

**PLENARY SESSION, MONDAY 12 JULY**  
**08:30 – 10:00, Session Hall A (Arena)**  
**DAILY THEME: Access to Resources: Commitment and Accountability**  
**SPEAKER BIOS:**

**President Yoweri K. Museveni**  
Uganda

The Honourable Yoweri K. Museveni became the President of Uganda in 1986 after leading a five-year struggle against the country's previous political regime. President Museveni has been politically active since he was a student in the south of Uganda. He graduated from the University of Dar es Salaam with a BA in Economics and Political Science in 1970.

President Museveni has been widely praised for leading Uganda's response to the spread of HIV/AIDS. Since 1987, the government of Uganda has implemented a prevention campaign to reduce the prevalence of HIV, and in June 2004, Uganda became the second African country to begin distributing free antiretroviral therapy to those living with HIV/AIDS. In regards to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Uganda, President Museveni has said, "The worst is over" (*Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report*, June 2004).

**Jean-François Rischard**  
World Bank Europe, France

During his 20 years with the World Bank, Mr. Rischard has campaigned for international awareness of HIV/AIDS, presenting the pandemic's serious influence on poverty as a fundamental global development issue. As the World Bank's first Vice President for Europe, Mr. Rischard represents the institution in high-level partnerships and communications with European constituencies.

In his book, *High Noon: 20 Global Problems and 20 Years to Solve Them*, Mr. Rischard argues that the globalisation of information and communication can facilitate coalition-building, research and problem-solving. He says that people need to be connected in global terms, and that if existing institutions fail to perform this function, new ones should be created. He proposes "innovative policy-making bodies called global issues networks that can transcend the limits imposed by contemporary territorial and hierarchical institutions that were never constructed to address...inherently global challenges."

**HRH Princess Mabel van Oranje-Wisse Smit**  
Open Society Institute, Netherlands

An advocate for development of welfare, democracy and human rights, Her Royal Highness Princess van Oranje-Wisse Smit is a long-time campaigner in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Since 1997 she has served as Managing Director of the Brussels-based Open Society Institute, which focuses on responding to increasing rates of drug use and HIV infection in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union through the International Harm Reduction Development Program.

Princess van Oranje-Wisse Smit also founded the European Action Council for Peace in the Balkans in 1994, to promote peace, democracy and stability in that region.

Guests at Princess van Oranje-Wisse Smit's high profile April 2004 marriage to His Royal Highness Prince Friso of the Netherlands were invited to make donations to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

### **Tsetsele Fantan**

African Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Partnerships, Botswana

Ms. Tsetsele Fantan is a leading consultant on corporations' approaches to HIV/AIDS issues. As Project Leader for African Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Partnerships (ACHAP), she is responsible for providing HIV/AIDS program leadership and strategic direction and for developing relationships with key national and international stakeholders. ACHAP is a public-private partnership between the Government of Botswana, Merck & Co., Inc./The Merck Company Foundation and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation that is working to help the Botswana government achieve its goal of an AIDS-free generation through a comprehensive approach focused on prevention, care, treatment and support.

Previously, Ms. Fantan worked as Director of HIV/AIDS Impact Management at Debswana Diamond Company, one of the first companies to provide its employees with antiretroviral treatment. The program was recognised as among the best in the world by UNAIDS. Mrs. Fantan worked to develop and implement appropriate strategies for managing the impact of HIV/AIDS on human and financial resources, including structures for providing ARV therapy for Debswana group companies.

Tsetsele Fantan emphasises the importance of partnership and national unity in combating HIV/AIDS and achieving the goal of a nation free of AIDS in 2016 (*AllAfrica.com*, November 2003).

### **Karen Stanecki**

UNAIDS

Dr. Karen Stanecki, Senior Adviser on Demographics and Related Data at UNAIDS' Department of Social Mobilisation and Information, is part of the expert team on epidemiology. She is responsible for making assessments of HIV/AIDS-related morbidity and mortality, including the development and application of methods to cross validate estimates of HIV prevalence and HIV-related mortality with general data on mortality. Dr. Stanecki participates in the development of temporal trend data on HIV prevalence by country, region and globally, including historic perspectives, and assists in improving estimates of prevalence, incidence and mortality for orphans, young people and women. In addition, she is currently Chair of the Monitoring the AIDS Pandemic (MAP) Network.

Dr. Stanecki has said that improving the tools used to track the epidemic is "useful for tracking treatment efficacy in order for countries to determine their needs in terms of prevention and treatment programs" (*Reuters Health*, November, 2003).

**Tim Brown**

East-West Center, United States

Dr. Tim Brown directs the UNAIDS Collaborating Center at the East-West Center and is a member of the Mapping the AIDS Pandemic Network. He is also an affiliated researcher at the Thai Red Cross Society's Center for AIDS Research and a member of the Thai Working Group on HIV/AIDS Projection.

As part of a series of articles on AIDS in Asia, *Science* magazine recently highlighted the Asian Epidemic Curve, a model created by Dr. Brown and Wiwat Peerapatanapokin of the East-West Center. This model is used to understand the forces that drive HIV transmission trends in countries with large numbers of injection drug users, commercial sex workers and men who have sex with men, and relatively few women with multiple sex partners. According to *Science*, the model shows that doubling the number of female sex workers and clients propels Asian epidemics "more powerfully" than any other force (*Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report*, June 2004).