



PARALLEL SESSION 3.5

MAKING GLOBAL TRADE POLICIES WORK FOR UHC



| BACKGROUND

Global trends in trade policies is currently a hot political issue across the world and becoming an ever more important 'megatrend' of relevance to the achievement of Universal Health Coverage. The changing landscape of global, regional, and bilateral trade agreements and practices has important implications for achieving SDG3 in enabling, or limiting, governments' strategies to pursue policy coherence, financing and good governance of the health services, and ensuring access to affordable medicines.

Current global politics of looming trade wars and sanctions against some countries can have a profound impact on the supply of life saving health commodities. This is a sensitive topic indeed. But it must be openly and candidly discussed as a challenge to the achievement of UHC in countries around the world.

This session will provide an overview of key trade policy issues and experiences that are relevant for all countries in their efforts to achieve or maintain UHC. It will focus on case studies on risks and opportunities for health promotion - including regulating health-harming industries and practices - and trade in health commodities of direct relevance to UHC. It will then focus on strategies for promoting innovation and access to affordable and quality medicines and other health products and technologies for all countries and people, in the spirit of the 2030 Agenda of Leaving No One Behind.

| OBJECTIVES

The objective of this session is to spotlight the opportunities and challenges of recent trends in trade policies and practices on countries' efforts to achieve or maintain UHC; to increase visibility about the risk and benefits involved, share lessons learnt, and to discuss concrete actions that must be taken in the interest of the lives of people.



Moderator

Tenu Avafia

Team Leader, Human Rights, Law and Treatment Access

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

United States of America

Dr. Avafia leads the Human Rights, Key Populations and Treatment Access team within UNDP's HIV, Health and Development Group. His responsibilities include overseeing the implementation of the Global Commission on HIV as well as UNDP's partnerships with the Government of Japan around health technology innovation and access including the UNDP-led Access and Delivery Partnership. Before joining UNDP, he worked at the Trade Law Centre for Southern Africa focusing on regional and multilateral trade negotiations and regional integration. He also worked with the Legal Assistance Centre in Namibia where he undertook rights-based litigation and research into socio-economic issues including the right to health. He holds an LLM in international trade law from the University of Stellenbosch and a PhD in intellectual property law from Queen Mary, University of London.



Panelist

Carlos Correa

Executive Director

South Centre
Switzerland

Prof. Carlos María Correa of Argentina is the Executive Director of the South Centre. He began his term as South Centre Executive Director on 1 July 2018. Prior to this, he was the Special Advisor on Trade and Intellectual Property of the South Centre. Prof. Correa is a renowned international authority on intellectual property and technology issues.

Prof. Correa has worked with the Argentine government and has been the Director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies on Industrial Property and Economics (CEIDIE) at the Law Faculty of the University of Buenos Aires. He was a member of the UK Commission on Intellectual Property, of the Commission on Intellectual Property, Innovation and Public Health established by the World Health Assembly and of the FAO Panel of Eminent Experts on Ethics in Food and Agriculture.

He has been a visiting professor in post-graduate courses of several universities and consultant to various regional and international organizations. He has advised several governments on intellectual property, innovation policy and public health. He is the author of several books and numerous articles.

Prof. Correa is both a lawyer and economist from the University of Buenos Aires and holds a PhD in Law from the University of Buenos Aires.



Panelist

Chalerm Sak Kittittrakul

Coordinator for Access Campaign

AIDS Access Foundation

Thailand

Biography

Mr. Chalerm Sak Kittittrakul started his career related to intellectual property (IP) and access to medicines when he worked with an international NGO, Oxfam Great Britain, in 2003. It had an aim to overcome inaccessibility to affordable anti-retroviral medicines due to the IP barriers. He joined the Thai civil society's policy advocacy to oppose negotiations of the Free Trade Agreements proposed by the USA and the EU, which proposed IP provisions more stringent than the WTO's Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs). In addition, he worked with academics and civic groups to encourage the Thai government to implement the Government Use License to promote access to lifesaving drugs.

