



# **Political Leadership for Global Health: A moderated discussion with the candidates for Director-General of WHO**

Organised by the Global Health Centre at the Graduate Institute  
in cooperation with the Centre on Global Health Security at Chatham House,  
The Rockefeller Foundation and the United Nations Foundation

**Biographies of speakers**

**6 March 2017  
Maison de la paix  
The Graduate Institute, Geneva**

**CHATHAM  
HOUSE**  
The Royal Institute of  
International Affairs

 **UNITED NATIONS  
FOUNDATION**

 **The  
ROCKEFELLER  
FOUNDATION**



## WELCOME

### ILONA KICKBUSCH

**Director, Global Health Centre, the Graduate Institute**



Ilona Kickbusch is the Director of the Global Health Centre and Adjunct Professor at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva. She has been deeply involved in the development of the Health 2020 European health policy framework. She was a member of the independent Ebola interim assessment panel of WHO and now serves on the United Nations Secretary-General's Global Health Crises Task Force. She has recently been awarded the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany (Bundesverdienstkreuz) in recognition of her invaluable contributions to innovation in governance for global health and global health diplomacy. She is a senior advisor to the Regional Directors of the WHO Regional Offices for Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean and has advised many countries on their global health strategies. In Switzerland she serves on the executive board of the Careum Foundation and on the expert panel advising the Federal Councillor responsible for health. She has contributed to innovation in health in many ways throughout her career and has a strong commitment to the empowerment of women. She has worked with WHO at various levels and in academia as professor at Yale University. She has published widely and has received many prizes for her work. Her key areas of work relate to Global Health Governance, Health Security, Public Health, Health Promotion, Health Literacy and Health in All Policies. Details and updates can be found on her Website: [www.ilonakickbusch.com](http://www.ilonakickbusch.com) and on wikipedia. You can follow her on Twitter @IlonaKickbusch.

### DAVID HEYMANN

**Head and Senior Fellow, Centre on Global Health Security, Chatham House**



David Heymann is currently professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; head of the Centre on Global Health Security at Chatham House, London; and chairman of Public Health England, UK. Previously he was the World Health Organization's assistant director-general for Health Security and Environment, and representative of the director-general for polio eradication. From 1998 to 2003 he was Executive Director of the WHO Communicable Diseases Cluster, during which he headed the global response to SARS, and prior to that was director for the WHO programme on Emerging and other Communicable Diseases. Earlier experiences at WHO include chief of research activities in the WHO global programme on AIDS. Before joining WHO he worked for 13 years as a medical epidemiologist in sub-Saharan Africa, on assignment from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), where he participated in the first and second outbreaks of Ebola hemorrhagic fever, and supported ministries of health in research aimed at better control of malaria, measles, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases. Prior to joining CDC he worked in India for two years as a medical epidemiologist in the WHO smallpox eradication programme. He is an elected fellow of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies (US) and the Academy of Medical Sciences (UK), and has been awarded several public health awards that have provided funding for the establishment of an on-going mentorship programme at the International Association of Public Health Institutes (IANPHI). In 2009 he was appointed an honorary Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (CBE) for service to global public health.

## MODERATED DISCUSSION

### TEDROS ADHANOM GHEBREYESUS

#### Candidate nominated by the Government of Ethiopia



Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus served the government of Ethiopia as Minister of Health from 2005 to 2012, Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2012 to 2016, and currently as Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia. As Minister of Health he implemented comprehensive health reforms that have improved access to health workforce training, health services, medicines, and health outcomes in Ethiopia. Dr Tedros was instrumental in creating 3,500 health centres and 16,000 health posts to improve access to basic health care across the country. The flagship Health Extension Programme he pioneered trained and deployed 38,000 health extension workers at the community level as civil servants – a model that has been replicated in more than a dozen countries across Africa. These achievements helped Ethiopia dramatically expand access to health services and meet ambitious health targets including reduction of child mortality by 67%, maternal mortality by 69%, malaria mortality by 75%, mortality from tuberculosis by 64%, and HIV infections by 90%. He was selected in 2012 by Wired Magazine as one of the 50 people who will change the world. As Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Tedros spearheaded the drafting of Agenda 2063 when he chaired the Executive Council of the African Union, oversaw the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and played an important role in African Union's response to the Ebola epidemic. Moreover, he has the experiences of chairing multiple global health initiatives, including being the Board Chair of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the Board Chair of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, the Board Co-Chair of the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health, and the Chair of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board. In addition, he was a member of the GAVI Alliance Board, the Stop TB Partnership Coordinating Board, and a Founding Board Member of the Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). Dr. Tedros is a globally recognised malaria researcher who has co-authored numerous articles on this subject in prominent scientific publications.

