

# NEWSLETTER

Newsletter n°09 | September 2010

## IN THIS ISSUE

- The Global Health Programme in Action
- Recent Global Health Events- Outcome and Analysis
- Forthcoming Global Health Events: September – October 2010
- Current Global Health Developments in International Politics
- Global Health Governance 'Must Reads'

Dear newsletter recipient,

In this edition we invite you to register online for our Fourth High-Level Symposium on Global Health Diplomacy, with particular focus on fragile states and health diplomacy. Important upcoming conferences include the Swiss Public Health Conference (9-10 September), the European Health Forum Gastein (6-9 October), and the second World Health Summit in Berlin (10-13 October), among others. In the context of our capacity building initiatives, Prof. Kickbusch recently co-organised the second training course on global health diplomacy in China. The next executive course will be held this November in Indonesia, as highlighted in our previous edition.

### THE GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMME IN ACTION

**| REMINDER: 29 NOVEMBER FOURTH HIGH-LEVEL SYMPOSIUM ON GLOBAL HEALTH DIPLOMACY; GENEVA, SWITZERLAND |**

**"Fragile States: Analyzing the Interface of Health and Diplomacy"**  
Online registration is open!

In cooperation with the Global Fund on Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the Global Health Programme invites those interested to register online for the Annual High-Level Symposium on Global Health Diplomacy. This year's event will focus on the political determinants of health and fragile states, elaborating whether health diplomacy can play a decisive role in peace-building and state-building. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Leonard J. Marcus, the pioneer of a new approach to crisis management – 'meta-leadership'. Prominent speakers, such as Mary Amuyunzu-Nyamongo, PhD, Executive Director of the African Institute for Health and Development, will complete the keynote address, reflecting on the forces that are shaping health in fragile states and how global health diplomacy must respond to these challenges.

For more information and required free online registration:  
<http://www.graduateinstitute.ch/globalhealth/page9073.html>

**| REMINDER: 9-10 SEPTEMBER SWISS PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE; NOTTWIL, SWITZERLAND |**  
**"Social Responsibility and Health"**

This year's Swiss Public Health Conference is co-organised by the Swiss Society for Public Health and the School of Social Work at Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts. The conference will address the Swiss Public Health Report of 2008 that highlighted the importance of the social determinants of health.

For further information, please visit:  
<http://www.public-health.ch>

**| REMINDER: 6-9 OCTOBER EUROPEAN HEALTH FORUM GASTEIN;  
BAD HOF GASTEIN, AUSTRIA |**

**"Health in Europe - Ready for the Future?"**

The Annual High-Level European Health Forum Gastein features a parallel forum organised by Global Health Europe entitled "Health is Global: is Europe ready?". The special forum includes three main sessions, (1) focusing on how Europe can respond to new global health interfaces, such as trade, migration, demographic change, and the impact on European health systems; (2) reviewing the EU's role in global health, including how Europe can ensure health for its citizens through new alliances and partnerships; and (3) discussing the innovations needed in European health governance, including the role of European countries in setting health agendas in non-health venues, such as the WTO, G20, OECD, and the Council of Europe.

For further information, please visit: [www.ehfg.org](http://www.ehfg.org)

**| GLOBAL HEALTH EUROPE INTERVIEWS DR. MARC SPRENGER,  
DIRECTOR, EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND  
CONTROL |**

**"What is the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control's role in Europe's network of global health actors?"**

Global Health Europe recently had the opportunity to speak with Dr. Marc Sprenger on his vision for ECDC, and the role this relatively new institution plays within the expanding network of European global health actors. In May this year, he began his five year term as Director of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. The ECDC is an agency of the EU with a clear mandate to strengthen Europe's defences against infectious diseases and threats of unknown origin. The name "ECDC" invites comparison to the better known CDC in Atlanta, and other new institutions like the CCDC, in China. While similar to these, the ECDC has a number of important differences which distinguish it from other health bodies in Europe, such as institutes of health and tropical medicine or the Regional European Office of the World Health Organization – many of which also focus on fighting infectious diseases. In this interview, Dr Marc Sprenger discusses where exactly the ECDC fits into this crowded network and what its role is.

