

Pandemic Readiness in an Uncertain World

Tuesday 20 May 2025, 12:30 - 14:00 CEST Auditorium Ivan Pictet, Geneva Graduate Institute, Maison de la Paix and online on Webex

SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES

The Right Hon. Helen Clark

Former Prime Minister of New Zealand, Co-Chair of The Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response



Helen Clark was Prime Minister of New Zealand for three successive terms from 1999–2008. Throughout her tenure as Prime Minister and as a Member of Parliament over 27 years, Helen Clark engaged widely in policy development and advocacy across the international, economic, social, environmental, and cultural spheres. She advocated strongly for New Zealand's comprehensive programme on sustainability and for tackling the problems of climate change. She was an active leader of her country's foreign relations, engaging in a wide range of international issues.

In April 2009, Helen Clark became Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). She was the first

woman to lead the organisation, and served two terms there. At the same time, she was also Chair of the United Nations Development Group, a committee consisting of all UN funds, programmes, agencies, and departments working on development issues. As Administrator, she led UNDP to be ranked the most transparent global development organisation. She completed her tenure in 2017.

Helen Clark came to the role of Prime Minister after an extensive parliamentary and ministerial career. Prior to being elected to the New Zealand Parliament in 1981, Helen Clark taught in the Political Studies Department of the University of Auckland, from which she earlier graduated with her BA and MA (Hons) degrees.

Helen continues to be a strong voice for sustainable development, climate action, gender equality and women's leadership, peace and justice, and action on pressing global health issues. She became a member of The Elders in September 2023. In July 2020, she was appointed by the Director-General of the World Health Organisation as a Co-Chair of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response, called for by the World Health Assembly, which reported in May 2021. She chairs the boards of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, and other public good organisations and initiatives and is a board member of others.

Ellen Rosskam

Coordinator, International Geneva Global Health Platform, Global Health Centre, Geneva Graduate Institute



Dr Ellen Rosskam is the Coordinator of the International Geneva Global Health Platform, convening global health stakeholders to discuss, collaborate, capture lessons, and seek scalable solutions to complex global health challenges.

She holds a PhD from the University of Lausanne, School of Management; a Master in Public Health from the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Public Health; and a Bachelor degree in Third World Development Sociology from the University of California, Berkeley.

With more than 30 years experience, Ellen has worked in over 50 countries as a global public health policy and technical

specialist, as a researcher, and as a university professor, for various international organisations and universities, and as a Senior Policy Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

Ellen has been the Principal Investigator on a number of large-scale research projects including on access to medicines to prevent and treat postpartum hemorrhage to reduce maternal mortality. She also managed the mercury and health portfolio at WHO for more than 2.5 years responding to WHO's obligations under the Minamata Convention on Mercury. She is widely published and has received a number of awards.

Ellen is Senior Strategist for Research & Global Public Health and Advisory Board Member for the Center for Social Epidemiology; member of Women in Global Health Switzerland and of GENDRO; and serves on the advisory board of various journals.

Raj Panjabi

Flagship Pioneering, and former White House Senior Director and Special Assistant to the President



Dr. Raj Panjabi is a distinguished authority in health care, public policy, entrepreneurship, and technology. Dr. Panjabi is Senior Partner at Flagship Pioneering and on faculty at Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Panjabi served in the Biden-Harris Administration (2021-2023). As White House Senior Director and Special Assistant to the President, Panjabi served as the top pandemic and health official at the National Security Council. He played a pivotal role in the largest vaccination campaign in history against COVID-19 and responses to public health crises, including Mpox, Influenza and Ebola. He played a lead role executing the 2022 National Biodefense and American Pandemic

Preparedness Plans, coordinating over \$12 billion in annual investment across 16 federal agencies in biodefense, including in disease surveillance, diagnostics, therapeutics, vaccines and health systems. Panjabi helped oversee implementation of the President's 2022 Bioeconomy Executive Order, directing federal agencies to drive research and development, streamline regulation, grow manufacturing, and expand markets for biotechnology products, including by leveraging artificial intelligence.

Dr. Panjabi oversaw implementation of the 2022 U.S. Global Health Security Act, authorizing \$5 billion and expanding health investments across 50 countries. He co-developed the President's COVID-19 and health security initiatives with the G7, G20, and regional bodies, including efforts to organize Presidential Summits, launch the Pandemic Fund at the World Bank, negotiate the WHO Pandemic Accord and uphold the UN Biological Weapons Convention.

