

• **Malaria Ministerial Conference:**

• **“Tackling malaria in countries hardest hit by the disease”**

• Yaoundé, Cameroon, 6 March 2024

• **Conférence ministérielle sur le paludisme :**

• **« Lutter contre le paludisme dans les pays les plus durement touchés par la maladie »**

• Yaoundé (Cameroun) 6 mars 2024

## Biographies

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### ***Ministers of Health***

#### **Mr Robert Lucien Jean Claude Kargougou, Minister of Public Health and Public Hygiene, Burkina Faso**

Dr Robert Lucien Jean Claude Kargougou is a public health doctor, specializing in health systems policy and management, with a degree in nutritional epidemiology and in the management of public vaccine prevention systems. Dr Kargougou has expertise in the organization of health services and health planning. He has extensive experience of Burkina Faso’s health system at peripheral, intermediate and central levels. During his career, he has developed good professional relations with technical and financial partners, which has enabled him to work for a number of international organizations.

He has successively held the positions of Chief Physician of the Medical Centre with a surgical unit and Chief Physician of the Solenzo health district, Regional Health Director for the East and Centre-West, and Chairman of the Boards of Directors of the Fada N’Gourma and Koudougou Regional Hospitals. In this capacity, he was a pioneer in surgical activities in the Solenzo health district, where he opened the operating theatre in 2002 and performed more than 150 operations over three years.

After a four-year interlude at the UNICEF country office in Ouagadougou, he was called back to take up the post of Secretary General of the Ministry of Health and then Technical Adviser to the Minister of Health from February 2016 to May 2018. In this capacity, he helped coordinate the implementation of major reforms to the healthcare system, including free healthcare for women and children under five, the recruitment of more than 17,000 community-based health workers, pharmaceutical reform and the hospital civil service. He will have contributed to the formulation of the 2nd tranche of the National Health Development Plan 2016-2020. He will also have coordinated the joint Ministry of Health/Ministry of Finance team as part of the Harvard ministerial leadership programme, culminating in deliverology.

From May 2018 to April 2021, in his capacity as Global Financing Facility (GFF) Liaison Officer for Burkina Faso, he liaised between the GFF Secretariat and Burkina Faso through the coordination of the various stakeholders, including the Government, technical and financial partners, civil society and the private sector, which led to the formulation of the investment package for maternal, child and adolescent health and nutrition.

Dr Kargougou joined the World Bank in May 2021 as a health specialist. In this capacity, he played a key role in strengthening the dialogue between the World Bank and the government, in particular the implementation of the project to strengthen health services and the COVID-19 preparedness and response project. Before leaving the World Bank, he was involved in the preparation of additional financing of more than USD 60 million to support the roll-out of vaccination against COVID-19 and the maintenance of essential services in the context of this pandemic.

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**Mr Malachie Manouada, Minister of Public Health, Cameroon**

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**Dr Samuel Roger Kamba Mulamba, Minister of Public Health and Public Hygiene and Prevention, Democratic Republic of the Congo**

Dr Samuel Roger Kamba Mulamba is a doctor and politician. He has been the current Minister of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention of the Democratic Republic of Congo since 29 March 2023.

Dr Kamba Mulamba has been a doctor for over 30 years, including 22 years in paediatrics. He is also a trainer in paediatric resuscitation and specializes in public health programme management, high-level management of community health programmes and capacity-building for health workers. He was special adviser to the President on the roll-out of universal health coverage in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and coordinator of the Presidential Task Force on the response to Covid-19.

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**Dr Colonel Assa Badiallo Touré, Minister of Health of Social Development, Mali**

Colonel Assa Badiallo Touré, Minister of Health and Social Development and a member of the 23rd graduating class of the Koulikoro Inter-Arms Military School (EMIA), trained in Russia at the Moscow Academy of Medicine.

She holds a master's degree in public health with a major in management of health structures and health economics, a certificate of special studies in cardiology and an international diploma in aeronautical medicine from the Training Centre of the Val-de-Grâce school of aeronautical medicine in Paris (France).

She has proven experience in the health field.

Being the Regional Health Director for the District of Bamako, she was national focal point for Covid-19.

Prior to her appointment, she was special advisor to the President of the Transition. She was in charge of the Head of State's social works.

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**Dr Alfari Aichatou Djibo, Technical Advisor to the Minister of Health, Ministry of Public Health, Population and Social Affairs, Niger**

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**Dr Tunji Alausa, Minister of State for Health and Social Welfare, Nigeria**

Dr Tunji Alausa currently serves as the Minister of State for Health and Social Welfare following his appointment by the Nigerian President, His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR. In this capacity, his primary focus is to transform and elevate the healthcare system in Nigeria to meet global standards, ultimately benefiting the Nigerian people.

Before his current appointment, Dr Alausa served on the President Bola Ahmed Tinubu Presidential Policy Advisory Council on Health which was given the responsibility of developing the current administration's

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health policies specifically addressing health reform and the enhancement of the healthcare sector in Nigeria. In his current role, he is also working to ensure this administration achieves Universal Health Coverage for Nigerians.

Dr Alausa is the founder and former executive chairman of both Kidney Care Center, a multi-state nephrology physician practice in the United States, and Dialysis Care Center, a boutique provider of dialysis services, with clinics operating across several states within the United States. His initiatives helped create a national brand in the U.S. that focused on an integrated healthcare model resulting in optimal and continuum of care for patients with chronic kidney disease and hypertension.

Dr Alausa is a United States board-certified Nephrologist with over 30 years of experience in both private and public health sectors.

He was a national leader in the Value-Based Care (VBC) initiative in the United States, a model that centers around providing the highest level of care at the lowest cost. This effort led to a restructuring of healthcare systems which has resulted in improved patient outcomes, utilization, and significant cost savings.

Dr Alausa's influence in the value-based care space was instrumental in forming partnerships with major health payers and value-based care organizations, including United Healthcare (UHC), AETNA, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois, and Somatus.

Dr Alausa's diverse experience and leadership in the healthcare sector positions him well to contribute significantly to the transformation of the healthcare system in Nigeria and the pursuit of Universal Health Coverage.

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### **Dr Sabin Nsanzimana, Minister of Health, Rwanda**

Dr Sabin Nsanzimana is the Minister of Health of Rwanda since November 2022. He previously served as Director General of the University teaching hospital of Butare and the Rwanda Biomedical Centre. He holds extensive experience in infectious disease and non-communicable diseases programmes design, strategic planning and implementation science.

Dr Nsanzimana holds a Medical Degree (MD) and a Master's Degree in Clinical Epidemiology from the University of Rwanda; a PhD in Epidemiology from the University of Basel, Switzerland.

Dr Nsanzimana served as Principal Investigator for several large research projects, including clinical trials in Rwanda and multi-country research collaborations. He is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and African Scientific Institute. He serves as adjunct Assistant Professor of Global Health Delivery at the University of Global Health Equity (UGHE) and Teaches Clinical Epidemiology and research methodology at the University of Rwanda.

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### **Dr Heitham Mohammed Ibrahim Awadalla, Federal Minister of Health, Sudan**

Dr Heitham Awadalla, a distinguished public health consultant and academic, serves as Sudan's Federal Minister of Health, leading the nation's healthcare system with over 15 years of experience. Holding a doctorate in community medicine and master's degrees in public health and hospital management from Malaysia and the United Kingdom respectively, Dr Awadalla brings extensive knowledge to his role. His fellowships with ISQua and the Royal College of Physicians highlight his commitment to healthcare quality.

Since assuming office as Minister of Health in 2021, Dr Awadalla has provided strategic direction and resilience in addressing Sudan’s healthcare challenges. With a decade of senior positions within the Federal Ministry of Health, he has contributed to policy development and represented Sudan in international forums. Dr Heitham Awadalla’s dedication to advancing healthcare equity and accessibility positions him as a catalyst for positive change in Sudan’s healthcare landscape.

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### **Dr Godwin Oloyce Mollel, Deputy Minister for Health, United Republic of Tanzania**

Chama Cha Mapinduzi	Chairman - UVCC Siha District	2008	2012
Chama Cha Mapinduzi	Member-UVCCM Central Council	2006	2008
Chama cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo	Member	2012	2017
Parliament of Tanzania	Member of the Parliament	2018	2020
Lands, Natural Resources and Tourism Committee	Member	2015	2017
Chama cha Mapinduzi	Member	2018	2020
Chama Cha Mapinduzi	District Chairman -UVCCM	2008	2012
Parliament of Tanzania	Member of Parliament	2015	2017
Parliament of Tanzania	Member of Parliament	2020	2025
Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children	Deputy Minister	2021	2022
Ministry of Health	Deputy Minister	2022	To date

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### **Dr Jane Ruth Aceng Ocero, Minister of Health, Uganda**

Dr Jane Ruth Aceng is the Minister of Health of Uganda. Dr Aceng holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Medicine (MBChB), MMED (Pediatrics), Masters in Public Health and a Diploma in Health System Strengthening. She is a Pediatrician expert and is currently at the level of Senior Consultant Pediatrics. She is also a Public Health expert.

