

Beyond Commitments: Making One Health Work in Food Systems

Biographies of Speakers

26 November 2026

Auditorium Ivan Pictet, Geneva Graduate Institute, Maison de la paix

Gian Luca Burci
Senior Fellow, Global Health Centre, Geneva Graduate Institute



Gian Luca Burci is currently Senior Fellow at the Global Health Centre at the Geneva Graduate Institute. Previously, he was firstly Adjunct and then Senior Visiting Professor of International Law at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, from 2012 to 2026. He was also Academic Adviser to the Global Health Centre of the Graduate Institute, and Director of the joint LLM in Global Health Law and Governance between the Graduate Institute and Georgetown Law School. From 2016 to 2026, he was Visiting Professor and Senior Scholar at the O'Neill Center on National and Global Health Law, Georgetown University School of Law.

Before his appointment at the Graduate Institute, Prof. Burci served in the Legal Office of the World Health Organization from 1998 to 2016 and was its Legal Counsel from 2005 to 2016. He previously worked for the Department of International Cooperation of the International Atomic Energy Agency (1998-1999) and in the Office of the Legal Counsel of the United Nations, where he was designated focal point for UN economic sanctions (1989-1998). During his service at WHO, he was involved in the negotiation and implementation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, the revision and implementation of the International Health Regulations, WHO's response to the 2009-2010 H1N1 influenza pandemic and the 2014-2016 Ebola outbreak, as well as the institutional aspects of WHO reform.

Professor Burci holds a postgraduate degree in law from the University of Genoa, Italy. His areas of expertise are public international law, the law and practice of international organizations, and global health governance and law. His courses at the Graduate Institute have included the law and practice of international organizations, international legal advising and advocacy, and global health law. Prof. Burci is the co-author of the leading English-language book on WHO, editor of the first research collection on global health law, co-editor of the first research handbook on global health law, and author of numerous articles and book chapters. He is a member of the editorial board of the International Organization Law Review and the co-founder of the Interest Group on International Health Law of the European Society of International Law.

Dominique Burgeon
Director, The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Liaison Office in Geneva (FAO LOG)



Dominique Burgeon has over 30 years of professional experience, including a number of senior positions at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), both at headquarters and in decentralized offices.

In January 2021, he was appointed Director of the FAO Liaison Office to the United Nations in Geneva, following more than eight years as Director of FAO's Emergency and Rehabilitation Division (now the Office of Emergency and Resilience) and leading the design and implementation of FAO's strategic programme on resilience.

He has extensive experience in humanitarian and development assistance, including as FAO Representative in Bangladesh, where he oversaw one of FAO's largest field programmes. Mr Burgeon also co-led FAO's response to the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza crisis, contributing to the development of the "One Health" approach. Dominique has served as a senior advisor to the Assistant Director-General (Operations) and in the FAO offices in Syria and at UN Headquarters in New York.

Julio Pinto
Animal Health Officer, The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Liaison Office in Geneva (FAO LOG)



Julio joined the Animal Health Service of FAO in May 2006. After graduating in Veterinary Science from the University of Chile in 1994, he completed a PhD in Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics at the University of Reading, United Kingdom, in 2000.

In 2003, Julio joined the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) in Paris, where he worked until 2006 on strengthening the capacities of veterinary services to comply with OIE standards and improve market access for livestock and livestock products.

Julio joined FAO in 2006 as an Animal Health Officer responsible for global early warning and surveillance of animal diseases, including zoonotic diseases. He led the development and implementation of the joint FAO/OIE/WHO Global Early Warning System (GLEWS+) until 2019. Since then, he has led the development of guidelines on risk assessment and value chains, economic analysis of animal diseases, and surveillance for avian influenza and zoonotic diseases. He has also led the implementation of FAO projects on field epidemiology training programmes for

veterinarians, animal disease surveillance, risk assessment, and the development of animal health information systems and digital technologies. He has extensive experience providing technical and animal health policy assistance to countries through the design and implementation of field epidemiology training programmes, disease prevention and control activities, and participation in field outbreak investigations.

Since 2018, Julio has been based at the FAO Office in Geneva, supporting One Health collaboration with WHO, OIE, UNEP, and other United Nations organizations, as well as work related to livestock health and sustainable development, particularly with the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) hosted by the World Trade Organization (WTO). He supports Tripartite collaboration on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and the implementation of Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) projects. He has participated in the implementation of the WHO Joint External Evaluation (JEE) programme to support One Health collaboration and the assessment of public health and animal health system capacities in countries, contributing to the design of policies and programmes that address gaps identified through the JEE assessment tool and strengthen One Health approaches.

