

# NEWSLETTER

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Dear newsletter recipient,

In this issue we invite participants for our annual IP course to take place in February 2012. It also provides the highlights and summary of our 5<sup>th</sup> High Level Symposium on the interface between Public Health, Innovation and Trade. Important upcoming conferences include the World Health Organization's 130<sup>th</sup> Executive Board meeting to be held in January 2012. At the end of another exciting year at the GHP, we would also like to thank our readers and extend season's greetings, and wish you all a prosperous new year!

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## THE GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAM IN ACTION

**| 15-17 FEBRUARY GHP ORGANISES 2<sup>nd</sup> EXECUTIVE COURSE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, DIPLOMACY AND GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH; GENEVA, SWITZERLAND |**

**Deadline for application : Friday, 13 January 2012**

Applications are now open for second Executive Course on Intellectual Property, Diplomacy and Global Public Health, a joint collaboration with the Gibbons Institute of Science & Technology, Seton Hall Law School, USA. GHP offers this intensive three-day course in response to the increasing importance that the global community attaches to intellectual property and its implications for public and global health. The first course in February 2011 was highly appreciated by the participants from different background. The participants benefitted from negotiation training and skill building activities along with in-depth briefings on the multitude of issues and perspectives surrounding intellectual property and health. This year, the course will explore current debates about health-related aspects of intellectual property from a global public

health perspective through multi-disciplinary learning process. The deliberations on health-related IP instruments and mechanisms, as well as the global response to emerging challenges will provide the real-life backdrop to discussions. The executive course targets applicants such as health attachés, health and international relations professionals in departments of international health, as well as staff in international organisations, NGOs, philanthropic and the private sector.

More information on the course and the application form can be found at:

[http://www.graduateinstitute.ch/corporate/executive/training-workshops/ghd-ip\\_en.html](http://www.graduateinstitute.ch/corporate/executive/training-workshops/ghd-ip_en.html)

**[5-9 DECEMBER GHP ORGANISED 2<sup>nd</sup> EXECUTIVE COURSE ON GLOBAL HEALTH DIPLOMACY FOR ASEAN COUNTRIES; JAKARTA, INDONESIA]**

The Global Health Programme organised an Executive Course on 'Global Health Diplomacy: Current and emerging issues for ASEAN Countries' in partnership with the Non-aligned Movement Centre for South-South Cooperation and with support from the Government of Indonesia. This 5-day course was aimed at strengthening a comprehensive and cohesive approach to global health in the region. It was held in Jakarta, Indonesia and included more than 30 participants from all 10 ASEAN countries, mostly government officials from Ministries of Health and Foreign Affairs, but also representatives from NGOs, academia and the media. Ambassador Gaudenz Silberschmidt from the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health was the Director of the programme. The course led the participants through a variety of case studies on health negotiations and key concepts in global health. With the contribution of experienced practitioners from the region, the course focussed on the cooperation for global health at national level and in particular on regional cooperation within ASEAN.

## PUBLICATIONS

**[NEGOTIATING AND NAVIGATING GLOBAL HEALTH: CASE STUDIES IN GLOBAL HEALTH DIPLOMACY]**

World Scientific, Imperial College, London, 2012

This second volume of the series 'Global Health Diplomacy' is edited by Professor Ilona Kickbusch and Dr Ellen Rosskam and will be in the market in early 2012. The negotiation processes that shape and manage the global policy environment for health are increasingly conducted not only between public health experts representing health ministries of nation states but include many other major players at the national level and in the global arena. The intent of this book is to provide learning tools for today's broad group of "new health diplomats" in the landscape of this ever-shifting, complex technical and political arena. The case studies are told as the negotiations were experienced by individuals who participated in the various debates, dialogues, negotiations, or by experts who have studied them. This collection fills an important gap in both knowledge and practice providing insight on how negotiations on global health issues have transpired. The successes, challenges, failures, tools and frameworks for negotiation, mechanisms of policy coherence, ways to achieve global health objectives are documented.

