



Health in All Policies – a strategic function of public health and UHC

**Organised by the Global Network for Health in All Policies and the
Global Health Centre**

Biographies of Speakers

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



WELCOME

MICHAELA TOLD

Deputy 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 MCom (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).

KEYNOTE REMARKS

H. E. BAHAR IDRIS ABU GARDA

Federal Minister of Health, Sudan



Bahar Idriss Abu Garda is currently serving as Sudan's Minister of Health since November 2011. As a former political activist and equality advocate, Minister Abu Garda is committed to the principles of universal health coverage and since his appointment has worked towards the goal of providing integrated primary health care services that focus on the needs of the vulnerable, particularly mothers and children. Minister Abu Garda started out in the private sector, becoming general manager of a number of international trading companies, before embarking on a political career. He served as leader of the opposition, and has been involved in negotiating multiple peace deals. At the global level, Minister Abu Garda worked for active involvement in the decision-making process for Global Fund implementers, and was a member in the Board of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, representing EMRO. Recently elected as the chair of the Global Network for Health in All Policies, Minister Abu Garda also contributed to the Roll Back Malaria movement, representing the Inter-governmental Authority on Developing countries on the Executive Board. He also chaired the Committee of the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean. Minister Abu Garda has a degree in business administration, a post-graduate qualification in international relations and Master's degree in Health Diplomacy.

PANEL DISCUSSION

TARU KOIVISTO

Director, Department for Wellbeing and Health, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finland



Taru Koivisto is Director at the Department for Wellbeing and Health, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Finland. Her area of responsibilities covers promotion of health, wellbeing and functional capacity, rehabilitation and services for the elderly and disabled, as well as prevention of NCDs and communicable diseases. She has long experience in public health and has been involved in a number of committees, conferences and advisory groups both nationally and internationally. She has served as the chairperson of the Council of Europe's health committees and chaired the Standing Committee of the Regional Committee for WHO/EURO. She has worked in the Ministry since 1998 and before that in other positions in national health administration since 1989.

WEERASAK PUTTHASRI

Deputy Secretary-General, National Health Commission Office (NHCO), Thailand



Dr Weerasak Putthasri is a Deputy Secretary General of the National Health Commission, Thailand. He was a senior advisor at the Department of Health Workforce, WHO/HQ and a senior researcher of International Health Policy Program (IHPP) for Health Policy and Systems Research. He got his Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) from Khonkaen University, Doctor of Science (DSc) in Health Services Research from Erasmus University and Fellowship of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Thailand (FRCDS). His areas of interest are participatory public policy, human resources for health, health services and systems research. He has authored numerous publications on those areas, both in international and domestic peer-reviewed journals. He is currently working on health in all policies, social determinants of health and participatory public policy processes. He has also served as a resource person for SEAR countries to implement their national health workforce action plans and transformative education.

HORACIO ARRUDA

Chief Public Health Officer and Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health and Social Services, Government of Quebec, Canada



Dr Arruda is a physician specialising in community health. He has worked specifically in the areas of surveillance, monitoring, intervention epidemiology, and infectious disease prevention and control. Since 2000, Dr Arruda has been Director of Public Health with the Quebec Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, with responsibility over infectious and communicable diseases, hospital-acquired infections, and occupational and environmental health. He and his team are also responsible for the public health and civil emergency plans (pandemic readiness plan) components. He is Quebec's representative on the Pan-Canadian Public Health Network's new Communicable Disease Control Expert Group. On May 9 2013, he was appointed National Director of Public Health and Assistant Deputy Minister by Dr Yves Bolduc, Quebec Minister of Health and Social Services. He has been in this position since August 1st, 2013.

ABDALLA OSMAN

National Institute for Public Health, Sudan



Abdalla Osman is a public health professional with extensive national, regional and international health development experience. He served as senior national advisor to the government in the capacity of minister, undersecretary and director of planning, and had a leading role in health system reform including the development of national policies and strategic plans for the health workforce. Dr Osman also contributed to scaling up both national health programmes and health education institutions, including the launch of a national campaign to promote the image of public health professions. In addition, he assisted in the establishment of an Academy of Health Sciences and a Public Health Institute aimed at rapidly boosting the production of health workers, particularly in underserved and conflict-affected areas. He also played a leadership role in the area of evidence-based policy formation via consensus building and creation of health policy advisory forum with participation of senior health officials, and implemented an innovative forum for effective stakeholder coordination, including collaboration with UN agencies.

MARIA NEIRA

Director, Department of Public Health, Environmental and Social Determinants of Health, World Health Organization



Dr Maria P. Neira was appointed as Director of the Department of Public Health, Environmental and Social Determinants of Health at the World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva in September 2005. Prior to that, she was Vice-Minister of Health and President of the Spanish Food Safety Agency. She had previously held several senior positions with WHO. Dr Neira began her career as a medical coordinator working with refugees in the Salvador and Honduras for Médecins Sans Frontières. Dr Neira is a Spanish national, and a medical doctor by training. She specialised in Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases, and Public Health. Dr Neira has been awarded the National Order of Merit by the Government of France and is a member of the Academy of Medicine, Asturias, Spain.

THE GNHIAP GLOBAL STATUS REPORT

CARMEL WILLIAMS

Manager, Health Determinants and Policy, Prevention and Population Health Branch, Department of Health and Ageing, Government of the State of South Australia



Carmel Williams is the Manager of the Health Determinants and Policy Unit, South Australian Department for Health and Ageing, which incorporates the work she led as Manager of the former Health in All Policies Unit. Carmel has overseen the establishment and sustainability of South Australia's Health in All Policies approach, which has been operating since 2007. Carmel has a long and extensive experience in the field of health promotion and public health, with qualification in education and public health. She has worked extensively with the World Health Organization and in 2017 was awarded the Primary Health Care Award from the South Australian, Public Health Association of Australia and the Australian Health Promotion Association.