



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development



Federal Ministry
of Health

Speakers' Booklet

High-Level Forum

Pandemics – no time for neglect

Thursday, 28 September 2023 | Berlin | 11:30 to 18:00 (CEST)

Welcome addresses

Svenja Schulze

Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development



Svenja Schulze joined the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD) in 1988. While still at university, she freelanced in the advertising and PR sector, where she continued working after graduation. In 1997 she was elected to the state legislature of North Rhine-Westphalia for the first time, initially until 2000. She then worked as a management consultant, specialising in the public sector, until 2004. From 2004 until 2018 she was again an elected member of North Rhine-Westphalia's state legislature. From 2010 to 2017 she also held the post of Minister of Innovation, Science and Research of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. She was Secretary General of the SPD in North Rhine-Westphalia from

2017 to 2018. In 2018 she joined the Cabinet of the Federal Government as Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, a post she held from March 2018 to December 2021. Svenja Schulze was appointed Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development in December 2021.

Karl Lauterbach

Federal Minister of Health



Karl Lauterbach, born 1963, studied Medicine in Aachen and in Dusseldorf (Germany) and in San Antonio (Texas, US) and received his first doctoral degree at the Institute of Nuclear Medicine at the Nuclear Research Centre in Julich (Germany). He studied health policy and management and epidemiology as a post-doc at the Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, USA, and received a degree as a Master of Public Health and as a Doctor of Science (Sc.D.) in Health Policy and Management. Since 2005 Karl Lauterbach is a Member of the Bundestag for the Social Democratic Party (SPD), on leave from his post as the Director of the Institute for Health Economics and Clinical Epidemiology of the Medical Faculty of the

University of Cologne. From 2013 to 2019 he was deputy chairman of the Social Democratic parliamentary group. Since 2008 Karl Lauterbach is also an Adjunct Professor of Health Policy and Management at the Department of Health Policy and Management, Harvard University. In December 2021 he was appointed Federal Minister of Health.



Panel discussion: Financing resilient health systems and pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response

Michael Ryan

Executive Director, WHO Health Emergencies Programme



Mike Ryan has been at the forefront of managing acute risks to global health for nearly 25 years. He served as Assistant Director-General for Emergency Preparedness and Response in WHO's Health Emergencies Programme from 2017 to 2019. Ryan first joined WHO in 1996, with the newly established unit to respond to emerging and epidemic disease threats. He has worked in conflict affected countries and led many responses to high impact epidemics. He is a founding member of the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN), which has aided the response to hundreds of disease outbreaks around the world. He served as Coordinator of Epidemic Response (2000-2003), Operational Coordinator of WHO's response to the SARS outbreak (2003), and as WHO's Director of Global Alert and Response (2005-2011). He was a Senior Advisor on Polio Eradication for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative from 2013 to 2017, deploying to countries in the Middle East. He completed medical training at the National University of Ireland, Galway, a Master's in Public Health at University College Dublin, and specialist training in communicable disease control at the Health Protection Agency in London and the European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training.

Jean Kaseya

Director General, Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC)



H.E. Jean Kaseya is the first Director General of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), appointed by the Heads of State and Government (HoSG) during the 36th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union. Jean Kaseya is a public health physician with a master's degree in Epidemiology and Community Health and over 25 years of national and international experience. His extensive career includes leadership roles with WHO, UNICEF, Gavi the Vaccine Alliance, CHAI and others, equipping him with exemplary experience in managing public health programmes, policy development, negotiation, coordination, and grant management. Jean Kaseya's expertise spans political, strategic, and technical realms and his association with significant organizations coupled with international roles reflects his strategic leadership and impact. Currently he is serving as a technical review panel (TRP) member of GFATM for Malaria and Pandemic Preparedness and Board member of SANRU. At the helm of Africa CDC, Jean Kaseya leads the delivery of core functions and objectives, shaping initiatives that enhance global health security across Africa through improved disease surveillance, health system strengthening, and crisis response.

