Speaker Bios

From Page to Action: Accountability for the Furthest Left Behind in COVID-19 & Beyond Launch of the 2020 Report of the Independent Accountability Panel of EWEC

Gillian Tett

Chair of the Editorial Board & Editor-at-Large (US), The Financial Times

Twitter: @gilliantett, @FT; Instagram: @FinancialTimes



Gillian Tett is chair of the editorial board and editor-at-large, US, of *The Financial Times*. She writes weekly columns, covering a range of economic, financial, political and social issues.

In 2014, she was named Columnist of the Year in the British Press Awards and was the first recipient of the Royal Anthropological Institute Marsh Award. In June 2009 her book Fool's Gold won Financial Book of the Year at the inaugural Spear's Book Awards.

Tett's past roles at the FT have included US managing editor, assistant editor, capital markets editor, deputy editor of the Lex column, Tokyo bureau chief, and a reporter in Russia and Brussels.

H.E. Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa

President of South Africa; Chairperson of the African Union

Twitter: @CyrilRamaphosa, @PresidencyZA; Instagram: @presidencyza



Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa was born on 17 November 1952 in Johannesburg. His family was moved from Western Native Township to Soweto in 1962, where he attended Tshilidzi Primary School. He completed high school at Mphaphuli High School in Sibasa, Venda in 1971.

He registered to study law at the University of the North in 1972, where he became involved in student politics, joining the South African Student Organisation (SASO) and the Black People's Convention (BPC). He was detained in solitary confinement for 11 months in 1974 under Section 6 of the Terrorism Act for organising pro-Frelimo rallies. He was detained for the second time and held for six months in 1976 following the Soweto student uprising.

While a law clerk for a Johannesburg firm of attorneys, he continued his studies through the University of South Africa (UNISA) obtaining his B. Proc degree in 1981. He then joined the Council of Unions of South Africa (CUSA) as a legal advisor.

In 1982, at the request of the Council of Unions of South Africa (CUSA) he founded the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) with James Motlatsi and Elijah Barayi, and became the union's first General Secretary. He was instrumental in building NUM into the most powerful union at the time, with membership rising from 6 000 to 300 000 during his tenure. He led mineworkers in one of the biggest strikes in South Africa's history in 1987.

As NUM General Secretary he was instrumental in the establishment of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), and played a prominent role in the Mass Democratic Movement (MDM) when COSATU joined forces with the United Democratic Front (UDF) against the apartheid government. He went into hiding in July 1986 after the declaration of a state of emergency.

He was later appointed chairperson of the Reception Committee to receive Rivonia trialists and in January 1990 accompanied released ANC political prisoners to Lusaka, Zambia. He served as chairperson of the National Reception Committee, which coordinated arrangements for the release of Nelson Mandela and subsequent welcome rallies within South Africa.

Following the unbanning of the ANC, in 1991 he was elected ANC Secretary General at its first national conference in over 30 years. He became head of the ANC's negotiation team at the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA) and the subsequent multi-party talks.

Following South Africa's first democratic elections on 27 April 1994, he became a Member of Parliament and was elected as Chairperson of the Constitutional Assembly. In that position, he was responsible for overseeing the drafting of South Africa's internationally acclaimed first democratic Constitution. In 2009, this contribution was recognised with the award of the National Order of the Baobab in Silver.

On completion of the Constitution drafting process, he left Parliament and his position as ANC Secretary General to move into business, joining New Africa Investments Limited. In 2001, he established

Shanduka Group as a black-owned investment holding company, building up a diverse portfolio of listed and unlisted assets.

In 2004, he established the Shanduka Foundation, focusing on education and small business development. The Foundation, which has since changed its name to Cyril Ramaphosa Foundation, comprises Adopt-a-School Foundation, Black Umbrellas and the Cyril Ramaphosa Education Trust. He is co-chairperson of the Advisory Board of the Kagiso Shanduka Trust, which is in partnership with the Free State Department of Education on a programme to develop schools in the province.

