



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ARASA & ITPC ONLINE TRAINING COURSE
“Addressing Intellectual Property Barriers in African countries: Improving Access to sustainable availability and access to affordable, quality, safe and efficacious essential medicines”

Applications are invited for participation in the AIDS & Rights Alliance for Southern Africa (ARASA) & International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC) 2016 online training course on “Addressing Intellectual Property Barriers in African countries: Improving Access to sustainable availability & access to affordable, quality, safe & efficacious essential medicines”.

ELIGIBLE TO

Civil society, policymakers, religious leaders and service providers including health care providers and law enforcement officials

COST OF COURSE

Free

COURSE AT A GLANCE

6 weeks of study 

4 hours / week 

Language (English) 

CERTIFICATION

Certificate of Participation upon completion of the course 

ARASA is a partnership of 106 civil society organisations working together in 18 countries in southern and east Africa to promote a human rights based response to, HIV and TB through capacity strengthening and advocacy. This online training course is one of several offered by ARASA with a view to strengthening African civil society expertise on HIV, TB and human rights advocacy.

The International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC) is a global movement of people living with HIV, treatment activists and their supporters dedicated to treatment access for all in need.

This online training course is one of several offered by ARASA (in collaboration with ITPC) with the objective of strengthening civil society’s understanding of how the current patent system continues to be a barrier to access to affordable second and third line HIV and TB, as well as Hepatitis C medicines.

BACKGROUND

In this globalisation era, trade has become central to our daily lives. This includes trade in essential health care commodities such as treatment, tools and diagnostics for communicable and non-communicable diseases in Africa. Intellectual Property Rights

(IPRs) have had a significant impact on the global access to sustainable availability and access to affordable, quality, safe and efficacious essential medicines and diagnostics.

Upon completing this course, participants will have an understanding of the intellectual property mine field, and be able to develop advocacy strategies to address these. Participants will be able to work with policy makers at a domestic level to improve access to sustainable, affordable and safe essential 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 utilise existing intellectual property flexibilities aimed at improving access to essential medicine

WHO MAY APPLY?

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 and an interest in the intricate nature of intellectual property rights as they impact access to HIV, TB and Hepatitis C diagnostics and medicines.
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 September 2016**. 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 3rd October - 4th November 2016