UNAIDS Asks Rwanda Not to Criminalize Homosexuality

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The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) hasrequested Rwanda reform a proposal that would criminalize homosexuality underits penal code, AllAfrica.com reports.

According to the article, a committee in the country'sparliament has recommended that the UNAIDS request be followed. If it isfollowed, the reform will conform to the United Nations Convenant on Civil andPolitical Rights.

The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commissionand the International Lesbian and Gay Association had previously petitioned theRwandan government to not include the anti-LGBT provisions.

Efforts to criminalize homosexuality in Uganda and elsewhereare being fought by many AIDS activists who say these laws can interfere withHIV prevention among LGBT people.

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