Detailed contents and summary are available at:  
<http://www.worldscibooks.com/medsci/8273.html>

## RECENT GLOBAL HEALTH EVENTS – OUTCOME AND ANALYSIS

**[19-21 OCTOBER WHO HELD THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH; RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL]**

The conference was held in accordance with the World Health Assembly resolution WHA62.14 on 'Reducing health inequities through action on the social determinants of health' (2009) and followed the publication of the final report of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health (2008). The WHO Discussion Paper was developed in consultation with an Advisory Group of

prominent experts, and was finalized after an extensive web-based, public consultation. WHO also developed five sector-specific policy briefs and WHO Regional Offices coordinated the production of 28 case studies, covering a range of issues, including conditional cash transfers, gender-based violence, tuberculosis programmes and maternal and child health. On Day Two of the conference, WHO launched an innovative web-based platform to facilitate discussion on how health equity could be improved through action on social determinants of health. Adopted during the conference, the Rio Political Declaration expresses global political commitment to help build momentum within countries for the development of dedicated national action plans and strategies to reduce inequalities.

To access more information:  
<http://www.who.int/sdhconference/en/>

**[23-26 OCTOBER GHP ORGANISED WORKSHOPS AT THE WORLD HEALTH SUMMIT 2011; BERLIN, GERMANY]**

Global Health Programme co-hosted two sessions at the World Health Summit in Berlin, on 'Governance for Health in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century' (Democratising Governance and Innovative Financing Mechanisms). The potential role of the challenges faced by national level parliamentarians within regional and international global health governance was discussed, along with taxation, demand side financing and risk pooling for national level health systems. The need for 'diagonal financing' (improving health outcomes through strengthened national health systems) rather than 'vertical financing' (funding for specific diseases or health projects) assistance at an international level was also discussed. A third session held by GHP at the World Health Summit argued 'The case for Europe as a leader in research and innovation for global health.' This session concluded that there is a need for research programmes that tackle major challenges, such as non-communicable diseases, antimicrobial resistance, pandemics and challenges brought about by ageing. Special mechanisms to promote and support research that is cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary, involving both technological and social innovation and that encompass health promotion and disease prevention, as well as diagnosis and treatment, are also required.

For related articles, and to watch recorded videos of the sessions, please visit:  
<http://www.worldhealthsummit.org/pressmedia/pressreleases/press-releases-2011/>

**[26 OCTOBER GHP ORGANISED GENEVA DIALOGUE; GENEVA, SWITZERLAND]**

This workshop was jointly convened by the Novartis Foundation for Sustainable Development (NFSDF), the Global Health Programme and the Global Partnerships Forum. The aim was to bring together a range of stakeholders to discuss the potential for partnerships to contribute to achieving the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. Professor Ilona Kickbusch, Director of Global Health Programme, emphasised that a multi-stakeholder approach to diplomacy aims to foster partnerships in order to seek cooperative solutions to global challenges, and is particularly relevant to the field of global health. Indeed, the debate at the 64th World Health Assembly, at the launch of a World Health Forum,

underlined the different viewpoints surrounding multi-stakeholder diplomacy in the 21st century. Accountability, transparency and sustainability are crucial components of good global health governance and multistakeholder diplomacy alike. Presentations by Dr Abiy Tamrat, President of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Switzerland, Mr Amir Dossal, Founder and Chairman of the Global Partnerships Forum, Prof Klaus M. Leisinger, President and Managing Director of Novartis Foundation for Sustainable Development were followed by panel discussion. The workshop focussed on further potentials for partnership while keeping mind equity concerns and emerging issues such as e-health and technology as drivers for change.

Full summary of the event and individual presentations can be accessed at:

[www.novartisfoundation.org/page/content/index.asp?Menu=3&MenuID=324&ID=741&Item=73.1.2&ConID=2157&n!Year=](http://www.novartisfoundation.org/page/content/index.asp?Menu=3&MenuID=324&ID=741&Item=73.1.2&ConID=2157&n!Year=)

### **[23 NOVEMBER GHP ORGANISED THE FIFTH HIGH-LEVEL SYMPOSIUM ON GLOBAL HEALTH DIPLOMACY; GENEVA, SWITZERLAND]**

The symposium focused on the future agenda between the interface of public health, innovation and trade under the auspices of Madame Ruth Dreifuss, former Chairperson of the WHO Commission on Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation and Public Health (CIPIH). The Graduate Institute provided a neutral, academic platform bringing together various stakeholders. The full-day discussion started with opening remarks by the Director of the Graduate Institute, Prof. Philippe Burrin, Prof. Ilona Kickbusch, and Ambassador Dante Martinelli, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the UN Office in Geneva. Following the opening statements, a Director-General Dialogue took place, between Dr. Margaret Chan (WHO), Mr Pascal Lamy (WTO) and Mr Francis Gurry (WIPO) on the achievements and challenges in the field of public health, innovation and trade: The Directors' General pointed out that since the Doha Declaration, one of the main challenges remains policy coherence among and within Member States when negotiating on 'trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights' (TRIPS).