Read the interview at: <http://www.globalhealtheurope.org>

**| GLOBAL HEALTH EUROPE LAUNCHES ONLINE ISSUE BRIEFS |**

**"EU leadership in global health workforce recruitment" and  
"Europe and the future financing of the WHO"**

The first in a series of Global Health Europe (GHE) Issue Briefs is now available online. The GHE Issue Briefs are concise, policy oriented background documents. In each brief Global Health Europe analyses the most pressing challenges being faced in global health through the governance lens and approached from interdisciplinary perspectives. The first brief looks at WHO's new Code on the ethical international recruitment of health workers and questions what implications this has for Europe. The second available brief is on Europe and the future financing of the WHO.

The briefs can be accessed at:  
<http://www.globalhealtheurope.org>

**RECENT GLOBAL HEALTH EVENTS –  
OUTCOME AND ANALYSIS**

**| 5-9 JULY SECOND ANNUAL EXECUTIVE TRAINING COURSE ON  
GLOBAL HEALTH DIPLOMACY; BEIJING, CHINA |**

For the second time, the Global Health Programme co-organised together with the Institute for Global Health, Beijing University, an executive training course on global health diplomacy in China. The course was supported by the Department of International Cooperation (DIC), the Chinese Ministry of Health (MoH), the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health, the Health Human Resources Development Centre, MoH, China, and the World Health Organization (WHO). Dr. Margaret Chan, WHO Director-General, opened the training course with a video welcome address. After this second course, China is now well on its way towards developing its own national global health strategy. Over the next year, the country will develop guidelines on how to train people for development cooperation in the Ministry of Health, and to identify the specific skills in which they require further training.

Read the full report at: [graduateinstitute.ch/globalhealth](http://graduateinstitute.ch/globalhealth)

**| 18-23 JULY 18th INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE; VIENNA,  
AUSTRIA |**

**"Rights Here, Right Now"**

The 18<sup>th</sup> International AIDS conference drew close to 20,000 participants from 193 countries to 248 sessions covering science, community and leadership. Strong scientific evidence presented at the conference demonstrated that clear progress has been made in the fight against HIV/AIDS. For six consecutive years funding to fight HIV/AIDS in developing countries has increased. Yet, in the wake of the global recession, funding saw an important decrease in 2009. In the same year, the funding gap between need and actual funding was \$7.7 billion, and the unmet need in 2010 peaks \$11.3 billion. Some advocates are calling for a micro-tax on financial transactions to meet the growing treatment tab. By conference closure, more than 12,725 individuals had signed the Vienna Declaration, which seeks to improve community health and safety by calling for more rational and scientifically sound drug policies to strengthen HIV prevention among drug-users. The next International AIDS conference will be held in Washington D.C. in 2012.

For further information, please visit: [www.aids2010.org](http://www.aids2010.org)

**| 25-27 JULY 15th AFRICAN UNION SUMMIT; KAMPALA, UGANDA |**

**"Maternal, Infant and Child Health and Development in Africa"**

'Maternal, Infant and Child Health and Development in Africa' – the Summit's overall theme, reflected the commitments made at the African Union Summit in Maputo, Mozambique in 2006. African leaders participating in the event in Kampala agreed to expand a campaign aimed at curbing maternal mortality on the continent and adopted other key actions in an effort to reduce infant and maternal mortality.

In October, the AU will launch the 'Decade of Women' from 2010-2020. During this time, various projects will be initiated in Africa, designed to elevate the standard of living for women and to further empower them within society.

The African leaders also renewed the 2001 Abuja Declaration, which calls on African countries to spend at least 15 percent of their national budgets, excluding donor contributions, on health.

For more information, please visit:  
<http://www.africa-union.org/root/au/conferences/2010/july/summit/15thsummit.html>

**|11-12 AUGUST CHINA-AFRICA AGRICULTURAL FORUM; BEIJING, CHINA|**

**"China-Africa Agriculture Cooperation in the New Situation: Opportunities and Challenges"**

Chinese and African officials at the China-Africa Agricultural Forum in Beijing explored possibilities for agricultural cooperation and addressed food security issues. Approximately 350 representatives from various government departments and businesses of China and 20 African countries attended this event for agricultural cooperation between China and Africa. The forum also issues the Beijing Declaration, calling for the international community - particularly from the Global North - to address food security in Africa. Since 2004, China has sent more than 900 agricultural experts and technicians to Africa to train 4,200 agricultural management officials and technicians, as well as constructing 14 demonstration centres for agricultural technology there. In the same year, the Asian country invested more than 134 million USD on the African continent, with their trade relations reaching a volume of 2.8 million USD.

