 2011

## Media Hits

- *Groups lobby Obama to attend UN AIDS meeting*  
Bay Windows, 26 April 2011  
<http://www.baywindows.com/index.php?ch=news&sc=glt&sc2=news&sc3=&id=118953>
- *Concerns for Black Gay/Bisexual HIV Raised to Global Platform at Dominican Republic Conference*  
TheBody.com, 26 April 2011  
<http://www.thebody.com/content/art61707.html>
- *Alarming HIV-Prevalence Stats*  
Mail & Guardian, 13 May 2011  
<http://mg.co.za/article/2011-05-13-alarming-hivprevalence-stats>
- *Laws criminalizing gays impede work of HIV programs globally*  
Science Speaks, 19 May 2011  
<http://sciencespeaksblog.org/2011/05/19/laws-criminalizing-gays-impede-work-of-hiv-programs-globally/>
- *International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia Observed*  
Social Work Blog, 20 May 2011  
<http://www.socialworkblog.org/practice-and-professional-development/2011/05/international-day-against-homophobia-and-transphobia-observed/>
- *Forum on MSM Encouraged by New PEPFAR Guidelines*  
Africa Science News, 21 May 2011  
[http://www.africasciencenews.org/asns/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=2816&Itemid=2&change\\_css=red](http://www.africasciencenews.org/asns/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2816&Itemid=2&change_css=red)
- *PEPFAR Gives New Guidelines for MSM HIV Prevention*  
POZ.com, 23 May 2011  
[http://www.poz.com/articles/New\\_PEPFAR\\_Guidelines\\_1\\_20477.shtml](http://www.poz.com/articles/New_PEPFAR_Guidelines_1_20477.shtml)
- *Online Presentation: Are Lubes Safe for Rectal Use? What MSM Need to Know*  
About.com, 23 May 2011  
<http://sexuality.about.com/b/2011/05/23/online-presentation-are-lubes-safe-for->

[rectal-use-what-msm-need-to-know.htm](#)

- *Africa: New PEPFAR Guidelines Offer Respite to the Gay Community*  
News from Africa, 23 May 2011  
[http://www.newsfromafrica.org/newsfromafrica/articles/art\\_12608.html](http://www.newsfromafrica.org/newsfromafrica/articles/art_12608.html)
- *US HIV/AIDS funding agency may force Kenya to mainstream gay, lesbian rights*  
Nairobi Star, 25 May 2011  
<http://www.nairobistar.com/lifestyle/128-lifestyle/25676-us-hiv-aids-funding-agency-may-force-kenya-to-mainstream-gay-lesbian-rights->
- *Kenya: U.S. HIV/AIDS Funding Agency May Force Nation to Mainstream Gay, Lesbian Rights*  
allAfrica.com, 25 May 2011  
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201105260176.html?viewall=1>
- *US HIV/AIDS Funding Agency New Rules Tackles Homophobia*  
Gay Kenya, 26 May 2011  
<http://www.gaykenya.com/news/3986.html>
- *Kenya Considers How PEPFAR Technical Guidance on MSM Squares With Laws Against Homosexuality*  
TheBody.com, 26 May 2011  
<http://www.thebody.com/content/art62226.html>
- *HIV prevention for Men who have Sex with Other Men in Africa*  
MOC South Africa, 26 May 2011  
<http://mocsouthafrica.com/2011/05/26/hiv-prevention-for-men-who-have-sex-with-other-men-in-africa/>
- *Kenya Considers How PEPFAR Technical Guidance On MSM Squares With Laws Against Homosexuality*  
Kaiser Global Health Update, 26 May 2011  
<http://globalhealth.kff.org/Daily-Reports/2011/May/26/GH-052611-Kenya-PEPFAR.aspx>
- *Kenya considers how PEPFAR technical guidance on MSM squares with laws against homosexuality*  
News Medical, 27 May 2011  
<http://www.news-medical.net/news/20110527/Kenya-considers-how-PEPFAR->

[technical-guidance-on-MSM-squares-with-laws-against-homosexuality.aspx](#)

- *Global Forum On MSM & HIV Encouraged By New PEPFAR Guidance On HIV Prevention For Men Who Have Sex With Men*  
Medical News Today, 28 May 2011  
<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/releases/226811.php>
- *New PEPFAR Rules Fight African Homophobia*  
Sirius XM OutQ News, 31 May 2011  
<http://outqnews.com/2011/05/31/new-pepfar-rules-fight-african-homophobia/>
- *In Africa, will massive US HIV/Aids funding start trickling to gay/MSM groups?*  
LGBT Asylum News, 31 May 2011  
<http://madikazemi.blogspot.com/2011/05/in-africa-will-massive-us-hiv-aids.html>
- *Advocacy Toolkit on MSM Issues Launched*  
Behind the Mask, 31 May 2011  
<http://www.mask.org.za/advocacy-toolkit-on-msm-issues-launched/>
- *Former Presidents Condemn Malawi's Stance on Homosexuality*  
Behind the Mask, 2 June 2011  
<http://www.mask.org.za/former-presidents-condemn-malawi%E2%80%99s-stance-on-homosexuality-2/>

## **MSMGF Facilitates Global Information Exchange**

Between April 1 and June 8, the MSMGF identified 434 new articles on the health and human rights of MSM around the world and uploaded them to the MSMGF's searchable online database. These articles were also circulated through the MSMGF's member networks and Twitter channels.