He gained a wide range of business experience serving on the boards of some of Shanduka's investee companies and other companies.

He was a member of the United Nations Global Leadership Group that advised the Secretary General's Special Representative on Business and Human Rights.

He has received several awards. He was awarded the Olof Palme prize in October 1987 in Stockholm. In October 1991 he was a visiting Professor of Law at Stanford University in the United States. He has received honorary doctorates from the University of Natal, the University of Port Elizabeth, the University of Cape Town, the University of the North, the University of Lesotho, the University of Venda and the University of Massachusetts (USA). He is currently the Chancellor of the University of Mpumalanga.

He was the first Deputy Chairman of the Commonwealth Business Council. He was Vice Chairman of the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS.

Mr Ramaphosa was appointed, along with former Finnish President Maarti Ahtisaari, as a weapons inspector in Northern Ireland. He also sat on the International Commission of Intervention and State Sovereignty and the UN Secretary General's Panel on International Support to NEPAD.

He was appointed Deputy Chairperson of the National Planning Commission in 2010, a body created to draft a long-term national development plan for South Africa.

In December 2012, he was elected ANC Deputy President at the ANC's 53rd National Conference in Mangaung.

He was appointed Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa on 25 May 2014.

In December 2017, he was elected 13th ANC President at the 54th National Conference in Johannesburg. President Cyril Ramaphosa was sworn in as President of the Republic of South Africa on Thursday 15 February 2018 following the resignation of President Jacob Zuma.

As President of the Republic of South Africa, President Ramaphosa assumed, in May 2018, the co-Chairship of the 28 member Commission on the Future of Work set up by the International Labour Organisation

President Ramaphosa also assumed the rotational Chairship of the African Union (AU) on 9 February 2020 for the year 2020.

Mr. Shinichi Kitaoka

President, Japan International Cooperation Agency

Twitter: @jica_direct_en, @JapanMissionUN; LinkedIn: @JICA



Dr. Shinichi Kitaoka is President of the Japan International Cooperation Agency. Before assuming the present post, he was President of the International University of Japan. Dr. Kitaoka's career includes Professor of National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) (2012-2014), Professor of Graduate Schools for Law and Politics, the University of Tokyo (1997-2004, 2006-2012), Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations (2004-2006), Professor of College of Law and Politics, Rikkyo University (1985-1997). Dr. Kitaoka's specialty is modern Japanese politics and diplomacy. He obtained his B.A.

(1971) and his Ph.D. (1976) both from the University of Tokyo. He is Emeritus Professor of the University of Tokyo, Emeritus Professor of Rikkyo University and Adjunct Professor of GRIPS. He received many honors and awards including the Medal with Purple Ribbon for his academic achievements in 2011.

Ms. Joy Phumaphi

Co-Chair, Independent Accountability Panel for EWEC

Twitter: @Joy Phumaphi, @IAPEWEC



Ms. Joy Phumaphi, Co-Chair of the UN Secretary-General's Independent Accountability Panel for Every Woman, Every Child, Every Adolescent, is currently the Executive Secretary of the African Leaders Malaria Alliance, an alliance of 49 African Heads of State and Government. In this position, she has overseen the introduction of an accountability and action mechanism, for malaria, Women's and child health across the African continent. She was a member of the UN High Level Panel on Global Response to Health Crises; and has served as a member of the UN Reference Group on Economics and as a UN Commissioner on HIV/AIDS and Governance. She served the People of

Botswana as Principal Local Government Auditor and subsequently as a Member of Parliament holding portfolio responsibility in the cabinet, first for Lands and Housing, where she introduced the country's first housing policy requiring that local authorities house all destitute, and then for Health, where she introduced the first public sector universal ARV program in the developing world. She later joined the World Health Organization as the Assistant Director General for Family and Community Health and was responsible for the 2005 World Health Report, "Making Every Mother and Every Child Count". She has also served as Vice President for Human Development at the World Bank where she oversaw a dramatic expansion of the network evaluation program.

