

NOTE FOR MEDIA

KEY SPEAKERS FROM THE PARTNERSHIP AT THE WOMEN DELIVER CONFERENCE, 18-20 OCTOBER 2007

The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health is a co-organizer of *Women Deliver*. Leaders of the Partnership's more than 180 member organizations, Board Members, and the Secretariat's Director and Deputy Director will speak at a number of events and can give media interviews.

Dr Francisco Songane, Director of the Partnership

Key topics: Status of global drive to reduce child and maternal deaths
 Linkages in maternal, newborn and child health
 Global funding gap
 The Partnership, its policy and activities

Dr Francisco Songane has in-depth experience of the realities women and children face in developing countries without access to basic health care. During his nearly 30-year career after training as an obstetrician, he worked in district, provincial and central hospitals in Mozambique and served as Minister of Health from 2000-2004. Dr Songane has been a pillar of global political advocacy for maternal and child health, serving as a Board Member for the Global Alliance for Vaccines & Immunization and the UN Millennium Task Force 4. Since 2006, Dr Songane has been leading the Partnership, an alliance of over 180 organizations--UN agencies, governments and civil society organizations--committed to achieving MDGs 4 and 5, and ensure all women, newborns and children survive and thrive. Trained in Mozambique, the United States and England, Dr Songane speaks fluent English and Portuguese with working knowledge of Spanish and French.

Dr Flavia Bustreo, Deputy Director of the Partnership

Key topics: The Partnership policy, activities and advocacy outreach
 Deliver Now for Women + Children campaign

Dr Flavia Bustreo is the Deputy Director of the Partnership. Dr Bustreo has been a WHO special adviser to the Norwegian Government for the Millennium Development Goal 4 initiative, and worked several years at the World Bank, including providing support to the Task Force for the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 4 and 5. Since 1994, Dr Bustreo has worked at WHO global, regional and country offices in areas of child health and tuberculosis, analysing health policies, assessing progress and providing technical support to countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. Dr Bustreo is a physician with two post graduate qualifications, including an M.Sc. in Communicable Disease Epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She has written extensively on different aspects of child health, equity, private sector involvement, the economic benefits and child health in post conflict countries, and speaks fluent English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Italian.

Kul Gautam, Chair of the Partnership Board and Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF

Key topics: Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health strategic directions
UNICEF

Mr. Kul Chandra Gautam is currently Assistant Secretary- General of the United Nations and Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) at its Headquarters in New York. He is responsible for providing leadership in strategic planning, programme development, resource mobilization, and promoting partnership for children and development among UN agencies, donors and civil society organizations. Mr. Gautam is a citizen of Nepal. He received his higher education in the United States of America, at Dartmouth College, Princeton University, and Harvard University. Mr Gautam has been the Chair of the Partnership Board since its establishment in 2005.

Ann Starrs, Co-chair of the Partnership Board and Executive Vice President of the Family Care International (FCI)

Key topics: Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child health strategic directions
20 years of Safe Motherhood Initiative

Ann M. Starrs is Vice President of Family Care International which she co-founded in 1986, helping to launch the first organization devoted to safe motherhood. She is currently responsible for overall program development, strategic planning, and administration. From 1992-1996 she directed FCI's Africa program and has been integrally involved in FCI's work as the secretariat for the Safe Motherhood Inter-Agency Group, a role the organization fulfilled from 1987 to 2004. She currently serves as co-chair of the Steering Committee of the global Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, serves on the Technical Advisory Group for Saving Newborn Lives, and has authored numerous publications and scholarly articles on maternal health. Ms. Starrs is trained in development economics and demography, with a Masters degree from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and a certificate in Demography from Princeton's Office of Population Research.

Daisy Mafubelu, Member of the Partnership Board and Assistant Director-General of WHO

Key topics: Partnership and WHO
WHO policy directions for family and community health

Daisy Mafubelu became Assistant Director-General, Family and Community Health of WHO in April 2007. Previously she was Health Attaché in the Permanent Mission of South Africa in Geneva, Switzerland with the rank of a minister. Her career in public health started in 1981 as a nurse and midwife. In 1994, Daisy Mafubelu joined the management ranks of the South African health service, where she played a significant role in the transformation of the public health services. She held senior management positions within the public health sector, first as a Director of Human Resources and later as a Deputy Director-General of Health. She was named Oliver Tambo Fellow in Public Health Leadership in 1997. This award recognizes the outstanding potential and commitment to provide leadership through public health service towards improving health and health care for all South Africans. She graduated in Community Health Nursing and Nursing Education from the University of South Africa and later, in Business Administration from the University of Stellenbosch. She also holds a postgraduate diploma in health management from the University of Cape Town.

**Dr Wendy Graham, Member of the Partnership Board and Professor and Director
School of Medicine, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, University of Aberdeen, Scotland**

Key topics: Maternal health expert

Dr Wendy Graham is recognised internationally for her measurement-related research on maternal health and safe motherhood interventions in developing countries. Dr Graham is currently the Principal Investigator for [IMMPACT](#) - the initiative for maternal mortality programme assessment - a global research project set-up in 2002. She is a Board Member of the Partnership in the capacity of an independent expert on Maternal Health. The Partnership consists of more than 180 member organizations representing six stakeholder constituencies: multilateral organizations, professional associations, non-governmental organizations, research and academic institutes, partner countries, and donor and foundations. All members are committed to join forces to achieve MDGs 4 and 5.

For more information on the Partnership, visit www.pmnch.org

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