



This event is part of the International Geneva Project.

Introduction to the World Health Assembly: A Briefing for Delegates

Organised by the Global Health Centre at the Graduate Institute
and the United Nations Foundation

Biographies of Speakers

**19 May 2019
Maison de la paix, Auditorium Ivan Pictet
The Graduate Institute, Geneva**



| 14:30 – 15:00 | **NETWORKING COFFEE**

| 15:00 – 15:15 | **WELCOME**

ILONA KICKBUSCH

Director, Global Health Centre, the Graduate Institute



Ilona Kickbusch key interests relate to the political determinants of health, health in all policies and global health. She established the Global Health Centre at the Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies in Geneva. In this context she advises countries on their global health strategies and trains health specialists and diplomats in global health diplomacy. She is a member of the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board and the WHO High-Level Independent Commission on NCDS and is co-chair of UHC 2030. She acts as Council Chair to the World Health Summit in Berlin. She has been involved in German G7 and G20 activities relating to global health and

chairs the international advisory board for the development of the German global health strategy. She publishes widely and serves on various commissions and boards. She initiated the @wgh300 list of women leaders in global health. She is program chair of the leaders in health network SCIANA. Professor Kickbusch has had a distinguished career with the World Health Organization. She was a key instigator of the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion and WHO's Healthy Cities Network and has remained a leader in this field, most recently advising on the WHO activities related to Promoting Health in the SDGs. She was the director of the Global Health Division at Yale University School of Public Health and responsible for the first major Fulbright Programme on global health. 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". You can follow her on Twitter @IlonaKickbusch.

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 organisations and African governments. He chairs the Leadership Team of the Measles & Rubella Initiative and earlier served for four years as Co-Chair of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative's Polio Partners Group. 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, for which he received the State Department's Distinguished Honor Award for skilled leadership and extraordinary courage. Earlier, he had tours of duty in Geneva, Lomé, Paris and Mexico City. Ambassador Lange co-chaired a U.S. National Academy of Medicine committee that issued a report on investing in public health systems, authored a case study on pandemic influenza negotiations, and has delivered numerous lectures on issues related to global health diplomacy. He has an M.S. degree from the U.S. National War College and J.D. and B.A. degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

| 15:15 – 15:30 | **WHA PROCEDURES AND GOVERNANCE**

GIAN LUCA BURCI

Adjunct Professor, the Graduate Institute; Senior Fellow, Global Health Centre; Former Legal Counsel, World Health Organization



Gian Luca Burci was named Adjunct Professor at the Graduate Institute in 2012. He served in the Legal Office of the World Health Organization between 1998 and 2016, and was appointed Legal Counsel in 2005. He previously served as Legal Officer at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna and in the UN Secretariat in New York for nearly a decade. At the Institute, he has taught in the joint LLM in Global Health Law and International Institutions programme in partnership with Georgetown University. He holds a post graduate degree in law from the Università degli Studi di Genova, Italy. His areas of expertise are in international law, international organisations, and governance and law related to international health.

| 15:30 – 16:30 | **PANEL DISCUSSION: TRANSFORMING THE WHO – WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS?**

PETER SINGER

Special Advisor to the Director-General, World Health Organization



Before joining WHO as Special Advisor to the Director General, Dr. Peter Singer from Canada co-founded two innovative, results driven, social impact organizations. From 2008-2018 Singer was Chief Executive Officer of Grand Challenges Canada. From 1996-2006 he was Sun Life Financial Chair and Director of the University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics. He was also Professor of Medicine at University of Toronto and Senior Scientist at University Health Network. In 2007, Dr. Singer received the Michael Smith Prize as Canada's Health Researcher of the Year in Population Health and Health Services. In 2011, Singer was appointed Officer of the Order of Canada for his contributions to health research and bioethics, and for his dedication to improving the health of people in developing countries. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (where he was also Foreign Secretary), the U.S. National Academy of Medicine, and The Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS). As a researcher, Dr. Singer published over 300 articles, received over \$50 million in research grants, and mentored hundreds of students. He studied internal medicine at University of Toronto, medical ethics at University of Chicago, public health at Yale University, and management at Harvard Business School. He served his community as Board Chair of Branksome Hall, an internationally minded school for girls.

