



# **Ethics Matters in Outbreaks**

Organised by the Global Health Centre at the Graduate Institute and the  
World Health Organization

## **Biographies of Speakers**

**16 May 2018**

**Maison de la paix**  
Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2, 1202 Geneva



## MODERATOR

### **MICHAELA TOLD**

**Deputy and Executive Director, Global Health Centre, the Graduate Institute**



Michaela Told is currently Deputy & Executive Director of the Global Health Centre at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies. Prior to moving into academia, she was working for more than 10 years with the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement at local, regional and international level in all continents, most recently heading the Principles and Values Department of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Geneva. She was also involved in negotiations and policy-making within the statutory bodies of the RCRC Movement. Earlier in her career, she worked with the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Division of Development Cooperation and later served as Secretary General of international women's human rights NGO based in Geneva. In her current position as Deputy & Executive Director of the Global Health Centre at the Graduate Institute she is responsible for the successful implementation of all activities of the Global Health Centre. In her research and teaching she focuses on Global Health Diplomacy. Among others, she directs the online courses in global health diplomacy. She holds a MSW (School of Social Work, Vienna), a MComm (Development Economics, University of Economics and Business Administration, Vienna), and a MA in Development Studies (Women & Development, Institute of Social Studies, The Hague), as well as a PhD (School of Law and Social Sciences, University of East London, UK).

## INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

### **ABHA SAXENA**

**Coordinator, Global Health Ethics, World Health Organization**



Dr. Abha Saxena, MD, leads the work of the Global Health Ethics Team at the WHO, which has the responsibility to ensure that effective global and intergovernmental action for health is based on ethical principles. She has led the Secretariat of the Research Ethics Review Committee since 2002, and initiated the Public Health Ethics Consultative Group that supports the implementation of ethical considerations in public health policies and programmes. Following the Ebola epidemic, she has been invested in the development of ethical issues and guidance documents related to epidemic outbreaks, led several workshops, and provided leadership to the ethics platform, which is being launched now. Trained as an anaesthesiologist, Abha Saxena was professor of Anaesthesiology at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India before joining WHO in 2001, where she had more than 20 years of experience in clinical and community based research.

**JAIMIE GUERRA**  
**Communications Officer, World Health Organizations**



Jaimie Guerra specialises in global public health as a Communications Officer for the World Health Organization. She has been with WHO for 4 years and was previously focused on messaging for high-level health and humanitarian emergencies including Ebola, Zika, and yellow fever. She studied Communications and International Relations in Switzerland, the U.K. and the U.S.

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**SAMIA HURST**  
**Professor of Bioethics, University of Geneva**



Samia Hurst is a physician bioethicist, ethics consultant for the Clinical Ethics Council at the Geneva University Hospitals, director of the Clinical Ethics Unit of the Lausanne University Hospitals, and chair of the Institute for Ethics, History, and the Humanities at University of Geneva's medical school in Switzerland. She is a member of the Senate at the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences, of the Ethical Legal Social Issues advisory group du Swiss Personalised Health Network, and of the Swiss National Advisory Commission on Biomedical Ethics. Her research focuses on fairness in clinical practice and the protection of vulnerable persons.

**ANAÏS LEGAND**  
**Technical Officer, High Threat Pathogens, World Health Organization**



Anaïs joined WHO in 2011, working in the Director's Office of the Pandemic and Epidemic Disease Department and in 2017 moved to the Viral Haemorrhagic Fever team within the WHO Health Emergencies Programme. She contributed to the response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa in 2014-2016 where she was deployed extensively in Guinea and in Sierra Leone. She also coordinated technical activities of several emerging disease outbreaks including the MERS-CoV event in Republic of Korea (2015), Zika virus in the Americas (2016), Yellow fever outbreak in Angola and DRC (2016), Ebola outbreak in DRC (2017 and 2018) and Marburg outbreak in Uganda (2017). In addition to operational response, her work includes coordination of Research & Development activities, evidence-based technical guidance production, and supporting preparedness in at-risk countries. She previously served as a policy officer on emerging and re-emerging diseases for the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Centre International de Recherche Médicale de Franceville (Gabon). She also worked for the National Council in Ethics on Human Research, Canada and for the French Embassy in Australia.

## **ESPERANZA MARTINEZ**

**Head of Health, International Committee of the Red Cross**



Dr. Esperanza Martinez is the Head of Health for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). She is a medical doctor and general surgeon, specialised in International Public Health, Health Management and Integrative Medicine. Prior to re-joining the ICRC in November 2015, she worked for the private sector, UN agencies, government bodies and NGOs. Her experience includes over ten years of field work in conflict-affected contexts. Dr. Martinez oversees ICRC's humanitarian assistance in the health domain in more than 60 countries. The programs she works with include First Aid and Pre-Hospital Care, Primary Healthcare, Healthcare in Detention, Hospital Medical Services, Physical Rehabilitation and Mental Health and Psychosocial support. She is responsible for overseeing the implementation of ICRC's Health Strategy 2014-2018, which focuses on an integrated and comprehensive public health approach, aimed at providing healthcare services to populations affected by conflict and other situations of violence.

## **MICAELA SERAFINI**

**Medical Director, Médecins Sans Frontières**



Micaela Serafini, an Argentinean medical doctor specialised in Internal Medicine, started working with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in 2004. Since then she worked in many different countries, in a variety of diseases such HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, Cholera, Malaria, Ebola, Meningitis and Measles and in different contexts, from long-term programmes to outbreak response. She complemented her practical experiences with formal training and obtained first the Diploma in Tropical Medicine and later the Master in Public Health in Developing Countries at the LSHTM. In 2009, Micaela became medical adviser for MSF Switzerland and in 2014 its Medical Director.