Carolyn Reynolds
Co-founder, Pandemic Action Network



Carolyn Reynolds is a co-founder of Pandemic Action Network and a global health, development, and U.S. foreign policy leader with 30+ years' experience. She is a Global Health Policy Senior Associate at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, and an expert adviser to the Commission on Strengthening America's Health Security. She has served as a senior adviser to international organizations, including the Global Financing Facility, World Bank, WHO, and Global Preparedness Monitoring Board. Prior to co-founding Pandemic Action Network, Carolyn held

leadership positions at PATH and at the World Bank Group where she led strategic communications and policy advocacy in global health and human development, including during the Ebola crisis.



Vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics – equitable access, regional manufacturing and risk communication

Keynote Speech

Jeremy Farrar

Chief Scientist, World Health Organization (WHO)

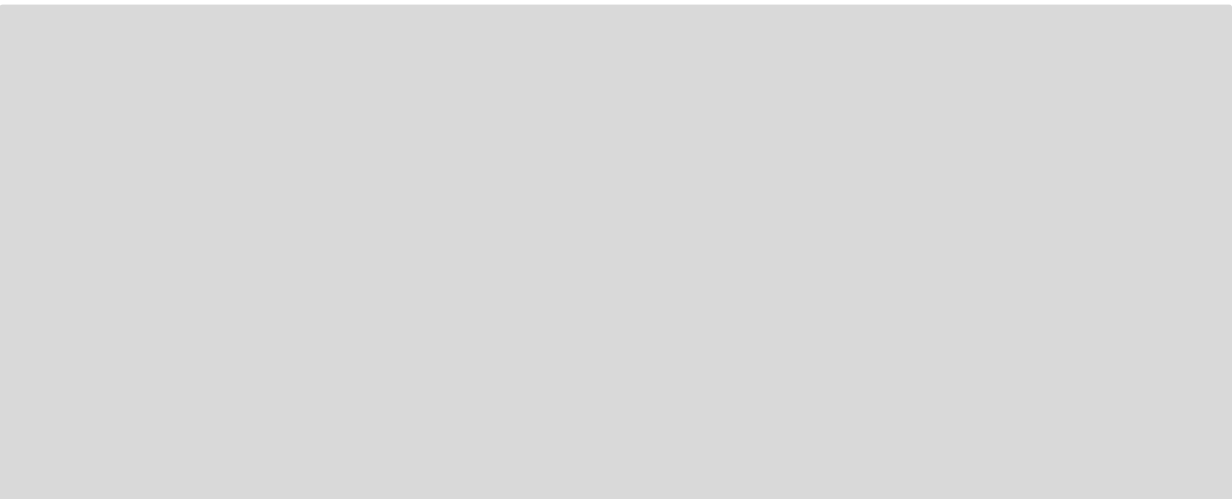


As Chief Scientist, Jeremy Farrar will oversee the work of the Science Division, bringing together experts and networks working in science and innovation from around the world to guide, develop and deliver high quality health policies and services to the people who need them most. Prior to joining WHO, Jeremy Farrar was Director of the Wellcome Trust. In his 9 years there, he oversaw a series of major reforms, restructuring and growth, with Wellcome now collaborating with partners around the world and focused on fundamental discovery research and three challenge areas of: infectious diseases; climate and health; and mental health, all with a commitment to ensuring that equity, diversity and inclusion are central to the science they support. Before joining Wellcome, Jeremy Farrar spent over 17 years as Director of the Clinical Research Unit at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases in Ho Chi Minh City in Viet Nam. His clinical and research interests have been in integrated health research across a range of infectious diseases and noncommunicable illness including emerging infections, influenza, infections of the brain, dengue, typhoid, malaria, tuberculosis, antimicrobial resistance, opportunistic infections related to HIV and stroke. Jeremy Farrar was the founding chair of WHO's R&D Blueprint and the founding director of the International Severe Acute Respiratory and emerging Infection Consortium (ISARIC) that led on to the work of the RECOVERY Trial and the UK COVID-19 Genomics UK Consortium. Jeremy Farrar trained in neurology and infectious diseases in London, Edinburgh and Oxford in the United Kingdom and in Melbourne in Australia. He has a PhD in Immunology from the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom in partnership with the University of California in San Francisco in the United States of America.

