



**World Health
Organization**

COVID-19

Global research & innovation forum

Agenda

24-25 February 2022

13:00 – 18:30 Central European Time CET

Version 10.0



R&DBlueprint

Powering research
to prevent epidemics

BACKGROUND

This virtual event will bring together diverse COVID-19 research scientists, regulatory experts, funders, country level policy makers and other experts.

The goals of the Forum are:

Goal 1: To continue to accelerate research that can contribute to end the current pandemic and enable access to life-saving interventions to those at risk.

Goal 2: To support research priorities in a way that leads to the development of global research platforms and research capabilities to be better prepared for future pandemics.

The forum will include panel sessions and discussions that will focus different areas of research. We will discuss and strategize about the future of COVID-19 research.

Moreover, there will be keynote presentations and panel discussions about how research can help to end the pandemic and prepare for future pandemics.

The R&D Blueprint webpage (<https://www.who.int/teams/blueprint/covid-19>) has assembled a variety of resources from our expert consultations as well as other research tools.

The COVID-19 Research and Innovation report provides a summary of global research initiatives and achievements to tackle COVID-19 agreed at the outset of the pandemic (<https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/covid-19-research-and-innovation-achievements>).

The WHO website, (<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>) continuously updated, provides access to COVID-19 resources and tools.

Day 1- Thursday, 24 February 2022

Moderator: Dr Margaret Harris, WHO

Time	Topic	Speakers
13:00-13:05	Welcome address	Dr Tedros Director-General WHO
13:05-13:10	Objectives of the Forum	Soumya Swaminathan & Michael J. Ryan WHO
13:10-13:20	The importance of research in preparing for future pandemics	Karl Lauterbach Federal Minister of Health, Germany
13:20-13:35	Keynote address COVID-19: How can research and innovation contribute to a more equitable and better future?	Professor Joseph E. Stiglitz Nobel Laureate Columbia University, USA
13:35-13:45	COVID-19 research and innovation: Powering the world's pandemic response – now & in the future	WHO Team
13:45-13:55	Epidemiology of COVID-19, focusing on past and current trends, drivers of transmission and severity, and epidemiological research gaps	Ibrahim Abubakar UCL Institute for global health, UK
13:55-14:05	Increasing risks at the human-animal interface: Research needs for risk reduction and prevention	Supaporn Wacharapluesadee Thai Red Cross, Emerging infectious diseases clinical center, King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, Thailand
14:05-14:15	A virologist perspective on what are the first steps in pandemic preparedness research	Christian Drosten Charité Universitätsmedizin Germany
14:15-14:25	Virus natural history, transmission, and diagnostics	Wendy Barclay Imperial College, UK
14:25-14:45	How evolutionary biology has contributed to monitor this pandemic: two perspectives on what additional research is needed for this and for future pandemics	Emma Hodcraft Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Bern, Switzerland Sebastian Maurer-Stroh GISAID initiative
14:45-15:15	Can we learn from the past? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What led to the success (or failure) of previous global disease control efforts? How did research contribute to the design and achievement of those disease control goals? 	<u>Panel Discussion</u> Moderated by Jon Andrus University Colorado & George Washington University, USA Larry Brilliant Pandefense Advisors, USA Jean-Marc Olivé Chairperson TAG Polio eradication Afghanistan & Pakistan, France Peter Hotez Baylor College of Medicine, USA Keith Sumption Food and Agriculture Organization Dyann Wirh Harvard University, USA Silvia Franceschi

		Aviano national cancer institute IRCCS, Aviano, Italy Francois Gasse Formerly at UNICEF & WHO, France
15:15-15:40	Keynote address How can the WTO tackle vaccine scarcity and global recovery?	Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala TBC Director General World Trade Organization
15:40-15:50	Outbreaks should be detected and prevented at an early stage: A hub for Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence	Chikwe Ihekazu WHO
15:50-16:00	Novel diagnostics to inform better strategies for prediction, prevention, detection, and control of pandemic diseases	William Rodriguez FIND the global alliance for diagnostics
16:00-16:10	Research on public health and social measures and their impact	Eva A. Rehfuess Pettenkofer school of public health, Germany
16:10-16:20	Infodemiology – Progress on the public health research agenda for managing infodemics	Adam Dunn University of Sydney, Australia
16:20-16:30	BREAK	
16:30-17:00	What can be learnt from different countries' experiences? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What has been the role of science in informing COVID-19 pandemic control measures? What research has been important and what lessons can we learn to prepare for future pandemics? What research strategies were implemented to assess and address inequality? 	<u>Panel Discussion</u> Moderated by Gabriel Leung Faculty of medicine, University of Hong Kong Marco Krieger Production & innovation in health, FIOCRUZ, Brazil George Gao Chinese center for disease control and prevention, China Ifedayo Adelifa Nigerian center for disease control and prevention, Nigeria Hitoshi Oshitani Graduate school of medicine, Tohoku university, Japan Hee-Chang Jang Korea center for disease control and prevention agency, Republic of Korea Mary Ramsay UK Health Security Agency, UK
17:00-17:15	Keynote address We need better research capabilities globally to prepare for future pandemics	Sir Jeremy Farrar Director of Wellcome, UK
17:15-17:25	Do we need more vaccines, new vaccines, or better vaccines?	Stanley Plotkin University of Pennsylvania, and Johns Hopkins University, USA
17:25-17:35	Vaccines: research and development priorities	Phil Krause Chairperson WHO COVID vaccines research expert group

