TECHNICAL GUIDANCE – HIV TREATMENT DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHAT ABOUT INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN OUT OF CARE FOR MORE THAN A YEAR?

12 Step Action Plan

1. **PERFORM CD4**
   Perform CD4 to assess eligibility for advanced disease package of care.

2. **CO-TRIMOXAZOLE**
   Provide Co-trimoxazole if clinically unwell.

3. **TB SCREEN**
   If TB screen is negative, TB Preventive Treatment (TPT) may be provided if appropriate.

4. **TEMPORARY CHANGES**
   Work promptly and closely with national governments to effect temporary changes in policy.

5. **ESSENTIAL SERVICES**
   Ensure uninterrupted essential HIV services to children, adolescents, pregnant and breastfeeding women and adults.

6. **MINIMISE INTERACTIONS**
   Minimise clients’ interactions with health care facilities and health care workers.

7. **CLIENTS ON ART**
   Count clients on ART towards TX_CURR* if medication is not more than 28 days from ending.

8. **LAST DELIVERY DATE**
   Base this on last delivery date of ARV medication.
9 CONTINUE ARV
Clients should continue to access ARV programmes but avoid in-person contact.

10 EVALUATE STOCK
Evaluate current stock and project availability to plan best options for PLHIV.

11 REGIMEN
Keep client on current regimen if stable.

12 OPTIMISED REGIMEN
But plan to transition to optimised regimens (TLD, ped LPVr) in the future where appropriate.

Critical intervention: accelerate + complete scale-up of 3 to 6-month dispensing of ART and decentralised distribution.

* TX_CURR: Number of adults and children currently receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART)