

**FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY: News embargoed until 2:00pm GMT on September 24, 2008**

**Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Global Partners to Expand Efforts to Meet the 2015 Millennium Development Goals**

NEW YORK — As the UN General Assembly renews its commitment to achieve the 2015 Millennium Development Goals, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and many of its key partners will announce new strategies to assist in this effort. At the halfway point toward the target date to meet the Goals, foundation co-chair Bill Gates will participate in events to showcase the progress the organization and its partners are making to help eradicate extreme poverty, hunger, and disease while promoting gender equality, health, education, and environmental sustainability. Following is an overview of events Bill Gates and the foundation will join:

<b>Wednesday, September 24</b>	
<b>10:00-11:00am</b>	<b>News Conference: World Food Programme Partnership**</b> UN Secretariat Building, 1st Avenue and East 42nd Street, Basement Level, Conference Room 4 <i>The foundation, the Howard G. Buffett Foundation, and the World Food Programme (WFP) will announce a groundbreaking initiative to transform how the WFP purchases food in developing countries to benefit small farmers.</i>
<b>Thursday, September 25</b>	
<b>General Assembly convenes at 8:45am</b>	<b>Bill Gates Addresses UN General Assembly High-level Event***</b> UN Headquarters, 1st Avenue between East 42nd and 48th Street, General Assembly Hall <i>Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation co-chair Bill Gates will share a progress report on efforts to help address poverty, hunger, and global health issues.</i>
<b>12:00-4:00pm</b>	<b>High-Level Malaria Event</b> Millennium UN Plaza Hotel, One United Nations Plaza 44th Street, between 1st and 2nd Avenues
12:00-12:30pm	• <u>Media Briefing: Global Malaria Action Plan</u> Governor's Room
12:30-3:00pm	• <u>High-Level Event: Bill Gates Announces New Malaria Commitment</u> Diplomat Room <i>Gates and other world leaders to announce major new commitments to support the Global Malaria Action Plan.</i>
<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>News Conference: Closing discussion with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon**</b> UN Secretariat Building, 1st Avenue and East 42nd Street, Basement Level, Conference Room 4 <i>Bill Gates, Secretary-General Ki-Moon, and others will discuss session outcomes and new initiatives.</i>

**\*\* MEDIA CREDENTIALS:** Events within the UN complex require credentials issued by the United Nations Media Accreditation & Liaison Unit. For more information, please visit: <http://www.un.org/media/accreditation/>.

**Footage and photos of UN events:** Broadcast-quality sound bites and footage, high-resolution still photography, and information about foundation activities at the UN will be available to registered users immediately following each event at: <http://br.thenewsmarket.com/GatesFoundation/br/Login/LoginPreRegistration.aspx>.

**Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**

*Guided by the belief that every life has equal value, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation works to help all people lead healthy, productive lives. In developing countries, it focuses on improving people's health and giving them the chance to lift themselves out of hunger and extreme poverty. In the United States, it seeks to ensure that all people—especially those with the fewest resources—have access to the opportunities they need to succeed in school and life. Based in Seattle, the foundation is led by CEO Jeff Raikes and co-chair William H. Gates Sr., under the direction of Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffett.*