Dr Aceng has vast experience both as a manager and practicing medical personnel, which she accumulated while serving in various capacities as Medical Officer, Senior Medical Officer, Medical Officer Special Grade, Medical Superintendent, Consultant Pediatrician, Senior Consultant Pediatrician, Hospital Director and formerly as the Director General Health Services where she was responsible for coordinating technical functions for the delivery of Health services, a role she has fulfilled until her appointment as the Minister for Health.

As Minister of Health, Dr Aceng possesses the Constitutional Powers and functions of spearheading the Ministry. Among them are Administration, Policy Formulation and Direction. She is also responsible for defending the Ministerial budget and issue orders and statutory regulations on the sector. In addition, she initiates and presents to Cabinet, the Ministry memorandums and accounts for the State, operations, function and achievements of the health sector.

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## **H.E. Dion Ngute Joseph, Prime Minister, Head of Government of Cameroon**

### **Academic Profile :**

- 1966-1971: GCE Advanced Level at GBHS Buea.
- 1973-1977: Bachelor Degree in law from the University of Yaounde I
- 1977-1981: Master degree in Law at London University of the Queen Mary College
- 1982: PhD in Law from Warwick University England

### **Professional Profile :**

- 1986-1991: Deputy Director General of CENAM
- 1991-2000: Director General of ENAM
- 1997-2018: Minister Delegate at the Ministry of External Relations in Charge of Relations with Common Wealth
- 2018-2019: Minister in Charge of Special Duties at the Presidency
- Since 4/01/19: Prime Minister, Head of Government of Cameroon.

### **Community and/or Political Activities :**

- Traditional Ruler, Chief of Bongongo I Village in Ndian Division
- Member of CPDM Central Committee

### **Other Honors :**

- Grand Officer, National Order of Valour
  - Commander, National Order of Valour
  - Knight , National Order of Valour
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## **Mr Louis Paul Motaze, Minister of Finance, Cameroon**

Mr Louis Paul Motaze has been appointed Minister of Finance on 2 March 2018. He came first in the competitive entrance examination to the Ecole Nationale d'Administration et de la Magistrature (ENAM) in 1981, graduating as Civil Administrator, Economics and Finance section, top of his class in 1983. He strengthened his skills in France by obtaining a DEA (diplôme d'études approfondies) in public law and a DESS (diplôme d'études supérieures spécialisées) in international transport in 1985. He began his career at the Economic Affairs Division of the Presidency of the Republic of Cameroon in 1983. He then moved to CAMSHIP (Cameroon Shipping Lines) from 1984 to 1989. He then joined CAMAIR (Cameroon Airlines) in 1989, where he remained until 1999. He took over the reins of the General Management of the Caisse Nationale de Prévoyance Sociale (CNPS) in 1999, a company in structural crisis with pension arrears. His remarkable tenure at CNPS won him the confidence of the Head of State, who appointed him Minister of the Economy, Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT) in 2007, in a context marked by the seven-year term of Great Ambitions. He drew up the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (DSCE) and sought innovative financing to implement the structuring projects contained in the DSCE. In 2011, his record of service led him to the post of Secretary General of the Prime Minister's Office: he coordinates the government's actions alongside the Prime Minister and, in his capacity as Chairman of the Steering Committee for several projects, coordinates the major projects of the State of Cameroon, in particular the deep-water port of Kribi, the Lom Pangar and Menvé'ele hydroelectric dams, and the Mbalam iron and Ngaoundal bauxite projects. In 2015, MINEPAT will continue to implement the major structural projects

that will underpin the growth needed to ensure Cameroon's emergence by 2035. It is thus improving the consumption of the public investment budget (BIP), which is close to 100%.

On 2 March 2018, Mr Motaze was appointed Minister of Finance in a context marked by the economic crisis characterized by the fall in the cost of petroleum products, cocoa and coffee; the deterioration of budget balances in the CEMAC zone and the implementation of the Economic and Financial Programme (EFP) supported by the IMF's Extended Credit Facility (ECF) (2017 -2019); elections in Cameroon and the financing of SMEs. This worthy son of the South, born on 31 January 1959 in Bengbis in the Dja and Lobo region, is married with three children.

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## ***Speakers***

### **Dr Olusoji Adeyi, President, Resilient Health Systems**

Dr Olusoji (Soji) Adeyi is the President of Resilient Health Systems. He is also a Senior Associate at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr Adeyi has over 30 years of leadership experience in global health policy, strategy, and practice across every region of the world.

In his prior career at the World Bank, he served as Director of the Health, Nutrition, and Population Global Practice, and as Senior Advisor for Human Development, among many other leadership responsibilities. Dr Adeyi was the founding Director of the Affordable Medicines Facility-malaria (AMFm), a Public-Private Partnership hosted by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. He served as Associate Director of the AIDS Prevention Initiative in Nigeria, which was funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Dr Adeyi has led many path-breaking initiatives in global health in every region of the world. He has extensive experience in policies, strategies, and programs for health systems, financing, public-private partnerships, disease control, service delivery, monitoring and evaluation, and capacity building at the global, regional, and country levels. He has also had responsibilities with UNAIDS and the World Health Organization. Dr Adeyi has authored research papers and books on health policy, health systems, service delivery, quality of care, maternal health, health financing, disease control, and pollution.

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### **Dr Michael Adekunle Charles, CEO RBM Partnership**

Dr Michael Adekunle Charles is an experienced diplomat, medical doctor, and public health expert. He previously served as the Head of Delegation for Southern Africa at the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). Dr Charles has many years of experience leading the organization's malaria coordination in Africa, providing technical, managerial and operational support.

Dr Charles joins the RBM Partnership with extensive leadership experience in public health medicine and international development, currently serving as the Head of Delegation for Southern Africa for the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). Since beginning his work with IFRC leading the organization's malaria coordination in Africa, Dr Charles has remained a strong advocate and champion in the fight against malaria.

Dr Michael Adekunle Charles comes to the role of permanent CEO as an experienced diplomat, medical doctor, and public health expert. Currently serving as the Head of Delegation for Southern Africa at the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), Dr Charles has many years of experience leading the organization's malaria coordination in Africa, providing technical, managerial and operational support.

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### **Dr Philippe Duneton, Executive Director, Unitaid**

A French national, Dr Duneton has more than 25 years' experience in the fields of HIV/AIDS, infectious and tropical diseases and public health. Dr Duneton has been at Unitaid since its creation in 2006. As Executive Director a.i, he has led Unitaid's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, playing a vital role as the co-lead of the therapeutics arm of the Access to COVID Tools Accelerator. Previously, he was a practicing doctor at Hospital "La Pitié Salpêtrière" in Paris (Infections Diseases Department) and was twice advisor to the French Ministry of Health under Minister Bernard Kouchner. He was the head of the Mission against HIV/AIDS and harm reduction for l'Assistance publique – Hôpitaux de Paris (AP-HP) and led the French regulatory agency for medicines and health products. He also chaired the Board of the European Medicines Agency. Philippe holds a Master's degree in Public Health and is a Doctor.

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### **Dr Helen Jamet, acting Malaria Director, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**

Dr Helen Jamet is a medical entomologist with more than 20 years of experience in malaria prevention, research, and vector control product development.

Dr Jamet joined the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in November 2018 as deputy director, Vector Control for the Malaria team after 11 ½ years in industry. Dr Jamet worked at Vestergaard from 2007 to 2018, where she finished as the global head of Research & Market Access. In this role, she was responsible for defining the pathway to bring new products to market, as well as developing and maintaining a healthy new product pipeline. She has also worked on the first next-generation long lasting insecticidal bed net since 2007.

Prior to joining Vestergaard, Dr Jamet was a consultant medical entomologist working for American Biophysics Corporation, based in Tanzania, East Africa where she built a research station and evaluated mosquito traps being developed for the African market. During that time, Dr Jamet initiated and ran a field training course for East African entomologists designed to encourage young scientists to enter into the field of entomology. She has also served as a research fellow for the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine where she worked on methods of personal protection against mosquitoes for a project funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Dr Jamet holds a Ph.D. in Infectious Diseases and a Master of Science in Medical Parasitology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She earned a Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Applied Biology from the University of Leeds in the UK. She is a fellow of The Royal Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene and the Royal Entomological Society and has been an active member of industry groups, including the Insecticide Resistance Action Committee.

