

National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposure
LAUNCHING THE CONVERSATION

*Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004*

June 26, 2009

AGENDA

Meeting Objectives & Desired Outcomes:

- **Highlight the need for strengthening the United States' public health approach to chemical exposures**
- **Explain the goals and process for the National Conversation project**
- **Identify key issues and opportunities in six domains related to public health and chemical exposures and refine charges for working groups**
- **Generate among attendees an interest in participating in future National Conversation activities**

This meeting will be accessible by live webcast from 8:30 am – 11:15 am

8:00-8:30 Registration & Breakfast

8:30-8:45 **Welcome, Meeting Objectives and Agenda**

Gail Bingham, President Emeritus, RESOLVE, *facilitator*

Nsedu Obot Witherspoon, Executive Director, Children's Environmental Health Network, *co-chair, Leadership Council on Public Health and Chemical Exposures*

Howard Frumkin, Director, National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (NCEH/ATSDR), *co-chair, Leadership Council National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures*

8:45-9:05 **Presentation: Understanding the National Conversation Purpose and Process**

Howard Frumkin, Director, NCEH/ATSDR

9:05-9:45 **Keynote Speakers**

"Collaboration is Essential to Strengthening America's Approach to Public Health and Chemical Exposures"

Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Linda S. Birnbaum, Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Institutes of Health

9:45-10:00 Break

10:00-11:00

Facilitated Panel Discussion: Launching the Conversation

Objective: Explore initial thoughts about priority topics for each work group and provide an opportunity for participants to ask questions about the project.

Panel [40 minutes]

Howard Frumkin, Director, NCEH/ATSDR

Nsedu Obot Witherspoon, Children's Environmental Health Network
(Education and Communication) [*Kathleen Rest, Executive Director of
the Union of Concerned Scientists will chair this group, but is unable
to attend the meeting*]

John Balbus, George Washington University (Monitoring)

Thomas Burke, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
(Policies and Practices)

Peggy Shepard, WE ACT (Serving Communities)

Andrea Kidd Taylor, Morgan State University, School of Community
Health and Policy (Chemical Emergencies)

Kevin Teichman, US EPA, Office of Research and Development
(Scientific Understanding)

Discussion [20 minutes]

11:15-12:15

Breakout Sessions by Work Group Topic: Shaping the Agenda for the Conversation

Objective: Exchange ideas about the scope and priority topics for each work group. [Participants are asked to choose a break out session for the purposes of this meeting, but work group membership will be determined through a nomination process following the meeting.]

Topic & Room	Description
Monitoring Room: International Gateway <i>[Mezzanine Level]</i>	Collecting information on chemical use, exposure pathways, exposure levels, and health outcomes
Scientific Understanding Room: Hemisphere B	Filling knowledge gaps on the health effects of chemicals
Policies and Practices Room: Amphitheater	Reducing harmful chemical exposures and adverse health outcomes, eliminating inequities, and spurring the development and use of safer alternatives
Chemical Emergencies Room: Oceanic A	Preventing, preparing for, and responding to acute chemical incidents
Serving Communities Room: Oceanic B	Addressing local chemical exposure concerns to promote environmental justice and improve health
Education and Communication Room: Hemisphere A	Ensuring a well-informed public and a competent network of health care providers

Sample Discussion Questions:

- *What are the major components of the nation's approach in this area?*
- *What have been the major successes in this area over the last 40 years?*
- *What are the major unmet needs?*
- *What solutions do you propose to help improve the system?*
- *What can be done quickly (1-2 years)?*
- *What recent or ongoing initiatives might impact this area?*
- *What resources (reports, participants, etc) do we need to use to adequately assess these questions?*

- 12:15-1:30 Lunch *[on your own]*
- 1:30-2:45 **Breakout Sessions by Work Group Topic: Shaping the Agenda for the Conversation** *[continued]*
- 2:45-3:00 Break
- 3:00-3:20 **Report back from Breakout Sessions**
Objective: Panelists share two major unmet needs and one proposed solution discussed during each breakout session that, among others, merit serious discussion during the National Conversation.
- 3:20-3:30 **Closing Remarks**
Howard Frumkin, Director, NCEH/ATSDR, *co-chair, Leadership Council National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures*
Nsedu Obot Witherspoon, Executive Director, Children's Environmental Health Network, *co-chair, Leadership Council on Public Health and Chemical Exposures*
Gail Bingham, President Emeritus, RESOLVE, *facilitator*