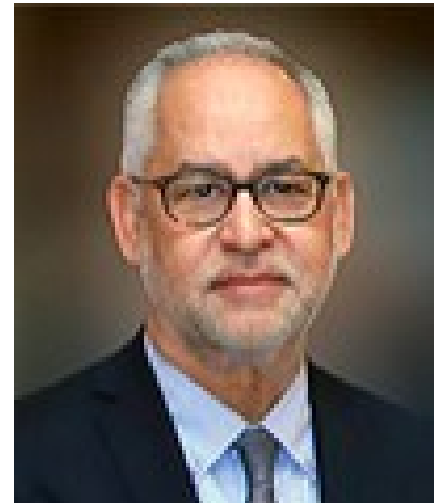


## **Health Systems for Health Security Conference – Profiles**

### **Dr. Jaouad Mahjour**

Dr Jaouad Mahjour has been appointed as Assistant Director-General of the Emergency Preparedness Division within the World Health Organization's Emergency Programme, as of 15 March 2019. Most recently, he served as the Director of WHO's Country Health Emergency Preparedness & International Health Regulations Department. A national of Morocco, Dr Mahjour is a public health specialist with over 30 years of experience in designing, implementing and evaluating diseases control programmes at national and international levels.



He joined the World Health Organization as the Country Representative to Lebanon in 2005. In 2007, he took up the position of Director, Communicable Diseases Control in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office. From 2014 to 2018, he served as Director of Programme Management, and additionally was designated by the Director-General as Acting Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean Region from October 2017 to May 2018. For more than ten years, Dr Mahjour led the implementation of the International Health Regulations 2005, and overall health security, preparedness and outbreak prevention and control programmes in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region Office and most recently in WHO Headquarters.

Dr Mahjour holds a Doctorate of Medicine from the Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy in Rabat (Morocco), and a Master degree in Public Health. Prior to joining WHO, Dr Mahjour was the Director of Epidemiology and Diseases Control in the Ministry of Health of Morocco.

### **Dr. Stella Chungong**

Dr Chungong is currently the Director of the Health Security Preparedness (HSP) Department in the WHO Health Emergency Programme. In this role, Dr. Chungong is responsible for country level health emergencies preparedness under the International Health Regulations (IHR). This includes support to the IHR Joint External Evaluations, the country planning, simulation exercises and after-action reviews, all underpinned by the one health approach. The work also covers providing evidence-based information for emergencies, building strategic partnerships for health security, and strengthening Disaster Risk Management and Resilience.



Prior to that she was the Chief of IHR Monitoring and Evaluation Unit under the Country Preparedness and IHR department, and held other positions such as the coordinator of the Global Preparedness, Surveillance and Response

Operations Unit, as well as the IHR Monitoring, Procedures and Information Unit in WHO. She has also worked within the Global Influenza Programme in WHO, as well as for the Ministry of Health in Cameroon.

Dr. Chungong has authored and co-authored many publications related to IHR implementation and all hazards emergency risk management. She has worked with both developing countries and developed countries, across all WHO regions. She holds an MD from the University Center for Health Sciences, Cameroon, a Diploma in Community Medicine from the University of Geneva, and an MPH from the University of Leeds in the UK.

### **Professor Simone Buitendijk**

Simone Buitendijk is the thirteenth Vice-Chancellor of the University of Leeds, a Russell Group University with a commitment to high quality education, a strong and dynamic research base and a track record of social, economic and cultural development. She was previously Vice-Provost (Education) and Professor of Maternal and Child Health at Imperial College London.

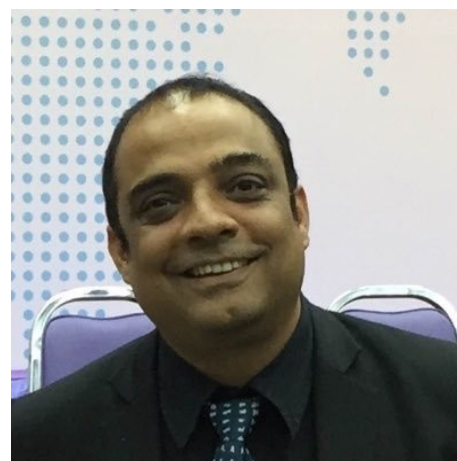
Prior to this, Professor Buitendijk was Vice-Rector at Leiden University in the Netherlands where she was responsible for education, student affairs and diversity. In addition to strengthening the links between education and research, Professor Buitendijk has extensive experience of driving the digital and online learning agenda.