Ms. Phumaphi sits on the Board of several international organizations and is an advisor to a number of global health initiatives. She has been a key player with pioneering Health initiatives such as IFFIM, AMC and the independent accountability group for Every Woman Every Child. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Commerce and a Master's degree in Finance and Accounting.

Mr. Elhadj As Sy

Chair of the Board, Kofi Annan Foundation; Co-Chair, Global Preparedness Monitoring Board HLSG of EWEC and UHC Movement Political Advisory Panel

Twitter: @Elhadj_As_Sy, @KofiAnnanFdn



Elhadj As Sy is the Chair of the Kofi Annan Foundation Board, and Co-chair of the WHO/World Bank Global Pandemic Preparedness Monitoring Board (GPMB). In addition to these functions, Mr. Sy is also a Commissioner for the Global Commission on Climate Adaptation, Governor at the Wellcome Trust, and a member of the Governing Board of Interpeace as well as numerous other boards and organizations.

Mr. Sy has extensive experience in leadership roles in the humanitarian, health, environment, development sectors, and has previously served as the Secretary General of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) IFRC - the world's largest humanitarian network. Prior to this appointment, he served at a senior level with UNICEF, UNAIDS, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and other agencies for more than 25 years.

Mr. Sy was UNICEF's Director of Partnerships and Resource Development in New York. He has also served as UNICEF Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa and Global Emergency Coordinator for the Horn of Africa.

From 2005 to 2008, Mr. Sy was Director, HIV/AIDS Practice with the United Nations Development Programme in New York. Before that, he worked with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria as its Africa Regional Director and later as Director of Operational Partnerships and Country Support in Geneva. Mr. Sy has also held the position of UNAIDS Representative in New York and Director of the New York Liaison Office.

From 1988 to 1997, he served as Director of Health and Development Programmes with Environment and Development Action in the Third World in Dakar, Senegal.

Mr. Sy holds a Bachelor's Degree in Arts and Human Sciences from the University of Dakar. He then pursued Master's studies in Arts and Germanistik at the University of Graz, and graduated from the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna. He was also awarded a post graduate diploma in Education from the École normale supérieure in Dakar. He speaks English, French and German and is a national of Senegal.

Ms. Gabriela Cuevas Barron

President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

HLSG of EWEC and UHC Movement Political Advisory Panel

Twitter: @GabyCuevas, @IPUPresident; Instagram: @gabycuevasb, @ipu.parliament official



Gabriela Cuevas Barron studied Political Science at the Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico (ITAM), in addition to having participated in numerous programs and diplomas related to public administration.

She was elected Federal Member of Parliament for the first time when she was 21 years old. Since then, she has been three times Federal Member of Parliament (2001 – 2003, 2009 – 2012, 2018 – currently), as well as Local Member of Parliament (2003 –2006), and a Constituent Member of Parliament in the Constituent Assembly of Mexico City (2016 – 2017) where she presided the Commission of Mayors; Additionally, she was elected Mayor of the Miguel

Hidalgo Delegation (2006 - 2009) becoming the only woman in charge of a demarcation during that period. She also chaired the Foreign Relations Commission when she served as Senator of the Republic (2012 - 2018).

Ms. Cuevas has also collaborated in the Euro-Lat Parliamentary Assembly proposing resolutions about migration, development and economic crisis. Furthermore, she writes in El Universal newspaper and supports multiple civil society organizations.

The principles that have guided her efforts have been transparency, citizen participation, combating corruption and protection of human rights. She obtained the Recognition for Innovations in Transparency from the Institute of Access to Public Information of Mexico City in 2009 and was decorated with the grade of Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur by the Government of France in 2017.

