

# ***HIV-related travel restrictions***

**Placing travel restrictions on people living with HIV has no public health justification and violates human rights.**

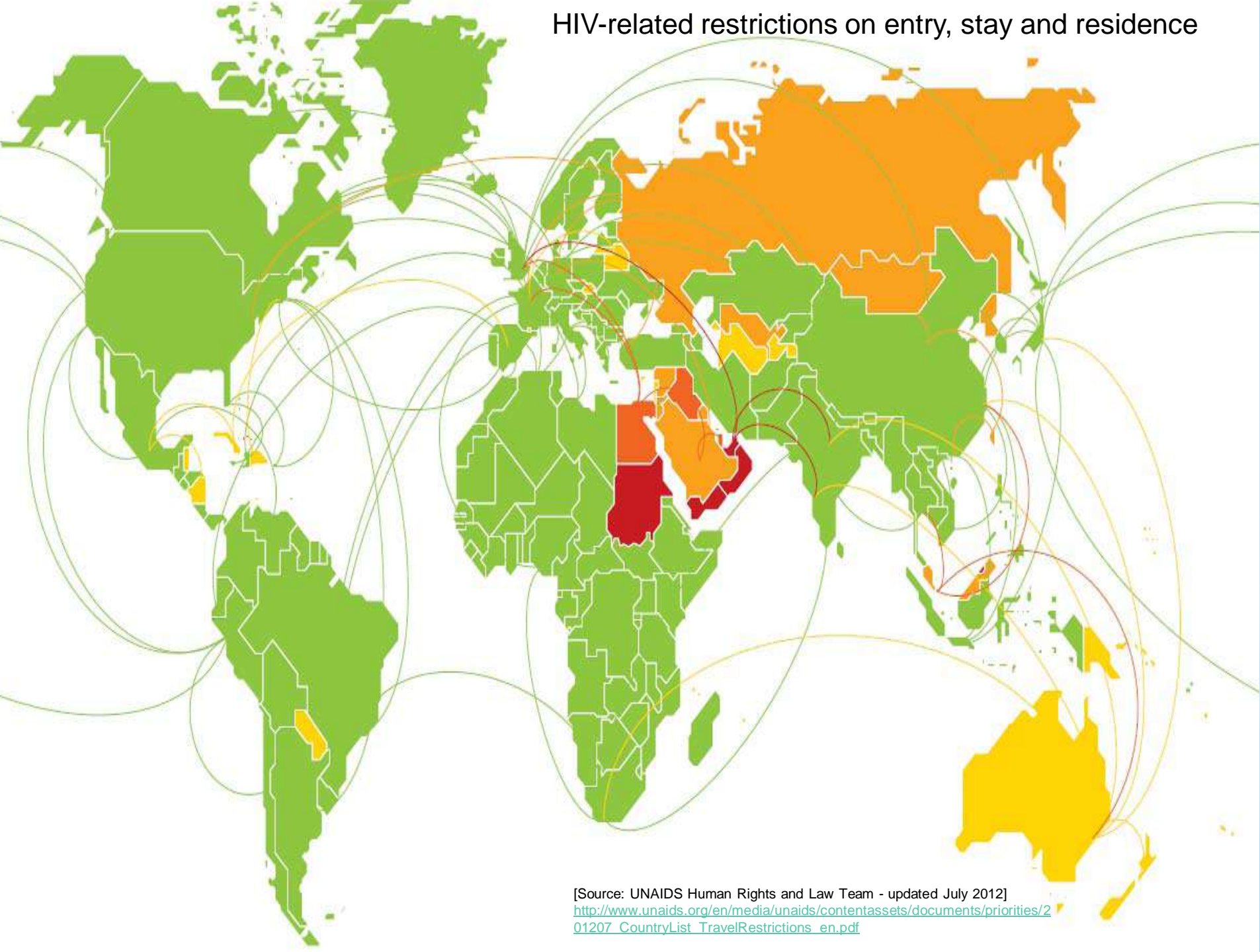
**Michel Sidibe. UNAIDS Executive Director.**

# ***HIV-related travel restrictions***

As of July 2012, 45 countries, territories, and areas impose some form of restriction on the entry, stay and residence of people living with HIV based on their HIV status.

**12 of the 45 countries are in Asia Pacific.**

# HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence



[Source: UNAIDS Human Rights and Law Team - updated July 2012]

[http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/priorities/201207\\_CountryList\\_TravelRestrictions\\_en.pdf](http://www.unaids.org/en/media/unaids/contentassets/documents/priorities/201207_CountryList_TravelRestrictions_en.pdf)

# ***HIV-related travel restrictions***

These are the Asia Pacific countries that maintain travel restrictions:

**Australia**

**DPR of Korea**

**Marshall Islands**

**New Zealand**

**Samoa**

**Solomon Islands**

**Brunei Darussalam**

**Malaysia**

**Mongolia**

**Papua New Guinea**

**Singapore**

**Tonga**

# ***HIV-related travel restrictions***

- HIV Travel Restrictions usually take the form of a law or administrative function that requires people to indicate their HIV-status.
- There are **two types of travel restrictions**:
  - \* Absolute ban on entry/stay for PLHIV
  - \* Allowed to enter for shorter term stays, but restrictions on longer term residence



# ***HIV-related travel restrictions***

In Asia Pacific :

- Some countries have absolute bans on entry for PLHIV: Brunei, Singapore and PNG.
- Some countries deport PLHIV: Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore.

Most common reasons cited for these restrictions:

- To protect public health.
- To avoid possible costs associated with care, support and treatment of PLHIV.

# ***HIV-related travel restrictions***

At the 2011 United National General Assembly Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS, AP countries committed to achieving the 10 targets and elimination commitments.

**The only target addressing migration.**

**#9: Eliminate HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence**

# ***HIV-related travel restrictions***

JUNIMA's work:

- Lead broad-based regional campaigns to reduce stigma and discrimination against migrants, mobile populations and PLHIV and promote them nationally.
- Advocate and facilitate multi-sector policy dialogue to harmonize laws, regulations and human rights policies in ASEAN member countries, and Yunnan and Guangxi (China).



# ***HIV-related travel restrictions***

In 2013:

Advocate and promote for legal change: removal of travel restrictions in Papua New Guinea.

*A country where change may be more easily effected, where laws and policies are based on sound principles of non-discrimination and provide an enabling environment for PLHIV and migrants.*

# ***HIV-related travel restrictions***

Convene and broker an inter-regional dialogue between the League of Arab States (LAS) and regional body in AP.

*To initiate dialogue on addressing policies in the Gulf and ports of the Red Sea that permit mandatory HIV testing and deportation practices, and render Asian migrant workers vulnerable .*

*UNDP, IOM, ASEAN, SAARC, CSO.  
UNAIDS RST AP and MENA.*