

Biographies

Chair:

COURTNEY HOWE

Senior Advocacy Advisor, STOPAIDS



Courtenay Howe is the Coordinator of the Platform for ACT-A Civil Society and Community Representatives, hosted by WACI Health, Global Fund Advocates Network (GFAN) and STOPAIDS. She works as Senior Advocacy Advisor at STOPAIDS, focusing on global health governance and meaningful participation of civil society and communities.

Speakers:

KATHARINA KUMMER PEIRY

Director of Kummer EcoConsult



Dr Katharina Kummer Peiry is owner and principal of the Swiss-based consulting firm Kummer EcoConsult. She has over 30 years of experience in international environmental law and policy, having served as an expert advisor, as a government negotiator and chairperson of international meetings, and as a senior manager. Her experience includes 5 years as Senior Advisor to WHO during the negotiation and subsequent implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC), 5 years as Executive Secretary of the Basel Convention on hazardous waste, and 2 years as Senior Legal Advisor to the Secretariat of the WHO FCTC. Katharina holds a PhD in International Law from the University of London (UK); a Master of Law from the University of Zurich (Switzerland); and a Certificate of Advanced Studies in Mediation from the University of St. Gallen (Switzerland). She has taught international environmental law at the University of Bern (Switzerland), and has authored numerous academic publications in this field.

SARANBAATAR BAYARMAGNAI

Human Rights Officer, OHCHR



Mr Bayarmagnai's main areas of work include the integration of civic space in UN's policies and practices, with a focus on participation of civil society in UN's policies, protection of civil society actors, and promotion of enabling civic space, including in the UN inter-governmental forums, as well as other methodological approaches in protecting and promoting civic space more generally.

PRECIOUS MATSOSO

Co-chair of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB)



Precious Matsoso, is the former Director-General of the South African National Department of Health. She was the World Health Organization Director of Public Health Innovation and Intellectual Property. Prior to that, she served as WHO Director, Department of Technical Cooperation for Essential Drugs and Traditional Medicines. She was the Registrar of the Medicines Control Council for six years. She has served on various advisory bodies both nationally and internationally and was Chair of the WHO Executive Board. She served as a member of the UN High- Level Panel on Access to Health Technologies, Chairperson of the Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee for the WHO Health Emergencies Programme. She was the member of the Lancet Global Health Commission on High Quality Health Systems. She was the Co-Chair of WHO Digital Health Advisory Group. She was appointed as the member of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response. She is currently the Director of the Health Regulatory Science Platform, a division of the Wits Health Consortium and an Honorary Lecturer in the Department of Pharmacy and Pharmacology, University of the Witwatersrand.

STEVEN SOLOMON

Principal Legal Officer, World Health Organization



Steven Solomon is the Principal Legal Officer at the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, where he heads the Legal Office's unit on international, constitutional, and global health law. He provided legal support for the WHO's response to the COVID-19 outbreak and has served as the WHO legal adviser to the negotiations which led to the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP) Framework. Prior to joining WHO, Steven served as Deputy Legal Counselor at the United States Mission to United Nations Organizations in Geneva, negotiating a variety of human rights and humanitarian law instruments. He was an attorney with the State Department for several years before handling multilateral negotiations related to the control of conventional weapons as well as international humanitarian law. Before joining the State Department, Steven was a lawyer in private practice at the Washington, D.C. law firm of Williams & Connolly and has also worked on Capitol Hill. Steven has written widely on matters pertaining to international law, including global health and humanitarian law matters. Solomon attended Georgetown University, where he received his legal training, and received his B.A. degree from Columbia University.

CEDRIC NININHAZWE

Global Advocacy Manager, Global Network of People living with HIV (GNP+)



Cedric Nininahazwe has worked with several key population and community organizations for the last 15 years with increasing responsibility and authority in each of his roles. He joined the Global Network of People living with HIV (GNP+) from Y+ Global, where he has served as the Director of Programmes, Management and Governance since 2016. He is also a lawyer by profession and has over the years built his career as a human rights activist, especially for young people, access to HIV and SRHR services, and education.