



Plenary Speaker Bios

Jorge SAAVEDRA López, MD, MPH, MHPM (Mexico)

Jonathon Mann Memorial Lecture: Sex Between Men

Jorge Saavedra has been the Head of the National HIV/AIDS Programme in Mexico (CENSIDA) since 2003 and was responsible for launching the Universal Access to ARV policy in Mexico. Mexico's universal access programme and social security system are together covering 46,000 people living with HIV/AIDS. In 2004 Dr. Saavedra launched an official anti-machismo education campaign, and in 2005, he launched the first government-endorsed anti-homophobia campaign in Mexico. In 2006 he appointed the first transgender woman in an official position within the Mexican Government. In the last two years Dr. Saavedra has served as a Board Member for the Global Fund, representing Latin America and the Caribbean. In this role, he and three other board members developed the sexual minorities' decision point. In 2000, he founded the first ambulatory HIV Clinic in Mexico (*Clinica Condesa* in Mexico City), which is currently the largest HIV Care Center in Mexico and one of the largest in Latin-America. Dr. Saavedra has written several publications related to costs and financing of HIV in Latin America and Mexico and is the recipient of several national and regional awards, including the National Gay Merit Award. As the first openly gay person to be in a high level position inside the Mexican Government, Dr. Saavedra is currently working towards a new goal: To officially declare the 51 new HIV Ambulatory Care Clinics in Mexico as "Homophobia Free Services". Dr. Saavedra has an MPH and MHPM from Harvard University and an MD from National Autonomous University of Mexico.