

# SIBA

MENA Youth Network on SRHR and HIV/AIDS

## The Press

We as representatives of young people from Middle East and North Africa, proudly announce to you the formation of SIBA, MENA Youth Network on Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and HIV-AIDS



# Why engaging Young people?

According to UNAIDS Global AIDS update 2018, annual new HIV infections and deaths from AIDS-related illnesses are on the rise in the Middle East and North Africa. Prevention Programmes are not reaching key populations in sufficient numbers, and progress towards the 90-90-90 targets remains well behind the global average.

During the Regional Consultation on Fast-Tracking HIV Combination Prevention Programmes in MENA that took place in Tunis in November 2018, UNAIDS highlighted that efforts to effective and active engagement with communities of most at risk key populations and people living with HIV, as well as young people in the region will be critical as countries work to get their HIV responses on track.



# The MENA Youth led Consultation on SRHR and HIV/AIDS

To answer all those challenges, it was decided to have a regional consultation themed

“Towards Youth Leadership in the HIV Response in MENA” where young people with all their diversities can discuss their needs and challenges and put a work plan for Youth leadership in HIV response. The consultation was lead and delivered by young people themselves with the Support of UNAIDS.



Between 3-5 August 2019, A group of young people from MENA Region met in Egypt in the presence of representative from regional networks working in the HIV response and representatives from : UNAIDS, WHO and UNDP

During this consultation, young leaders pointed out the so many challenges that need to be addressed in order to meet the global targets by 2030.

Throughout three working days, they talked about their respective experiences, discussed their priorities as young experts of the region and shared their will to actively participate in the regional HIV response acceleration.

They strongly emphasized on the importance of having a youth lead network on HIV and Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in MENA, which will give them the ability to shape future strategies as full-partners in different decision making processes.

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