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Loose sexual habit decried

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WHO has invited individuals, families,

governments and the international

community to expand this

list, to begin dialogue on rights

and responsibilities and-most importantly

to ensure that all rights

are respected and responsibilities

fulfilled.

In 1995 the United Nations International

Year for Tolerance, the

theme Shared rights, shared

responsibilities is particularly

appropriate for events and activities

leading up to world Aids Day

and beyond, says WHO.

Last year, thousands of people

worldwide took part in the World

AIDs Day events and activities

which had included concerts,

speeches, marches, workshops, radio

and television features, street

banners and special condom promotions.

the National function

was held at Nyayo Stadium and

was by Vice-President

. Every province

and district in the country had held

similar functions.

This year's national event commemoration

will be observed in

Gusii Stadium, Kisii District to be

presided by the Minister for Health

Mr. Joshua Angatia.

All the provinces and districts will

hold similar events.

When the first case of Aids was

isolated in Kenya in 1984, the

Government identified a series of

activities to prevent and control

the spread of HIV and mitigating

the impact of Aids .

In 1987, the Government established

the National Aids Control

Programme and set up the AIDS

Programme Secretariat within the

Ministry of Health.

A National Aids Committee was

constituted to advise the Ministry

of Health on all matters pertaining

to the epidemic.

Since its inception, the ACP has

played a leading role in the co-ordination

of HIV prevention and

AIDS care activities as outlined in

the first Medium Task Plan

(MTPI) 1987-1991 and the second

MTPII 1992-1996. The MTPI focused

on creating awareness campaigns,

surveillance of HIV/AIDS

strengthening of laboratory services

and training of health

workers.

At the end of the plan period, a

high level of awareness estimated

to be, over 83 per cent of the population

was realised.

The second Medium Term Plan

(MTP 11) was formulated in 1992.

For complete protection from

the sexual transmission of HIV/

Aids, the only totally effective preventive

measures are sexual abstinence

and sexual intercourse between

mutually faithful uninfected

partners, says Ms Mukami Mugo

the marketing manager of Population

Services International

(PSI) distributors of Trust

condoms.

She says these two concepts·

must be encouraged in all societies

and among all sexually active age

groups as primary SID strategies.

"However, it must be acknowl-  
fidelity to one uninfected partner

are not the experience of millions

of people.

Consequently, public health

measures to slow the spread of the

disease must include the promotion

and provision of effective protection

and education in its proper

use," Mukami says.

PSI a non-governmental organization

uses commercial marketing

techniques and the resource of the

local private sector such as distributors,

retailers and advertising

agencies.

Its products however are sold at

reduced prices, thus making them

affordable to low income groups.

According to PSI, its products

are sold rather than given away to

ensure that the recipients truly

want them and will use them