



MEDIA ALERT

WHAT: The Invisible Men: Gay Men & Other MSM in the Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic

A pre-conference event in the lead-up to the XVII International AIDS Conference, this two-day forum will examine how insufficient global research on HIV and men who have sex with men (MSM) contributes to a dearth of HIV prevention, treatment and care resources targeting their unique needs. Researchers, community-based experts and human rights advocates will present workshops on topics including:

- HIV Epidemics among MSM in Africa: Malawi, Botswana, Namibia, Nigeria and South Africa
- An Overview of UNAIDS Reports on MSM in Low- and Middle-Income Countries
- MSM in China: The Law, the Internet and HIV
- New Community Research from the Caribbean on Vulnerability and Gay, Bisexual and Other MSM
- The State of Current Research with Ethnic Minority MSM in the U.S.
- Research on Ethnic MSM Living in the UK, Eastern Europe
- Research on Rectal Microbicides
- HIV Prevention with Male Sex Workers in Mombasa
- Advocacy in Central America (in Spanish)
- Policy Reform: Case Examples from Asia & Latin America
- Initiating, Scaling-up and Neutralizing National Governmental Resistance to HIV Programming for MSM – Lessons Learned in Asia

For a copy of the full program, visit www.msmandhiv.org.

WHEN: August 1 and 2, 2008
(9:00 am – 5:30 pm Friday; 10:00 am – Noon Saturday)

WHERE: Sheraton Maria Isabel Hotel & Towers
Paseo de la Reforma 325 Col. Cuauhtemoc
Mexico City, Mexico

WHO: Plenary speakers: David Wilson (World Bank); Jeffrey O'Malley (UN Development Programme) and David Winters (Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis & Malaria)
More than 450 participants registered -- half from the developing world, 78 of them presenters – from more than 80 countries in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe and the Americas.

MORE: The Global Forum on MSM & HIV (MSMGF) is a network of community-based organizations, AIDS service organizations, MSM groups and other agencies that work at the global and national level to advocate for improved HIV programming for MSM. With a Secretariat housed at AIDS Project Los Angeles and a Steering Committee of 21 members from 17 countries in the Global North and South, MSMGF is committed to responding to HIV/AIDS among gay men through advocacy, education and programs that promote human rights and support the empowerment of MSM around the world. For more information, visit www.msmandhiv.org.

The Global Forum will hold a press conference during AIDS 2008 on August 6 at 12:00 p.m./CDT.

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PARTNERS: AIDS Project Los Angeles; Australian Federation of AIDS Organizations; Gay Men's Health Crisis; San Francisco AIDS Foundation; with support from the International AIDS Society and UNAIDS

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