### **Dr. Nirmal Kandel**

Dr Nirmal Kandel is a Medical Doctor with Master's degrees in Medical Anthropology, Public Health, and Business Administration. At present, he is a Unit Head for the Evidence and Analytics for Health Security Unit ([Evidence and Analytics for Health Security](#)), in WHO-HQ managing health security data analytics and evidence, preparedness economics, IHR benchmarks, preparedness research and development and health systems for health security.

Before this, he was the technical lead for developing the JEE tools and processes, the WHO benchmarks for IHR capacities, and the planning guidance and toolkit for the National Action Plan for Health Security. He started his Public Health career in his home country of Nepal during the conflict period, working as a Medical Coordinator for the Medical Aid Committee (INGO) and in the WHO – Nepal managing vaccine-preventable surveillance and immunization in 2004. He worked in WHO-SEARO in the health system development



department. Since, 2008 he worked in WHO Nepal and WHO Indonesia on implementing International Health Regulations (IHR), pandemic preparedness and disease surveillance. He was the emergency lead in the WHO Indonesia country office.

Prior to his public health carrier, he worked as a Medical Officer for the Department of Surgery in Kathmandu Medical College Hospital. He has several articles in IHR, pandemic preparedness, health security, health systems and various composite measures.

### **Professor Jose Miola**

Professor José is Chair in Law and Social Justice at the School of Law, University of Leeds, and co-editor in chief of the *Medical Law Review*. His research interests lie in medical law and ethics, and he has published widely on issues of liability and informed consent. His current work has centred around experimental treatments and 'right to try' laws. José will be moderating the Q & A session on the first day of the conference.

### **Professor Garrett W. Brown**

Professor Garrett Wallace Brown is Chair in Global Health Policy and Co-Lead for Global Health Research at the University of Leeds. His areas of research include health systems strengthening, global health financing, performance-based financing in low resource settings, health security, global health governance, health equity, and most recently, COVID-19. Professor Brown was a member of the UK Cabinet Office COVID-19 Roundtable, was a policy expert for the Government of Seven and Government of Twenty Leaders Summits, has consulted for the Eastern, Central and Southern Africa Health Community, and is currently working with the Evidence and Analytics for Health Security team at the World Health Organization.



### **Dr. Owain Williams**

Owain Williams is a researcher in Global Health and International Political Economy. His work covers global health governance, access to medicines, the pharmaceutical sector and health systems. He has recently published on private health sector performance in the COVID-19 crisis and on market power in sectors related to the Commercial determinants of Health. He is a lecturer in Human Security at the University of Leeds.



### **Dr. Khassoum Diallo**

Khassoum Diallo (PhD) is a statistician/demographer with extensive experience in statistics, monitoring and evaluation, research and knowledge management. He has occupied various positions in UN agencies (UNICEF, UNHCR, UNFPA and WHO) at national, regional and global levels and Academia in Africa, Northern America and Europe. He is currently Coordinator of the Data, Evidence and Knowledge Management Unit in the Health Workforce Department at WHO Headquarters in charge of the National Health Workforce Accounts (NHWA) implementation at global level. Over the last 25 years, Dr Diallo has provided technical support and capacity building to governmental, NGO and UN experts in more than 60 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America.



### **Dr. Adebimpe Adebisi**

Dr Adebimpe Adebisi is a Dental Surgeon, Public Health Service Administrator, Manager and Planner with a career of over 27 years in the Federal Ministry of Health traversing various areas of the Nigerian Healthcare delivery system, including general dental practice, manpower development, healthcare financing, coordination and supervision of Federal Tertiary Health Institutions.

She is currently, the Director, Department of Hospital Services responsible for initiating policy formulation, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of health policies in Federal Tertiary Hospitals and in the past Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health as well as Elderly care, Nutrition and Health Promotion.

In the course of her stepwise career, she has facilitated, participated in and organized workshops, seminars and panel discussions locally and at international levels. She has also held several administrative and managerial positions including the Chief Dental Officer for Nigeria from November 2009 to April 2016. She had a stint as the Acting Director, Department of Hospital Services from May to June, 2016 before her appointment as Director/Head, Department of Family Health, Federal Ministry of Health, Nigeria in July, 2016, a position she holds till 17th February 2020, when she was reposted to be the Director, Department of Hospital Services.

