



ICASO WELCOMES NEW BOARD LEADERSHIP

Toronto, 25 October 2021

We are pleased to introduce Ronald MacInnis (United States) as the new chair of the ICASO's Board of Directors, Yolanda Simon (Trinidad and Tobago) as the new vice-chair of the ICASO Board, and Tamil Kendall (Canada) as ICASO Board Treasurer. The announcement comes following the ICASO Board of Directors meeting held virtually on 22 October 2021.

"We are excited to welcome Ron as the new chair of the Board of Directors," says Olayide Akanni, who has completed her term as chair. "Ron brings to this leadership role not only familiarity with ICASO but also recognized experience in leadership roles and a wealth of knowledge on issues that are core to ICASO's work," added Olayide, who will remain on the Board until the end of 2021.

Ron expressed gratitude for Olayide's commitment: "the ICASO board and staff thank Olayide for her outstanding leadership and contributions to shaping ICASO's future."

ICASO's 2021 Board of Directors

The newly elected officials will continue leading the development of ICASO's new Strategy, together with Alexander Pastoors (Netherlands), Javier Hourcade Bellocq (Argentina), Mark Heywood (South Africa), Meena Saraswathi Seshu (India), Olayide Akanni (Nigeria), Tamara Adrian (Venezuela) and Yolanda Paul (Jamaica). Each Board Member brings their own unique professional experience and a desire to make a meaningful contribution to community responses to HIV.

While also appreciating the contributions of members whose tenure on the Board ended earlier in the year, Tony Di Pede (Canada) and Jacqueline Coleman (United States), the Board of Directors look forward to collectively advancing ICASO's mission to mobilize and support diverse community organizations and networks to create and sustain effective responses to HIV.

About ICASO

The Board of Directors guides the work of ICASO and supports the Executive Director, Mary Ann Torres (Canada/Venezuela), and the rest of the team. The ICASO Board, staff and consultant team, consist of a diverse, multilingual, geographically dispersed group of professionals with deep experience in the global AIDS response. The ICASO team comes to ICASO with a wealth of knowledge and a range of backgrounds, including direct service delivery, policy development, advocacy and activism, resource mobilization, and program management. It is skilled at research for advocacy, North/South collaborations, and partnership development.

Strategic partnerships are at the center of ICASO's operational model. We work with community organizations, non-governmental organizations, key population networks, academic institutions, think tanks, political and donor institutions, and thought leaders across the AIDS response. Our collaboration takes many forms: financial and political support, joint policy and program analysis, technical assistance, co-organizing of events, and leveraging our various platforms to amplify the voices of our community partners.

For more information about ICASO and the Board of Directors, please visit: www.icaso.org