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### **H.E Dr Jean Kaseya, Director-General, Africa-Centres for Disease Control and Prevention**

Dr Jean Kaseya was appointed Director-General of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa-CDC) during the thirty-sixth African Union Summit of Heads of State and Government in February 2023. Dr Kaseya, a Congolese Medical Doctor with advanced degrees in Epidemiology and Community Health, brings to this position over 25 years of expertise in the field of public health, having held pivotal roles both at the national and international levels.

As the Director-General of Africa-CDC, Dr Kaseya oversees the organization's fundamental political, strategic, and technical functions. At the forefront of his agenda is his commitment to advancing a

transformative “New Deal” for Africa CDC, with the primary objective of strengthening health security across the continent. This undertaking involves establishing sustainable and innovative financing mechanisms, enhancing robust governance structures, cultivating technical expertise, strengthening health systems, and efficient response to health crises.

Before assuming his role as Director-General of Africa CDC, Dr Kaseya had a distinguished career, holding multiple significant roles. At the national level, Dr Kaseya has been entrusted with significant responsibilities, contributing his expertise to the health initiatives of his home country. These roles have included serving as a Senior Adviser to President Laurent Desire Kabila at a ministerial level, where he played a vital role in shaping healthcare policies and strategies. Additionally, he has taken on roles such as the Head of Routine Immunization within the National Expanded Programme on Immunization, showcasing his dedication to enhancing healthcare delivery at the grassroots level.

On the international stage, he has worked with prominent organizations such as UNICEF, Gavi, CHAI, and the World Health Organization, where he has been instrumental in driving forward various health initiatives of continental significance. Dr Kaseya is a devoted family man and a proud father of three daughters

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### **Emeritus Professor Rose Gana Fomban Leke**

Emeritus Professor Rose Gana Fomban Leke is Professor of Immunology and Parasitology and Fellow of the Cameroon Academy of Sciences CAS, the African Academy of Science (AAS) and The World Academy of Science, (TWAS). Until March 2013, she was Head of Department at the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, University of Yaounde 1, and Director of the Biotechnology Centre. She served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the National Medical Research Institute (IMPM) and Vice President of the Scientific Committee of Cameroon First Lady’s Research Centre (CIRCB). She was invited as the 2014 Aggrey-Fraser-Guggisberg Memorial Lecturer at the University of Ghana and awarded the Doctor Honoris Causa (DSc).

In 2011, she was one of six women who received the African Union Kwame Nkrumah Scientific Award for Women and received the 2012 award for Excellence in Science from The Cameroon Professional Society. She was elected International Honorary Fellow of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene ASTMH in 2015. She is a member of the Canada Gairdner Foundation Global Health Award Advisory Committee.

Elected one of nine women as *Heroine of Health 2018* and celebrated in Geneva on 20 May 2018 in the presence of the WHO Director-General, the Regional Director for the WHO African Region, and the Cameroon Minister of Health.

On November 23, 2018, she was crowned by the Cameroon Medical Council as Queen Mother of the Cameroonian medical community.

She has served as Executive Director of the Cameroon Coalition against Malaria and Chair of the Multilateral Initiative in Malaria (MIM) Secretariat.

She was President of the Federation of African Immunological Societies and a Council member of the International Union of Immunological Societies for two terms.

She has served and still serves as a consultant on many committees for the World Health Organization (WHO): the Malaria Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC), the Malaria Elimination Oversight Committee, the African Regional Commission for the Certification of the Eradication of Poliomyelitis (ARCC) and the Global Certification Commission (GCC). She has been a member and Chair of the African Advisory Committee for

Health Research (AACHR), a member of the Global ACHR, a Board member of the Global Forum for Health Research, and since 2013 serves on the WHO Emergency Committee for Polio Eradication.

Professor Leke has also served as Vice-Chair of the Technical Evaluation Reference group (TERG) of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and was awarded a Plaque of Honour. She was Chair of the DSMB Azithromycin-chloroquine, and was a member of the Scientific Advisory Group (SAG) for Ebola vaccine trials in Guinea.

Her research has focused on immunology of parasitic infections, particularly Malaria. She has a keen interest in global health and health systems strengthening and is very effective in training the next generation of scientists. The HIGHER Women Consortium Cameroon, a mentoring programme, is one of her initiatives.

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### **Dr Thabani Maphosa, Managing Director, GAVI**

Dr Thabani Maphosa is Gavi's Managing Director of Country Programmes Delivery, overseeing Gavi's operations in 73 countries. The Country Programmes Delivery Department's raison d'être is to harness the power of the Vaccine Alliance for countries to save the maximum number of lives through immunization. This is achieved through maximising financial investments (donor and domestic), bringing the best partners to the table and driving innovative solutions. The Country Programmes Delivery Department manages Gavi's relationships with governments and provides grant management oversight for all in-country resources.

Prior to joining Gavi, Dr Thabani held several leadership roles in World Vision International for over 16 years. Dr Thabani is a seasoned humanitarian who has led disaster preparedness and response efforts globally. He is also recognized for introducing the use of technology in the last mile and not least for scaling up cash transfers in stable and fragile contexts.

With a Master of Philosophy degree in Science, Dr Thabani has worked in academia as a lecturer in physiology and microbiology.

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### **Dr Jean-Jacques Mbungani Mbanda, African Constituency Bureau**

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### **Dr Cynthia Mwase, Director for Health, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**

Before joining Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in January 2023 as Director of Health, Dr Cynthia Mwase was the Head of the Africa and Middle East department of Grant management Division at the Global Fund, responsible for managing the implementation of Global Fund agreed grants in 41 countries. This included ensuring the necessary collaboration and partnerships are in place and mobilizing leadership support and ownership in the countries covered. She is currently one of the in-house champions for the Adolescent girls and young women's work in-house and also a champion for the Innovation in programme delivery initiatives.

Dr Mwase has over 20 years' experience working in several African countries working with various international development organizations including The Global Fund, Tearfund, Oxfam, and ACCORD. An experienced Programme manager having led in the design and delivery of community programmes in Public health, Livelihoods improvement and Environment sustainability

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## **Ms Olivia Ngou, Founder and Executive Director, Global Civil Society Network for Malaria Elimination**

Prior to launching ISA, Olivia Ngou worked for Malaria No More for 10 years where she led the Cameroon and Africa programmes aimed at rallying political leaders, celebrities, the private sector and communities around malaria and keeping the cause high on their respective agendas.

Ms Ngou began her experience on malaria with the United Nations Special Envoy for Malaria. She then taught a public health course at the City University of New York, in the Health section of the Wellness Project, for undergraduate students at CITY College. She has also worked as a research assistant for the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Office of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control; and completed a leadership course on malaria eradication at Harvard University's Science of Eradication. She holds a Masters in Public Health.

Ms Ngou has a keen interest in all aspects of public health, particularly the fight against malaria and maternal and child health. She strives to make her humble contribution to help create a world where no one dies "from a mosquito bite". She is committed to ensuring that communities are equally included in malaria control and health programmes in general. She has recently produced a guide on community issues, social rights and gender in malaria control programmes, as well as a tool for civil society to increase participation in Global Fund mechanisms. Finally, Ms Ngou co-founded and established the first Global Civil Society Network for Malaria Elimination (CS4ME), of which she is currently global coordinator.

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## **Dr Joy Phumaphi, Executive Secretary, African Leaders Malaria Alliance**

Dr Joy Phumaphi is the executive secretary at the African Leaders Malaria Alliance and is a former minister of health of the Republic of Botswana.

Currently, Dr Phumaphi is serving as co-chair of:

- Global Preparedness Monitoring Board
- Global Partnership and Fund to End Violence Against Children
- Lancet Pathfinder Commission on climate change and health

She also co-chaired the United Nations Secretary General's Independent Accountability Panel for Every Woman, Every Child, Every Adolescent. She was most recently Interim Co-CEO of the Clinton Health Access Initiative.

She was previously 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.

Before becoming minister of health, Dr Phumaphi served the people of Botswana as principal local government auditor and subsequently as a member of parliament holding portfolios for lands and housing, where she introduced the country's first housing policy requiring that local authorities house all destitute people. During her time as minister of health, she introduced the first public sector universal antiretroviral programme in the developing world.

Dr Phumaphi later joined WHO 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 programme.

Dr Phumaphi sits on the boards of several international organizations and is an advisor to multiple global health initiatives. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Commerce and a Master's degree in Finance and Accounting.