In 2013, Dr Adebisi was conferred with the Membership of the prestigious National Institute of Policy and Strategic Studies and in 2014 she became a Fellow of the International College of Dentists in recognition of her contributions to the development of the Nigerian Oral Healthcare system.

Her personal career goal is to use her God-given prowess in transforming inefficient systems to internationally acceptable performance standards pivoted on cost effective models. In the COVID-19 response, she has coordinated the case management pillar nationally



### **Dr. Marc Ho**

Dr Marc Ho is a Technical Officer with the Health Security Preparedness Department of the World Health Organization Headquarters in Geneva, where he primarily works on urban health emergency preparedness and strengthening health systems for health security. Prior to joining WHO, Marc led policy development and operational response for both communicable and non-communicable diseases, and was the International Health Regulations focal point at the Ministry of Health in Singapore. He was previously an epidemiologist at the National Centre for Infectious Diseases and the Singapore Armed Forces. Marc is a public health physician by training, holds a Master in Public Health from the National University of Singapore, and is a fellow at the Academy of Medicine in Singapore.



### **Dr. Luc Tsachoua**

Dr Luc Tsachoua is a Technical Officer with the Unit Evidence and Analytics for Health Security of the World Health Organization Headquarters in Geneva. He is mainly working on strengthening of health systems for health security. Prior to joining WHO, Dr Luc worked as a technical expert for the Federal Ministry of Health in Belgium. He led policy development and operational response for disasters and public health emergencies. He was part of the unit of the IHR National Focal Point working on the strengthening of National capacities to prevent, detect, and respond to public health emergencies in Belgium and supporting countries abroad. He was previously a general practitioner and family doctor in Cameroon.



Luc holds a Doctorate of Medicine from the Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy of Bamako (Mali), and a Master degree in Public Health and epidemiology from the School of Public Health of the Brussels Free University (Belgium).

### **Dr. Rebecca King**

Dr Rebecca King leads a portfolio of research, which brings together her expertise in participatory community-based interventions, the importance of embedding approaches within the existing health infrastructure, and



the critical need to address antimicrobial resistance globally. She co-leads a global network of researchers and practitioners working to address AMR through community engagement (CE4AMR).

### **Dr. Anthony Ofosu**

Anthony Ofosu, a public health physician from Ghana with interest in health system strengthening and delivering health care to remote rural communities, as well as using information communication technology to address service bottlenecks. He attended the University of Ghana Medical School and University of Ghana School of Public Health, where he obtained his medical degree and Masters in Public Health degree respectively. He was a Population and Leadership Fellow at the University of Washington Seattle from 2001-2002.

He holds a Masters degree in Epidemiology from the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. He is a fellow of the Ghana College of Physicians. He has coauthored and published peer reviewed articles on various public health topics. He led the implementation of the nation-wide deployment of an integrated national health information system using the dhis2. He also led in the deployment of the etracker for TB, HIV and maternal and child health services in the health sector. He has held various management positions in the Ghana Health Service.

He was the District Director for Berekum District and Sene District from 1995 to 2010. He was the pioneer Medical Superintendent for the Sene District Hospital in Bona East Region. He was the Deputy Director for Information Monitoring and Evaluation in the Policy Planning Monitoring and Evaluation Division of the Ghana Health Service from 2012 to 2019. He is currently the Deputy Director-General of the Ghana Health Service

### **Jessica Martini**

Jessica Martini is lecturer at the School of Public Health of the Université libre de Bruxelles (Belgium), where she is in charge of an advanced course on health system analysis. She has a multidisciplinary background in political science, development studies and public health. Her PhD thesis explored factors associated with the participation of patient associations to the fight against diabetes in Mali, West Africa. She was involved in policy research projects supporting the Belgian development cooperation on issues related to aid effectiveness. Her current research interests include global health, governance of health systems, as well as preparedness and response to health crises.



### **Angkana Lekagul**

POSITION: Researcher, International Health Policy Program, Thailand (IHPP)

EDUCATION:

2005: DVM, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Chulalongkorn University.

2008: Graduate Diploma of Veterinary Clinical Science; Faculty of Veterinary Science, Chulalongkorn University.

2014: Certificate in One Health, University of Florida

2020: PhD, Infectious and Tropical Diseases, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

She received her DVM and a post-graduate degree in pathology from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. Six years as a wildlife pathologist at the Zoological Park Organization, she contributed to the understanding of wildlife diseases, informed prevention and treatment policies including the development of molecular laboratory for the diagnosis of Chytridiomycosis in amphibians, the establishment of Thailand Elephant tuberculosis Task Force, strengthen the management of Melioidosis in zoo animals. Also, she was a program manager for the Field Epidemiology Training Program for wildlife veterinarian in 2010-2012 to improve capacities of surveillance and responses to wildlife diseases and collaboration with human sector.