In 2017 Gabriela Cuevas Barron became the youngest and the second woman President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). The IPU was created in 1889, in an era when there were no established means for governments to work together internationally. Today, IPU is the oldest multilateral political organization, and it is also the only one made up of national parliaments from all around the globe. For the last 130 years, its main objective has been to promote democracy, human rights and the sustainable development agenda by empowering decision makers from 179 countries. Gabriela's main commitment has been to strengthen the links between the member nations and the Presidency, listen to their concerns and promote collaborative dialogue.

Dr. Khuất Thị Hải Oanh

Executive Director, Centre for Supporting Community Development Initiatives Civil Society Engagement Mechanism of UHC2030 Advisory Group

Twitter: @KhuatOanh, @ScdiVietnam, @CSOs4UHC



Khuất Thị Hải Oanh is the Executive Director of the Centre for Supporting Community Development, Vietnam (SCDI). Adopting Sustainable Development Goals agenda, SCDI focuses on community empowerment and creating enabling environment for the most marginalized and vulnerable populations, such as sex workers, drug users, people living with HIV, their spouses and children, poor migrants, ethnic minorities, and LGBTIQA people.

She is the alternate representative of Global South civil society in the UHC2030 Steering Committee, an active member of the Civil Society Engagement Mechanism of UHC2030. Her other capacities include: Chair of Vulnerable Community Support Platform of Vietnam (VCSPA), Chair of Council of Representatives of APCASO – an Asia Pacific network of civil society organizations on health and human rights, Chair of Global Fund Advocate Network Asia Pacific, a member of the Strategic and Technical Advisory Committee on HIV and Viral Hepatitis for World Health Organization, and a member of advisory group on community, rights and gender for the Global Fund.

Dr. Oanh is a medical doctor graduated from Hanoi Medical University, with a Master Degree on Sexual and Reproductive Health Research from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She cofounded the Institute for Social Development Studies (ISDS) in 2002, and SCDI in 2010 – both are Vietnamese non-governmental organizations.

Dr. Oanh was selected for the World Fellow Program at Yale University in 2005. In 2009, the World Economic Forum honored her as a Young Global Leader. In 2017, she was listed among the 50 Most Influential Vietnamese Women by Forbes Vietnam.

Natalia Kanem

Executive Director, UNFPA

Twitter: @Atayeshe, @UNFPA; Instagram: @Atayesheunfpa, @UNFPA



Dr. Natalia Kanem is the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health and rights agency. Appointed by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres in 2017, Dr. Kanem has more than 30 years of strategic leadership experience in the fields of preventive medicine, public and reproductive health, social justice and philanthropy. She started her research career in academia with the Johns Hopkins and Columbia University schools of medicine and public health.

Dr. Kanem joined UNFPA in 2014 as the Country Representative in the United Republic of Tanzania and in 2016 was named Deputy Executive Director in charge of programmes. Previously Dr. Kanem served as founding president of ELMA Philanthropies, Inc., a private funding institution focusing on Africa's children and youth, and as a senior associate of the Lloyd Best Institute of the West Indies.

As a Ford Foundation officer from 1992 to 2004, she helped pioneer work in women's reproductive health and human rights in West Africa, and subsequently served at the Foundation's headquarters in New York as Deputy Vice-President for its peace and social justice programmes in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and North America.

Dr. Kanem holds a medical degree from Columbia University in New York, and a Master's degree in Public Health with specializations in epidemiology and preventive medicine from the University of Washington in Seattle. She is a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard University in history and science. Listed on the 2019 Gender Equality Top 100, Dr. Kanem is recognized for her leadership in advocating for rights and choices for women and girls and as one of the most influential people in formulating global policy on sexual and reproductive health and rights in the Sustainable Development Goals era.

UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health and rights agency, which aims to end the unmet need for contraception, end preventable deaths in pregnancy and childbirth, and end gender-based violence and harmful practices in all forms, including an end to child marriage and female genital mutilation. Dr. Kanem is the fifth Executive Director of UNFPA since the Fund became operational in 1969.