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### **Dr Melanie Renshaw, Principal Director, African Leaders Malaria Alliance /RBM Partnership to End Malaria Country/Regional Support Partner Committee**

Dr Renshaw serves as ALMA's Principal Director. She oversees the development of the ALMA Scorecard for Action and Accountability, tracking country level progress in achieving key malaria and health targets in Africa, supporting national malaria control programmes and ministries of health in Africa to resolve technical and implementation bottlenecks. Dr Renshaw also serves as co-chair of the RBM Partnership Country Regional Support Partner Committee. Dr Renshaw previously worked for UNICEF at country, regional and headquarters level and WHO. She has a PhD from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

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### **Mr Peter Sands, Executive Director, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria**

A former Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered PLC, one of the world's leading international banks, Mr Sands was a research fellow at Harvard University between 2015 and 2017, dividing his time between the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government at Harvard Kennedy School and the Harvard Global Health Institute. During his period at Harvard, he worked on a range of research projects in financial markets and regulation, fintech and global health.

- Chairing the US National Academy of Medicine's Commission on a Global Health Risk Framework for the Future, which in January 2016 produced a highly influential report, "The Neglected Dimension of Global Security: A Framework to Counter Infectious Disease Threats".
- Chairing the World Bank's International Working Group on financing preparedness, which in May 2017 published "From Panic and Neglect to Investing in Health Security: Financing Preparedness at a National Level".
- Authoring several papers on infectious disease crises in the New England Journal of Medicine, The Lancet and British Medical Journal.
- Between 2011-2017, being the Lead Non-Executive Director on the Board of the UK's Department of Health, providing policy direction to the UK's National Health Service.
- Being an active member on both the US National Academy of Science's Committee on Ensuring Access to Affordable Drugs and the Forum on Microbial Threats.

Mr Sands has served on various boards and commissions, including as Lead Non-Executive Director of the Department of Health in the United Kingdom, a Director of the World Economic Forum and Co-Chairman of Davos, Governor of the United Kingdom's National Institute for Economic and Social Research, Member of the International Advisory Board of the Monetary Authority of Singapore, Member of the Browne Commission on Higher Education Funding in the United Kingdom, Member of the China People's Association for Friendship with Foreign People's Global CEO Council, Co-Chair of the UK-India CEO Forum, Board Director of the Institute of International Finance, Chairman of the International Monetary Conference, Member of the International Advisory Board of Lingnan University, China, Trustee of the Camden Roundhouse, London.

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### **Professor Julio Rakotonirina, Director of Health and Humanitarian Affairs, African Union**

Professor Julio Rakotonirina is the Director of Health and Humanitarian Affairs at African Union Commission since October 2022. Before, Professor Rakotonirina was based in Madagascar and has worked

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through the health system, from Primary health center to Director of University Hospital and in 2019/2020 he was the Minister of Public Health of Madagascar.

Professor Rakotonirina has experiences in more than 20 years in African countries, especially Madagascar, Benin, and Comoros, as an Expert-Consultant, Medical Doctor, Specialist in Public Health (PhD) and Professor in Epidemiology. He has strong and evolving skills in health system management and in epidemic management. As a Researcher he has conducted, with co-authors, researchers and published scientific articles.

He is actively involved in International and African multidisciplinary expert networks, including DEMOSTAF project, Demography Statistics for Africa and PERSUADE-II project, Partnership to enhance technical support for analytical capacity and data use for Malaria, TB and HIV in Southern and Eastern Africa.

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### **Dr Stephen Sosler, Head Vaccine, GAVI**

Dr Stephen Sosler is an epidemiologist and Head of Vaccine, Gavi based in Geneva, Switzerland. In this role Dr Sosler provides guidance, expertise and leadership on a range of immunization programme and vaccine issues associated with Gavi's support for routine and stockpiled vaccines for 17 infectious diseases. In addition, Dr Sosler leads Gavi's broader engagement with the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) and is responsible for support to strengthen national immunization technical advisory bodies. With the emergence of SARS-CoV-2 and the COVID-19 pandemic, he is also engaged in the COVAX facility and ongoing efforts to support equitable access and delivery of COVID-19 vaccines. Before joining Gavi in 2012, Dr Sosler held key positions at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, seconded to the World Health Organization as the Deputy Project Manager for India's National Polio Surveillance Project, coordinating immunization strengthening, measles control and new vaccine introduction activities supported by the Project's central team and network of 300+ Surveillance Medical Officers posted throughout the country (2009-2012). Prior to India, he was seconded as a CDC Epidemiologist to the WHO Central Africa Inter-country Support Team in Libreville, Gabon (2004-2009), where he served as the Accelerated Disease Control Officer providing technical assistance to 11 central African national immunization programmes and WHO and UNICEF country offices to strengthen immunization delivery, vaccine preventable disease surveillance and outbreak response activities. Dr Sosler has a PhD and Master of Public Health in International Health Epidemiology from the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

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### **Ms Caroline St-Hilaire, Deputy Secretary-General, OIF (Organisation internationale de la Francophonie)**

A Canadian national with a degree in business administration from the Université du Québec Montréal, Ms Caroline St-Hilaire has held a number of management and administrative positions, including director of the *Société du droit de reproduction pour les auteurs, éditeurs et compositeurs du Québec* (SODRAC) and of the foundation of the *Société pour la promotion de la relève musicale de l'espace francophone* (SOPREF).

#### **Political life:**

- Ms St-Hilaire was a member of the Parliament of Canada for four terms, from 1997 to 2008, and was responsible in particular for issues relating to the status of women, transport, human rights and sport.
  - From 2009 to 2017, she was the first woman mayor of Longueuil - the 5th largest city in Quebec - where she put public finances on a sound footing.
  - She also chairs the Longueuil agglomeration council and is vice-chair of the executive committee of the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal.
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**Communication:**

- From 2017 to 2021, Ms St-Hilaire was a political analyst on the LCN/TVA television network and on Qub radio. She then joined the communications and public relations agency Leliken as Vice-President of Government Relations.
- Ms St-Hilaire has also worked to promote the representation of women in decision-making positions and has been a UNICEF ambassador.

**Francophonie:**

- In 2023, Ms Caroline St-Hilaire was appointed Administrator of the OIF by the Secretary General of La Francophonie at the extraordinary meeting of the Permanent Council of La Francophonie (CPF) on 21 March 2023.

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**Dr David Walton, Global Malaria Coordinator, U.S. President’s Malaria Initiative**

Dr David Walton brings over 20 years of experience working in global health to his role as U.S. Global Malaria Coordinator.

His experience includes working as a physician on the ground in Haiti to fight cholera and on the front lines of the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone. Dr Walton joins USAID after serving as the Senior Director of Global Health at the Butterfly Network, Inc., co-founding Build Health International, and working 15 years with Partners In Health. He was also previously an Associate Physician in the Division of Global Health Equity at Brigham and Women’s Hospital and an Instructor in Medicine at Harvard Medical School. He holds an MD from Harvard Medical School, a Master of Public Health from the Harvard School of Public Health, and trained in Internal Medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital as the first Doris and Howard Hiatt Global Health Equity resident.

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***MPAG members*****Professor Samira Abdelrahman**

Professor Abdelrahman is a recognized academic leader. She worked as the head of the Community Medicine department at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Gezira (2004–2008) where she led more effective partnership with the Ministry of Health programmes and health related sectors. This partnership resulted in more relevance of the faculty curricula and appropriateness of students’ community medicine training, in addition to establishing postgraduate programmes in Community Medicine.

Professor Abdelrahman has demonstrated a distinguished career including serving as the Dean of the Blue Nile National Institute for Communicable Diseases (BNNICD) (2010–2018) where she led the expansion of the institute’s research projects and degree programmes, benefiting from unique partnerships with WHO, UN agencies and reputable institutions worldwide. She has vast experience in leading national projects including the project for development of gender sensitive core competencies of Sudanese university professionals on HIV & AIDS (2009–2010); the status of midwifery pre-service education in Sudan (2012); a national immunization coverage survey (2015); the national HIV capacity development project for NGOs, AIDS programme and related sectors (2010–2019); and work with a team of consultants to evaluate the HIV response in Sudan (2016). She worked with WHO (2012) to develop a “Teachers’ guide on Malaria Case Management” in Sudanese Medical Schools, and “Malaria Curriculum for Health Institutions (medicine, nursing, laboratory sciences and public health)” in Somali zones (2013). Professor Abdelrahman led and coordinated the Prospective Country Evaluation conducted by the Global Fund’s Technical Evaluation Reference Group (TERG) in Sudan (2017–2021). During her Deanship of the Scientific Research University of Gezira, she developed a system for the governance and management of staff and students’

research and innovations. She graduated as medical doctor from the University of Khartoum, and earned a High Diploma in Public Health and a Master's degree in Health Education from the University of Gezira, and MD (Community Medicine) from the Sudanese Board for Medical Specializations.