17:35-17:45	Research and development for treatments of hospitalized patients	Craig Coopersmith Emory critical care center, USA Annalisa Jenkins London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London, UK
17:45-17:55	Critical needs for outpatients and for the design of outpatient therapeutic trials	Samba Sow Center for Vaccine Development, Mali Christopher Butler University of Oxford primary care clinical trials unit, UK Christopher Lindsell Vanderbilt Institute for clinical translational research, USA
17:55-18:05	Advancing the COVID-19 clinical care pathway: outbreak research response centered around the patient	Wangari Waweru-Siika Department of Anaesthesia Aga Khan University, Kenya
18:05-18:15	The ONE HEALTH approach: how research in this area helps us prepare for future pandemics?	Catherine Machalaba OHHLEP, EcoHealth Alliance, FAO-OIE-UNEP-WHO One health High-level Expert Panel (OHHLEP) William Karesh EcoHealth Alliance
18:15-18:25	Ethics at the frontline of pandemics	Ross Upshur Dalla Lana Faculty of Public Health, Canada Sonali Kochhar Department of Global Health, University of Washington, USA.
18:25-18:35	Gender issues: critical research for future pandemic preparedness	Asha George School of Public Health, University of the Western Cape, South Africa
18:35	ADJOURN	

Day 2- Friday, 25 February 2022

Moderator: Dr Margaret Harris, WHO

Time	Topic	Speakers
13:00-13:15	The challenges of communicating evolving scientific results during a pandemic	<u>Panel Discussion</u> moderated by Jon Cohen Senior correspondent, Science, USA Helen Branswell Global health reporter, STAT News, USA Sophie Mokoena Journalist, South African Broadcasting Commission, South Africa
13:15-13:25	Health system resilience during the pandemic: priority research areas for preparedness	David Peters Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, USA

13:25-13:35	Investments in primary health care and research: why are they important for pandemic preparedness?	Ali Hamandi World Bank, USA
13:35-13:45	People and disease control measures: what do we need to understand?	Guatam Bhan Indian institute for human settlements, India
13:45-13:55	Moving from rhetoric to reality: placing communities at the centre of health emergency readiness and response	Sabina Rashid Centre of excellence for gender, sexual and reproductive health and rights, BRAC University, Bangladesh
13:55-14:05	IPC research during the pandemic: pointing to an opportunity for saving lives and money	John Conly University of Calgary, Canada
14:05-14:30	Preparing for the future <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can research contribute to the development of a comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach to prepare for and respond to pandemics? How to strengthen research capacities and resilience to future pandemics at all levels? 	<u>Panel Discussion</u> Moderated by Suwit Wibulpolprasert Senior Advisor in disease control, Ministry of Health, Thailand Randah R. Hamadeh Graduate studies and research, Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain Samiran Panda Indian Council of Medical Research, India Chinwe Lucia Ochu Nigeria COVID-19 Research Coalition, Nigeria Patricia Smith-Cummings Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), Trinidad and Tobago Suzana Manevska IHR focal point, Ministry of Health, Macedonia Zarko Karadzovski Institute of public health, Macedonia Vernon Lee Director, Communicable Diseases, Ministry of Health, Singapore
14:30-14:45	Keynote address Global North and South must work hand in glove to stop COVID-19	Dr Ayoade Alakija Africa vaccine delivery alliance, Nigeria and ACT-A, Switzerland
14:45-14:55	The patent maze of COVID vaccines and treatments	Irene Kitsara World Intellectual Property Organization
14:55-15:05	Working to increase access to, and facilitate the development of, COVID life-saving medicines and vaccines in the LMICs	Marie Paule Kieny Director of research, INSERM, France
15:05-15:15	Expanding vaccines and therapeutics manufacturing in the LMICs	Subash Kapre Inventvacc, USA
15:15-15:40	Access and accountability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can/should governments endorse waiving intellectual-property rights on 	<u>Panel Discussion</u> Moderated by Ella Weggen WEMOS Health Unlimited