H.E. Ambassador Mr. Kaha Imnadze

Permanent Representative, NY Mission of Georgia to the UN; Co-facilitator of HLPF and ECOSOC Review Twitter: @kahaimnadze, @GeorgiaUN; Instagram: @kahaimnadze



Mr. Kaha Imnadze was appointed the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations Organization, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary on July 1, 2013 when he returned to public service having spent 10 years in private sector as a political risk assessment and investment consultant, and a consultant in international/regional and national security issues.

Prior to his current appointment Mr. Imnadze also served on board of number of private entities and non-government organizations, among them:

2012-2013 - Board Member of the Georgian Political Science Association;

2009-2013 - Program Director of the Georgian Institute for Russian Studies;

2005-2007 - Research Associate of Conflict Studies Research Centre (CSRC) at Camberley, UK

Earlier in his political and diplomatic career, Mr. Imnadze was:

2000-2003 - Assistant to the President and Spokesman/Press Secretary for the President of Georgia Eduard Shevardnadze;

1998-2000 - Deputy Secretary of the National Security Council of Georgia, supervising defense and foreign policy issues, and the work of the executive secretariat of the council;

1994-1998 - Deputy Chief of the Mission of Georgia to NATO. At the same time he was the Political Councellor at the Georgian Embassy to the Kingdom of Belgium, Kingdom of Netherlands and Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

1993-1994 - Head of the Western European Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia;

1992-1993 - Deputy Head of the South East Asia Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia;

1989-1992 - Mr.Imnadze joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia as an intern (1989) and has held a number of positions from the 3rd Secretary to the Deputy Head of Department at the Political Directorate.

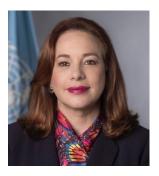
1987-1989 - Military service as a Sergeant and Platoon Commander.

Born in Tbilisi, Georgia on 4 February 1969, Mr. Imnadze is a graduate of the Tbilisi State University with a MA in English Language and Literature. Speaking Georgian (native), English, French and Russian, Mr. Imnadze is married and has a daughter.

H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa

President of the 73rd Session of the UN General Assembly Member of UHC Movement Political Advisory Panel

Twitter: @mfespinosaEC, @UHC2030; Instagram: @mfespinosa.ec



María Fernanda Espinosa is an academic, diplomat and politician with more than 30 years of professional experience in the academy, non-governmental and international organizations, and leadership positions within the Government of Ecuador. She is regarded as an expert in international affairs and the United Nations, defense and security, sustainable development, the environment, climate change, gender equality, and indigenous peoples' rights. She has vast experience in intergovernmental negotiations and is recognized as an international advocate of multilateralism and women's rights and empowerment.

María Fernanda was an advisor on biodiversity and indigenous peoples' policy and later regional director for South America of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, IUCN. Served as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Defense, Minister of Cultural and Natural Heritage and was the first female ambassador and permanent representative of Ecuador to the United Nations in New York. She was also permanent representative to the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva. Most recently, served as President of the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, becoming the fourth woman in history and the first from Latin America and the Caribbean to preside over this body since its foundation in 1945.

María Fernanda is recipient of numerous scholarships and acknowledgements from the Latin American Studies Association, the Ford Foundation, the Society of Woman Geographers, the Rockefeller Foundation, the German Agency for Cooperation, for her research and academic work about the Amazon, and her work in the Amazon on biodiversity, the environment and the rights of indigenous peoples.

Before beginning her political and diplomatic career, María Fernanda was Associate Professor and Researcher at the Latin American Faculty for Social Sciences, FLACSO, where she established and coordinated the Program on Socio-Environmental Studies. She has written over 30 academic articles about the Amazon region, culture, heritage, sustainable development, climate change, intellectual property, foreign policy, regional integration, defense, and security.

She holds a bachelor's degree in applied linguistics from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador; a master's degree in social sciences and Amazonian studies; and a postgraduate diploma in anthropology and political science from the Latin American Social Sciences Institute. She has completed advanced doctoral studies in Geography at Rutgers University. María Fernanda Espinosa has produced several works of poetry that included an award from the National Poetry Prize of Ecuador in 1990.

