

**63<sup>rd</sup> Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference  
Melbourne, Australia  
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre**

**“ADVANCE GLOBAL HEALTH: ACHIEVE THE MDGs”**

**DRAFT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

**Monday, 30 August 2010**

**Opening Ceremony**

10:00 AM

**Indigenous Welcome**

**United Nations Welcome**

**Host Country Welcome**

**Opening Addresses**

**Keynote Addresses**

**Keynote Speaker**

**NGO Welcome**

**Lunch**

1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

**Workshops**

Various Rooms in MCEC

3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

**Roundtable I**

**The Role of the NGOs and Civil Society in Helping Achieve the MDGs**

5:30 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

The commitment to achieve the MDGs by 2015 is the responsibility of member states towards their citizens. On the other hand, international, national and local NGOs and civil society have important roles to play.

This Roundtable will explore such issues as:

- The role of NGOs and civil society actors in achieving the MDGs
- The most effective ways in which NGOs can articulate their positions with governments to influence policy and address the need for services to improve health and well being
- Ways in which different segments of civil society can work in partnership to

achieve the MDGs

- How can programs be designed so that progress can be objectively tracked and evaluated over time?

**Tuesday, 31 August 2010**

**NGO/DPI Executive Committee Consultation**

9:00 A.M.

**Roundtable II**

**Equity, Rights and Progress towards the MDGs**

10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

As momentum builds towards accelerating progress to meet the goals of the MDGs there is a danger of creating greater inequity. Practice has shown it is easier to improve the health of those who are already better off than it is to address the needs of the poorest and those who have no access to health care.

Discussion in this roundtable will respond to many questions including:

- Ways in which NGOs can advocate for more attention to be paid to the health needs of the poorest and least well served
- The use of equity sensitive indicators to measure progress towards achieving the MDG's
- What should be done to raise awareness of the significance of MDG 8 (which calls for the establishment of global partnerships for development) and its importance for achieving all of the MDGs? Moreover, how do we address the responsibility of developed countries to work towards greater global equity?
- What actions are needed to re-invigorate the dialogue on the synergy between human rights and public health?
- How can NGOs ensure that the focus on mortality targets does not divert attention from conditions that affect quality of life such as access to basic necessities such as food and shelter, security of the person, disability and mental health problems?
- In what ways can we continue to accurately document progress in attaining gender equality?

**Workshops**

Various Rooms in MCEC

11:45 A.M. – 1:15 P.M.

**Lunch**

1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

**Workshops**

Various Rooms in MCEC

3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

**Roundtable III**  
**Strengthening an Integrated and Systems Approach to Achieving the Health MDGs**

5:30 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

While all the MDGs contribute to health, MDG 4 (reduce child mortality), MDG 5 (improve maternal health) and MDG 6 (combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases) each has specific health targets. This raises a number of questions which this Roundtable hopes to address such as:

- How can collective efforts of NGOs, civil society, the medical community, the private sector and governments be maximized, and systems strengthened rather than undermined, as we work towards achieving the MDGs in integrated ways?
- In what ways can we ensure that in attending to closely related causes of specific health problems underlying social determinants of poor health, especially gender equity and poverty are also addressed/not neglected?
- How can the physical, financial, cultural, linguistic and other barriers to achieving the MDGs be addressed?

**Wednesday, 1 September 2010**

**Roundtable IV**  
**Achieving the MDGs in Our Changing World**

10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

Developing countries, in particular, are experiencing swift demographic transitions with sharp rises in the populations of young people and older persons, increased urbanization and globalization. Closely associated with these issues are migration and other influences, as well as environmental deterioration and climate change. The fourth Roundtable will examine such issues as:

- How to ensure flexibility within the MDG agenda so that governments and the international community are not diverted from responding in a timely way to these changes?
- To what extent can more attention be focused on the “other diseases” of MDG 6, in particular chronic diseases that represent a large and increasing proportion of the financial, social and health burden in many poor countries?
- What can be done to focus more attention on the second target of MDG 5 (access to sexual and reproductive health) especially in relation to youth?
- How can NGOs help to minimize the impact of the global financial crisis on progress towards advancing global health and achieving the MDGs?
- Most importantly, what actions can NGOs and civil society activists take after 2015 to maintain momentum?

**Workshops**

Various Rooms in MCEC  
11:45 A.M. – 1:15 P.M.

**Lunch**

1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

**Workshops**

Various Rooms in MCEC

3:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

**Closing Ceremony**

5:00 P.M.

**Keynote Addresses**

**Closing Remarks**

**NGO Closing Remarks and Presentation of Conference Declaration**