### **Dr. Papa Serigne Seck**

Senior Advisor to the President of the Republic of Senegal  
Dr. Papa Seck is a One Health leader. Veterinarian, he is specialized in Epidemiology and Virology and graduated in Global Health Diplomacy from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (The Graduate Institute Geneva). He is currently, since June 2019, Senior Technical Advisor to the President Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal, in charge of Animal Health, Livestock and Fisheries. Dr. Seck is Focal Point to the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) where Senegal is a permanent member of the Steering Group and currently a member of the Covid-19 national management Committee.

Prior to his appointment by the President of Senegal, he worked to the Prime Minister office as Senior Technical Advisor for seven years during which he had to serve two Prime Ministers. Papa Seck has co-led the Senegal National One Health Platform and as pioneer in the implementation of the One



Health approach in Senegal, he is co-leading for Senegal, the Multisectoral-collaboration SubGroup of the Global Alliance for Health Security (former JEE Global Alliance) and the ZDAP (Zoonotic Diseases Actions Package) of the GHSA.

Before working for the Government of Senegal, Papa Seck had some international positions and missions as Technical Assistant at the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) in Paris, in the Coordination Unit of the OIE World Fund for Animal Health and Welfare. Dr. Seck joined the OIE in 2005 where he firstly had in charge the VCIA (Veterinary Critically Important Antimicrobials) dossier of the FAO/OIE/WHO joint Project on Antimicrobial Resistance. From OIE, he worked successively as Consultant for the World Bank at the ALive Platform (Partnership for Livestock Development, Poverty Alleviation and Sustainable Economic Growth in Africa) as member of the Team Experts Epidemiology in charge of the Feasibility study for establishing epidemiology networks for HPAI and other Transboundary Animal Diseases in Africa, and for AU-IBAR (African Union – InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources) as leading expert in charge of the elaboration of a costed roadmap for the establishment of epidemiosurveillance network for TADs and Zoonoses in Africa.

Dr. Seck went back to his home country Senegal, in 2009 where he worked as Researcher at the Senegalese Institute for Agronomic Research (ISRA) and to his veterinary school where he participated in the training of veterinary medicine students; and the training of students in master of public health at the University Cheikh Anta Diop of Dakar. Papa Seck is a Cochran Fellowship Alumni from Colorado State University with the USDA/FAS Program in Animal Disease Surveillance.

### **Dr. Pasi Pohjola**

Dr. Pasi Pohjola is currently a director responsible for the Covid-19 strategy at the Ministry of social affairs and health, Finland. Before the pandemic, Dr. Pohjola acted as the head of department of steering, a department responsible for the national steering of social and health care system. He has a PhD in social sciences and has a long working history in public social and health care system steering and development.



### **Dr. Christopher McCabe**





Dr. Christopher McCabe is CEO of the Institute of Health Economics (IHE) and is Professor of Health Economics at the University of Alberta. He has 30 years experience as an academic health economist in the UK and Canada. He has previously held Chairs in Health Economics at the Universities of Sheffield, Warwick and Leeds. He was founding Director of the NICE Decision Support Unit and the Academic Unit of Health Economics. He is Principle Investigator on the One Society Emerging Infectious Disease Modelling Network funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, and chaired the Royal Society of Canada Working Group on Economic Recovery from COVID.

**Prof. Roger Yat-nork CHUNG**

Dr. Chung joined the School of Public Health and Primary Care (SPHPC) of the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) in 2011. Using the lens of biomedical ethics and justice, his research aims to empirically inquire into the social determinants of health inequalities (including poverty and health, migrants' health, rare diseases patients' health), as well as aging-related issues on multimorbidity and long-term/end-of-life care, and to utilize such evidence to inform health services and policy, domestically and beyond.

Dr. Chung is the founding Associate Director of the CUHK Institute of Health Equity established in January 2020 under the co-directorship of Sir Prof Michael Marmot, Prof Eng-Kiong Yeoh, and Prof Jean Woo. He is also a founding member of the Centre for Health Systems and Policy Research, a founding member of the Research Centre for Migration and Mobility, an executive member of the Centre for Quality of Life, and Research Fellow (by courtesy) at the CHUK Institute of Ageing.