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### **Professor Evelyn Korkor Ansah**

Professor Evelyn Korkor Ansah is the Director of the Centre for Malaria Research, University of Health and Allied Science in Ghana. She is a Public Health Physician, an Epidemiologist, fellow of the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons and a Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Fellow. She holds a degree in Medicine and a Masters of Public Health from Ghana and a PhD in Clinical Epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Professor Ansah has served and continues to provide service at global, international and national levels. She was the Vice Chair of the Technical Review Panel (TRP) of the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. She currently serves on the World Health Organization's Malaria Policy Advisory Group (MPAG) and Malaria Elimination Oversight Committee (MEOC). She also serves on the Technical Evaluation Reference Group (TERG) of the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS and Malaria.

Professor Ansah previously served as a member of the Bellagio Academic Selection Panel of the Rockefeller Foundation, member of the Steering Committee of the ACT Consortium (involving over 15 institutions in several countries) and the Malaria Capacity Development Consortium. She was Deputy Director responsible for Research at the Research & Development Division of the Ghana Health Service. She contributes to building capacity among the next generation of public health professionals and has supervised several PhD and Masters students both locally and internationally.

Her basic training was in medicine at the School of Medical Sciences, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana. She later pursued a Master of Public Health at the School of Public Health, University of Ghana and subsequently a PhD in Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London.

Professor Ansah has worked at all levels of Ghana's health system in both clinical and public health roles for over 25 years. In her clinical roles she worked at the Ridge Regional Hospital and the Korle-Bu Teaching hospital, Ghana's Premier Teaching Hospital. Her Public Health role covered a period of 15 years during which she progressed from a District Medical Officer to District Director of Health Services, winning several awards with her team as a District Health Leader. As the Deputy Director responsible for research at the National Level she led the development of Ghana Health Service Research Agenda for the period 2015-2019. She also initiated Research Capacity Building for health professionals through a Continuous Professional Development Programme.

Her research interests lie in malaria case management, diagnostics, health systems, maternal health and capacity building for health research. She has conducted a number of multi-country and other studies including clinical trials and health systems research. She serves as a reviewer for several peer-reviewed journals and the Global Health Systems Conference and has several publications in peer-reviewed journals to her credit.

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### **Emeritus Professor Graham Brown**

Emeritus Professor Graham Brown is an Australian medical practitioner with experience of practice and research in malaria endemic countries, and training in public health, whose malaria research has focused on immunity to malaria in humans, vaccines, and malaria in pregnancy. Working in Tanzania, and undertaking malaria research in Papua New Guinea stimulated a great interest in particular challenges of combatting both *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax* malaria. He was Head of the Division of Infection and Immunity

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at the Walter and Elisa Hall Institute of Medical Research, James Stewart Professor of Medicine at the University of Melbourne, Head of Infectious Diseases and Head of the Department of Medicine at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, and Foundation Director of the Nossal Institute for Global Health at the University of Melbourne.

Professor Brown has served for over 25 years on various committees and expert groups in both the Global Malaria Programme and the Tropical Disease Research Programme of WHO, including periods as Chair of the steering committees in immunology of malaria, applied field research in malaria, and vaccine discovery research. He has been a Member of the Advisory Board of the Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network (APMEN) and a Board Member, Deputy Board Chair, and Chair of the Executive Committee of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership. Currently he serves as Chair, Scientific Consultants Group of the USAID Malaria Vaccine Development Program.

Other activities relevant to MPAG include a significant role in writing the malERA documentation on barriers to elimination for which research could provide better, or new solutions; contributing to the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria and summary of the work of the Strategic Advisory Group on Malaria Elimination; membership of the WHO Drafting Committee for Malaria Terminology and the WHO evidence review groups for guidance on malaria elimination and submicroscopic infections.

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### **Professor Umberto D'Alessandro**

Professor Umberto D'Alessandro graduated in Medicine & Surgery at the University of Pisa, Italy, and then obtained both his MSc and PhD at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK, in 1990 and 1996, respectively. He worked as a clinician in Benin and Kenya. In 1990, he joined the MRC Unit The Gambia as clinical epidemiologist and carried out the evaluation of the Gambian National Program on insecticide-treated bed nets that showed the intervention decreased mortality among children by 25%.

In 1996, Professor D'Alessandro joined the Department of Parasitology at the Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium, where he headed the Epidemiology Unit until December 2010. There, he developed a research programme around 3 themes: antimalarial treatment, including drug resistance; malaria prevention; and the *P. vivax* in vitro cycle, implemented in several malaria endemic countries, such as Uganda, Burkina Faso, Benin, Vietnam, Peru, etc.

In 2011, Professor D'Alessandro joined the Medical Research Council Unit The Gambia (MRCG) as Head of the Disease Control and Elimination Research Theme. In January 2014, he was appointed Director of the MRCG. His research programme in The Gambia is built around questions related to malaria elimination/eradication.

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### **Professor Abdoulaye Djimde**

Professor Abdoulaye Djimde studied Pharmacy at the University of Mali. After receiving his doctorate in 1988, he started a private pharmacy in Bamako, where he learned first-hand about the huge need for more effective ways of preventing and treating malaria. This experience led him to volunteer as a research assistant at the Malaria Research and Training Center in Bamako, and eventually to work as a graduate student with Professor Christopher V. Plowe at the University of Maryland and Dr Thomas E. Wellems at the US National Institutes of Health, earning his PhD degree in 2001. In his thesis project, he conducted seminal studies describing the first reliable molecular marker for chloroquine-resistant *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria, and proposed a model for monitoring drug resistance in the field using molecular markers, publishing the results in the *New England Journal of Medicine* and *Lancet*.

Professor Djimde returned to Mali, where, over the past 15 years, he transformed an initial team of two students and a technician into a research group of more than 30 scientists, including clinicians, pharmacists and biologists. With this team and a cadre of collaborators, he conducts field and laboratory studies to explore how mutation events in the genomes of malaria parasites, human hosts and mosquito vectors relate to the outcome of treatment and the spread of drug resistance. Some of his research results form the basis of current malaria treatment guidelines in Mali. Professor Djimde's accomplishments were recognized in 2001 by a "Chevalier de l'Ordre National" medal from the President of Mali, in 2005 by an International Research Scholarship from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, awarded to only 2 African scientists, and in 2008 by a "Prix de la Pharmacie Francophone" from the National Academy of Pharmacy of France, awarded to a francophone pharmacist for scientific productivity.

In the past 15 years, Professor Djimde has also adopted international leadership roles. He was instrumental in founding the Worldwide Antimalarial Resistance Network (WWARN) and served on its Scientific Advisory Board until 2009; he was appointed Chair of the WHO-TDR Multilateral Initiative on Malaria Task Force in 2009; and he was selected as 1 of 2 International Fellows at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute in 2012. He currently serves as Coordinator of the West African Network for Clinical Trials of Antimalarial Drugs (WANECAM), Leader of the Plasmodium Diversity Network-Africa (PDNA), and Director of the DELTAS Africa program Developing Excellence in Leadership and Genetics Training for Malaria Elimination (DELGEME). He is frequently invited as a speaker at international scientific conferences and was recently elected as Fellow of the African Academy of Science.

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### **Professor Chris Drakeley**

Professor Chris Drakeley is an immunologist in the Department of Infection Biology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine where he leads a group whose work focuses on malaria transmission. The research areas cover the basic biology, immunology, chemotherapy, entomology and intervention trials aiming to better elucidate the key factors that govern transmission from humans to mosquitoes. The work aims to understand transmission dynamics in malaria endemic settings to provide researchers and programmes information on how to reduce transmission for control and elimination of malaria.

Professor Drakeley has a GI Biology degree in Immunology and obtained his PhD from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine during which time he was based at the MRC unit in The Gambia. From 1997–2007 he worked in the United Republic of Tanzania initially at the Ifakara Health Institute and subsequently the Joint Malaria Programme in Moshi. He has held a Fellowship and University award for the Wellcome Trust and led large research programmes on *Plasmodium knowlesi* and the development of serological surveillance for malaria. He has worked closely with numerous international research partners as well providing advice to WHO and regional partners on several expert review groups. He advises the United Kingdom Government and NGOs on malaria.

Professor Drakeley has published more than 450 scientific papers on all aspects of malaria and NTD surveillance. He was director of the Malaria Centre at LSHTM for 10 years and has provided support for several research capacity strengthening and mentoring initiatives.

