



PLENARY SESSION 4

FROM POLITICAL DECLARATION TO REAL ACTIONS

| BACKGROUND

Universal health Coverage (UHC) lies at the heart of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Actions by multi sectors are essential to achieve this goal while the functioning primary healthcare at frontline, access to medicines and essential medical products and adequate health workforce are also pre-requisites.

By Sep 2019, UNGA resolution shall have endorsed the UN High Level Meeting Political Declaration on UHC. The last Plenary Session of the PMAC2020 is an opportune time to address “How to translate these political commitments into real actions towards progressive realization of UHC”. The session will crystalize all discussions at PMAC2020 and discuss practicality of translating the political inspirations into real actions. The panelists would also share their views on real actions required to achieve UHC. The take-away from this session is for everyone to act.

| OBJECTIVES

Translating political inspiration enshrined in the UNGA Political Declaration on UHC in 2019 into real actions from the perspective of different actors.



Panelist

Vitavas Srivihok

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations in New York

Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations in New York
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H.E. Mr. Vitavas Srivihok took up his appointment as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations, New York in 2018, after having served as Deputy Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Thailand since 2015. Before that, he was his country's Ambassador to the Czech Republic during 2012- 2015, and to the Lao People's Democratic Republic from 2010 to 2012.

Mr. Srivihok started his career with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand in 1986 and has served in various capacities, including Director General of the Department for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Affairs (2007- 2010), Ambassador Attached to the Ministry (2004- 2007), Bureau Director in the Office of Policy and Planning within the Office of the Permanent Secretary (2003), and Director of the Policy and Planning Division (2000- 2003).

Between 1995 and 2000, Mr. Srivihok served as First Secretary in the Office of the Secretary to the Minister; First Secretary, International Conference Division, Department of International Organizations; and Counsellor in several divisions within that department, including the International Conference Division as well as the Peace, Security and Disarmament Division.

He was Second Secretary at Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations in New York from 1990 to 1992, and then First Secretary until 1995.

Ambassador Srivihok holds a Bachelor degree in international relations from Chulalongkorn University in Thailand, and a Master of Arts in international relations from the University of Mississippi, USA.