Panel discussion

Amadou A. Sall

Director, Institut Pasteur of Dakar



Girija Sankar
Head of Neglected Tropical Diseases, Christian Blind Mission



Girija Sankar has led complex global health and humanitarian programmes for over fifteen years with expertise in delivering evidence-based, contextually appropriate solutions in resource-challenged contexts. As the Head of NTDs at CBM, Ms. Sankar leads a diverse team of public health and development practitioners in delivering complex, community-centred health programmes in line with the WHO road map for NTDs. Prior to this role, Ms. Sankar worked with national ministries of health in Africa, the Middle East, and South America to manage antibiotics donations for trachoma elimination and facilitated a global alliance for STH elimination. In addition to providing leadership and programme oversight at CBM, Ms. Sankar serves as the Chair of the NTD NGO Network (NNN) and provides executive leadership to a network of 94 organizations around the world working in partnership with national governments to fight NTDs. Holding advanced degrees in public health and the social sciences, Ms. Sankar brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to her role. Throughout her career, Ms. Sankar has engaged in collaborative problem-solving with colleagues, community members, government partners, and donors to advance health outcomes.

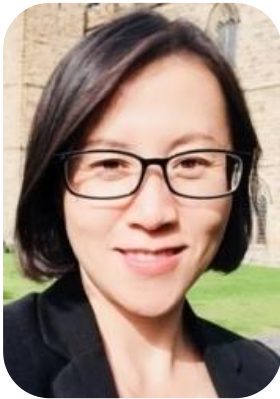
Cornelia Betsch
Professor of Health Communication, University of Erfurt



Cornelia Betsch, psychologist and esteemed researcher at the University of Erfurt and the Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine, is a leading expert in health communication. Betsch has dedicated her career to understanding and improving the communication of health-related information. As a renowned professor, Betsch has conducted extensive research on vaccine acceptance and public health messaging. Her work has provided valuable insights into factors influencing vaccine hesitancy and effective strategies for promoting vaccination. Betsch's expertise in health communication has been instrumental during global health crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Her research has guided the development of evidence-based communication interventions to combat misinformation and enhance public understanding of health risks and preventive measures. Through her research and advocacy, Betsch has played a pivotal role in shaping health communication strategies and policies. Her contributions have advanced the field, enabling effective communication that empowers individuals to make informed health decisions.

Yuan Qiong Hu

Senior Legal and Policy Advisor, Médecins Sans Frontières



Yuan Qiong Hu, is a dedicated policy and legal expert in the humanitarian organization Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). With a strong academic and professional background, she has made contributions to improving access to lifesaving medical products in underserved regions, Hu has played a key role in sharing MSF's legal and policy analysis, strategies, and positions as the Senior Legal and Policy Advisor of MSF's Access Campaign. Her expertise and leadership have focused on advocating for affordable and equitable access to life-saving medicines, vaccines and other healthcare products for vulnerable populations globally. With expertise in public international law, human rights, intellectual property and trade law and extensive experience in global health advocacy, Hu has been instrumental in driving policy changes and mobilizing resources to address critical health challenges. Through her and her team's work, Hu continues to champion the rights of marginalized communities and push for sustainable solutions in the field of global health.

Thomas Cueni

Director General, International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA) | virtual participation



Thomas Cueni has led IFPMA since 2017, during which time he has been instrumental in establishing cross sectoral programs designed to tackle the biggest global health challenges. This includes establishing the \$1bn AMR Action Fund to support the development of new antibiotics; as Chair of the AMR Alliance; as a member of the Board of City Cancer Challenge; and as the industry's representative on the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator. Leading the IFPMA through the COVID-19 pandemic, Thomas galvanised the industry to develop the Berlin Declaration – the pharmaceutical industry's blueprint to deliver equitable access to vaccines, treatments, and diagnostics in future pandemics. Thomas is Chair of the Business at OECD Health Committee and serves as Industry Co-Chair of the APEC Biopharmaceutical Working Group on Ethics. He is also a member of the Business Advisory Group established by the Director General of the World Trade Organization. Prior to joining IFPMA, Thomas was Secretary General of Interpharma, the trade association representing Switzerland's research-based pharmaceutical industry; Secretary of the Dolder Group, precursor of what's now the BCR; and served on the Board of the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA). Thomas began his career as a journalist, as London correspondent for the Basler Zeitung and Der Bund, before serving as a Swiss diplomat in Paris (OECD) and Vienna (IAEA, UNIDO). Thomas has a master's degree in economics from the University of Basel and another in politics from the London School of Economics. He also studied at the Geneva Graduate Institute for International Studies.