ANDERS NORDSTRÖM

Ambassador for Global Health, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden



Anders Nordström is the Swedish Ambassador for Global Health at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Stockholm. As a medical doctor from the Karolinska Institute, Sweden, Dr Nordström has a background that combines development experience with national and international health policy and planning, and global strategic leadership. His first international assignments were with the Swedish Red Cross in Cambodia and the International Committee of the Red Cross in Iran. He worked for the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) for 12 years, including three years as Regional Advisor in Zambia and four years as Head of the Health Division in

Stockholm. During 2002, Dr Nordström, as the Interim Executive Director, established the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria as a legal entity. He then served as Assistant Director-General for General Management and Acting Director-General of WHO. Dr Nordström was also appointed Assistant Director-General for Health Systems and Services whose cluster focused its work on scaling up health services, human resources for health, health financing, health information systems, pharmaceuticals and health technologies. From 2008 to 2010 Dr Nordström served as Director-General for the Sida. The Swedish government appointed him Ambassador for HIV/AIDS at the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs in 2010 and the world's first Ambassador for Global Health in 2012. He then worked with the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Ebola, David Nabarro and served as Head of the WHO Country Office in Sierra Leone. He has also served as board member of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, GAVI, UNAIDS and PMNCH, and has chaired and been a member of several international task forces, committees and working groups.

SOCORRO FLORES LIERA

Ambassador; Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva



Socorro Flores Liera has a Law degree from Universidad Iberoamericana and Postgraduate studies in international law at the Faculty of Law of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). In 1992 she joined the Mexican Foreign Service and since 2012 has the rank of Ambassador. In the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and abroad she has served as Director of International Law in the Legal Office, Director General for Global Issues and Director General for American Regional Organizations, as well as at the Missions of Mexico in New York and in Vienna. Since November 2017 she was appointed Permanent Representative of Mexico to United Nations Office and

other International Organizations in Geneva, Switzerland.

CHRISTOPHER ELIAS

President, Global Development Programme, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation



Chris Elias, President of the Global Development Program, leads the foundation’s efforts to accelerate the delivery of proven healthcare products and solutions to those who need them most – especially women and children. Focusing on appropriate and sustainable strategies with the potential to improve the health of hundreds of millions of people in underserved communities, the Global Development’s program is focuses on five program areas: Family Planning; Maternal, Newborn, & Child Health; Nutrition; Polio; and Vaccine Delivery. Dr. Elias most recently served as the president and CEO of PATH, an international, nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the health of people around the world through the developing innovative health technologies, strengthening healthcare systems, and encouraging healthy behaviors. He serves on various advisory boards, including the Creighton University Board of Trustees, the Advisory Committee to the Director, CDC, and the University of Washington Global Health External Advisory Board. He also represents the Gates Foundation as the chair of the Polio Oversight Board of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, the chair of the Investors Group of the Global Financing Facility, and co-chair of the FP2020 Reference Group. Dr. Elias holds an MD from Creighton University, having completed postgraduate training in internal medicine at the University of California San Francisco, and an MPH from the University of Washington. He was a fellow in the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Creighton University.

MAREIKE HAASE

International Health Policy Advisor, Bread for the World



Mareike Haase is working with Bread for the World - the German Protestant Development Service - as advisor for International Health Policy since 2013. Main areas of her work are global governance in health, the improvement of research and development for neglected and poverty related diseases as well as aspects of nutrition and health. Mareike is advocating for realizing the right to health, together with the worldwide partner network of Bread for the World. In the spirit of this objective, Bread for the World is part of the Geneva Global Health Hub, a Geneva based civil society association, where Mareike is coordinating the working group on “WHO and global health governance and financing”. Before joining Bread for the World, Mareike worked with non-governmental organisations on topics such as global health and child rights as well as education. She holds a University degree in South East Asian Studies and Political Science, with main research on the involvement of local communities in development processes.

Moderator

ILONA KICKBUSCH

Director, Global Health Centre, the Graduate Institute

| 16:30 – 17:50 | **72st WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY: WHAT IS AT STAKE**

Health emergencies

JAOUAD MAHJOUR

Assistant Director-General, Emergency Preparedness and International Health Regulations, World Health Organization



Jaouad Mahjour has been appointed as Assistant Director-General of the Emergency Preparedness & IHR Department, where he took up the post on 15 March 2019. Dr Mahjour is a national from Morocco, and holds a Doctorate of Medicine from the Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy in Rabat (Morocco), and a Master degree in Public Health. Dr Mahjour is a public health specialist with over 30 years of experience in designing, implementing and evaluating diseases control programmes at national and international levels. He joined the World Health Organization as the Country Representative to Lebanon in 2005. In 2007, he took up the position of Director, Communicable Diseases Control in the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office. In 2014, he became Director of Programme Management, and was Acting Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean Region from October 2017 to May 2018. Over the last 10 years, Dr Mahjour has been leading the implementation of the International Health Regulations 2005, and overall health security and outbreak prevention and control programmes in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region Office. Before joining WHO, Dr Mahjour was the Director of Epidemiology and Diseases Control in the Ministry of Health of Morocco.

