

# 10<sup>th</sup> World Malaria Day How Ending Malaria Transforms the World

Organised by the Global Health Centre at the Graduate Institute, the RBM Partnership to End Malaria and the Swiss Malaria Group

#### **Biographies of Speakers**

25 April 2018 Maison de la paix Chemin Eugène-Rigot 2, 1202 Geneva











#### **MODERATOR**

## CHRISTIAN LENGELER President, Swiss Malaria Group



Christian Lengeler is a Unit Head at the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (TPH) and a Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Basel (Switzerland), as well as designated President of the Swiss Malaria Group. For the past 30 years, he has worked on the epidemiology and control of tropical diseases, with a strong focus on malaria. He was involved in developing insecticide treated nets (ITNs) as a malaria control tool in the 1990s, and has pioneered many developments in large-scale vector control in sub-Saharan Africa. Since 2002 he leads a large project supporting the National Malaria Control Programme in Tanzania, and

since 2014 his team has been supporting the National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

#### **WELCOME**

## 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, Geneva. 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).







# THOMAS GASS Ambassador, Vice-Director and Head, South Cooperation Department, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)



Thomas Gass was born in 1963 and holds a PhD in natural sciences, an MSc and an engineering diploma in agricultural sciences, all from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich. Ambassador Thomas Gass was appointed by the Swiss Federal Council as Vice-Director and Head of the South Cooperation Department of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), to take office on 1 January 2018. Gass has considerable experience in bilateral and multilateral development cooperation and was previously Head of Mission at the Swiss embassy in Nepal. Prior to that, his roles included Policy Programme Officer at the

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and Deputy Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Guyana.

#### **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

#### AWA COLL-SECK Minister of State, Former Minister of Health, Senegal; Board Member, RBM Partnership to End Malaria



Awa Marie Coll-Seck served as the Minister of Health of the Republic of Senegal from 2001-2003 and again in 2012-2017. She was the Executive Director of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership (RMB) from 2004-2011 and served as the Director of the UNAIDS Department of Country and Regional Support from 1996-2001. She was elected as chairperson of Committee B of the World Health Assembly and also as president of the Assembly of the Ministries of Health of the West African Health Organization in 2002. She has been awarded numerous professional and academic honours,

including the Knight of the Order of Merit of the French Republic, Chevalier, Ordre des Palmes académiques; Officer of the Order of Merit Senegalese; and Knight of the Order of Merit of Burkina Faso. She is an honorary member of the Academy of Sciences and Technologies of Senegal and is the author of more than 150 scientific publications. She earned her medical degree from the University of Dakar in 1978.







#### **ROUNDTABLE**

#### KESETE ADMASU Chief Executive Officer, RBM Partnership to End Malaria; former Minister of Health of Ethiopia



Kesete Admasu served as Minister of Health of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia from 2012 to 2016. He has dedicated his career to public service and scientific research focused on major public health problems in Ethiopia and has received numerous national and international awards. He has served in a number of clinical and public health positions. He has worked as a public private partnership team leader, the CEO of a tertiary hospital and the Director General of health promotion and disease prevention before assuming his current position as CEO of the RBM Partnership to End Malaria. He holds a Doctor of

Medicine and a Master of Public Health from the University of Gondar.

#### NOËLLA COURSARIS MUSUNKA Ambassador, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria



Philanthropist and model Noella Coursaris Musunka is the founder of Malaika, a nonprofit organisation that works to educate and empower girls and communities in her native country, the Democratic Republic of Congo. Growing up in Switzerland, she earned a degree in business management before starting to work as a model. Her work with Malaika has led to invitations to speak at UNICEF, the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE), the Global Citizen Forum, AMADE and Cambridge University, and she has appeared several times alongside President Clinton at the

Clinton Global Initiative annual meetings. In 2014 and again in 2017, she was named one of the most influential Africans by New African magazine. She has been named an ambassador for The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and serves as a member of the Advisory Committee for the 2018 WISE@Accra Forum. A mother of two and a feminist, she continues to work as a model, using her profile to raise awareness for the basic human rights to education, health and opportunity.







#### MARINA CAROBBIO GUSCETTI Vice-President, Swiss National Council



Born in 1966, Carobbio is married and has two children. She graduated from Basel University and currently works on a 30% basis as a medical doctor specialising in palliative care. Carobbio sat as a representative of the social democratic party in the parliament of her home canton of Ticino between 1991 and 2007. She joined the Swiss parliament in Bern following the general elections in 2007. She represents the party in the committee for social security and public health in the Swiss National Council and is a vice-president of her party.

MINGHUI REN Assistant Director-General, Communicable Diseases, World Health Organization



Minghui Ren was appointed WHO Assistant Director-General for HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases on 4 January 2016. In September 2017, he became Assistant Director-General for Communicable Diseases. Prior to his tenure at the WHO, he was Director-General for International Cooperation in the National Health and Family Planning Commission of the People's Republic of China. He has previously worked on health policy and health reform in China, as well as international health cooperation, working together with governments and other international partners. Additionally, he oversaw the development of the

China-Africa health cooperation process and health cooperation with other BRICS countries. As a representative of the Chinese government, Dr Ren has sat on numerous boards of international organizations. He holds a Medicine Degree from Xian Medical University, China (1987), a Master of Public Health from the Harvard School of Public Health (1993), an executive training certificate in public policy and administration from the Harvard John F. Kennedy School of Government, USA (2004), and a PhD in Social Medicine and Health from Peking University, China (2008).