Ms. Evalin Karijo

Director, Y-ACT, Youth in Action, Amref Health Africa

Twitter: @YouthActKE, @Amref Worldwide, @CSOs4UHC; Instagram: @youthact ke



Ms. Evalin Karijo serves as the Alternate Representative of the Global South to the UHC2030 Steering Committee, as part of the Advisory Group of the Civil Society Engagement Mechanism for the UHC2030 Partnership. Ms. Karijo is a young, dynamic leader and the Project Director of Y-ACT, Youth in Action, at Amref Health Africa. Y-ACT is a youth led initiative which promotes Meaningful Youth Engagement in policy and decision-making processes in Kenya, with a focus on Gender Equality and Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR).

She served as the Chairperson of the Africa Health Agenda International Conference Youth Preconference 2019. During her tenure, over 400 youth from 23 countries launched the Youth4UHC movement, the first virtual Pan-African movement of youth aimed at advancing meaningful youth engagement in Universal Health Coverage (UHC) policy design and implementation in the global south.

Ms. Karijo has over the past five years led multifaceted health projects focusing on women, adolescents and youth, supported by the European Union, Comic Relief, the German Federal Enterprise for International Cooperation (GIZ), UNFPA and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

She holds a Masters Degree in International Public Health from the University of Liverpool-UK and a Global Executive MBA (Health Leadership & Management) from USIU-Africa. She has received various recognitions including Management Africa for her leadership role in the development sector.

Peter MacDougall

Assistant Deputy Minister of Global Issues and Development, Global Affairs Canada

Twitter: @GAC Corporate, Instagram: @gacanada.amcanada



Peter MacDougall (BA [Political Science], University of British Columbia, 1988; BSW, University of Victoria, 1992; MSW, McGill University, 1998; MA [International Relations], Université Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne, 2014; Diploma, École nationale d'administration, Strasbourg, 2014) worked in the non-profit sector prior to joining Health Canada in 2000.

Following his senior analyst and manager positions at Health Canada, Canadian Heritage, and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC), Mr. MacDougall became director of HRSDC's Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Initiative in 2004.

In 2006, he became director of Intergovernmental and Stakeholder Relations at Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC). He subsequently was director general, Admissibility Policy, and director general, Refugee Affairs, at CIC before joining the Foreign and Defence Policy Secretariat at the Privy Council Office in 2011 as director of operations. From January 2015 to August 2016, Mr. MacDougall was the assistant secretary to the Cabinet for Foreign and Defence Policy. From August 2016 until July 2019, Mr. MacDougall was Ambassador of Canada to Jordan.

He is married to Rachel Aslan and they have four children.

M. Peter MacDougall (B.A. [sciences politiques], Université de la Colombie-Britannique, 1988; B.Serv.Soc., Université de Victoria, 1992; M.Serv.Soc., Université McGill, 1998; M.A. [relations internationales], Université Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne, 2014; diplôme, École nationale d'administration, Strasbourg, 2014) a travaillé dans le secteur à but non lucratif avant d'entrer à Santé Canada en 2000.

Après avoir occupé des postes d'analyste principal et de gestionnaire à Santé Canada, à Patrimoine canadien et à Ressources humaines et Développement des compétences Canada, M. MacDougall a dirigé, pour ce dernier ministère, l'Initiative de revitalisation du secteur riverain de Toronto en 2004.

En 2006, il a été nommé directeur des Relations intergouvernementales et avec les intervenants à Citoyenneté et Immigration Canada, avant de devenir directeur général, d'abord pour la Politique de l'admissibilité, puis pour les Affaires des réfugiés. Il est entré en 2011 au Secrétariat de la politique étrangère et de la défense du Bureau du Conseil privé à titre de directeur des opérations. De janvier 2015 à août 2016, M. MacDougall a été secrétaire adjoint du Cabinet (Politique étrangère et de la défense). D'août 2016 à juillet 2019, M. MacDougall était ambassadeur du Canada en Jordanie.

Il est marié à Rachel Aslan, et le couple a quatre enfants.

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Director-General, World Health Organization; Chair of the H6 Partnership

Twitter: @DrTedros, @WHO; Instagram: @Drtedros, @WHO



Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus was elected as WHO Director-General for a five-year term by WHO Member States at the Seventieth World Health Assembly in May 2017. He is the first WHO Director-General to have been elected from multiple candidates by the World Health Assembly, and is the first person from the WHO African Region to serve as WHO's chief technical and administrative officer.

Immediately after taking office on 1 July 2017 Dr Tedros outlined five key priorities for the Organization: universal health coverage; health emergencies; women's, children's and adolescents' health; health impacts of climate and environmental change; and a transformed WHO.

Prior to his election as WHO Director-General, Dr Tedros served as Ethiopia's Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2012–2016. In this role he led efforts to negotiate the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, in which 193 countries committed to the financing necessary to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Dr Tedros served as Ethiopia's Minister of Health from 2005–2012, where he led a comprehensive reform of the country's health system. All roads lead to universal health coverage for Dr Tedros, and he has demonstrated what it takes to expand access to health care with limited resources. The transformation he led as Ethiopia's Minister of Health improved access to health care for millions of people. Under his leadership Ethiopia invested in critical health infrastructure, expanded its health workforce, and developed innovative health financing mechanisms.

Beyond Ethiopia, Dr Tedros' global leadership on malaria, HIV/AIDS, and maternal and child health has been immensely impactful. He was elected as Chair of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Board in 2009, and previously served as Chair of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership Board, and Co-chair of the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Board.

Born in the city of Asmara, Eritrea, Dr Tedros holds a Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) in Community Health from the University of Nottingham and a Master of Science (MSc) in Immunology of Infectious Diseases from the University of London. Dr Tedros is globally recognised as a health scholar, researcher, and diplomat with first-hand experience in research, operations, and leadership in emergency responses to epidemics.

Throughout his career Dr Tedros has published numerous articles in prominent scientific journals, and received awards and recognition from across the globe. He received the Decoration of the Order of Serbian Flag in 2016, and was awarded the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award in recognition of his contributions to the field of public health in 2011.

Rt. Hon. Helen Clark

Former Prime Minister, New Zealand

Board Chair, Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH)

Twitter: @HelenClarkNZ, @PMNCH; Instagram: @Helenclarknz, @pmnch_insta



Helen Clark was Prime Minister of New Zealand for three successive terms from 1999–2008. She was the first woman to become Prime Minister following a General Election in New Zealand and the second woman to serve as Prime Minister.

Throughout her tenure as Prime Minister and as a Member of Parliament over 27 years, Helen Clark engaged widely in policy development and advocacy across the international affairs, economic, social, environmental, and cultural spheres. She advocated strongly for a comprehensive programme on sustainability for New

Zealand and for tackling the challenges of climate change. She was an active leader of her country's foreign relations, engaging in a wide range of international issues.

In April 2009, Helen Clark became Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme. She was the first woman to lead the organisation, and served two terms there. At the same time, she was Chair of the United Nations Development Group, a committee consisting of all UN funds, programmes, agencies, and departments working on development issues. As Administrator, she led UNDP to be ranked the most transparent global development organisation. She completed her tenure in April 2017.

Helen Clark came to the role of Prime Minister after an extensive parliamentary and ministerial career. Prior to entering the New Zealand Parliament, Helen Clark taught in the Political Studies Department of the University of Auckland, from which she earlier graduated with her BA and MA (Hons) degrees.

Helen continues to speak widely and be a strong voice on sustainable development, climate action, gender equality and women's leadership, peace and justice, and action on non-communicable diseases and on HIV. She serves on a number of advisory boards and commissions, including in the capacity of Chair of the Advisory Board of UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring Report. In June 2019, she assumed the Chairpersonship of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.