Achieving Universal Health Coverage and Plans for the UN High-Level Meeting on UHC

RANIERI GUERRA

Assistant Director-General, WHO Lead for UN High-Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage, World Health Organization



Ranieri Guerra is the WHO Assistant Director-General, leading the agency to the High-Level Meeting on UHC at the UN as a special envoy of the WHO Director-General. A physician from Italy, he has 40 years of public health experience. Since 2014, he has served as Director-General for Preventive Health of the Italian Ministry of Health and Chief Medical Officer of Italy. Additional roles include serving as Scientific Attaché for the Embassy of Italy in Washington, DC, Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre and Director of the Office of External Relations at the President's Cabinet at the Istituto Superiore di Sanità, the national research institute of the Italian National Health System. He served also in the Italian Development Cooperation and in the Technical Review Panel of the Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria and has conducted several missions with the EU development aid and several other International agencies in more than one hundred countries. He has published extensively on humanitarian and emergency operations and health reform in developing and transitional countries.

The Nagoya Protocol: its public health implications and its impact on seasonal virus sharing

STEVEN SOLOMON

Principal Legal Officer for Governing Bodies, World Health Organization



Steven Solomon is Principal Legal Officer at the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, where he focuses on WHO governance and international health law matters. He served as the WHO legal adviser to the negotiations which led to the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP) Framework. Prior to joining WHO, Steven served as Deputy Legal Counselor at the United States Mission to United Nations Organizations in Geneva, negotiating a variety of human rights and humanitarian law instruments. He was an attorney with the State Department for several years before that handling multilateral negotiations related to the control of conventional weapons as well as international humanitarian law. After law school, before joining the State Department, Steven was a lawyer in private practice at the Washington, D.C. law firm of Williams & Connolly. He also worked on Capitol Hill. Steven has written widely on matters pertaining to international law, including global health and humanitarian law matters.

Improving the transparency of markets for medicines, vaccines and other health-related technologies

ANDREW RINTOUL

Scientist, Access to Medicines, Vaccines and Pharmaceuticals, World Health Organization



Andrew Rintoul is a Health Economist working for World Health Organization in Geneva. He works within the Access to Medicines, Vaccines and Pharmaceutical Division and leads a team that has responsibility for Pharmaceutical Pricing, Procurement and Supply Chain Management; the team is focused on improving the affordability and availability of essential medicines. Andrew's team, in conjunction with the South African Department of Health, recently held the Fair Pricing Forum in Johannesburg. Before joining the World Health Organization he worked for the Australian Government Department of Health on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme for 12 years. From 2011 until 2016, he was Director of Pharmaceutical Pricing, where he was responsible for pharmaceutical pricing and pricing negotiations for the Australian Government.

Antimicrobial resistance

HANAN H. BALKHY

Assistant Director-General for Antimicrobial Resistance, World Health Organization



Hanan H. Balkhy graduated from King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 1991. She completed her paediatric residency training at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston USA 1993-1996; followed by a paediatric infectious diseases fellowship from 1996-1999 from the Cleveland Clinic Foundation and Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, USA. Prior to her appointment with WHO, she was the Executive Director, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) at the Ministry of National Guard for 10 years and prior to that, the hospital epidemiologist for 10 years. She also led the establishment of the infectious diseases research department at King Abdulla International Research Centre at King Saud bin Abdulaziz

University for Health Sciences in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Professor Balkhy runs the WHO Collaborating Centre for IPC and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and the Gulf Cooperation Council center for infection control. She is the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Infection and Public Health and has over 200 publications in peer-reviewed journals. Professor Balkhy is a member of the WHO Global unit for IPC, and in addition has served on many WHO committees including: the Advisory Group on Integrated Surveillance and Antimicrobial Resistance (AGISAR), the Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (STAG-AMR), the International Health Regulations review committee (IHR-RC) and the most recent Interagency Coordination Group committee for AMR. With her broad spectrum of responsibilities, she has been able to develop the expertise in managing and leading both her teams of infection preventionists on one hand and research teams in the fields of AMR and MERS-CoV on the other. She has received two research awards from her institution acknowledging her leading role in her field. Most recently she has been given the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) Fellows honorary title.

Moderator

JOHN E. LANGE

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

| 17:50 – 18:00 | **CLOSING**

JOHN E. LANGE

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

ILONA KICKBUSCH

Director, Global Health Centre, the Graduate Institute

This event is organised by the GHC as



WHO Collaborating Centre
on Governance for Health
and Global Health Diplomacy