



IAS 2013
Kuala Lumpur
Chris Beyrer
Closing Speech
Wednesday July 3, 2013

Embargoed until 16.00 MYT, Wednesday July 3

Good afternoon –

What a great pleasure it is to begin planning IAS 2015 on the momentum generated by the success of IAS 2013.

Congratulations to everyone involved in planning this week's conference. You have done a tremendous job. My colleagues Françoise and Adeeba have carried on the proud tradition of excellent IAS conference leadership. IAS 2013 was the first to be chaired by two women and

what an incredibly high standard you have set for these two men who will follow. We will do our best!

We are at an extraordinary moment in HIV-related research. If the richness of the science presented this week is any indication, our meeting in Vancouver in 2015 will give us another important opportunity to examine continued progress towards answering the greatest challenges before us.

Of course IAS 2015 will occur at a pivotal moment, as the Millennium Development Goals come due. When we gather in Vancouver, we will have the opportunity to see how successful our efforts have been to implement scientific advances on the ground.

As we make the final sprint towards the MDGs, we must not be deterred by diminishing financial resources or lapses in political commitment and judgment. Scientific progress is moving rapidly. The hopes and goodwill of

millions around the world are with us. The work we do together is saving millions of lives and has the potential to save millions more.

To be successful we must ensure that our efforts include and serve key affected populations, who bear such a great burden of this epidemic. They deserve prevention and care programmes that reflect their dignity and meet their specific needs.

To gather in Vancouver will be especially meaningful. Vancouver is a model for conducting groundbreaking research and taking it to scale. While there, we will see first hand what an effective, sustained, humane and evidence-based response to HIV looks like and how that translates into lives saved and hope renewed.

At the heart of those efforts is Dr. Julio Montaner, the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS, and the University of British Columbia

Division of AIDS. Julio, I am greatly looking forward to co-chairing IAS 2015 with you and building a conference that highlights the very best in HIV research in the laboratory, in the clinic and on the ground.

Thank you.