## DAVID NABARRO

### Candidate nominated by the Government of the United Kingdom



After studying physiology and medicine at Oxford and London Universities, undertaking research in reproductive health and qualifying as a medical doctor in 1974, David Nabarro worked for the UK National Health Service. He then served as a medical doctor in projects supported by Save the Children, in Iraq, Nepal, India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. He worked on health programmes with the Governments of India (in Orissa and Gujarat) and Nepal. He advised on UK strategies for health system support in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania. He taught nutrition and public health at the London and Liverpool Schools of Tropical Medicine (with periods in Colombia, Brazil, Thailand and Malawi). In 1990 he was appointed as Chief Health and Population Adviser for the UK Overseas Development Administration (ODA) based in London. His assignments included initiating ODA health action in Russia, Kazakhstan and Ukraine (1990 – 92), UK relief efforts in North Iraq (1990), Britain's engagement in the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo, and revitalizing the UK Medical Research Council Tropical Medicine Research Board. After serving for two years as Human Development Director in the UK Department for International Development he joined the World Health Organization in 1999. His first assignment was to manage the Roll Back Malaria project, then he moved to head the office of the Director General where he helped establish the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. In 2002 he led the WHO Sustainable Development and Healthy Environments Cluster and in 2003 he initiated the new WHO programme on Health Action in Crisis surviving the 2003 bombing in the Canal Hotel, Baghdad, and coordinating both WHO's response to the 2003 earthquake in Bam, Iran and the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami. In 2005 he joined the UN Secretary General as Senior Coordinator for Avian and Pandemic influenza. From 2008 he was the UN's Special Representative and Coordinator for Food Security. From 2010 he coordinated the multi-country Scaling Up Nutrition Movement. Between 2014 and 2015 he served as Special Envoy for the UN's response to the West Africa Ebola outbreak: in 2015 he chaired an advisory group on the reform of WHO's responses to Outbreaks and Emergencies. In January 2016 he was appointed as UN Special Adviser (and Under-Secretary-General) on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Climate Change, with responsibility (inter alia) for the Every Woman Every Child initiative, the UN Global Health Crisis Task Force and the new UN approach on Cholera in Haiti. He is a Fellow of the UK Royal College of Physicians and Faculty of Public Health Medicine.

## SANIA NISHTAR

### Candidate nominated by the Government of Pakistan



Sania Nishtar is a Pakistani physician, former federal minister, co-Chair of the WHO Commission on Ending Childhood Obesity, and civil society leader in health. Born in Peshawar, Nishtar graduated from Khyber Medical College with 16 distinctions, a college record which remains unbroken. She was inducted into the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Pakistan in 1991. She received her PhD from King's College in 2002 and became a Fellow of Royal College of Physicians of London in 2005. In 1998, Nishtar founded Heartfile, a health policy think tank in Pakistan. Sania Nishtar served as Federal Minister in the Government of Pakistan during the 2013 Caretaker government where she had multi-sectoral responsibility for Health, Higher Education, Science, Information Technology and Telecom. During her term, she was instrumental in establishing Pakistan's Ministry of Health, which she had been advocating for. Her policies remained focused on promoting development; in the education sector linking academia with entrepreneurs, and in the Ministry of IT by using the telecom sector for development. During her term, she became an icon of transparency by publishing her 'Handover Papers'. Sania Nishtar has been involved with many international agencies in various capacities and is described by the World Health Organization as "a widely respected global health expert". She was founding Chair of the UN secretary General's Independent Accountability Panel for the Global Strategy on Women's, Children's and Adolescents' health. She has also served as Board Member of the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research, as well as Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and previously served as chair of Gavi's Evaluation Advisory Committee. She is currently co-Chair of the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on Health and Healthcare and is also a Trustee member of the World Economic Forum's Health Global Challenge initiative. She is also a member of the Lancet and Rockefeller Foundation Commission on Planetary Health and the Lancet and Harvard Commission on Pain and Palliative Care. In addition, Sania Nishtar is member of the Steering Committee of the Emerging Markets Symposium, which is an initiative of the Green Templeton College, Oxford University. She is also a member of the Board of the United Nations University International Institute for Global Health. Sania Nishtar has extensively published internationally and is the author of six books. She is a regular keynote speaker at international events and is the recipient of many national and international awards, including the Pakistani civil award, Sitara-i-Imtiaz (star achiever) and the Global Innovation Award.

