

**SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER, 2009:
DAILY MEDIA UPDATE**



**PARLIAMENT OF THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS
MELBOURNE CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE**

Office of the Parliament of the World's Religions

The Hub 17 Waterview Walk Docklands Victoria 3008

Phone: +61 3 8622 4809 Fax: +61 3 9417 0899

Email: info@parliamentofreligions2009.org

**Saturday 5 December highlights:
Islam and Politics: Faith, Governance and Society**
Room 202, 9.30-11.00 am

What is the role of faith and governance in majority Muslim societies like Malaysia? How does this affect how politics take shape? In this session, Mr Anwar Ibrahim, an internationally respected Muslim leader and politician, will address these issues.

Other speakers include Professor Fahad Alhomoudi (Saudi Arabia), Professor Burhanettin Tatar (Turkey), Dr Siti Musdah Mulia (Indonesia), Tariq Ramadan (France) and Ambassador Dr Mahdi Mostafavi (Iran).

Halting the Spread of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria: Challenges for Faith
Plenary Hall, 11.30am-1.00 pm

The role of religion in fighting disease has many dimensions, some inspirational and some obstructive. This discussion explores the complexity of moral challenges around HIV/AIDS and looks at the efforts in the ongoing battle against disease.

Speakers include AIDS activist Gideon Byamugisha, human rights campaigner Cardinal Theodore McCarrick and anti-poverty crusaders Jean Duff and Thomas Bohnett.

International Plenary
Plenary Hall, 7.30 pm – 9.00 pm

This celebration of the growing global interreligious movement focuses on the efforts of religious and spiritual communities and international interreligious organisations.

Event includes:

- Sacred chanting by Indigenous leaders
- Video address by Queen Rania of Jordan
- Performers from International Balinese Performance Group. "Yayasan Dharma Samuan Tiga", Sporana Tania de Jong and baritone Jonathan Morton
- Address from Canon Gideon Byamugisha
- Presentation of the Paul Carus Award

To download official event images please go to www.flickr.com/photos/raymessner

For further interview requests, accreditation or further media information please contact Porter Novelli Melbourne on 03 9289 9555, pwmelbourne@porternovelli.com.au