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### **Professor David A. Fidock**

Professor David Fidock has specialized in malaria research for over 30 years, beginning by studying *Plasmodium falciparum* pre-erythrocytic stages from the perspective of parasite-host immune interactions and vaccine targets, and for the past 20 years focusing on antimalarial chemotherapeutics and understanding drug mode of action and mechanisms of resistance. He is best known for his work on developing genetic technologies to define the molecular basis of parasite resistance to first-line drugs, as well as defining resistance to compounds in the antimalarial drug discovery and development pipeline. His

>240 research publications on malaria include definitive publications characterizing molecular determinants of parasite resistance to chloroquine, piperazine and artemisinin. His work is highly collaborative, working with partners across the world to advance our understanding of antimalarial resistance and how that knowledge can be leveraged to propose region-specific therapeutic approaches to treat drug-resistant *P. falciparum* infections. His lab also serves as the reference centre on defining antimalarial resistance for the Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV) in Geneva. He is also an active founding member of the Malaria Drug Accelerator Consortium (MaDA), funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and focused on identifying new druggable targets and leveraging those into identifying new antimalarial chemotypes. His research is also supported by the US Department of Defense and the US National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Professor Fidock was born in France and completed his undergraduate studies in Australia, majoring in genetics, mathematics and computer science. He began malaria research as a technician at Biotechnology Australia in Sydney prior to returning to France to pursue a PhD on malaria at the Pasteur Institute, mentored by Dr Pierre Druilhe. He received the Emile Roux Bourse and later became Assistant de Recherche. He pursued postdoctoral sabbaticals at University of California, Irvine and the NIH, mentored by Drs Anthony James and Thomas Wellems, respectively. He started his independent group at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in 2000 and since 2007 has been a tenured faculty at Columbia University.

Professor Fidock is the recipient of the 2014 Bailey K. Ashford Medal from the American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) for distinguished work in the field of tropical medicine, and the 2016 Global Australian of the Year award in Life Sciences. In 2020 he received the William Trager Award from the ASTMH for transformational research in parasitology and the Project of the Year award from the MMV. In 2021 he founded the Center for Malaria Therapeutics and Antimicrobial Resistance at Columbia University. He has served as a standing member of the NIH Drug Discovery and Resistance study section, a society-elected member of the ASTMH Board (2016-2019) and Director of the Columbia University Graduate Program in Microbiology, Immunology and Infection since 2008. He also earlier served as a member of the Technical Expert Group on Drug Efficacy and Response for the WHO Global Malaria Programme.

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## **Professor Caroline Jones**

Professor Caroline Jones is an anthropologist who has been working at the KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme (KWTRP) in Kenya since 2010. Her work as a senior social scientist is focused on understanding the social context and political economy of health management and disease control, with an emphasis on malaria and maternal and neonatal health in sub-Saharan Africa.

After completing a first degree in Anthropology from University College London and an MSc in Human Biology from the University of Oxford, she moved to Australia to undertake a PhD in anthropology focusing on an ethnographic study of food and health among the traditional inhabitants of north-east Arnhem Land, Australia.

After completing her PhD, Professor Jones returned to the UK and joined the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to work as a post-doctoral researcher on the ODA-funded Malaria Research and Control programme. This was the start of her career in malaria research. Over the past 20 years her main focus has been operational research on the development and implementation of policies for malaria control with attention to the gap between policy and practice. With over 50 papers in peer reviewed journals, she has contributed to understanding factors influencing the delivery, uptake and use of interventions such as LLINs and IPTp, as well as identifying the challenges faced by health care providers and managers in the implementation of malaria strategies such as 'Test, Treat, Track'. Much of her research has been conducted as part of multidisciplinary teams and in collaboration with national malaria

control programmes or implementing NGOs such as Population Services International and the Malaria Consortium.

She is a member of the Integrated Vector Control Consortium (IVCC) Expert Scientific Advisory Committee on New Paradigms in Vector Control (ESAC 3) and has served on the MIM/TDR Task Force for Malaria Research Capacity Strengthening in Africa, and the RBM/IMCI (WHO) Task force on Case Management, among others.

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### **Doctor S. Patrick Kachur**

Professor Patrick Kachur is a public health physician with over 30 years of experience in global health practice. He qualified as a medical doctor after studying at the Kent State University and Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine. Later, he completed clinical and residency training at the Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital and Johns Hopkins University and a community health fellowship at the University of Ilorin in Nigeria.

For much of his career he was based at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention where he served as the Malaria Branch Chief and Acting Principal Deputy Director in the Center for Global Health. In 2018 he was recognized with the agency's highest service award. At CDC, he contributed to interdisciplinary research establishing the efficacy of insecticide-treated nets in western Kenya and the feasibility and impact of routine use of artemisinin-based combination therapy in Tanzania.

Professor Kachur currently serves as Academic Director in the Heilbrunn Department of Population and Family Health at Columbia's Mailman School of Public Health. His scholarship focuses on experimental and observational epidemiology and health systems studies examining the effectiveness and equity of malaria, child health and primary care interventions, with an emphasis on real world research that shapes policies and programmes. He teaches courses on malaria programme planning, implementation science and water and sanitation.

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### **Dr Nilima Kshirsagar**

Dr Nilima Arun Kshirsagar is an Emeritus Scientist at the Indian Council of Medical Research, Government of India. She received her medical degree (MBBS) in 1971, her specialized post-graduate degree in Pharmacology (MD) in 1974, Ph.D. in 1985 from the University of Mumbai studying in the Seth G.S. Medical College & KEM Hospital, Mumbai India, and her Diplomate of National Board from the Clinical Pharmacology of the National Board, Delhi in 1985. In recognition of her work, she received the fellowship of the Royal College of Pharmaceutical Medicine (UK), the Fellowship of the American College of Clinical Pharmacology (USA), the National Academy of Science (India), and the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India). She has an illustrious academic record and is the recipient of numerous college and university prizes and gold medals.

She worked as a Professor and the Head of Clinical Pharmacology (a department which she established) and was the Dean and Director (Medical Education and Health) in the medical colleges of the Municipal Corporation of Mumbai, Government of India and acting Vice Chancellor of the Maharashtra State University, India. In recognition of her contributions, she received the Mayor of Mumbai Award thrice and Nathaniel Kwit Award of the American College of Clinical Pharmacology for distinguished services.

She was the Chairperson of the Academic Council, Member of the Institute body of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Government of India, New Delhi. She has served the Government of India, Indian Council of Medical Research as the National Chair of Clinical Pharmacology. She brings a wide range of experience in patient care, hospital and medical college management, and research. She has worked in

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tropical diseases, drug development, drug resistance, pharmacovigilance, clinical trials, and regulatory science. She was member of the TDR product development committee.

Dr Kshirsagar started work in malaria in 1990 with a WHO TDR training workshop held in Penang Malaysia. She established a ward for clinical pharmacology in the infectious diseases hospital; worked on drug resistance in falciparum and vivax malaria; and carried out clinical trials on coartemether, mefloquine, azithromycin, primaquine dose schedules, collaborating with researchers in USA and Canada. She was a member of a WHO Steering Committee on Macrophilicidal drugs and worked in villages in India to evaluate macrofilaricidal activity of drugs. She collaborated with researchers in Ghana and USA on Onchocerciasis. She worked in villages and cities in Bihar, India on leishmaniasis, developed a patented indigenous liposomal amphotericin which is being marketed after technology transfer. She also helped the development of the antileishmanial drug miltefosine. She received the Vasvik Award for industrial research.

Dr Kshirsagar has worked for the safety of medicines, particularly for public health programmes, developed educational material for health workers and patients, chaired the data safety & monitoring board (DSMB) for bedaquiline and initiated the pharmacovigilance in public health work at WHO. She is a member of WHO Advisory Committee of Safety of Medicinal products (ACSoMP) and chairperson of the Core Training Panel of Pharmacovigilance Program of India.

She has contributed to education in many ways. She set up university and national level courses such as a M.Sc. in Pharmaceutical Medicine (collaborating with Royal College of Pharmaceutical Medicine, UK), DM (Clinical Pharmacology, a super-specialty course), and has guided many students. She led the development of an online ICMR course on prescribing skills for medical graduates consisting of 40 modules. She established a regional centre of the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education Research, USA, in Mumbai. She was member of the committee and contributed to the Medical Council of India's Vision 2015 document for undergraduate students. She received the Dr B. C. Roy National Award for her contributions to medical education.

With support from ICMR, she set up the National Virtual Centre for Clinical Pharmacology focusing on product development and the rational use of medicines. She was a member of the National Committee for Chemotherapy of Malaria, is a member of the Drug Technical Advisory Board, and Chairperson of the sub-committee to review fixed-dose combinations. She was Faculty for WHO training programmes in Morocco, Sri Lanka, Vietnam.