Julio has experience in the design, implementation, and evaluation of projects, as well as in the economic assessment of the burden of animal diseases, including zoonoses, and the investments required for disease prevention, control, and elimination.

Hugo López-Gatell Ramírez
Minister, Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva



Dr. Hugo López-Gatell is a physician, researcher, professor, and public servant. Appointed by Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum, in August 2025 he was incorporated as Minister in the Mexican Foreign Service, currently serving as head of health affairs at Mexico's Permanent Mission to the UN and other international organizations in Geneva, Switzerland.

He completed his medical degree at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) in 1994, his specialization in Internal Medicine at the Salvador Zubirán National Institute of Medical Sciences and Nutrition (INCMNSZ) in 1999, earned his master's degree in medical sciences at UNAM in 2001, and graduated as Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHBSPH) in 2006.

In 2024, he was General Coordinator of Policy and Government for the Office of the President of Mexico, serving also as senior public health advisor to President Andrés Manuel López Obrador. From December 2018 to September 2023, he was

Undersecretary for Disease Prevention and Health Promotion at the federal Ministry of Health.

He was presidential spokesperson and general technical coordinator of the Mexican Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. During his tenure as undersecretary, he championed public policies and advised the executive and legislative branches on regulatory reforms to address the epidemics of non-communicable diseases in Mexico, particularly the control of tobacco and ultra-processed foods. These policies included warning labels on pre-packaged foods, ban on industrially made trans fats, establishment of healthy school environments, and the prohibition of nicotine aerosol devices and electronic cigarettes.

He also collaborated on the drafting of the General Law on Adequate and Sustainable Feeding and its implementing regulations.

Nina Jamal
Global Affairs Navigator, Deputy Director Lobbying & Advocacy, FOUR PAWS International



Nina Jamal is the Navigator (senior head) of Global Affairs and Deputy Director of Lobbying & Advocacy at FOUR PAWS International. Before taking on that role and since the start of the Pandemic, Nina and the FOUR PAWS team led advocacy efforts, supporting member states in anchoring actionable provisions on prevention and One Health in collaboration with a broad coalition of animal welfare and conservation NGOs and experts.

Between 2013 and 2021, Nina led the International Campaigns on Farm Animals and Nutrition at FOUR PAWS. Nina also worked on climate campaigns and international policy within the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change negotiations as well as in the private sector on sustainability and UNIDO on the implementation of international multilateral environmental agreements. Her academic background is in Environmental Health Sciences, Public Health and International Environmental Policy.

Charles Akande
International Representative, World Egg Organisation



With a background in agriculture and over 20 years of experience in the poultry industry, Charles engaged with the Quadripartite organisations (the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) on issues related to nutrition, human & animal health, food safety, and pandemic prevention. Charles joined WEO in May 2024,

bringing a wealth of experience from his previous role as a strategic advisor in multilateral, regional, and bilateral trade negotiations.

Carlos Gonçalo Das Neves
Chief Scientist, European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) co-chair of the One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP)



Prof. Dr. Carlos das Neves, Chief Scientist of the European Food Safety Authority since 2022, is a Portuguese-Norwegian veterinarian with a PhD in veterinary sciences and further certifications in Public Health and Public Policy Analysis.

Former Director of Research and Internationalisation at the Norwegian Veterinary Institute and Professor at UiT – The Arctic University of Norway (2012–2025), he became co-chair of the One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP) in 2024 that advises WHO, FAO, UNEP and WOAH.

His expertise spans animal health, food safety, wildlife, emerging diseases, and One Health, with numerous publications and leadership in international research projects.

Diana Rizzolio
Coordinator, Geneva Environment Network (GEN)



Diana Duarte Rizzolio is the Coordinator of the Geneva Environment Network (GEN), a cooperative partnership of over 100 organizations based in the region, established in 1999 to strengthen positive interactions among its partners to enhance global environmental governance.

Diana joined the UN Environment Programme in December 1998, working for GRID-Geneva (through a partnership with the University of Geneva), as well as for the former Post-Conflict Assessment Unit and Balkans Unit. Before joining UNEP, Diana worked for a Regional department of the Ministry of Environment of Portugal and for an NGO based in Geneva. Diana was also a member of the Parliament of the City of Geneva and an active member in a number of trusts and NGOs. She grew up in various European Cities.

Diana holds a Master of Science Degree from the Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland.