



PLENARY SESSION 2

MAKING HEALTH FINANCING FOR UHC SAFE

| BACKGROUND

The world has advanced towards UHC, but not fast enough. More than half the world's population still does not have access to a basic package of health services, and more than 100 million individuals annually are impoverished due to high out-of-pocket (OOP) spending. Political commitment is the first step to mobilize more funding. Health can be a winning argument to raise more revenues in a pro-health and pro-poor manner. But countries also need to achieve more health for the money, i.e. to use the funds efficiently and equitably. It is essential to encourage and learn from new approaches, such as those involving digital, technological, financial and social innovations to raise and use funds for UHC. Progress requires consolidating and expanding existing strategies that reflect principles of good practice, while managing the political as well as technical challenges to implementation. The SAFE (Sustainable, Adequate, Fair, Efficient) approach to health financing offers useful guidance for the way forward.

| OBJECTIVES

The plenary session will introduce the subtheme and set the stage for the following parallel sessions by (a) conveying key technical messages on health financing; (b) framing a debate among high-level panelists representing different stakeholders and thematic viewpoints, and (c) eliciting reactions and responses from the audience.



Moderator

Kara Hanson

Professor

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
United Kingdom

Kara Hanson is Professor of Health System Economics at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She has over 30 years' experience working on health system financing and organisation in low- and middle-income countries. Her research has addressed resource mobilisation and strategic purchasing, the role of the private sector in health systems in low- and middle-income countries and the economics of malaria and malaria control interventions. She has led a number of large multi-country research programmes and consortia, including RESYST, a DFID-funded research programme consortium. She is co-chair of the Lancet Global Health Commission on Financing Primary Health Care, and of the UHC2030 Transition and Sustainability Working Group.



Panelist

Agnes Soucat

Director for Health Systems Governance and Financing

World Health Organization
Switzerland

Dr Agnès Soucat is the Director for Health Systems Governance and Financing at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland.

Before joining WHO, she was Global Leader Service Delivery and Lead Economist at the World Bank. She previously was the Director for Human Development for the African Development Bank, where she was responsible for health, education, social protection and jobs for Africa, including 54 countries in sub-Saharan Africa and the Maghreb. She has over 25 years of experience in health and poverty reduction, covering more than 70 countries in Africa, Asia and Europe.

She was a pioneer of several innovations in health care financing including community based financing and performance based financing and authored seminal publications on these topics. She is also the co-author of the World Development Report 2004 “Making Services Work for Poor People” and of the Lancet Commission report “Global Health 2035: a world converging within a generation”. She was commissioner of the recent Lancet and Rockefeller Commission on Planetary Health. Dr Soucat did also extensive work on the health labor market dynamics in Africa. Dr Soucat holds an MD and a Masters in Nutrition from the University of Nancy in France as well as a Master of Public Health and Ph.D in Health Economics from the Johns Hopkins University.

Panelist



Holger Michiel Van Eden

Regional Public Financial Management Advisor for Southeast Asia

IMF

United States of America

Mr. Holger van Eden has been the IMF Regional Public Financial Management (PFM) Advisor for Southeast Asia since November 2016. He is based in Bangkok at the IMF's Capacity Development Office in Thailand (CDOT). In his function he coordinates and provides IMF technical assistance and training in the PFM area in eight countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. His main focus areas are budget preparation, fiscal risk management, public investment management, budget and fiscal responsibility law, treasury management, and financial management information systems. Previously he was Deputy Division Chief in the Public Financial Management II Division of the Fiscal Affairs Department of the IMF. He has worked extensively with Ministries of Finance in Eastern Europe, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. Mr. Van Eden has led and participated in more than 50 IMF technical assistance missions, including to China, Brazil, Japan, India, Mexico, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Mongolia, Mozambique, Colombia, Greece, the Netherlands, Belgium and Bhutan. Within the IMF he has had a leadership role in developing IMF research and board papers on reform of budget institutions, public investment management, and fiscal transparency. Before joining the IMF, Holger worked as team leader/project director in international consultancy, as an economic journalist and editor, and as a financial consultant for a global accounting firm. He started his career in the Treasury of the Dutch Ministry of Finance.



Panelist

K. Srinath Reddy

President

Public Health Foundation of India
India

Prof. K. Srinath Reddy is President, Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and formerly headed the Department of Cardiology at All India Institute of Medical Sciences. Prof Reddy is the first Indian to be elected as Foreign Associate Member of the National Academy of Medicine (formerly Institute of Medicine) of the National Academy of Sciences, USA. He served as the First Bernard Lown Visiting Professor of Cardiovascular Health at the Harvard School of Public Health (2009-13). He is presently an Adjunct Professor at Harvard, Emory & Sydney Universities. He has served on many WHO expert panels & has been the President of the World Heart Federation (2013-14). He chaired the High Level Expert Group on Universal Health Coverage, for the Planning Commission of India. Prof. Reddy is a member of the Leadership Council of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network and chairs the Thematic Group on Health in the SDSN. Prof. Reddy is a member of the Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition. He has published more than 500 scientific papers. His several honours include WHO Director General's Award and Luther Terry Medal of American Cancer Society for Outstanding Contributions to global tobacco control and the Queen Elizabeth Medal for health promotion. He was conferred Padma Bhushan by the President of India in 2005. He has received honorary doctorates from the Universities of London, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Lausanne and two Indian Universities.



Panelist

Lydia DsaneSelby

Chief Executive

National Health Insurance Authority
Ghana

A Medical Doctor by profession with a specialty in ENT, Dr. Lydia Dsane-Selby is a product of the University of Ghana Medical School. She is currently the Chief Executive of the NHIA. She has 12 years' experience with the organisation including 4 years each as the Director Clinical Audit and Director Claims Management and 2 years as the Deputy Chief Executive, Operations. She has played an integral part in several key innovations: the development of the DRG payment mechanism, the development of the accreditation tools and process, the introduction of clinical audits with the development of tools and a manual, the introduction of e-claims with business rules for cost containment and the use of mobile technology to renew membership & authentication of members at provider sites.

She is currently the co-convener of the Joint Learning Network – a network of 34 countries who are striving to achieve UHC through peer learning and knowledge co-creation. She is the co-author of 2 publications and several articles around health financing & UHC.



Panelist

Yasuhisa Shiozaki

Member of the House of Representatives

Japan

Japan

Yasuhisa Shiozaki is serving his eighth term as a Member of the House of Representatives, as a member of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). He currently chairs the Parliamentary Caucus on Eradication of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) and LDP's Special Mission Committee for the Promotion of Data Health, among others. He served as Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare from 2014 to 2017, Chief Cabinet Secretary and Minister of State for the Abduction Issue from 2006 to 2007, Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs from 2005 to 2006 and Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Finance from 1997 to 1998. He was Chairman of the Standing Committee on Judicial Affairs of the House of Representatives, and Senior Director of the Standing Committee on Budget. Prior to his transition to politics, he had worked at the Bank of Japan (Central Bank) for 11 years. He received his bachelor's degree in American Studies from the University of Tokyo in 1975 and his master's degree in public administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in 1982.