She is currently a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) and Chairperson of the Board of the Foundation for disease elimination and control, which has worked for the past 3 years on a demonstration project for malaria elimination in Mandla district in India.

Recently, she has worked on studies on COVID-19, leading a multi-centre study for the use of hydroxychloroquine for prophylaxis in health care workers, repurposing drugs, monitoring studies from alternative systems and chaired DSMBs. She is member of the ICMR Central Ethics Committee. Her main areas of interest and experience are drug development, drug resistance, clinical trials, pharmacovigilance for tropical diseases, public health, educational policy and strategies for capacity building, and malaria elimination and control.

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### **Dr Paola Marchesini**

Dr Paola Marchesini graduated in Medicine at the Federal University of Santa Catarina (1983), Brazil. She has 2 years of specialization in Public Health/Epidemiology from the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil. She obtained her Masters in Community Medicine at Heidelberg University, Germany (Ruprecht-Karls) (1993), and her PhD in Demography at the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil (2001) and

Princeton University, USA. She is currently engaged in postdoctoral studies at the Tropical Medicine Center at the University of Brasília.

Dr Marchesini worked at the Roll Back Malaria and the WHO Global Malaria Programme from 1999 to 2004 and at the Pan American Organization of Health in Brasília, Brazil from 2005 to 2008.

Since 2008, she has been working at the National Malaria Control Programme of the Ministry of Health of Brazil. From 2015 to 2016, she served as Deputy Coordinator of the National Malaria Control Programme. Dr Marchesini has over 20 years of experience in malaria in Latin America and has also worked with some countries in Africa.

She supports the Programme by providing strategic technical input on a range of areas including antimalarial treatment, drug resistance, monitoring and evaluation, surveillance, epidemiology, capacity building and malaria prevention. She acts as the implementation and operational research focal point. She assists the National Malaria Control Programme on malaria elimination efforts, mainly on risk-stratification approaches, and access to diagnosis and treatment for remote populations.

She has a wide experience on malaria control and elimination at sub-national, national and international levels and has participated in malaria control programme evaluations in many countries.

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### **Dr Corine Ngufor**

Dr Corine Ngufor is an Associate Professor of medical entomology at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) with extensive experience in conducting and leading cutting-edge research and innovation in malaria control and a focus on developing and evaluating new effective vector control tools. She obtained her MSc in public health entomology and PhD in infectious diseases both from LSHTM. She is also a lead scientist and research director of a GLP-certified research facility based in the Centre de Recherche Entomologique de Cotonou (CREC), Ministry of Health, Benin, where she leads a large research team and collaborates with various stakeholders, including WHO, USAID, the Global Fund, PMI, PATH, BMGF, IVCC and chemical companies. She has secured and delivered multiple research grants and projects that have contributed to the development and deployment of a new generation of vector control tools and other novel malaria control interventions.

Dr Ngufor is a member of the WHO Vector Control Advisory Group and current Co-Chair of the Vector Control Working Group (VCWG) of the RBM Partnership to End Malaria where she supports the identification and implementation of best practices in vector control globally. In 2021, she received the Greenwood African Award in recognition of her contribution and future potential in fighting infectious diseases. She is passionate about developing research capacity in Africa, training and mentoring young research scientists, and supporting the careers of African women scientists.

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### **Dr Fredros Okumu**

Dr Fredros Okumu is a Public Health Researcher and current Director of Science at Ifakara Health Institute, in the United Republic of Tanzania. He is also an Adjunct Professor at the Nelson Mandela Africa Institute of Science & Technology and Associate Professor at University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa. His research focuses on the biology and control of infectious diseases, focusing mostly on Malaria and arthropod-borne viruses.

Dr Okumu initially trained as a Public Health Officer at Moi University College of Health Sciences in Kenya (2001–2005). He holds a Master degree in Applied Parasitology (University of Nairobi, 2008), and another Master degree in Geo-Information Science, Earth Observation & Environmental Modeling (Lund

University, Sweden 2011). He earned a PhD in Infectious Tropical Diseases from London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine in 2012, and an MBA-International Health Management from University of Basel & Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute, Switzerland in 2019. Fredros was awarded the American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (ASTMH) Young Investigator Award in 2009, a Wellcome Trust Intermediate Fellowship in Public Health & Tropical Medicine (2014-2019), a Howard Hughes-Gates International Scholarship (2017-2022), and an ASPEN New Voices Fellowship (2019). He was named among Top 100 Global Thinkers by US-Based Foreign Policy Magazine in 2016, and Top 30 African Innovators by Quartz Africa in 2018. In March, 2020, he was named a World Economic Forum Young Global Leader. He was inducted in June 2016 as a Young Affiliate of the African Academy of Sciences.

Dr Okumu was a co-chair of the Malaria Eradication Research Agenda consultative group on Tools for Elimination (2016-2018) and the WHO/RBM Vector Control Working Group on New Tools for Malaria Vector Control (2016-2019). He has also previously provided research support for the Africa Union High-Level Panel on Emerging Technologies, and worked as an expert Assessor for WHO Vector Control Product Prequalification (since 2017). In 2018, Fredros was appointed to the 12-member Malaria Strategic Advisory Panel of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and his term renewed in 2020. Fredros is a Subject Editor of the Parasites & Vectors journal, handling Dipteran Vectors, and a member of Editorial Boards of Malaria Journal and Scientific African.

He has more than 100 publications in international peer-reviewed journals, and maintains an active research group with staff, students and collaborators from more than ten countries. Fredros is very passionate about improving ecosystems for young researchers in Africa, and actively participate in non-technical scientific communication.

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### **Dr Arantxa Roca Feltrer**

Doctor Arantxa Roca-Feltrer is a PhD malaria epidemiologist trained at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) with over 20 years of experience in both malaria control and malaria elimination countries from the African and Asian regions. During that time she has supported malaria programmes by providing strategic technical input, technical oversight and quality assurance on a range of areas including study design, implementation and operational research, monitoring and evaluation, surveillance, epidemiology and capacity building. She possesses a solid academic background gained through her trainings (MSc and PhD) at the LSHTM, seven years teaching, designing and implementing research at LSHTM, and a postdoctoral fellowship at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine where she spent five years in Malawi.

From 2012 to 2016 Doctor Roca-Feltrer supported malaria elimination efforts in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS), particularly with a focus on strengthening robust surveillance monitoring and evaluation systems enabling better risk-stratification approaches and timely alert and response activities. Some of her work included: setting up and implementing cross border surveillance activities targeting mobile and migrant populations; designing and implementing large scale malaria indicator surveys and; testing innovative M&E tools such as respondent driven sampling, easy access groups - health facility surveys, rolling malaria indicator surveys, etc.

In addition to Doctor Roca-Feltrer's strong academic background that set the foundation for implementing operational research and clinical trials, she has actively supported M&E and impact evaluation components of large programmes such as seasonal malaria chemoprevention (SMC) and perennial malaria chemoprevention (PMC) across a variety of African countries. As part of her current position as Regional Malaria Director at PATH, she contributes to supporting global strategic policies, approaches and priorities for Surveillance as well as M&E strategies within the malaria control to elimination spectrum to the regions and country offices. She has previously supported relevant global working groups as co-chair of the former WHO SME TEG and as co-chair of the RBM MERG. She is very committed to contribute to

improvements of routine data quality and increase the use of data for strategic and operational decision-making in malaria endemic countries and is currently based in Mozambique since 2018 where she leads surveillance strengthening initiatives in the region.

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### **Dr Alfred B. Tiono**

Dr Alfred B. Tiono is an MD with a PhD degree in Epidemiology. He is the former head of the public health department of the Centre National de Recherche et de Formation sur le Paludisme (CNRFP). Dr Tiono has been working in the field of malaria research for more than 2 decades and has been a frequent contributor to the Burkina Faso national malaria control programme. His current research interests involve clinical evaluation of new tools for malaria control (such as malaria vaccines candidates, antimalarials drugs, and bed nets) as well as epidemiological studies aiming to increase understanding the dynamics of malaria transmission. Dr Tiono is a UK Medical Research Council and the UK Department for International Development awardee of African Research Leadership. Dr Tiono is also a member of the WHO Vector Control Advisory Group.

