



TIME TO GET OUR ACT TOGETHER ON HEALTH EMERGENCIES AND UHC

27 MAY 2020 | 14:00 – 15:30

73rd World Health Assembly Week

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

More information: graduateinstitute.ch/73WHA-UHC

AGNÈS SOUCAT

Director for Health Systems Governance and Financing, World Health Organization



Agnès Soucat is the Director for Health Systems Governance and Financing at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland. Before joining WHO, she was Global Leader Service Delivery and Lead Economist at the World Bank. She previously was the Director for Human Development for the African Development Bank, where she was responsible for health, education, social protection and jobs for Africa, including 54 countries in sub-Saharan Africa and the Maghreb. She has over 25 years of experience in health and poverty reduction, covering more than 70 countries in Africa, Asia and Europe. She was a pioneer of several innovations in health care financing including community-based financing and performance-based financing and authored seminal publications on these topics. She is also the co-author of the World Development Report 2004 “Making Services Work for Poor People” and of the Lancet Commission report “Global Health 2035: a world converging within a generation”. She was commissioner of the recent Lancet and Rockefeller Commission on Planetary Health. She also did extensive work on the health labour market dynamics in Africa. Dr Soucat holds an MD and a Masters in Nutrition from the University of Nancy in France as well as a Master of Public Health and PhD in Health Economics from the Johns Hopkins University.

FRANCESCA COLOMBO

Head of the Health Division, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)



Francesca Colombo is the Head of the Health Division at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). She has over 20 years of experience leading international activities on health and health systems. She is an international expert on health and care issues for elderly populations, and led projects on quality of healthcare policies, health financing and the impact of private health insurance on health systems, health workforce and the international migration of doctors and nurses. Formerly, she seconded the Ministry of Health and Labour of Guyana as Acting Head of the Planning Unit, and was instrumental to the implementation of financing and governance reforms of the health system; she also worked at UNCTAD. She has travelled extensively in Europe, South America and Asia advising governments on health system policies and reforms. Since 1999, she has been working with OECD, held responsibilities for co-ordinating involvement at high-level meetings such as on diabetes, dementia and health workforce. She has been responsible for OECD Asian Social and Health activities, working with the OECD/Korea Policy Centre. Currently, she is Head of the OECD Health Division, overseeing work on health, aiming to provide internationally comparable data on health and health systems and to apply economic analysis to

health policies, advising policy-makers, stakeholders and citizens on how to respond to demands for more and better health.

MIDORI DE HABICH

Co-Chair, UHC2030; Member WHO's Technical Advisory Group on Financing Public Goods in Health



Midori de Habich was Peru's health minister from 2012 to 2014 and led a comprehensive reform of the country's health system with a view to achieving universal health coverage. An economist specialised in research, policy design and implementation related to health systems, she worked for the central bank of Peru between 1984 and 1994, some of that time as a technical consultant for the Ministry of Health. She was also senior coordinator of Unidad Especial del Proyecto 2000, a health system strengthening initiative focused on bolstering primary health care, and director for the Partners for Health Reform plus project, which provided technical assistance on health sector decentralization and reform. She received a bachelor's degree in economics from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, in 1987 and in 1989 a master's degree in politics and economic planning from the Social Studies Institute of the University of Erasmus in the Netherlands. She is co-chair of the UHC2030 working group on transition and sustainability, and is a member of the WHO technical advisory group focused on financing public goods in health.

GITHINJI GITAH

Global CEO, AMREF Health Africa



Githinji Gitahi is the Global CEO of AMREF Health Africa. Until his appointment at Amref Health Africa, Dr Gitahi was the Vice President and Regional Director for Africa, Smile Train International, where he successfully established partnerships for long-term sustainability with various African governments. Prior to that, he worked with the Nation Media Group, where he was the Managing Director for Monitor Publications in Uganda as well as General Manager for Marketing and Circulation in East Africa. Dr Gitahi is also the Co-Chair of the UHC2030 Steering Committee, a global World Bank and World Health Organisation initiative for Universal Health Coverage (UHC). He is also member of the Private Sector Advisory Board of Africa CDC and of the World Health Organization's Community Health Worker Hub. He is member of the Board of Directors of The Standard Group and holds Board member positions across Amref Health Africa offices in Africa.

ANA MARIA BEJAR

Director of Advocacy, International Planned Parenthood Federation; Member of the UHC2030 Civil Society Engagement Mechanism Advisory Group



Ana Maria Bejar is a member of the UHC2030 Civil Society Engagement Mechanism (CSEM) Advisory Group and the Director of Advocacy at the International Planned Parenthood Federation. Previously, she was Associate Director for Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean at the International HIV/AIDS Alliance Secretariat and Save the Children UK Country Director in Cuba. Anamaria started her career in Cusco Peru, where she worked at the Peruvian Ministry of Health and local NGOs on community programmes for indigenous women and children. She is a social anthropologist with an MSc in Health Policy

Planning and Financing obtained at the London School of Economics and Political Sciences and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Ana Maria serves at the Technical Review Panel of the Global Fund against AIDS, TB, and malaria as human rights and gender expert.

Moderator

ILONA KICKBUSCH

Co-Chair, UHC 2030; Chair of the International Advisory Board, Global Health Centre



Professor Ilona Kickbusch is the Chair of the International Advisory Board of the Global Health Centre at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva. Her key interests relate to the political determinants of health, health in all policies and global health. She established the Global Health Centre at the Graduate Institute and in this context has advised countries on their global health strategies and trained health specialists and diplomats in global health diplomacy. She is a member of the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board and the WHO

High-Level Independent Commission on NCDs and is Co-Chair of UHC 2030. She acts as Council Chair to the World Health Summit in Berlin. She has been involved in German G7 and G20 activities relating to global health and chairs the international advisory board for the development of the German global health strategy. She publishes widely and serves on various commissions and boards. She initiated the @wgh300 list of women leaders in global health. She is programme chair of the leaders in health network SCIANA. She is Co-Chair of the Lancet & Financial Times Commission on "Governing health futures 2030: growing up in a digital world". Professor Kickbusch has had a distinguished career with the World Health Organization. She was a key instigator of the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion and WHO's Healthy Cities Network and has remained a leader in this field, most recently advising on the WHO activities related to Promoting Health in the SDGs. She was the director of the Global Health Division at Yale University School of Public

Health and responsible for the first major Fulbright Programme on global health. She has published widely and received many prizes and recognitions. She has recently been awarded the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany (*Bundesverdienstkreuz*) in recognition of her "invaluable contributions to innovation in governance for global health and global health diplomacy".