Since 2013 he has worked with AIDS Access Foundation, as Coordinator for Access to Medicines Campaign, and continues monitoring policies affecting access to medicines, including negotiations of on-going Free Trade Agreements (e.g. the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP), the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP), and the Free Trade Agreement between Thailand and the European Union). In last 5 years, he has been involved in the civil society's policy-advocacy movement to promote access to hepatitis C direct acting anti-retrovirals (HCV DAAs) by filing patent opposition against unmerited patent applications for those drugs and having policy dialogues with the relevant government health agencies to including HCV DAAs in the health benefit packages of the national health insurance schemes.



Panelist

David Clarke

Team Lead, UHC and Health Systems Law

World Health Organization

Switzerland



Panelist

Kalipso Chalkidou

Director

Global Health Policy at the Center for Global Development
United Kingdom

Kalipso Chalkidou is the director of global health policy for the Centre for Global Development, based in London, and a Professor of Practice in Global Health at Imperial College London. Her work concentrates on helping governments build technical and institutional capacity for using evidence to inform health policy as they move towards Universal Healthcare Coverage. She is interested in how local institutions can drive scientific and legitimate healthcare resource allocation decisions. She has been involved in the Chinese rural health reforms and in national health reform projects in Colombia, Turkey and the Middle East, working with the World Bank, PAHO, DFID and the Inter-American Development Bank as well as national governments.

Kalipso led the establishment of NICE International for 8 years, and, more recently, as director of the international Decision Support Initiative, a multi-million multi-country network working towards better health around the world through evidence-informed spending in healthcare in low to middle income countries.

She holds a doctorate on the molecular biology of prostate cancer from the University of Newcastle (UK), an MD (Hons) from the University of Athens and is a visiting Professor at King's College London and an adjunct professor at Griffith University in Australia. She has held visiting positions at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, sits on several journal editorial boards and has published over 100 peer reviewed papers and book chapters.



Panelist

Rachel Silverman

Policy Fellow

Center for Global Development
United States of America

Rachel Silverman is a Policy Fellow at the Center for Global Development, where she leads policy-oriented research on global health financing and incentive structures. Silverman's current research focuses on efficient global health procurement; innovation models for global health; priority-setting for UHC; alignment and impact in international funding for family planning; strategies to strengthen evidence; the practical application of results-based financing; global health transitions; and accountability. Her research and commentary is widely published in academic journals, including *The Lancet* and *Health Affairs*; CGD reports; and book chapters, including contributions to *Millions Saved: New Cases of Proven Success in Global Health* and *What's In, What's Out: Designing Benefits for Universal Health Coverage*. She holds a master's of philosophy with distinction in public health from the University of Cambridge, which she attended as a Gates Cambridge Scholar. She also holds a BA with distinction in international relations and economics from Stanford University.



Panelist

Ruth Lopert

Director

LWC Health
Netherlands

Dr Ruth Lopert is a public health physician and consultant in global health, pharmaceutical regulation and policy, and health technology assessment (HTA). She is a chercheur associé principal at the University of Strasbourg, France, and an adjunct professor in the Department of Health Policy & Management at George Washington University in Washington DC, where she held a Visiting Professorship in 2011-12 and a Harkness Fellowship in Health Policy in 2006-07. From 2008-11 Ruth was the chief medical officer in the Australian drug and therapeutics regulatory agency, the Therapeutic Goods Administration. Previously she established and directed the Pharmaceutical Policy unit in the Australian Department of Health, and in 2003-04 was principal negotiator of the pharmaceutical provisions of the Australia US Free Trade Agreement. Ruth's research interests include medicine and therapeutics regulation; pharmaceutical policy, pricing and access; HTA; and issues at the intersections of trade, intellectual property, and access to medicines.