Dr Chan emphasized the challenge of making medicines and other health products more affordable and cited the example of the agreement involving vaccine manufacturers. Mr Lamy applauded the opportunity to have an informed debate while also pointing out that the WTO has joined with the WHO and WIPO to beef up technical assistance in capacity building for the application of the TRIPS Agreement. Mr Gurry confirmed the significance of the major shift in the international landscape some ten years ago from a relatively isolated IP regime to the integration of IP with policies to ensure the social benefits of innovation.

Other prominent speakers of the following panels included Mr Michel Sidibé, Executive Director of UNAIDS; Prof. Michel Kazatchkine, Executive Director of the Global Fund, Seth Berkley, CEO of the GAVI Alliance, Denis Broun, Executive Director of UNITAID, Ambassador Tom Mboya Okeo from the Permanent Mission of Kenya, as well as researchers, such as Prof. Frederick Abbott, Prof Sudip Chaudhuri and Dr Brian Tempest.

The symposium also provided a platform to present the findings of the joint study of WHO, WIPO and WTO "Promoting access and Medical innovation: Intersections between Public Health,

Intellectual Property and Trade".

Please visit the symposium webpage where you can find the video recording of the different sessions and where you have full access to the background papers, the trilateral study, as well as links to other media articles covering the event and a photo gallery.

Symposium webpage can be accessed at:

<http://www.graduateinstitute.ch/Jahia/site/globalhealth/cache/off/home/pid/11100>

#### **GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMME NEWS:**

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### **FORTHCOMING GLOBAL HEALTH EVENTS DECEMBER 2011 – FEBRUARY 2012**

#### **[16-23 JANUARY WHO HOLDS THE 130th EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING]**

In their regular meeting in January 2012, the Executive Board members will review, among other things, a proposed mechanism to increase predictability and flexibility of financing for the Organisation. In early November 2011, the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (WHO) ended a three-day special session with Member States expressing strong support for WHO's work and reaching agreement on broad proposals for reform. The proposals aim to better position WHO to improve health outcomes, create a greater coherence in global health and exercise its leadership functions as a more efficient, effective and transparent organisation.

Further information is available at:

[http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/notes/2011/eb\\_20111104/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/notes/2011/eb_20111104/en/index.html)

#### **[CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR VISITING RESEARCHERS AT THE BROCHER CENTRE 2013]**

**Submission by 20 January 2012**

The Brocher Foundation gives researchers the opportunity to work at the Brocher Centre on projects on the ethical, legal and social implications for humankind of recent medical research and new technologies.

Application form and further information can be accessed at:

[http://www.brocher.ch/pages/appele\\_candidature.asp](http://www.brocher.ch/pages/appele_candidature.asp)

### **CURRENT GLOBAL HEALTH DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS**

#### **[5 DECEMBER UN LAUNCHES PLAN TO ACCELERATE MALE CIRCUMCISION FOR AIDS PREVENTION IN AFRICA]**

The United Nations body tasked with combating the spread of HIV/AIDS and the United States scheme that funds global efforts against the pandemic, launched a five-year action framework to accelerate the scaling up of voluntary medical male circumcision as a prevention measure in Africa.

“Voluntary medical male circumcision is a high-impact and cost-effective prevention tool that will bring us one step closer to our goal of an HIV-free generation,” said Mr Michel Sidibé, the Executive Director of the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), when he unveiled the action framework, a partnership with the US President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The action framework – developed by the UN World Health Organization (WHO), UNAIDS, PEPFAR, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the World Bank in consultation with national health ministries – calls for the immediate roll-out and expansion of voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) services in 14 priority countries in Eastern and Southern Africa. Voluntary medical male circumcision has been found to reduce the risk of sexual transmission of HIV from women to men by about 60 per cent when carried out by well-trained health professionals. Since 2007, WHO and UNAIDS have urged countries with high HIV prevalence and low levels of male circumcision to expand access to safe VMMC services.