Panjabi held top healthcare executive roles. Leading the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative, he helped launch the world's first malaria vaccine, create a strategy to prevent 1 billion cases and manage a \$800 million enterprise protecting 700 million people across 30 countries. For 14 years he was Co-Founder and CEO of Last Mile Health, an enterprise leveraging digital technology to train thousands of healthcare providers serving millions of people. Dr. Panjabi has cared for outpatients on Medicaid and Medicare in federally qualified health centers pioneering value-based care and inpatients at Mass General Brigham.

Panjabi has served on numerous boards, councils and commissions. One of TIME's 100 Most Influential People in the World and TIME's 50 Most Influential People in Healthcare, he 5.364.was twice named to the FORTUNE World's 50 Greatest Leaders list.

Precious Matsoso

Co-Chair, Intergovernmental Negotiating Body



Precious has more than 30 years executive management experience, having held leadership strategic positions at national and international level, covering areas of public health policy and programmes. She has been Director General of the National Department of Health for nine and a half years, during which she was responsible for bringing about various policy and legislative reforms. She served as the head of the medicines regulatory agency in South Africa for over six and a half years. She has been the Chair of the Ministerial Advisory Committee on e-Health. She was the Chair of the Technical National Health Council. Chair of Policy Review Committee of the South African National Aids Council.

She was the World Health Organisation (WHO) Director of Public Health Innovation and Intellectual Property. Prior to this, she served as the Director of Technical Cooperation for Essential Medicines and Traditional Medicines. She has been appointed to various international governance and advisory bodies.

She served as a Member of the Executive Board of World Health Organisation (WHO) for a three-year term. During this period, she served as the Vice-Chair and Chairperson successively. She was appointed by the Secretary General of the United Nations as a member of a UN High Level Panel on Access to Health Technologies, a panel comprised of eminent leaders from the public and commercial worlds. She served as the Chairperson of the Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee (IOAC) of the World Health Organisation's Emergencies Programme and continues to be a member.

She was a member of the Lancet Global Health Commission on High Quality Health Systems. She is a member of the UNITAID Board. She is the Director of the Health Regulatory Science Platform a Division of Wits Health Consortium at the University of the Witwatersrand. At the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body in February 2022, Precious was elected as Co-Chair, a position she holds to date.

Diah Saminarsih

Founder & CEO, Center for Indonesia's Strategic Development Initiatives



When Diah served as Assistant to the President's Special Envoy for MDGs in 2011, she realized that almost all health problems in Indonesia were rooted in injustice and inequality. To address these issues, she pioneered a number of social innovations that eventually drove systemic change in Indonesia.

One of them is Pencerah Nusantara, a social innovation to improve the primary healthcare system in Indonesia. It is driven by young people from various scientific backgrounds. Pencerah Nusantara, which was born and developed under his care since 2012, is now recognized globally and nationally. The initiative received the Open Government Awards 2015 for

proving that its approach is effective and has a significant impact. The success of Pencerah Nusantara was also the basis for the Indonesian Ministry of Health to scale up the program to the national level, known as Nusantara Sehat. Beyond Pencerah Nusantara, Diah, who was appointed as a Special Advisor to the Minister of Health in 2014, has represented Indonesia in various global forums and agendas, including the UN General Assembly on the conception of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2012 - 2014, the World Health Assembly, Co-Moderating the WHO Director General Candidate Debate, and the Stockholm Food Forum 2017.

In 2018, Diah was appointed as Senior Gender and Youth Advisor to the WHO Directorate-General, a position she will hold until her term ends in 2022. Prior to working in public health, Diah was a trained psychologist. She pursued a career as a management consultant specializing in human resource development, strategic communication, and organizational capacity. Her experience was helpful when designing the Pencerah Nusantara program and establishing CISDI.

Michel Kazatchkine

Special Advisor to the Joint United Nations Program on AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia Senior Fellow, Global Health Centre, the Graduate Institute



Michel Kazatchkine has over 30 years of experience in the fight against AIDS as a leading physician, researcher, administrator, advocate, policy-maker, and diplomat. He attended medical school in Paris and has completed postdoctoral fellowships at St. Mary's hospital in London and Harvard Medical School. He is Professor of Immunology at Université René Descartes in Paris and has authored or co-authored over 500 publications. Professor Kazatchkine has played key roles in various organizations, serving as director of the National Agency for Research on AIDS in France (1998-2005), and as French ambassador on HIV/AIDS and communicable diseases (2005-2007). In 2007, Professor Kazatchkine was elected Executive Director of the Global Fund to fight AIDS,

Tuberculosis and Malaria, a position in which he served until March 2012. Between 2012 and 2017, Professor Kazatchkine served as the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy on

HIV/AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Since 2018, he is the Special Advisor to the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) for Eastern Europe and Central Asia. He is also a Senior Fellow with the Global Health Centre of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, and a member of the Global Commission on Drug Policy.

