



WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY OPEN BRIEFING

14 MAY 2020 | 15:00 – 16:30

73rd World Health Assembly Week

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

More information: graduateinstitute.ch/73WHA-Briefing

INTRODUCTION

VINH-KIM NGUYEN

Co-Director, Global Health Centre; Professor, Anthropology and Sociology, Graduate Institute, Geneva



Vinh-Kim Nguyen is a medical anthropologist and physician. He continues to practice acute care medicine in Canada and with Médecins sans Frontières, most recently in emergency medicine in Yemen and in Ebola centres in the DRC. He practised HIV medicine in Montréal between 1992 and 2012, and was involved as a co-investigator in multiple clinical trials while teaching in the School of Public Health at the University of Montréal where he helped establish graduate programmes in Global Health. He now teaches Anthropology and Global Health in Geneva, and continues to conduct research on barriers to the elimination of infectious diseases. His early anthropological research, based on extensive work in the field working with community groups, examines the introduction of antiretrovirals in West Africa from the mid 1990s and is detailed in his first book, *The Republic of Therapy: Triage and Sovereignty in West Africa's Time of AIDS*. With Margaret Lock he co-authored *An Anthropology of Biomedicine*, which provides a theoretical framework for analysing health and illness in the era of globalized biomedicine and is now in its second edition. He is Vice President of MSF Switzerland and co-Director of the Global Health Centre at the Graduate Institute in Geneva.

ELIZABETH COUSENS

President and Chief Executive Officer, United Nations Foundation



Elizabeth Cousens became the UN Foundation's third President and Chief Executive Officer in 2020, leading the Foundation's next generation of work to support the United Nations. Elizabeth has been at the forefront of global policymaking and innovation for over 20 years. She is a diplomat and thought leader who has worked on the frontlines of peace processes, played an influential role in UN policy innovations from peacebuilding to the Sustainable Development Goals, and helped build public-private partnerships to solve global challenges at scale. Before joining the Foundation, Elizabeth served for several years at the U.S. Mission to the UN in New York. She was Principal Policy Advisor and Counselor to the Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations and later served as the U.S. Ambassador to the UN Economic and Social Council and Alternate Representative to the UN General Assembly where she led U.S. negotiations on the SDGs; served on the boards of UN agencies, funds, and programmes; and was U.S. representative to the UN Peacebuilding Commission. Elizabeth has lived around the

world, serving with UN missions in Nepal and the Middle East, and working as an analyst in conflict zones, including Bosnia and Haiti. She was previously Director of Strategy for the HD Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue which promotes and conducts mediation of armed conflict; Vice President of the International Peace Institute, where she led initiatives on global crisis management and UN reform; and Director of the Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum, a research group that provides country and regional expertise to the UN on conflict and crisis situations. Prior to becoming President and CEO, Elizabeth served as Deputy CEO where she oversaw the Foundation's policy, advocacy, and communications work. Elizabeth has a D.Phil. in International Relations from the University of Oxford, where she was a Rhodes Scholar, as well as a B.A. in history and an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Puget Sound. She has written widely on conflict management, peace processes, state-building, and the United Nations.

JOHN E. LANGE

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



Ambassador John E. Lange (Ret.) is Senior Fellow for Global Health Diplomacy at the United Nations Foundation, where he collaborates closely with the World Health Organization. He has held leadership positions in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and the Measles & Rubella Initiative. Earlier, he spent four years at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation engaging in high-level global health advocacy with African governments. 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 and a leader in pandemic preparedness and response. He was the State Department's Special Representative on Avian and Pandemic Influenza from 2006-2009. He also served tours of duty as Deputy Inspector General; Deputy U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator at the inception of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief; and U.S. Ambassador to Botswana and Special Representative to the Southern African Development Community (1999-2002), where HIV/AIDS was his signature issue. Lange led the U.S. Embassy in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, as Chargé d'Affaires at the time of the August 7, 1998, terrorist bombing, for which he received the State Department's Distinguished Honor Award. Earlier, he had tours of duty at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in Geneva and the American Embassies in Lomé, Togo; Paris, France; and Mexico City, Mexico. He has an M.S. degree from the National War College and J.D. and B.A. degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

73RD WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY OVERVIEW

GIAN LUCA BURCI

Adjunct Professor, the Graduate Institute; Academic Advisor, Global Health Centre



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.

WHO UPDATE ON COVID-19 RESPONSE

JANE ELLISON

Executive Director for External Relations and Governance, World Health Organization



ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

STÉPHANIE SEYDOUX

Ambassador for Global Health, France



Stéphanie Seydoux has been appointed French Ambassador for Global Health in May 2018. She has served as the head of the Women's Rights and Gender Equality Division, assistant to the Director General of Women's Affairs and social cohesion from 2014 to 2017. Since November 2017, she has been in charge of a support mission to the government for the revision of the bioethics law. After starting her career at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, she joined the General Inspectorate of Social Affairs (IGAS) in 2004. From 2007 to 2010, she was responsible for the promotion of equality in the High Authority for the fight against discrimination and for equality (HALDE). From 2010 to 2013, she joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the first advisor, assistant to the head of post at the French Embassy in Kenya. She holds a Master's degree in Literature from the University of Oxford, is a graduate of the Paris Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po) and a former student of the National School of Administration (ENA) - promotion "Léopold Sédar Senghor."