On an international level, Dr. Chung is the Vice Chair of the Public Health Global Challenge Steering Group of the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN), spearheading the direction of research and collaboration in public health for 23 international research universities in the world. In September 2018, Dr. Chung was elected the Inaugural National Academy of Medicine (NAM) International Health Policy Fellow by the prestigious NAM in the US, studying social determinants of healthy longevity. Moreover, he has served in various official consultation committees of the Hong Kong Government, including the Domestic Health Accounts and Thematic Household Survey of the Food and Health Bureau, and has been involved in two Government commissioned projects on elderly/end-of-life care and healthcare resource

allocation exercise. He was a principal investigator of a Hospital Authority consultancy study on medical assistance programs and a commissioned study on rare diseases in Hong Kong. Dr. Chung's research has also been featured as the cover story of CUHK Newsletter (Nov Issue #507). Dr. Chung has had numerous publications including 80+ academic articles in leading high-impact peer-reviewed journals, book chapters and consultation reports.

Furthermore, he has been actively involved with University-, College-, Faculty- and School-level services as well as external social services with considerable public impact – he is the Vice President of Hong Kong Life and Death Studies Association (香港生死學協會), a social enterprise integrating professional knowledge and ideas from a wide range of young professionals in innovating life and death education, advance care planning, long-term care and after-death arrangements in Hong Kong; and he is a co-host of the only “Life and Death Education” Radio Program in Hong Kong. In 2019, he co-edited a best-selling and award-winning book “What Life and Death Education Talks About” (《生死教育講呢啲》). Apart from his academic life, he is also an award-winning and celebrated recording artist/producer.

Dr. Chung obtained the Bachelor degree in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University and Master of Health Science from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in the US in 2005. He further received his Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree from the School of Public Health of the University of Hong Kong in 2011, with his study on the impact of socioeconomic development on population health, from which he also won the Presidential Award for Best Oral Presentation from the Hong Kong College of Community Medicine.

**Prof. Eng-kiong YEOH, GBS, OBE, JP**

Professor Yeoh is Professor of Public Health and Director of the Centre for Health Systems and Policy Research. He was Director of the School from 2014-2020. His research is in health systems, services and policy with an interest in applying systems thinking in studying how the complex components of health systems interact and interrelate to improve



health. He has a vast experience and knowledge in health systems research and in social and elderly services. Prof Yeoh is currently the Principle Investigator of 2 commissioned studies (i) to investigate Hong Kong's early detection, assessment and response system to COVID-19, and (ii) to evaluate a new primary care initiative – an innovative district health system in Hong Kong. He also completed a study to evaluate the impact of a government elderly healthcare voucher schemes on healthcare utilization, and a study to review, develop and pilot integrated health service models for an ageing population. He has been commissioned by the Social Welfare Department to evaluate two pilot projects on (a) Residential Care Service Voucher for the Elderly and (b) Support for Elderly Persons Discharged from Public Hospitals after Treatment with an aim to enhance the residential care and transitional care services for the elderly. He has just completed a commissioned study by the Macao Health Bureau to assess their population healthcare needs so as to inform the planning of services and resources necessary to meet the changing health needs of Macao population. In addition, the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust has funded him to conduct a research to promote intergenerational cohesion and population health through launching theoretical-and-evidence-based intergenerational programs with the collaboration of NGOs in the community. He is a member of the Research Council of Our Hong Kong Foundation and led 2 health policy research projects for the Foundation, namely An Investment for the Celebration of Aging, and Fit for Purpose: A Health System for the 21st Century.

Internationally, he is involved in collaborative work with research networks such as the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN), the Association of Pacific Rim Universities and Asia Pacific Network for Health Systems Strengthening (ANHSS) in studies on health systems and training for policy. He also supports the work in health system of the Western Pacific Region of World Health Organization undertaking commissioned research and as Temporary Advisor to provide technical support for strengthening health systems. He has provided consultancy reports on governance and hospital planning.

Prior to joining The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Professor Yeoh was Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region between 1999 and 2004. As Secretary, he established systems in health care delivery, financing and quality assurance for a vision of “a lifelong investment in health”. He modernised the capabilities of the health system to deal with potential outbreaks of infectious disease. In the Welfare portfolio, he instituted changes in funding providers and in the organisation of services which would improve outputs and outcomes.

