

1st live roundtable discussion exploring the future of the COVID-19 pandemic and other infectious threats

4 November 2021



Panelists' biographies

Renz Argao

Coordinator, Religions for Peace International Youth Committee and President and CEO of Argao Health

Dr. Renz Argao is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Argao Health Inc. He is a registered psychologist and psychometrician. An internationally-certified expert in psychotrauma, he is one of the handful of Filipinos who hold the status of Diplomat of the American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress.

In addition to his clinical practice, Dr. Renz is a peace activist and is engaged in faith-based diplomacy and development work through Religions for Peace (RfP). Dr. Argao is the Coordinator (Chair) of the International Youth Committee of Religions for Peace, where he also serves as a Member of the World Council of Religious Leaders and of the International Executive Committee. He is also the Deputy Secretary General of RfP Philippines. In addition, he has organized multi-faith actions on youth empowerment, environmental protection, humanitarian response, and diversity and inclusivity.

Bridging his profession as a psychologist and his peace advocacy work, he has also led and managed a portfolio of projects and programs on psychosocial rehabilitation of communities affected by the armed conflicts in the Central Mindanao region and the communities affected by typhoons and natural disasters. His project portfolio also includes capacity-building programs and psychosocial support services for community volunteers, youth, military, local government units, civil society, and religious leaders. He has worked with various companies, schools, and institutions to deliver psychological services to employees and students, develop mental health policies in the workplace, and conduct mental health programs for various organizations.

He earned his Doctor of Philosophy major in Clinical Psychology degree, magna cum laude, at the University of Santo Tomas, where he also finished his Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology degree, magna cum laude.



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Andrea Hinwood

Chief Scientist of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Dr Andrea Hinwood serves as the Chief Scientist of the United Nations Environment Programme. She is an environmental scientist with expertise in environmental exposures and impacts on human health. Dr. Andrea Hinwood (B.Sc., M.AppSc., PhD) earned a PhD in environmental epidemiology from the Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. Prior to this role, Andrea served as the first Chief Environmental Scientist at the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in Victoria, Australia. Dr. Hinwood was previously an Associate Professor at Edith Cowan University in Western Australia and held appointments as a member and Deputy Chair of the Environmental Protection Authority of Western Australia and also a sessional member of the State Administrative Tribunal of Western Australia. Dr. Hinwood's career has included providing strategic advice to the government on a wide variety of environmental matters, including ozone-depleting substances, air quality, fire, and smoke.



Mandipa B. Ndlovu

Governance researcher and development policy analyst, doctoral researcher at University of Leiden, and visiting researcher at University of Edinburgh

Mandipa is a governance researcher and development policy analyst whose research and consultancy experience extends to working with governments, think tanks, intergovernmental organizations, and academia. Currently, Mandipa is a doctoral researcher at Leiden University and a visiting researcher at the University of Edinburgh. Her research is focussed on urban governance in Africa and its developmental futures. Her broader research interests and publication record cover civil-military relations, sustainable economic development, trauma and memory, post-conflict justice, and gender equity. Mandipa is also a Mo Ibrahim Scholar alumna who holds a MSc in Violence, Conflict, and Development from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and a MPhil in Justice and Transformation from the University of Cape Town (UCT).



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Alice Roberts

Professor of Public Engagement in Science, Anatomist and Anthropologist, Author and Broadcaster

Professor Alice Roberts is a biological anthropologist, author, and broadcaster. Having originally studied and practiced medicine, she became a university lecturer, teaching clinical anatomy and researching biological anthropology. She is especially interested in the intersection between biology, archaeology, and history and the interaction between humans and the environment through time.

She is passionate about public engagement with university research and teaching and has been Professor of Public Engagement in Science at the University of Birmingham for ten years. She has written, "If scientists, and academics more generally, don't engage with the public in meaningful ways, they are very unlikely to be trusted".

Alice has presented over a hundred television programmes, on subjects ranging from human health and biology to archaeology and history. In addition, she has presented a range of landmark BBC series, including *The Incredible Human Journey*, *Origins of Us*, *Prehistoric Autopsy* and the long-running *Digging for Britain* and several *Horizon* programmes. She also presents *Britain's Most Historic Towns* on Channel 4.

Alice has written ten popular science books, including *The Incredible Human Journey*, *Evolution: The Human Story*, *The Incredible Unlikelihood of Being*, *Tamed: Ten species that changed our world*, and here most recent, *Ancestors: The Prehistory of Britain in Seven Burials*. Alice has presented many radio programmes, including the environment strand *Costing the Earth* on Radio 4, and her own ten-part series about the history of anatomy: *Bodies*.

Alice has regularly chaired the Independent Sage Friday briefings online throughout the pandemic.

In 2020, Alice Roberts was awarded the Royal Society's first David Attenborough Prize for Public Engagement.



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Michael Ryan

Executive Director, WHO Health Emergencies Programme

Dr 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.

Dr 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.

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Owen Tudor

Deputy General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation

He was recruited off a union picket line to work for the TUC in 1984 working on youth, training, disability and social insurance issues before taking over health and safety, disability and industrial injury compensation in the mid-1990s. Owen has founded the TUC's weekly bulletin for safety representatives, *Risks*. He has represented the TUC on the tripartite Industrial Injuries Advisory Council and Health and Safety Commission, the Social Security Advisory Committee and the Civil Justice Council, of which he was a founding member. He sat on the board of the European Agency for Safety and Health in Bilbao and on the EU Advisory Committee on Safety and Health in Luxembourg.

In 2004 he became a member of the TUC senior management team as head of the European Union and International Relations Department, covering international solidarity, trade and migration policy, labour standards and global supply chains as well as Brexit. He has been a Director of the Ethical Trading Initiative, and was an alternate member of the ETUC and ITUC governing bodies. He is a former director of the Occupational and Environmental Diseases Association, Trustee of the British Occupational Health Research Foundation and the Royal National Institute for Deaf People (RNID), as well as the Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine. He is a member of the UK Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, the Advisory Council of the Foreign Policy Centre and the Politics without Borders Advisory Board.

He was elected as Deputy General Secretary of the ITUC in December 2018.