Integrated surveillance and public health intelligence, data exchange

Keynote speech

Jean Kaseya

Director General, Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC)

Please find the short biography [here](#).



Panel discussion

Chikwe Ihekweazu

Assistant Director-General Health Emergency Intelligence and Surveillance Systems, World Health Organization (WHO)



Chikwe Ihekweazu leads the WHO Hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence. In this role, he brings together a global collaboration of partners from multiple sectors that supports countries and stakeholders to address future pandemic and epidemic risks with better access to data, better analytical capacities, and better tools and insights for decision-making. Prior to this, he was the first Director General of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC). Prior to that, he served as Interim Director of the West Africa Regional Centre for Surveillance and Disease Control. He

has also held positions in the South African National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD), the United Kingdom's Health Protection Agency, and Germany's Robert Koch Institute (RKI). Chikwe Ihekweazu trained as an infectious disease epidemiologist and is a graduate of the College of Medicine, University of Nigeria. He has a Master of Public Health from the Heinrich-Heine University in Düsseldorf, Germany.

Simon Antara

Director, African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET)



Simon Antara is a highly accomplished professional in the field of epidemiology. With extensive experience and expertise, he has dedicated his career to strengthening public health systems and building epidemiological capacity in Africa. In his role as Director of AFENET, Mr. Antara provides strategic leadership and oversees the implementation of programs aimed at disease surveillance, outbreak response, and public health research. His visionary approach has been instrumental in fostering collaborations and partnerships across African countries. Antara's contributions in

the field of epidemiology have had a significant impact on public health outcomes. Through his guidance, AFENET has played a vital role in supporting countries during disease outbreaks and enhancing data-driven decision-making processes. Recognized for his leadership and expertise, Antara is a respected figure in the global health community. His commitment to strengthening epidemiological capacity and promoting evidence-based public health interventions continues to contribute to the well-being of communities across Africa.

Marion Koopmans

Head of the Erasmus MC department of viroscience | virtual participation



Marion Koopmans is director of the Department of Viroscience at Erasmus Medical Centre in The Netherlands, the WHO collaborating centre for Emerging Infectious Diseases, scientific director for Emerging Infectious Diseases of the Netherlands Centre for One Health NCOH and scientific director of the Pandemic and Disaster Preparedness Centre in Rotterdam/Delft The Netherlands. Her research focuses on emerging infections with special emphasis on unravelling pathways of disease emergence and spread at the human animal interface. Creating global networks to fight infectious diseases systematically and on a large scale is a common thread in

Koopmans' work. Koopmans coordinates the EU funded consortium VEO, which develops a risk based innovative early warning surveillance in a One Health context and is deputy coordinator of a recently awarded HERA funded network of centres of excellence for EID research preparedness. In 2021, Koopmans founded the Pandemic and Disaster Preparedness Centre PDPC, a research centre with a focus on the occurrence and prevention of pandemics and climate-related disasters, combining expertise from technical, bio-medical, environmental and social sciences. During the corona crisis in the Netherlands in 2020, Koopmans was a member of the Outbreak Management Team that advised the national government on measures to stop the spread of SARS-CoV-2. This role brought her national prominence, making her partly a "beacon of reliability" but she also faced growing distrust from a vocal minority of opponents of the Dutch national government's corona policy.

Pilar Hernández

Managing Director, SORMAS Foundation



Pilar Hernández is one of the two Managing Directors of SORMAS Foundation GmbH, a role in which she demonstrates extensive expertise in public health. With a career dedicated to infectious disease control and elimination, she has collaborated with international organizations and governments to implement solutions to strengthen disease surveillance and response systems. Pilar Hernández's strategic leadership has played a role in the successful adoption and implementation of the Surveillance Outbreak Response Management and Analysis System (SORMAS) in various

countries. As Managing Director, she oversees the organization's projects and drives initiatives to enhance global public health capacities. Recognized for her commitment to leveraging technology for effective disease control, with her profound knowledge and dedication to global health security, Hernández continues to make a significant impact in protecting communities and promoting public health worldwide.

