



## VIP Speaker Bios

**Anders Nordström, MD** (Sweden), *Acting Director-General, World Health Organization (WHO)*

A medical doctor from the Karolinska Institutet in Sweden, Dr. Anders Nordström is currently the Acting Director-General of WHO. His first international assignments were with the Swedish Red Cross in Cambodia and the International Committee of the Red Cross in Iran. He worked for the Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (SIDA) for 12 years, including three years as Regional Advisor in Zambia and four years as head of the Health Division in Stockholm. During this time the agency supported programmes on health development and poverty reduction in 18 countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia.

During 2002, Dr. Nordström was the Interim Executive Director for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, laying the foundations for the organization's present structure. He took office as Assistant Director-General for General Management in July 2003 with a mandate to support the implementation of Dr. LEE Jong-wook's vision of a more effective and efficient organization equipped to "do the right things, in the right place." Upon the death of Dr. Lee in May 2006, the WHO Executive Board appointed Dr. Nordström Acting Director-General. He will hold this office until the election of a new Director-General in November 2006. His priorities for this interim period are: to maintain momentum and direction in WHO's technical work; to manage the election process efficiently and transparently; and to continue work on management reforms.