UNAIDS Special Representatives

UNAIDS has successfully worked with a number of outstanding personalities to strengthen awareness on AIDS. The UNAIDS Special Representatives are prominent individuals from the world of arts, science, literature, entertainment, sport and other fields of public life who have expressed their desire to contribute to UNAIDS and to move the AIDS response forward. To mark its 10th anniversary, UNAIDS has appointed a number of new Special Representatives.



Salman Ahmad, Pakistan

Salman Ahmad is the lead singer of one of south Asia's biggest rock bands, 'Junoon'. He is assisting UNAIDS in its effort to reverse the spread of HIV by raising awareness on key AIDS issues through his music.

Visit UNAIDS Pakistan website to view music video



Michael Ballack, Germany

Michael Ballack is the captain of the German National Team and has played in various top football clubs. He has previously been involved in charity events and fund raising. Through his achievement in the world of sport, Mr. Ballack is a role model for many young people, and his engagement with UNAIDS will help disseminate messages on HIV prevention and support.

25 May 2006 - Press release (de) Michael Ballack's website



Jackie Chan, China

Blockbuster action star Jackie Chan has joined the AIDS response by helping both UNICEF and UNAIDS take action against AIDS. The actor and martial arts expert is also interested in advancing the cause for children, especially those affected by armed conflict. Jackie Chan has already visited AIDS awareness projects in Cambodia.

26 April 2004 - Press release (es fr) 25 April 2005 - Press release



Serge Dumont, France

Serge Dumont is Senior Vice President and President Asia Pacific of Omnicom Group Inc. A French businessman with close ties to the US and Europe, he has worked in Asia and China for more than 20 years. Very involved with philanthropic activities, in particular in the fields of AIDS and education, he has received significant recognition for his contributions to business, health, culture, and the arts. As UNAIDS Special Representative, Serge Dumont is focusing his efforts on promoting stronger engagement of business, media, and celebrities in the worldwide response to AIDS, with a particular focus on Asia and Europe.

6 September 2006 - Press release (fr es ru)



Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, Fiji

Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, Speaker of the House of Representatives in Fiji, plays an outstanding role in the AIDS response by using his acclaimed political voice to advocate for scaling up HIV prevention and care services in the Pacific.



Rupert Everett, Great Britain

Rupert Everett, the renowned British actor, who has starred in many blockbuster films including "My best friend's wedding" alongside Julia Roberts, has been active in the AIDS response for a number of years and has previously undertaken AIDS awareness-raising work with various non-governmental organizations including Action AID and lately with the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

He has taken part in a number of International AIDS conferences, including the 2004 conference in Bangkok, where he traveled to Cambodia to report on AIDS for a special Vanity Fair and BBC feature. In his role as UNAIDS Special Representative Rupert Everett will focus on raising awareness about the epidemic and encourage the film and media industry to join forces in the AIDS response.

1 December 2006 - press release



Mary Fisher, USA

Mary Davis Fisher is an artist, author and speaker who travels the world advocating for those who share her HIV-positive status. As UNAIDS Special Representative, Ms. Fisher will raise awareness on HIV prevention, treatment, care and support with an emphasis on women and children. Ms. Fisher will support the UNAIDS mission of empowering people to protect themselves and live full, productive lives. Mary Fisher has visited Zambia with UNAIDS to learn more about the epidemic and the AIDS response.

16 October 2006 - UNAIDS Special Representative Mary Fisher honored 18 May 2006 - Press release



Mero Kececioglu-Kylicas, Greece

Mero Kececioglu-Kylicas is the President of Greek Action for Africa, a non-profit organization involved in increasing the availability of health-care services in Africa. Through charity events across the globe, Mrs. Kececioglu-Kylicas has raised money to support community projects both in Ethiopia and Tanzania. She has also done admirable work on improving the status of women and supporting children affected by AIDS.



Her Royal Highness Princess Mathilde, Belgium

The Belgian Princess, a mother of three, is especially committed to children affected by and living with HIV. In her role as UNAIDS and UNICEF Special Representative for Children and AIDS, HRH Princess Mathilde has undertaken several field trips with UNAIDS and has generated much awareness to the AIDS issue.



Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Mette-Marit, Norway

The Norwegian Crown Princess, and a mother of three, is committed to actively supporting the AIDS response. As Special Representative, she is planning to generate more attention and support for young people living with and affected by HIV. She also plans to raise awareness on the stigma surrounding HIV. The Crown Princess has been engaged in AIDS issues for some time. Her studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London and her work with the Norwegian Agency for Development in 2003 raised her interest and concern in AIDS issues. In January 2005, the Crown Princess carried out a study trip to Malawi focusing on AIDS.

11 April 2006 - Press release



Her Serene Highness Princess Stephanie, Monaco

Princess Stephanie of Monaco, passionate in the fight against AIDS and mother of three, has been President of 'Fight AIDS Monaco' since 2004. The organisation has three main focus areas: information, prevention and support to people living with and affected by HIV. The princess represented Monaco at the High Level Meeting on AIDS in New York in June 2006 where she expressed her personal commitment to the AIDS response. As UNAIDS Special Representative she will be focusing particularly raising awareness on prevention and discrimination issues.

06 October 2006 - Press Release (english | français)

Fight AIDS Monaco website



William H. Roedy, United Kingdom

William H. Roedy is President of MTV Networks International and the former Chair of the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS. He is committed to engaging the media in the AIDS response.



Mechai Viravaidya, Thailand

A well-known activist and opinion-leader in Thailand, Mechai Viravaidya is perhaps the country's best-known advocate of family planning and safe sex. In fact, in Thailand, a condom is known as a "Mechai".



Naomi Watts, British/Australia

Naomi Watts, the renowned actress and Oscar nominee has starred in such internationally-acclaimed films as King Kong, The Ring, 21 Grams, and Mulholland Drive. As UNAIDS Special Representative, Naomi Watts will help to raise AIDS awareness and give greater voice to the needs of people living with HIV worldwide. Ms. Watts has recently been on a mission to Zambia with UNAIDS to learn more about the epidemic and the AIDS response.

15 May 2006 - Press release



Professor Dr. Muhammad Yunus, Bangladesh

Professor Dr. Muhammad Yunus is a Bangladeshi banker and economist. He is the developer and founder of the concept of microcredit, the extension of small loans to entrepreneurs too poor to qualify for traditional bank loans. Yunus is also the founder of Grameen Bank. In 2006, they were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, "for their efforts to create economic and social development from below."

For many years, Muhammad Yunus has helped UNAIDS to disseminate HIV prevention and care messages and has raised awareness on the importance of the involvement of the private sector in development issues.

UNAIDS Statement
Professor Dr. Muhammad Yunus Bio



Miriam Yeung Chin Wah, China

Miriam Yeung, the famous Chinese pop singer from Hong Kong, has dedicated her time to HIV prevention activities and mobilizing support for people living with HIV. Being a very popular artist in local and overseas Chinese communities, particularly among young people, she has raised awareness on HIV and encouraged young people to protect themselves from HIV. In her role as UNAIDS Special Representative, she will continue to promote messages on HIV prevention, treatment and care.

16 June 2006 - Press release