## MODERATORS

### ANDREW JACK

#### Head of Curated Content and Editor, Financial Times



Andrew Jack has worked at the Financial Times since 1990. He currently runs the curated content team, a global group of journalists which guides busy readers through the best news and analysis from the FT and the rest of the web, using email, onsite posts, apps, multimedia and social. He was previously deputy editor of the analysis section, pharmaceuticals correspondent, Moscow bureau chief, Paris correspondent, financial correspondent, general reporter and corporate reporter. He is author of the books *Inside Putin's Russia* and *The French Exception* as well as numerous specialist reports. You can find his new FT Health newsletter on this website: [www.ft.com/fthealthsignup](http://www.ft.com/fthealthsignup).

### DIAH S. SAMINARSIH

#### Special Adviser to the Minister of Health of Indonesia



Diah S. Saminarsih is Special Adviser to the Minister of Health of Indonesia for Promoting Partnerships and the Sustainable Development Goals. Before working with the Ministry of Health, she had been the Deputy of Indonesia's President Special Envoy on MDGs since 2010 and was one of the Lead Negotiators for Indonesia in the Open Working Group and Inter-Government Negotiations for the SDGs. She is a trained Psychologist and pursued her career as a Management Consultant with specialisation in Human Resources, Strategic Communication and Corporate Reconstructing. Diah designed and implemented *Pencerah Nusantara*, a platform of action focusing on a sustainable public-private partnership model that recruits young health professionals to strengthen the overall health system. The initiative is built to showcase the road map of implementing the MDGs. *Pencerah Nusantara* is now upscaled and replicated into a national program by the Ministry of Health, named *Nusantara Sehat*. The main goal is to strengthen primary healthcare services in hard-to-reach locations in Indonesia and to showcase how to achieve SDGs health-related targets.

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

### ILONA KICKBUSCH

Director, Global Health Centre, the Graduate Institute

### DAVID HEYMANN

Head and Senior Fellow, Centre on Global Health Security, Chatham House

### JOHN E. LANGE

Ambassador; Senior Fellow for Global Health Diplomacy, United Nations Foundation



Ambassador John E. Lange, Senior Fellow for Global Health Diplomacy at the United Nations Foundation, serves as the Foundation's primary focal point for global health diplomacy activities and its wide-ranging work with the World Health Organization. Lange worked from 2009-2013 at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, where he engaged in high-level advocacy with international organizations and African governments. In 2012, he was the founding Chair of the Polio Partners Group of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and served as Co-Chair for four years. Ambassador Lange had a distinguished 28-year career in the Foreign Service at the U.S. Department of State, where he was a pioneer in the field of global health diplomacy. He served as the Special Representative on Avian and Pandemic Influenza; Deputy U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator at the inception of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief; and U.S. Ambassador to Botswana (1999-2002), where HIV/AIDS was his signature issue. Lange led the U.S. Embassy in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, as Chargé d'Affaires during the August 7, 1998, terrorist bombing. Earlier, he had tours of duty in Geneva, Lomé, Paris and Mexico City. Ambassador Lange co-chaired the U.S. Institute of Medicine committee that produced the 2014 report, *Investing in Global Health Systems: Sustaining Gains, Transforming Lives*. He is the author of a case study on pandemic influenza negotiations, has delivered numerous lectures on issues related to global health diplomacy, and writes a blog on global health in *The Huffington Post*. He has an M.S. degree from the National War College and J.D. and B.A. degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.