From 1990 – 1999, Professor Yeoh was head & the first Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Hospital Authority with the responsibility of the management and transformation of the public hospital system. The greatest impact of Professor Yeoh's work as Chief Executive was in transforming the entire public system into one which embraced new values of being patient-centred, a focus on outcomes, an emphasis on quality and initiative in clinical governance. He was President of the International Hospital Federation from 2001 – 2003 and was awarded the Hospital Management Asia Lifetime Achievement Award in 2002.

As a clinician, he pioneered public health programmes in the prevention of Hepatitis B and HIV/AIDS. Professor Yeoh has held many key positions in professional bodies, both locally

and internationally. He was awarded JP in 1993, OBE in 1997 by the Hong Kong Government and GBS in 2005 by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in recognition of his public service.

### **Abdul Ghani**

Abdul Ghani is a citizen of Afghanistan and lives in Kabul. He is a medical doctor by profession. He completed his Master in Public Health from Roehampton University UK online in 2020. He started his career with National NGO in one of the remote province of Afghanistan as a Health Management Information System officer in 2004 and in Oct, 2005 he was appointed as the program manager of primary health care project. In January, 2008 he joined an international organization as M&E Coordinator and later on promoted as Health Director. He also worked program health M&E specialist with UNOPS as part of Local funding Agent (LFA) for GFATM programs in Afghanistan. Currently He is working National Professional Officer at WHO country office Afghanistan with focus on HIS and serve as country PHCMI focal point.

Abdul Ghani is a founding member of the Community of Evaluators (COE) of South Asia served as Governing Board Member for one term.

### **Dr Deepak Polpakara,**

Team Lead – Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI) Surveillance, Immunization Technical Support Unit, India

Dr Deepak Polpakara is a medical doctor with a Master's degree in Public Health. He has more than 20 years' experience in polio surveillance, RCH and immunization and vaccine pharmacovigilance in India working with organizations such as WHO, UNICEF and other non-government organizations at district, provincial and national levels. Since 2013, he has been working on Adverse Events Following Immunization and vaccine safety at the AEFI Secretariat, Immunization Technical Support Unit. Currently, he is working as Team Lead for AEFI surveillance.

### **Junxiong TEO**

Junxiong has more than a decade of professional experience in public health. He has held various portfolios including infectious diseases surveillance, outbreak management, planning and implementing healthcare infrastructure and primary care policies. He was part of the team coordinating Singapore's response to the H1N1 pandemic in 2009. He was also instrumental in establishing Singapore's first National Public Health Laboratory which is the country's dedicated diagnostic public health laboratory for routine





surveillance and pandemic threat detection. He was also the lead policy officer in the establishment of National Centre for Infectious Diseases - Singapore's national isolation facility for outbreaks containment. As part of Singapore's contributions to global health, Junxiong also spent a year seconded to the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland where he supported the international response coordinated by WHO during the Ebola outbreak in West Africa in 2015. Junxiong currently holds two portfolios – one managing Singapore-WHO engagements and the other as a health attache in Geneva. For his contributions, Junxiong was conferred the Minister for Health Award in 2008 for outstanding public health performance in managing Singapore's first Chikungunya outbreak. He was also conferred the Permanent Secretary (Health) Award in 2009 for his contributions to the national response to H1N1 pandemic. Junxiong graduated with Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Life Sciences from the National University of Singapore. He later obtained a Master of Science in Epidemiology and Diploma Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine – under the Chevening Scholarship and the Ministry of Health Singapore Postgraduate Scholarship

### **Dalia Samhouri, PhD, MPH**

Regional Manager, Emergency Preparedness and International Health Regulations  
Health Emergencies Programme, World Health organization  
Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean  
Cairo, Egypt

Dr. Dalia Samhouri is a regionally and globally known expert in the area of public health with an extensive experience at the scientific, policy, and managerial levels. Dr Samhouri has been working with WHO for 17 years with a strong focus on global health issues. She has been working closely with the 22

countries of the Eastern Mediterranean Region, and collaborating with other UN agencies, international organizations, and technical and academic institutions.

Since joining WHO, Dr. Samhouri has led extensive and repeated missions to the 22 countries of the region to assess and strengthen surveillance, risk assessment and response to Influenza, MERS-CoV, Ebola, Zika, the current COVID-19 and other communicable diseases; scale up national capacities at points of entry and in the context of mass gatherings and population movements; and build emergency care systems. At a border scale, building national capacities for health systems and health security.

Dr Samhouri has a PhD degree in Biomedical Science (Global Health) from the University of Geneva, Switzerland and a Master's degree of Public Health (Epidemiology/Biostatistics) from Tulane University in the United States.

