

- For the draft agenda:
  - ▶ NGO consultation has taken place to draft this agenda
  - ▶ many of these ideas emerged from the Ghana conference
  - ▶ there is a development aspect, and health
  - ▶ from many of the youth in Ghana, we heard that education was a key component
  - ▶ ideas like "children have rights" come out of the NGO meeting
  - ▶ there are no dates in this, we are hoping this will come out of the conference
  
- for youth participation, there is a draft agenda. We want them to be credible, since there is some scepticism about youth participation. There will be a lot of media attention on the youth.
  
- The experts meeting will be about 300 people. Keeping the numbers down is a challenge. The goals will be sharing knowledge, etc...
  
- The ministerial level meeting will include heads of UN agencies, e.g. Olara Otunnu, Graca Machel, possibly Nelson Mandela.
  
- For CIDA, the Minister (Minna) sees this issue within a broader concept of poverty and iniquity. This issue is one of the four priorities that Minister Minna has identified.
  
- For the web site, phase I will be up shortly. It will be a "one stop shopping" site with all the information that we can give about the conference.
  
- NGO invitations - there are 30-35 spaces for Canadian NGOs. The selection criteria is being developed.

### **NGO Involvement**

- War Child is planning a concert at the forks, ~12pm on Saturday
  
- The goals of the NGO fair for the working group on children and armed conference are:
  - ▶ showcase for the NGOs to inform about the issues
  - ▶ information sharing
  - ▶ to share materials that are being used for outreach
  - ▶ this could also be an outreach to the community (to engage people with the issue)
  
- For the working group:
  - ▶ we did channel input to the Secretariat through our list serve.
  - ▶ we participated on Monday with a group of international NGOs. There was some