**FORTHCOMING GLOBAL HEALTH EVENTS  
SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2010**

**|10-13 OCTOBER SECOND WORLD HEALTH SUMMIT; BERLIN, GERMANY|**

**"Improving medical research and individual healthcare worldwide"**

Under the High Patronage of Nicolas Sarkozy, President of the French Republic, and Angela Merkel, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, the M8 Alliance will organise its second World Health Summit in Berlin. This year's four-day conference will create opportunities to develop an international and cross-functional perspective on how to optimise innovation in medical research and its translation into practical delivery solutions; share international best practice on how to respond effectively to the increasing complexity in medical research; and discuss opportunities and challenges in building locally sensitive research capacity in low income countries. The conference sessions are organized around the three key themes, (i) translation - delivering innovation beyond bench and bedside; (ii) transition - coping with new health challenges and accelerating change; and (iii) transformation - reinventing health policies and management.

The M8 Alliance is an international network of prestigious medical universities. The network seeks to provide a high-level academic framework to develop sustainable and successful strategies for health care, health governance and health research on a European and global scale.

For more information, please see:  
<http://www.worldhealthsummit.org/>

**|19-21 OCTOBER SEPTEMBER 2nd ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONSORTIUM OF UNIVERSITIES FOR GLOBAL HEALTH; UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, USA|**

**"Transforming Global Health: The Interdisciplinary Power of Universities"**

This conference will focus on three important themes, including (i) building the science base for global health: research and evaluation; (ii) educational innovations and experiences in global health; and (iii) enabling systems: legal, regulatory and administrative infrastructure to support advances in global health. Faculty, researchers, administrators, students, trainees and leaders from academia, government and international development groups are invited to discuss these cutting-edge topics in the context of the transforming role of the university and interdisciplinary power in global health. Invited high-level speakers include Nils Daulaire, Director, Office of Global Health Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Peter Piot, Director, Global Health Institute and Professor, Imperial College London; and Nelson Sewankambo, Dean and Professor of Medicine, Makerere University College of Health Sciences, Uganda, among others.

For further information, please visit: [www.cugh.org](http://www.cugh.org)

**CURRENT GLOBAL HEALTH DEVELOPMENTS IN  
INTERNATIONAL POLITICS**

**|UNITED NATIONS CREATES NEW BODY ON WOMEN, GENDER AND EQUALITY|**

On 2 July 2010, the United Nations Assembly voted unanimously to establish a new special agency, the U.N. Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, commonly referred to as U.N. Women. Its establishment is a result of years of negotiations between U.N. Member States and advocacy from the global women's movement. It is part of the UN reform agenda, bringing together resources and mandates for greater impact. The new institution will merge four UN agencies which focus exclusively on gender equality and women's empowerment: the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW, established in 1946), the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW, established in 1976), the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI, established in 1977), and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM, established in 1976). UN Women will be operational by January 2011.

The web page of the new UN agency can be accessed at:  
<http://www.unwomen.org/>

**|UNITED NATIONS DECLARES WATER A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT|**

On 28 July, the sixty-fourth UN General Assembly adopted a resolution declaring "the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of the right to life". The resolution urges all Member States to "scale up efforts to provide safe, clean, accessible and affordable water and sanitation for all".

The General Assembly voiced deep concern that almost 900 million people worldwide do not have access to clean water. About 1.5 million children under five die each year from water and sanitation-related diseases.

Although the resolution is non-binding, it is a crucial step towards the provision of clean water and sanitation for all. The resolution proved politically divisive, with 122 countries voting for it and 41 states abstaining, and no votes against.

The complete UN resolution can be accessed at:  
<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2010/ga10967.doc.htm>

#### **| WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION LIST REVEALS FLU ADVISORS WITH FINANCIAL TIES TO VACCINE INDUSTRY |**

In response to mounting external pressure, the World Health Organization (WHO) has revealed the names of several key pandemic advisors who – after receiving money from various vaccine manufacturers – influenced the Organization's decision in 2009 to declare the H1N1 swine flu as a phase six pandemic. In consequence to the issuance of the highest pandemic alert level, numerous vaccine companies from the Global North were able to increase their profits due to the production of vaccines against H1N1.