The MSMGF also sent 8 direct announcements to MSMGF members to ensure advocates around the world were aware of key advocacy opportunities in their regions and beyond. These communications were sent to different segments of the MSMGF network depending on members' language and focus region. When appropriate the MSMGF invests in translating these announcements to connect non-English speaking advocates with important opportunities they would otherwise be unable to access. The full list of announcements can be found below:

- *Slides and Audio Now Available: "Are Lubes Safe for Rectal Use? What MSM Need to Know"*  
20 May 2011
- *Funding Opportunity: MSM Initiative – Latin America*  
18 May 2011
- *Submission Deadline Extended: Latin America Regional Dialogue on HIV & the Law*  
9 May 2011  
(English, Portuguese, Spanish)
- *Uganda Update: Statement from the Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights & Constitutional Law*  
9 May 2011
- *Announcing Call for Submissions for the Africa Regional Dialogue!*  
2 May 2011  
(English, French)
- *Act Now! Global Fund Survey Closes April 30!*  
29 April 2011  
(English, French, Russian, Spanish)
- *CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: Latin America Regional Dialogue (Global Commission on HIV and the Law)*  
5 April 2011  
(English, Portuguese, Spanish)
- *Language on Key Populations for the UN High Level Meeting on AIDS!*  
4 April 2011  
(English, French, Spanish)

## **MSMGF Website Receives 25% Increase in Daily Visits**

From April 1 - June 8, the MSMGF website received a total of 11,557 visits, of which 7,994 were absolute unique visitors. The average number of visits a day was 168. This is a 25% increase in daily visits over the average for previous quarter (134 visits a day). During the current quarter, the majority of visits came from the United States (3,191), followed by China (723), Canada (535), United Kingdom (487), Brazil (445), India (429), South Africa (303),

Australia (275), Kenya (225), and France (197). Segmenting by language, the majority of visits occurred in English (7,793), followed by Chinese (740), French (570), Portuguese (425), Spanish (379), and Russian (358). A total of 25% of visits occurred in non-English languages. The total number of page views during this period was 42,043.

## MSMGF Gains More than 250 New Members

From April 1 - June 8, the MSMGF gained 255 new members from 83 countries bringing total membership to 2,283. Of all new members that joined during this period, 52% were from the Global South (133) and 48% were from the Global North (122). Segmenting by region, the majority of new members came from Western Europe, Northern Europe and North America (109), followed by Sub-Saharan Africa (46), Asia (40), the Caribbean (16), Oceania (15), Latin America (12), Eastern Europe and Central Asia (11), Middle East and North Africa (4), and Central Europe (2).

In terms of language, 75% of members joining during this period use the website in English (193), and 25% use the website in languages other than English (62). Segmenting non-English speakers by language, the majority signed up to use the website in French (20), followed by Spanish (12), Chinese (10), Arabic (7), Russian (7), and Portuguese (4). Two new members specified a language other than the seven languages supported by the MSMGF web platform.

## MSMGF on Facebook

From April 1 - June 8, the MSMGF's Facebook page received 42,341 post views and 182 pieces of post feedback from visitors. During this period, 143 new people "Liked" the page, bringing the page's total number of Likes to 1,718. The number of monthly active users was 745, with their demographics described in the following chart:

Countries?	Cities?	Language?
528 United States	104 Taipei	965 English (US)
122 Taiwan	65 New York	201 English (UK)
82 India	46 Makati	122 Traditional Chinese (Taiwan)
62 Germany	43 Seattle	115 Spanish
60 Philippines	38 Mexico City	62 German
55 Australia	36 Mumbai	44 French (France)
51 Canada	33 Jakarta	29 Spanish (Spain)
49 United Kingdom	27 Lima	25 Indonesian
46 Mexico	24 Chicago	19 Russian
42 Indonesia	24 Sydney	12 Swedish
39 South Africa	23 Doylestown	11 Dutch
29 Spain	23 Los Angeles	9 Italian
27 Peru	22 Kuala Lumpur	9 Portuguese (Brazil)
26 Nigeria	22 Lagos	8 Thai
24 Malaysia	21 Washington	6 Portuguese (Portugal)
21 France	20 Madrid	5 French (Canada)
21 Thailand	20 Nairobi	5 Simplified Chinese (China)
20 Kenya	19 London	4 Danish
16 Sweden	15 Toronto	4 Greek

## **MSMGF on Twitter**

As of June 8, the MSMGF had sent out 990 Tweets, received 90 mentions and accumulated 463 followers.

## **MSMGF Youth Reference Group Picks up Steam**

Over the past quarter, the MSMGF Youth Reference Group (YRG) drafted a Terms of Reference document and elected two new Co-Chairs, Daniel Townsend from Jamaica and George Victor from Kenya. The YRG also forged ties with the youth branch of the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+), and collaborations are developing with a number of other global youth organizations in preparation for youth-oriented programs and advocacy at AIDS 2012.

## **New MSMGF Blog Launched**

The MSMGF has launched a new blog project to bring MSMGF members reports on recent developments concerning the health and human rights of MSM. The MSMGF Secretariat collaborates with MSMGF members around the world to generate the reports, often involving participation and on-site reporting at events focused on MSM health and rights. The reports are meant to share insights on MSM health and rights in different regions, as well as increase awareness within our global community about who our members are and the work they do.

So far two reports have been produced and circulated throughout the MSMGF's global membership:

- *Report on the Changing Faces, Changing Spaces conference in Nairobi, Kenya*  
By Allan Muhaari (Kenya)  
25 May 2011
- *Report on the Black Diaspora MSM Consultation, "A Black Gay Man: That's Who I Am" in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic*  
By Ian McKnight (Jamaica)  
7 June 2011