Johanna Hanefeld
Head of the Center for international Health Protection



Johanna Hanefeld heads the Centre for International Health Protection (ZIG) at the Robert Koch-Institute (RKI) - Germany's National Public Health Institute, she is currently its' acting Vice President. Since 2019, the Centre for International Health Protection coordinates RKI's international work. It is home to approx. 90 scientists who work collaboratively with bilateral and multilateral partners to strengthen public health systems worldwide. This includes a focus on pandemic preparedness and response, on public health intelligence, operational research and on strengthening public health laboratories. Johanna Hanefeld is also a Professor of Global Health Policy at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM).



Input and parallel sessions: Breakout sessions with a focus on pandemic prevention

Session 1: Health system strengthening: a prerequisite for pandemic prevention

Douglas Noble

Associate Director, Public Health Emergencies Preparedness and Response, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)



Douglas Noble (BSc, BMBCCh, MRCS, MPH, MD(Res), FRSPH, FFPH) is the Associate Director for Public Health Emergencies Preparedness and Response for UNICEF. As the global lead for public health emergencies in UNICEF he is driven by a desire to ensure that girls and boys, families and communities are prepared and protected during public health emergencies. Douglas Noble first joined UNICEF in 2013 as the Regional Health Adviser for South Asia based in Kathmandu, Nepal. He later joined UNICEF

China as the Deputy Representative from 2017 - 2023. He has also previously worked in the UK National Health Service, Department of Health and Health Protection Agency, with the World Health Organization, and was a Harkness Fellow with the Commonwealth Fund. He has an honorary academic affiliation with the University of Oxford. Douglas Noble studied science at the University of St. Andrews and medicine at Oxford University. He has a master's degree and research doctorate in public health from Johns Hopkins and Queen Mary University of London, respectively. He is a British national.

Session 2: Human-animal interface: spill-over prevention

Fabian Leendertz

Director of the Helmholtz-Institute for One Health



Fabian Leendertz is director of the Helmholtz Institute for One Health in Greifswald and a professor at the University of Greifswald. His scientific focus is on understanding the "where", "how" and "why" of the transfer of microorganisms from one species to another, as well as the significance of pathogens and microorganisms for animal populations. He has worked on viruses, bacteria, parasites, and bacterio-

phages, each within a One Health approach that incorporates data from hosts and their environment. His research focuses primarily on the tropics of Africa, where the potential for novel zoonotic diseases is high due to high biodiversity, intense human-animal interactions, and significant ecological and socio-ecological dynamics. In addition to this scientific focus, building long-term collaborations with African partners and international networks is key to his research framework. Within HIOH, Fabian Leendertz is expanding his research regionally and additionally investigating One Health aspects in Mecklenburg Western Pomerania.

Session 3: Water, sanitation, hygiene for infection prevention

Helen Hamilton

Policy Lead – Health, WaterAid & Member of the German WASH Network



Helen Hamilton is a Lead Policy Analyst on Health and Hygiene at WaterAid. She has been working with WaterAid since 2017. She leads the organisation's policy analysis and influencing on global health and hygiene, championing policy, programming and research innovation on comprehensive approaches to public health.

Helen Hamilton's experience includes linking water, sanitation and hygiene aspects with programmes to improve maternal and newborn health, quality and safety of care, and working to strengthen health systems governance and approaches to infectious diseases and inclusion and equity – with a particular focus on improving services in healthcare facilities.

Moderation

Carolina Chimoy

Journalist and moderator



As US correspondent for Germany's international broadcaster, Deutsche Welle, Carolina has been reporting about domestic and foreign policy for an international audience in three different languages for DW English, DW Spanish and DW Deutsch. She has travelled across the US covering the rise of populism, immigration as well as climate change stories and informing about the pandemic in the US. In Berlin Carolina used to be DW's prime time anchor for DW-noticias show. She also hosted the German news for DW

Deutsch and the talk show "Quadrige" in Spanish, where discussions on international affairs where in the focus. As an international reporter Carolina covered political transitions in different countries in Europe, the immigration crisis 2015 in Germany, Austria, Hungary and the Western Balkans route. In Latin America she covered the political crisis in Venezuela, the rise of populism in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Bolivia. She has interviewed several heads of states including Ortega, Morales and Hernandez in Latin America. Carolina has been working on transatlantic relations between the Americas and Europe for over a decade with a special focus on Germany, the U.S. and Latin America. She is fluent in German, Spanish and English.