



VIP Speaker Bios

Peter PIOT, MD, PhD (Belgium), *Executive Director, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)*

Dr. Peter Piot was appointed Executive Director of UNAIDS and Assistant-Secretary-General of the United Nations in 1994. He joined UNAIDS from a position as Associate Director of the Global Programme on AIDS of the World Health Organization. Dr. Piot had previously served as Professor of Microbiology and Head of the Department of Infection and Immunity at the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Belgium. He also launched and expanded a series of collaborative projects in Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Tanzania and Zaire. Dr. Piot was Associate Professor of Public Health at the Free University of Brussels from 1989 to 1992, and Associate Professor of Microbiology at the University of Nairobi from 1986 to 1987. In 1976, he became co-discoverer of the Ebola virus. He served as the President of the International AIDS Society from 1991 to 1994. Dr. Piot qualified as a Doctor of Medicine at the University of Ghent and received a Doctorate in Microbiology from the University of Antwerp. He has received many awards for scientific achievement and public service, and has published over 500 articles and 15 books. H.M. King Albert II of Belgium awarded him a baronetcy in 1995.