



## Networks

### Health Action International (HAI)

Stichting Health Action International is a Dutch civil society Non-Government Organisation (NGO), with a coordinating office (HAI Global) in Amsterdam and partner regional offices Africa (Nairobi), Asia Pacific (Penang), Latin America (Lima) and Europe (Amsterdam). Although primarily a Dutch organization, HAI is recognised for its global medicines policy expertise and as a non-profit, independent, worldwide network of over 200 members including consumer groups, public interest NGOs, health care providers, academics, media and individuals in more than 70 countries.

HAI works to increase access and improve the rational use of essential medicines.

HAI is working towards a world where all people, especially the poor and disadvantaged are able to exercise their human right to health, which requires equitable access to affordable quality health care and essential medicines.

HAI and its global partners recognize that poverty and social injustice are the greatest barriers to health and sustainable development. Partners are working for just societies where people can participate equitably in all decision making that affects their health and well being, including the allocation of resources.

HAI's strength is to enable consumers, health care providers, public interest NGOs and policy makers to collaborate based on mutual interests and common positions to advocate for policy changes and improved health for all.

Partners work together to respond rapidly to priority issues by sharing information and expertise. Collaboration creates a broad base of support and ensures that the concerns of diverse communities are communicated at local, regional and international levels.

Globally HAI works:

- to promote the essential medicines concept, that fewer than 350 medicines are necessary to treat more than 90% of health problems requiring medicines.
- to increase access to these essential medicines and ensuring that they are available at affordable prices when treatment is needed, especially for the poor
- for greater transparency in all aspects of decision making around pharmaceuticals, for example, by reducing industry secrecy and control over important clinical data
- to promote the rational use of medicines: that all medicines marketed should meet real medical needs, have therapeutic advantages, be acceptably safe and offer value for money
- for better controls on drug promotion and the provision of balanced, independent information for prescribers and consumers.