The list of the pandemic advisors with conflicts of interest can be seen at:  
[http://www.who.int/ihr/emerg\\_comm\\_members\\_2009/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/ihr/emerg_comm_members_2009/en/index.html)

#### **| RISK ANALYSIS FIRM RELEASES GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY INDEX 2010 |**

The risk analysis and rating firm Maplecroft has released the Food Security Index 2010, evaluating the risks to the supply of basic food staples for 163 countries. The study uses 12 criteria, developed in collaboration with the World Food Programme, to calculate the countries' ranking, including the nutritional and health status of populations, cereal production and imports, GDP per capita, natural disasters, conflict, and the effectiveness of government. The results reveal that Sub-Saharan Africa is particularly vulnerable to food insecurity due to the mix of extreme weather events, high rates of poverty and weak infrastructure, which hampers both production and distribution capacity of the affected countries. In addition, conflict is seen as a major driver of food insecurity, as both the conflict-ridden countries Afghanistan and DR Congo demonstrate by facing precarious food security situations. The study also argues that the world will now look to China (ranking 96) as one of the biggest storage countries, though it remains challenged by increasing food consumption.

The study can be retrieved from:  
<http://www.maplecroft.com/about/news/food-security.html>

#### **GLOBAL HEALTH GOVERNANCE 'MUST READS' | CENTER FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT PUBLISHES STUDY ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE |**

The Center for Global Development' Drug Resistance Working Group has published a study on antimicrobial resistance, in which it urges the international community to address the rising problem on the global scale. Malaria, pneumonia, other respiratory infections and dysentery are no longer curable by many of the older antibiotics or other drugs available in poor countries. Drug resistance has also alarming economic consequences. When first-line drugs fail, second-line alternative drugs are almost always far more costly and require greater medical insight. The report gives out four high-priority recommendations to tackle the global health threat of antimicrobial resistance. It includes the call to collect and share

drug resistance information across disease networks; to secure the drug supply chain to ensure quality products and practices; to strengthen national drug regulatory authorities in developing countries; and to catalyse research and innovation to speed the development of resistance-fighting technologies.

The study is accessible at:  
<http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424207/>

#### **| UN CHRONICLE PUBLISHES EDITION ON 'ACHIEVING GLOBAL HEALTH' Vol. XLVII, No. 2, 2010**

The UN Chronicle has published its most recent edition on 'Achieving Global Health'. The issue highlights health priorities for the twenty-first century. Numerous global health experts assess that the Millennium Development Goals will not be achieved in many low-income countries by 2015. Dr. Margaret Chan, Director-General of the World Health Organization, contributes with an article on 'Primary Health Care: Now More than Ever', in which she urges for an increased focus on primary health care. Other distinguished contributors include George Alleyne, United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean region; Devi Sridhar, Research Fellow in Politics at All Souls College, Oxford; and Paulo Buss, Full Professor of Health Planning of the National School of Public Health at the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation; among others. Their articles draw attention to the impact of the global economic downturn and climate change in re-examining health priorities, as well as the challenge posed by the crises in optimising resources between communicable diseases and emerging non-communicable illnesses.

The edition can be accessed at:  
[http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/chronicle/home/archive/issues2010/achieving\\_global\\_health](http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/chronicle/home/archive/issues2010/achieving_global_health)

#### **| COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS LAUNCHES INTERACTIVE GLOBAL GOVERNANCE MONITOR |**

As part of its new multimedia Global Governance Monitor, the Council on Foreign Relations launched several multimedia tools, one of them covering global health. With the objective of demonstrating how the international community is doing in addressing the most daunting global threats, this section includes a cinematic overview, an interactive timeline, a matrix examining public health sectors, documents and initiatives, an interactive country map, as well as a resource information guide. The multimedia package on global health is complemented by an issue brief, examining the strengths and weaknesses of the 'global public health regime'.

The interactive tools can be seen at:  
[http://www.cfr.org/publication/18985/global\\_governance\\_monitor.html](http://www.cfr.org/publication/18985/global_governance_monitor.html)

THE GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAM NEWSLETTER IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE, GENEVA  
 GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMME  
 132, rue de Lausanne | P.O. Box 136  
 1211 Geneva 21 | Switzerland  
 T +41 22 908 5700  
 E [globalhealth@graduateinstitute.ch](mailto:globalhealth@graduateinstitute.ch)