For more details, please see:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=40619&Cr=hiv/aids&Cr1=>

#### **|7 DECEMBER HIGH-LEVEL ROUND TABLE ON THE HEALTH SECTORS’ PLAN OF ACTION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION|**

Led by the African Development Bank, with support of WHO and UNEP, this roundtable discussion will take place as part of the Africa Pavilion at COP17. A program of daily roundtable discussions and side-events will address key African climate change issues. In 2011, Ministers of Health and Ministers of Environment in Africa agreed on a single operational framework for public health adaptation to climate change. At the request of governments, a plan of action (2012-2016) has been prepared for the continent. The Plan of Action makes health sector, the first to be ready to move on to large-scale coordinated implementation of interventions for adaptation in Africa. COP17 provides an opportunity for the African continent to demonstrate its leadership in taking a major global issue forward.

Further information can be accessed at:

<http://www.afdb.org/en/cop17-africa-pavilion/programme/africa-day//>

#### **GLOBAL HEALTH GOVERNANCE ‘MUST READS’**

##### **|INNOVATIVE HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS: THE DIPLOMACY OF DIVERSITY (VOL 1)|**

**Low beer, Daniel (ed), London :World Scientific, Imperial College, 2011**

Prof Ilona Kickbusch and Prof Thomas E Novotny are the series editor. This series which compiles scholarly writings to provide a possible focus for future education, training, research, and service in global health diplomacy for the 21st Century. This first volume of the series of ‘Global Health Diplomacy’, is edited by Daniel Lowbeer from The Global Fund, Switzerland. This volume assesses the range of innovative partnerships which are at the heart of health diplomacy. It also describes the negotiations to integrate new players into development, which has changed health governance at global and national level. The chapters represent unique and concrete perspectives on these

issues – from activists, private sector, country ministers of health, district health workers, multilaterals and those working in these partnerships – from the global players right down to the community level actors

Detailed contents and summary are available at:  
<http://www.worldscibooks.com/medsci/8242.html>

##### **|REPORT: THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC BURDEN OF NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES|**

**Bloom, D.E. et al., Geneva: World Economic Forum, 2011**

In this report, the World Economic Forum and the Harvard School of Public Health try to inform and stimulate further debate by developing new estimates of the global economic burden of NCDs in 2010, and projecting the size of the burden through 2030. Three distinct approaches are used to compute the economic burden: (1) the standard cost of illness method; (2) macroeconomic simulation and (3) the value of a statistical life. This report includes not only the four major NCDs (the focus of the UN meeting), but also mental illness, which is a major contributor to the burden of disease worldwide. This evaluation takes place in the context of enormous global health spending, serious concerns about already strained public finances and worries about lacklustre economic growth. The report also tries to capture the thinking of the business community about the impact of NCDs on their enterprises.

Full report can be accessed at:

[http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF\\_Harvard\\_HE\\_GlobalEconomicBurdenNonCommunicableDiseases\\_2011.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Harvard_HE_GlobalEconomicBurdenNonCommunicableDiseases_2011.pdf)

##### **|‘GOOD HEALTH AT LOW COST’: 25 YEARS ON. WHAT MAKES AN EFFECTIVE HEALTH SYSTEM?|**

**Balabanova D, McKee M and Mills A (eds), London: London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, 2011**

In 1985 the Rockefeller Foundation published an influential report entitled *Good health at low cost* which sought to shed light on a fundamental problem: why are some low and middle income countries able to achieve better health outcomes than others at similar levels of income? The report found that China, Costa Rica, Kerala (India) and Sri Lanka achieved levels of health comparable to those seen in wealthier countries, but at significantly lower levels of income. Government investment in affordable and accessible community-oriented health services was key. The report convincingly dispelled the myth that economic growth was a sufficient driver of development and, with it, better population health. To mark the 25th anniversary of the publication of the original *Good health at low cost* report, a team of researchers at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine along with partner institutions has returned to the original research question posed a quarter of a century ago.

To download a copy of the book, please visit:

<http://ghlc.lshtm.ac.uk/>

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