



Want to improve access to ARVS?

Join ARASA and their online training course on challenging intellectual barriers!

AIDS & Rights Alliance for Southern Africa (ARASA) are offering an online training course for civil society organizations in Africa. The training will help HIV and health activist groups challenge intellectual property barriers, that impede access to affordable medicines.

The month-long training aims to strengthen civil society's understanding of how the current patent system prevents access to affordable second and third line HIV and TB, as well as hepatitis C medicines.

PURPOSE OF COURSE

This short online course aims to equip participants with;

- a) An understanding and appreciation of the intricate linkages between access to essential HIV, TB and hepatitis C medicines and the barriers presented by intellectual property legal and policy frameworks.
- b) Increased knowledge around the use of the flexibilities provided for by international trade agreements such as the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), to improve access to medicines at a domestic level.
- c) Provide participants with advocacy tools to equip them to embark on campaigns, which aim to review their domestic patent laws to incorporate the TRIPS-flexibilities.

WHO MAY APPLY?

Anyone interested in learning more about IP as it impacts access to medicines.

In the selection of participants, preference will be given to:

1. African residents working in the area of the right to health, access to medicines, policy makers working on trade and development, human rights organisations (including NGOs and Government agencies), health professionals, legal practitioners and academics;
2. Are fluent in English;
3. Have daily access to the internet as well as access to a computer with the following specifications:
Operating System: Windows 95, 98, 2000, NT, ME or XP; MacOS 9 or MacOS X
Hardware: Minimum 128 Mbytes of RAM preferably 512 MB, 1GByte of free disk space
Software: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel 2000 or higher Adobe Acrobat Reader 5 or higher
Browser: Internet Explorer 5 or higher OR Netscape Navigator 5 or higher
Modem: 56 kbps minimum
4. Are committed to participating fully in all the elements of the short course
5. Are committed to promoting a rights based responses to access to HIV, TB and Hepatitis C medicines in their own countries and in the region, by addressing barriers intellectual barrier rights.

HOW TO APPLY

Kindly send us the following:

1. A one page letter of motivation, setting out why you feel that you would benefit from participating in the short course, and outlining how you will use the skills acquired during the course in your own country;
2. Your resume / CV;
3. A letter of support from the organisation you are currently working with / affiliated to.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

All applications must be received by no later than close of business on Friday, 16th October 2017. Kindly note that applications received after the closing date will not be considered. Application should be submitted by email to Bruce Tushabe, at bruce@arasa.info (and copy Lynette Mabote, lynette@arasa.info).

The course will take place from the 6th November – 8th December 2017

