



PARALLEL SESSION 1.1
REVITALIZING PHC - ASTANA AND BEYOND

| BACKGROUND

In weaving together multisectoral policy and action, empowered people and communities, and primary care services at both the population and individual levels, the PHC envisioned for the 21st century should ensure healthy lives and well-being for all, at all ages, which is to say, the achievement of SDG3. Collectively, these three components comprise PHC, which the Member States of the World Health Organization agreed to prioritize and reinvigorate as appropriate for the 21st century in Astana, Kazakhstan at the Global Conference on PHC in October 2018.

At the heart of this vision is the people-centered delivery of comprehensive, accessible, affordable and integrated health services, appropriate to local context and including prevention, promotion, treatment, rehabilitation and palliation for all individuals of all ages, regardless of race, gender, religion, language, sexual orientation, disability or other defining characteristic, across the life-course.

| OBJECTIVES

- To describe and discuss progress toward PHC over the past decade and ongoing challenges.
- To discuss the relationship between PHC and UHC
- To describe actions toward PHC transformation under way in 4 countries, and how these contribute to achieving UHC and the SDGs.



Panelist

Belinda Nimako

Ag. Deputy Director, Information, Monitoring and Evaluation

Ghana Health Service
Ghana

Dr. Belinda Nimako is a Public Health Physician with the Policy, Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation Division of Ghana Health Service. She currently serves as the Ag. Deputy Director for Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation. In this role, she supports efforts to generate evidence as well as translate existing evidence to strengthen Ghana's Health System, particularly at the Primary Health Care (PHC) Level.

She has a wide breadth of experience which spans across various segments of Ghana's Health Sector. Her most recent role prior to this national position was serving as a director of health in one of Ghana's rural districts where she led a team of over 150 health workers to provide services to a population of almost 60,000 inhabitants. She had also served as a departmental head in a regional hospital and a Board Member of Ghana's Food and Drugs Authority. She contributes to training health workers by teaching on a variety of courses for both undergraduate and postgraduate medical and public health students.

Alongside her work, Belinda is pursuing doctoral studies with the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute where her research focus is on the impact of natural resource extraction on the health system and, the partnership arrangements between the 2 sectors towards the attainment of the SDGs. Belinda intends to hone her skills further in health systems and implementation research and its application in health systems strengthening.

In recognition of her leadership in the public sector and commitment to quality rural healthcare, Belinda was selected as a Mandela Washington Fellow (2015) as part of the Young African Leaders Initiative.