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### **Professor Dyann Wirth**

Professor Dyann Wirth has been a major leader in the area of malaria research. Her work has provided completely new insight into how the malaria parasite has evolved, specifically in the areas of population biology, drug resistance and antigenicity. The Wirth laboratory blends the scientific environments of the Harvard School of Public Health, the Broad Institute, and collaborators from around the globe to create a unique malaria research and training network that brings together scientists with expertise in molecular biology, genetics, genomics, population genetics, chemistry, cell biology, epidemiology, computational biology and biostatistics, as well as leading clinicians in infectious diseases and pathology. Leveraging the genomic tools of the human genomic project, the group has applied state-of-the-art technologies and novel approaches to better understand the fundamental biology of the malaria parasite and the mechanisms of drug resistance. Professor Wirth's research activities are made possible through collaborative research partnerships with investigators, universities, and clinical centers in Africa, in particular Senegal, Asia and South America.

Professor Wirth is current Fellow and past President of the American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene and Joseph Augustine Le Prince Medal recipient; a past board member of the Burroughs-Wellcome Fund and Marine Biological Laboratory; a member of the National Academy of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences; and a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology.

Professor Wirth has played a major role in malaria education and leadership training. With colleagues from the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (IS Global) and the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, she developed the Science of Eradication Leadership course and has recently led the development of a HarvardX online course, MalariaX. Both of these efforts bring the range of expertise from the Genes to the Globe together in one course.

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## ***World Health Organization***

### **Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General**

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus was elected WHO Director-General for a five-year term by WHO Member States at the Seventieth World Health Assembly in May 2017. In doing so, he was the first WHO

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Director-General elected from among multiple candidates by the World Health Assembly, and was the first person from the WHO African Region to head the world's leading public health agency.

Born in the Eritrean city of Asmara, Dr Tedros graduated from the University of Asmara with a Bachelor of Biology, before earning a Master of Science (MSc) in Immunology of Infectious Diseases from the University of London, a Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) in Community Health from the University of Nottingham and an Honorary Fellowship from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Following his studies, Dr Tedros returned to Ethiopia to support the delivery of health services, first working as a field-level malariologist, before heading a regional health service and later serving in Ethiopia's federal government for over a decade as Minister of Health and Minister of Foreign Affairs.

As Minister of Health from 2005 to 2012, he led a comprehensive reform of the country's health system, built on the foundation of universal health coverage and provision of services to all people, even in the most remote areas.

Under his leadership, Ethiopia expanded its health infrastructure, developed innovative health financing mechanisms, and expanded its health workforce. A major component of reforms he drove was the creation of a primary health care extension programme that deployed 40 000 female health workers throughout the country. A significant result was an approximate 60% reduction in child and maternal mortality compared to 2000 levels.

As Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2012 to 2016, he elevated health as a political issue nationally, regionally and globally. 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.

Prior to his election as Director-General of WHO, Dr Tedros held many leadership positions in global health, including as Chair of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, Chair of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, and Co-chair of the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Board.

After taking office as WHO Director-General on 1 July 2017, Dr Tedros initiated the most significant transformation in the Organization's history, which has generated a wide range of achievements.

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### **Dr Benido Impouma, Director, Communicable and Noncommunicable Cluster, WHO Regional Office for Africa**

Dr Benido Impouma took up the office of Director, Communicable and Noncommunicable Cluster in 2021. He is responsible for coordinating and leading the programmes on HIV/TB, viral hepatitis, sexually transmitted infections, noncommunicable diseases, vaccine-preventable diseases and tropical and vector-borne diseases.

Dr Impouma is a public health specialist with extensive regional and international experience. He has more than 15 years of experience in the development, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and coordination of international public health programmes in such areas as neglected tropical diseases, health emergency preparedness and response, HIV, TB and malaria. Dr Impouma has extensive experience in building relationships and strengthening partnerships and collaboration with governments, donor agencies, pharmaceutical companies, research institutions, nongovernmental organizations and other stakeholders in the international health community to strengthen health systems across the region.

He has written many policy papers, strategies, standard operating procedures and other guidance documents on international health regulations, epidemic- and pandemic-prone diseases, emergency operations centres, and prevention and case management of neglected tropical diseases. Most recently, he led the Health Emergencies Information and Risk Assessment Programme. He has also published widely in academic journals.

Dr Impouma holds a medical degree from the Faculty of Health Sciences, Marien Ngouabi University in the Republic of the Congo, a master's degree in public health from the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa and a master's degree in business administration with a focus on project management from American InterContinental University in the United States.

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### **Dr Matshidiso Moeti, Regional Director, WHO Regional Office for Africa**

Dr Matshidiso Rebecca Moeti is the (WHO) Regional Director for Africa. She is the first woman to be elected to this position and is now in her second term. Over the past seven years, Dr Moeti has led a Transformation Agenda that is widely acknowledged to have improved WHO's performance on emergencies, enhancing accountability and driving progress towards Universal Health Coverage. She leads WHO's support to the COVID19 pandemic response in Africa.

She is a medical doctor and public health expert with more than 41 years of national and international experience.

Under her leadership, tremendous progress has been made. Wild poliovirus was kicked out of Africa in 2020 – this is the second disease to be eradicated from the Region after smallpox 40 years ago. Investments in areas such as surveillance, training, innovation, community engagement and partnerships have improved country capacities to prepare for and respond to health emergencies and outbreaks of diseases like COVID-19 and Ebola. More broadly, recognition of the need for strong and resilient health systems to manage external shocks, like health emergencies, is building. Most African countries are pursuing reforms to achieve Universal Health Coverage – to expand access to services with attention to equity and reaching the most vulnerable people.

Dr Moeti has worked with WHO for more than 20 years, and prior to this she worked with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) as Team Leader of the Africa and Middle East Desk in Geneva (1997–1999); with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) as Regional Health Advisor for East and Southern Africa; and with Botswana's Ministry of Health as a clinician and public health specialist.

She is renowned for having led WHO's "3 by 5" Initiative in Africa at the height of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, resulting in a significant increase in access to antiretroviral therapy among people living with HIV. This helped to shift HIV from a death sentence to a chronic illness in Africa.

Dr Moeti is a great champion for women in leadership in global health and launched a partnership with the UN Volunteers programme which recruited 100 young women from the global south as the next generation of health leaders.

In recognition of her excellent service to humanity, Dr Moeti has received accolades including membership of the United States National Academy of Medicine, an Honorary Fellowship of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa (CMSA), an Honorary Fellowship from London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, an Honorary Doctorate of Science from the University of Health and Allied Sciences in Ghana and Honoris Causa Doctorate by Instituto de Higiene e Medicina Tropical, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Portugal. Dr Moeti was named COVID-19 Heroine by Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Presidential Center for Women Development as well as featured among the Women of 2020 in the Financial Times. She also received Special Recognition for African Health Leadership on COVID-19 from Amref Health Africa as well as a Global Health Equity Award from the Africa-American Institute.

Dr Moeti obtained her Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery degree from the University of London and a Master of Science in Community Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

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### **Dr Daniel Ngamije Madandi, Director, Global Malaria Programme**

Appointed in April 2023 as Director of the WHO Global Malaria Programme.

Dr Ngamije, MD, MPH served as the Rwandan Minister of Health from February 2020 to November 2022. During this time, he led the development and execution of the Health Sector Strategic Plan as well as the development and implementation of the COVID-19 comprehensive response plan.

In a previous role (2018–2019), Dr Ngamije served as the National Programme Officer for Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in the WHO Rwanda country office, based in Kigali. Before that, he spent 10 years (2007–2017) coordinating, for the Rwandan Ministry of Health, the mobilization of resources and implementation of projects funded by multilateral and bilateral partners through the Single Project Implementation Unit (SPIU). Between 2005 and 2007, he coordinated Rwanda’s National Malaria Control Programme.

Dr Ngamije is the former Co-chair of the Pandemic Fund, a collaborative partnership that finances critical investments to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response capacities at national, regional and global levels, with a focus on low- and middle-income countries. He is also a member of the Global Preparedness Monitoring Board (GPMB), an independent monitoring and accountability body to ensure preparedness for global health crises.

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### **Dr Jérôme Salomon, Assistant Director-General, Universal Health Coverage, Communicable and Noncommunicable Diseases**

Appointed in April 2023 as a WHO Assistant Director-General, Dr Jérôme Salomon oversees a broad portfolio of technical programmes covering HIV, viral hepatitis, sexually-transmitted infections, tuberculosis, malaria, neglected tropical diseases, mental health, substance use disorders, and noncommunicable diseases such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases and cancer.

Dr Salomon previously served as the Director-General for Health at the Ministry of Health and Prevention of France. He was a Member of the WHO Executive Board prior to his appointment as a WHO Assistant Director-General and has extensive experience in health systems management, communicable diseases and international public health.

Dr Salomon holds a medical degree, a Master of Public Health and a PhD in epidemiology.

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