

## UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador Geri Halliwell Promotes Maternal Health in U.S. Congress

*“UNFPA saves lives every day. We all have a moral obligation to ensure that no one has to die bringing life into the world,” says Spice Girl, Geri Halliwell.*

UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador and Spice Girl, Geri Halliwell held a series of meetings with lawmakers in the United States Congress on 21 February 2008 to promote maternal health.

Ms. Halliwell spoke with legislators including Congresswoman Gwen Moore (Wisconsin), Congressman Jim Moran (Virginia) and Congressman James McGovern (Massachusetts) to call attention to the serious health issues facing women and mothers worldwide.

More than 536,000 women die during pregnancy and childbirth every year – one each minute. Most of these deaths are preventable.

UNFPA works to prevent maternal death in over 90 countries. The work includes training midwives and doctors, providing family planning, advocating for health reforms, equipping health facilities and promoting the rights of women.

Ms. Halliwell said: “UNFPA believes in giving every woman and child the opportunity to take care of themselves. It’s a human rights issue: every woman deserves to be able to deliver her child safely.”

“Ms. Halliwell is a shining example of how one woman can make a difference for the health and dignity of women everywhere,” says Anika Rahman, President Americans for UNFPA. “We appreciate her commitment to ensuring that no woman dies giving life.”



Geri Halliwell at the U.S. Congress to promote maternal health for UNFPA.

--- courtesy of Americans for UNFPA