Eloise Todd

Executive Director and Co-Founder, Pandemic Action Network



Eloise Todd is the executive director and a co-founder of Pandemic Action Network. Eloise is an advocacy, policy, campaigns, and strategy specialist with 20 years' experience working to change policies, legislation and budgets to improve lives. Primarily, she has worked in international development, including as a political adviser on development issues within EU institutions and running international advocacy and global policy at the ONE Campaign. Eloise campaigned against the UK's Brexit deal, building one of the largest pro-European organizations into a national campaign force. She is known for achieving ambitious policy changes, including: leading the effort to oblige gas, oil, and mining companies to publish what they pay governments, helping raise millions in additional

government funding for GAVI and the Global Fund, and advocating for increased aid budgets.

Mariângela Batista Galvão Simão

Vice Minister, Health and Environmental Surveillance, Ministry of Health, Brazil



medicines.

Mariângela Batista Galvão Simão is the current Vice Minister of Health and Environmental Surveillance at the Ministry of Health. A pediatrician, she holds a master's degree in Public Health from the University of London, United Kingdom. She served as Deputy Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) for Access to Drugs, Vaccines and Pharmaceuticals and as Director of Community Support, Social Justice and Inclusion at the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). At the Ministry of Health, she was Director of the National Department of STDs, AIDS and Viral Hepatitis from 2006 to 2010, when she was also a member of the UNITAID Governing Council. She has experience in the areas of public health policy, health surveillance and access to

Moderator

Richard Horton

Editor-in-chief, The Lancet



Richard Horton is Editor-in-Chief of The Lancet. He qualified in physiology and medicine with honours from the University of Birmingham in 1986. He joined The Lancet in 1990, moving to New York as North American Editor in 1993. In 2016, he chaired the Expert Group for the High Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth, convened by Presidents Hollande of France and Zuma of South Africa. From 2011 to 2015, he was co-chair of the UN's independent Expert Review Group on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health. In 2011, he was elected a Foreign Associate of the US Institute of Medicine and, in 2015, he received the Friendship Award from the Government of China. In 2019, he was awarded the WHO Director-General's Health

Leaders Award for outstanding leadership in global health and the Roux Prize in recognition of innovation in the application of global health evidence. In 2021, he received the Physicians for Human Rights Award in recognition of extraordinary leadership in advancing health and human rights. He now works to develop the idea of planetary health – the health of human civilizations and the ecosystems on which they depend. In 2020, he published The COVID-19 Catastrophe: What's Gone Wrong and How to Stop It Happening Again. A revised, updated, and expanded second edition was published in 2021. As part of the UK's 2023 Honours, Dr Horton was awarded the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in recognition for services to Health and Medical Journalism.

Anders Nordström

Former Ambassador for Global Health at the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs



Anders Nordström is the former Swedish Ambassador for Global Health (2010-23). He is a medical doctor and completed his studies at the Karolinska Institute.

Today he is an advisor affiliated with the Karolinska Institute and the Stockholm School of Economics. He is currently a member of the board of the Alliance for Health Systems Research, is a member of the NUS-Lancet PRIME Commission, chairs the International Vaccine Institute Global Advisory Group of Experts, and serves on the Virchow Foundation for Global Health Council. Recently he led the Secretariat for The Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response (2020-21) and remains an active

contributor to the Panel's work.

At the World Health Organization, he served as Acting Director-General (May 2006 – January 2007) and as Assistant Director General for General Management (2003-2006), and Assistant Director General for Health Systems and Services (2007). He was Head of the WHO Country Office in Sierra Leone (2015-17). As the Interim Executive Director, he established the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria as a legal entity in 2002.

He has previously served as board member of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, the GAVI Alliance, UNAIDS and the Partnership for Maternal, Neonatal and Child

Health and chaired a number of international working groups and processes. He was the Director-General for the Swedish International Agency for Development Cooperation (2007-2010).