

### **10th February 2010, Vientiane - Regional Conference Highlights Youth and HIV Responses**

Underscoring the vital role of youth in ASEAN priorities, a regional conference on increasing access for young people to HIV responses was held in Lao PDR recently. Drawing the participation of youths and Government officials from ASEAN Member States, the conference also discussed creating a supportive environment to dissolve any barriers and stigma and discrimination against young people who are most at risk of HIV infection.

Held in the capital Vientiane on 9-10 February 2010, the ASEAN Regional Conference on Youth Who are at Risk of HIV Infection highlighted the involvement of young people in identifying key regional priorities and activities related to youth and HIV.

Aimed to foster linkages between the ASEAN body on youth and other ASEAN bodies in addressing cross-cutting issues on youth, the Conference brought together Government officials from ASEAN Member States representing ministries responsible for youth affairs and ministries for health together with youth networks. The Conference was also attended by representatives from partner organisations and Civil Society Organisations.

The Workshop was hosted by the Lao People's Revolutionary Union and jointly supported by UNAIDS and the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Source: ASEAN