



VIP Speaker Bios

Nafis Sadik, MD (*Pakistan*), *Special Adviser to the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General and his Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Asia*

As Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General and his Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Asia, Dr. Nafis Sadik is responsible for promoting the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, adopted by the UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS (UNGASS) in 2001, throughout Asia.

Dr. Sadik joined the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in 1971, serving in various capacities until her appointment as Executive Director in 1987. Upon her appointment, Dr. Sadik became the first woman in the UN's history to lead one of its major voluntarily funded programmes. Under her leadership as Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in 1994, the international community unanimously agreed to the approach to reproductive health that includes empowering women through education and economic opportunity. Dr. Sadik retired in December 2000. Prior to joining UNFPA, she was Pakistan's Director-General of the Central Family Planning Council, preparing and evaluating the country's health and family planning programme as part of the nation's development plan.

Educated at Loreto College, Calcutta, she received her Doctor of Medicine degree from Dow Medical College, Karachi. Dr. Sadik is a member of the Board of Governors of the Foundation for Human Development and the South Asian Commission on the Asian Challenge. She was President of the Society for International Development from 1994-1997.