	<p>vaccines/treatments and other important interventions during a pandemic?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can/should policymakers endorse global strategies to ensure access for all at highest risk <u>everywhere</u>? 	<p>Sai D. Prasad Board Chair-DCVMN</p> <p>Komal Kalha Associate Director, IP and Trade, IFPMA.</p> <p>Joanne Liu School of population & global health, McGill University and CHU Ste-Justine, University of Montreal. Formerly International President MSF, Canada</p> <p>Hannah Nohynek Finnish institute for health and welfare, Finland</p> <p>Zain Rizvi Research Director, Public Citizen, USA</p>
15:40-15:55	<p>Keynote address</p> <p>What challenges have there been in ensuring the best science is published - as speedily as possible?</p>	<p>Dr Richard Horton Editor-in-chief The Lancet</p>
15:55-16:00	BREAK	
16:00-16:10	Ethics and research	<p>Jerome Singh Scientific Advisory Group on Emergencies (SAGE), Academy of Science, South Africa</p>
16:10-16:20	Regulatory Science Convergence in response to a global Public Health Emergency	<p>Kim Ganglip Minister of Food and Drug Safety, Republic of Korea</p> <p>Emer Cooke European Medicines Agency on behalf of International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities (ICMRA)</p>
16:20-16:30	WHO International Units – a common language in evaluation of the immune response to vaccines for pandemics	<p>Mark Page National Institute for Biological Standards and Control, UK</p>
16:30-16:40	Implementing large, simple, global platform trials for vaccines & therapeutics during a pandemic	<p>Sir Richard Peto University of Oxford, UK</p>
16:40-17:00	<p>Are large simple trials here to stay?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What trial approaches have been developed and adopted to facilitate recruitment, consent, and overall trial conduct? What is next to further expand trial capacity beyond the “established centers”? What are the remaining regulatory and ethics barriers and how can they be addressed? 	<p><u>Panel Discussion</u> Moderated by John Amuasi Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Ghana</p> <p>Nathalie Strub-Wourgaf ANTICOV consortium, DNDi</p> <p>Aasim Ahmad Aga Khan University, Pakistan</p> <p>John Beigel ACT-1 trial, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH, USA</p> <p>Richard Haynes RECOVERY trial, MRC population health research unit, Oxford University, UK</p> <p>Marissa Alejandria Solidarity trials, UP National Institutes of Health, The Philippines</p>

		Steve Webb REMAP-CAP trial, Royal Perth Hospital, St John of God Hospital Subiaco, & Monash University, Australia
17:00 – 17:10	Keynote Address Long term investments in research for pandemic preparedness: the NIH perspective	Dr Anthony S. Fauci Director National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH, USA
17:10-17:40	Are coordinated long term investments in research possible? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did the funders succeed in aligning research investments with research priorities? Can we complement our current support with longer-term investments to improve international preparedness for emerging variants of concern and future pandemics? 	<u>Panel Discussion</u> Moderated by Helen Rees University of Witwatersrand, South Africa Sir Jeremy Farrar Wellcome Christina Cassetti National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH Trevor Mundel BMGF Richard Hatchet CEPI Charu Kaushic GLOPID-R Barbara Kerstiens European Commission
17:40-18:00	The researcher's perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can research contribute to improve pandemic preparedness? What is the “<i>bucket list</i>” from researchers around the world? 	<u>Panel Discussion</u> Moderated by Peter Figueroa , University of the West Indies, Jamaica Madhukar Pai Canada Research Chair in epidemiology & global health, McGill University, Canada Junzhi Wang Chinese academy of engineering, China Gagandeep Kang Wellcome Trust research laboratory & Christian Medical College, India Reza Malekzadeh Digestive Disease Research Institute, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran Amadou Sall Institut Pasteur de Dakar, Senegal
18:00-18:10	How to incorporate research into routine data collection systems: The experience of the Western Cape public health department	Keith Cloete Western Cape public health department
18:10-18:20	Closing remarks and next steps	WHO
18:20	END OF FORUM	