GEETA RAO GUPTA

Executive Director of the 3D Program for Girls and Women, UN Foundation



Geeta Rao Gupta is Senior Fellow at the United Nations Foundation and Founder and Executive Director of the 3D Program for Girls and Women. She is also a member of the WHO Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee for health emergencies; serves on the Board of Merck for Mothers; chairs the Advisory Board of WomenLift Health, a new initiative to promote women's leadership in global health; and in 2019 was a lead author for the Lancet Series on Gender Equality, Norms and Health. From 2011 to 2016, she served as Deputy Executive Director at UNICEF and from 2010 to 2011 was a senior fellow at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Prior to that, for over a decade, she was the president of the International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW), a non-profit based in Washington, D.C., dedicated to using research to shape international development policies and programs to empower women and girls. Over the course of her career, she has served on several boards, such as the Global Partnership for Education, GAVI, the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health and the MAC AIDS Fund. Geeta earned a Ph.D. in Social Psychology from Bangalore University and an M.Phil. and M.A. from the University of Delhi in India.

CHEE YOKE LING

Director, Third World Network, Malaysia



Chee Yoke Ling is a lawyer with a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Malaya (Malaysia) and a Master of Law from Cambridge University (UK). She is Director of Third World Network (TWN), an international not-for-profit policy research organisation based in Malaysia. She has been very active in policy research and advocacy since the mid-1980s, from the national to global level, focusing on trade, environment, health and general development issues from the perspective of the South. One focus area of her work is public health and access to affordable medicines, in particular the national implementation of flexibilities in the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects on Intellectual Property Rights administered by the World Trade Organization. In 2017, she coordinated a market review of the domestic pharmaceutical sector for the Malaysian Competition Commission, in which the patent strategies of multinational companies were examined.

PATRICK M. EBA

Country Director in the Central African Republic, UNAIDS



Patrick M. Eba (PhD) has been the UNAIDS Country Director in the Central African Republic (CAR) since June 2018. In this capacity, he supports the Central African government's efforts and coordinates the support of United Nations agencies and partners to accelerate access to antiretroviral treatment, eliminate discrimination and reduce new HIV-related infections in CAR. From 2009 to 2018, Patrick was an advisor and later senior advisor on human rights and legislation at the UNAIDS headquarters in Geneva. Before joining UNAIDS in Geneva, he worked on human rights in Malawi, South Africa and Senegal. He is an independent expert of the Committee on the Rights of People Living with HIV, People at Risk and Vulnerable to HIV of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. He holds a Master's degree in Law from the University of Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire); a Master's degree in Human Rights and Democratisation from the University of Pretoria (South Africa); a Master's degree in International Humanitarian Action from the University of Aix en Provence (France) and the University of Deusto (Spain); and a doctorate in law from the University of KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa). Patrick is an extraordinary professor of law at the University of Pretoria in South Africa and a lecturer at the University of Aix-en-Provence (Aix-Marseille III) in France. He is the author of more than 20 articles and books on HIV, health and human rights.

MODERATOR

SUERIE MOON

Co-Director, Global Health Centre; Visiting Lecturer, Graduate Institute, Geneva



Suerie Moon, MPA, PhD, is Co-Director of the Global Health Centre and Visiting Lecturer at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva. She also teaches and advises doctoral students at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health as Adjunct Lecturer on Global Health. Her research and teaching focus on global governance, the political economy of global health (focusing on innovation and access to medicines; outbreak preparedness and response; trade, investment and intellectual property rules; and development assistance for health), the evolution of international regimes, and innovative policies for addressing global problems. She is the author, with Wolfgang Hein, of *Informal Norms in Global Governance: Human Rights, Intellectual Property Rules, and Access to Medicines* (Routledge, 2013). She has conducted research on the policies and politics shaping innovation and access to medicines for twenty years, starting at Médecins Sans Frontières in 1999. She has served on a number of expert advisory bodies, including most recently the Board of Directors of the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative, WHO Fair Pricing Forum Advisory Group, Expert Advisory Group to the UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Access to Medicines, Proposal Review Committee of UNITAID, and US National Academies of Medicine Forum on Antimicrobial Threats. Prior to joining the Graduate Institute, she was Study Director of the Harvard-LSHTM Independent Panel on the Global Response to Ebola, and co-founded and led the Forum on Global Governance for Health, a focal point at Harvard University for research, debate and strategic convening on issues at the intersection of global governance and health. She received a BA from Yale, an MPA from Princeton, and PhD from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.