



# 2008 High Level Meeting on AIDS

General Assembly, United Nations, New York

10 - 11 June 2008

Uniting the world against AIDS

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

## UN General Assembly Convenes High-Level Meeting on AIDS

### *Governments to review progress on access to HIV treatment and prevention*

**WHO:** President of the General Assembly **Srgjan Kerim**, UN Secretary-General **Ban Ki-moon**, approximately **6 Heads of State and Government** and over **80 ministers**, senior officials, representatives of **international organizations** and **civil society** will meet to review progress towards the targets agreed in the UN's 2001 Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the 2006 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS.

**WHEN:** **10-11 June 2008**

**WHERE:** **United Nations Headquarters**, 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue & 46<sup>th</sup> Street, New York

**WHAT:** The UN Secretary-General will present his report on the progress made and the challenges that remain in the global fight against HIV and AIDS. The report is based on 147 national reports submitted to UNAIDS at the end of January 2008. Leaders from government, international organizations and civil society will:

- review the return on the substantial investments made over the past years;
- outline solutions and policies needed to meet the agreed targets, including universal access to prevention and treatment by 2010;
- urge political leaders to live up to their promise on the targets;
- explore bold, innovative ways to meet the special needs of women and girls;
- mobilize resources and ensure that money gathered works by investing in evidence-informed programmes.

### **SUMMARY OF KEY EVENTS**

#### **Opening: 10 June, 9:00 – 11:00 am, General Assembly Hall**

- The session will open with a formal plenary meeting of the General Assembly, where statements will be made by the President of the General Assembly, the UN Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, an eminent person and a person living with HIV.
- Delegations will make statements at plenary meetings to be held on the afternoon of 10 June (3–6pm) and all day 11 June (10am–1pm and 3–6 pm).

#### **Informal Interactive Civil Society Hearing: 10 June, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, Conference Room 4**

- The hearing will provide an opportunity for an exchange of views between civil society (including the private sector) and Member States and observers on various issues, with a particular focus on key priority issues for civil society in achieving universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010.

#### **Thematic Panel Discussions**

Five panel events will provide an opportunity for in-depth discussion, focusing on selected areas that require special attention to advance the HIV response, and will help examine the progress made, promote sharing of best practices, identify challenges and gaps and sustainable ways to overcome them. All panel discussions will be held in Conference Room 2 and can be viewed by press from the gallery or by in-house TV or webcast.

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**Panel 1) 10 June, 3:00 – 4:30 pm**

***How do we build on results achieved and speed up progress towards universal access by 2010 – moving on to reach the Millennium Development Goals by 2015?***

The panel will take stock of results and focus on remaining gaps and key decisions that need to be taken, along with actions at country, regional and global levels.

**Panel 2) 10 June, 4:30 – 6:00 pm**

***The challenges of providing leadership and political support in countries with concentrated epidemics***

The panel will focus on the drivers of the epidemic, human rights concerns, and how to reach stigmatized, hard-to-reach and vulnerable populations. What specific actions are needed to overcome socio-economic barriers and other obstacles to access prevention, treatment, care and support.

**Panel 3) 11 June, 10:00 – 11:30 am**

***Making the response to AIDS work for women and girls: gender equality and AIDS***

The panel will review findings from country reports on the progress, or lack thereof, with regard to the feminization of the epidemic and gender equality; barriers and proposed actions.

**Panel 4) 11 June, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm**

***AIDS: A multi-generational challenge – providing a robust and long-term response***

The panel will examine critical linkages between the response to AIDS and long-term development, strengthening of health systems, social protection, scientific innovation and the lethal combination of HIV and tuberculosis. The UN Special Envoy to Stop TB will present the outcome of the HIV-TB Global Leaders Forum.

**Panel 5) 11 June, 3:00 – 4:30 pm**

***Resources and universal access: opportunities and limitations***

The panel will examine aspects of financing of the response to AIDS, including sources of funding, resource allocation and spending, “making the money work”, accountability and predictable and multi-year funding. How can sustainable funding be assured at country level for the long-term?

**Side Events**

Following is a list of **selected** side events that may be of interest to media. A complete list and more details can be found at: [http://www.un.org/ga/aidsmeeting2008/calendar\\_hlm\\_sideevents.pdf](http://www.un.org/ga/aidsmeeting2008/calendar_hlm_sideevents.pdf)

**Monday, 9 June**

**9:30-11:00 am**

**Launch of report of Commission on HIV/AIDS & Governance in Africa**

*UN Conference Room 7 (open access)*

Organizer: UN Economic Commission for Africa (contact: [YAdeyemi@uneca.org](mailto:YAdeyemi@uneca.org))

**11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**Universal Access to Affordable HIV/AIDS Diagnostics and Treatment:  
In Search of Sustainable Solutions**

*UN Conference Room 2 (open access)*

Organizers: UN OHRLLS, Office of Special Advisor on Africa (OSAA), UNAIDS  
(contact: [kirungi@un.org](mailto:kirungi@un.org))

**3:00-6:00 pm**

**HIV-TB Global Leaders Forum**

*UN Conference Room 2 (open access)*

Organizers: Special Envoy to Stop TB, WHO, UNAIDS, World Bank, EU and the Global Fund (contact: [bakerl@who.int](mailto:bakerl@who.int); [reida@unaids.org](mailto:reida@unaids.org))

**6:00- 9:00 pm**

**Awards Gala of the Global Business Coalition on AIDS, TB and Malaria**

*Cipriani - 55 Wall Street (limited access)*

Organizers: Global Business Coalition (GBC), UNAIDS-Private Sector Partnership  
(contact: [castillor@unaids.org](mailto:castillor@unaids.org))

**Tuesday, 10 June**

**1:15-2:45 pm**

**Overcoming barriers in educating young people about sex and HIV**

*UN Delegates Dining Room (limited access)*

Organizers: UNESCO, UNAIDS, UNFPA, International Planned Parenthood  
(contact: [c.castle@unesco.org](mailto:c.castle@unesco.org))

**Wednesday, 11 June**

**8:30-9:45 am**

**Accelerating scale-up of prevention of mother-to-child transmission:  
Stories of hope**

*UN Delegates Dining Room (limited access)*

Organizers: UNICEF and WHO on behalf of Interagency Task Team  
(contact: [tdebodt@unicef.org](mailto:tdebodt@unicef.org) ; [cluo@unicef.org](mailto:cluo@unicef.org); [Loyi@who.int](mailto:Loyi@who.int))

**1:15-2:45 pm**

**Parliamentary Action on AIDS**

*UN Delegates Dining Room (limited access)*

Organizers: UNDP, Inter-Parliamentary Union, UNAIDS Secretariat

Contact: [violet.baffour@undp.org](mailto:violet.baffour@undp.org);

**For more information, see [www.un.org/ga/aidsmeeting2008/](http://www.un.org/ga/aidsmeeting2008/)**

**All official meetings and press conferences will be webcast, at [www.un.org/webcast](http://www.un.org/webcast)**

Media without UN credentials should request accreditation from the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit. Detailed information is available at [www.un.org/media/accreditation](http://www.un.org/media/accreditation).

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