

# WHY INVESTING IN MATERNAL, NEWBORN AND CHILD HEALTH (MNCH) IS CRITICAL FOR SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY AFTER COVID-19

22-24 March 2021



## THE ORGANISING BOARD

Mark Hanson, Chair

Flavia Bustreo

Gian Carlo Di Renzo

Linda Giudice

Ariadne Malamitsi-Puchner

Neena Modi

## SCIENTIFIC SECRETARIAT

Despina Briana

Chandni Maria Jacob

## Venice Forum: Why investing in Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) is critical for sustainable recovery after COVID-19

**Format:** In each session we will invite the panellists to speak for 5-10 minutes, to highlight what they see as the main issues for that theme and the concept document to inform policy, which will be one of the outputs from the meeting. A draft of this document will be pre-circulated before the meeting. The presentations will be followed by panel discussion led by the Chairs. We intend to record the sessions, and to encourage observers from a range of networks and organisations to register. They may post questions using the Zoom Q&A function which the Chairs may pose to the panellists.

**Times are UK GMT**

**Agreed panellists and those still to be confirmed (tbc):**

### INTRODUCTION

Mon 22 March 18.00-18.15

- **Message of support from Dr Gordon Brown** (United Nations Special Envoy for Global Education and former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom)
- **Introduction to the Forum: Professor Neena Modi and Professor Mark Hanson**

### THEME A: Scientific rationale for investing in MNCH

Mon 22 March 18.15-19.45

**Chairs: Professor Mark Hanson and Professor Lucilla Poston**

#### Panellists

- **Professor Sir Peter Gluckman FRS** (Former Chief Science Advisor to the New Zealand Prime Minister, Chair of the International Network for Government Science Advice, and President-elect of the International Science Council)
- **Professor Charles Nelson** (Professor of Paediatrics, Boston Children's Hospital and Director of Research, Developmental Medicine Centre, Harvard University)
- **Professor Vincent Jaddoe** (Professor of Paediatrics, Erasmus Medical Centre, Rotterdam)
- **Professor Susan Ozanne** (Professor of Developmental Endocrinology, Wellcome-MRC Institute of Metabolic Science, Oxford)
- **Dr Alain Gregoire** (Consultant Perinatal Psychiatrist and Honorary Senior Lecturer at the University of Southampton, Chair of the Global Alliance for Maternal Mental Health)

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### THEME B: New economic considerations for investing in MNCH Tues 23 March 12.00-13.30

#### Chairs: Professor Neena Modi and Professor Sonia Bhalotra Panellists

- **Ms Marion Sharples** (Head of International Training and Partnerships, UK Women's Budget Group)
- **A/Prof Gabriella Conti** (Associate Professor in Economics, Department of Economics and Social Research Institute, University College London)
- **Dr Sophie Flemig** (CEO Cattana Trust)
- **A/Prof Jennifer Cohen** (Global and Intercultural Studies, Miami University, Oxford Ohio)
- **Ms Joy Phumaphi** (Co-Chair of the UN Secretary-General's Independent Accountability Panel for Every Woman, Every Child, Every Adolescent)
- **Dr Karin Stenberg tbc** (WHO, responsible for developing tools for costing, cost-effectiveness and expenditure tracking)

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### THEME C: Social justice and wider implications of MNCH Tues 23 March 14.00-15.30

#### Chairs: Professor Flavia Bustreo and Professor Anthony Costello Panellists

- **Professor Linda Richter** (Department of Science and Innovation-National Research Foundation Centre of Excellence in Human Development, University of the Witwatersrand)
- **Dr Alicia Yamin** (Lecturer on Law and Senior Fellow, Petrie-Flom Centre at Harvard Law School and Senior Advisor on Human Rights, Partners In Health)
- **Professor Agnes Binagwaho** (Vice Chancellor of the University of Global Health Equity, Rwanda)
- **Prof Zoe Matthews (TBC)** (Professor of Global Health and Social Statistics, Co-Director of Global Health, Population, Poverty and Policy, University of Southampton)

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### **THEME D: Investing in MNCH within healthcare contexts: challenges and opportunities**

**Tues 23 March 16.00-17.30**

- **Pre-recorded message from Professor Sir Al Aynsley-Green (Professor Emeritus of Child Health at University College London, first Children's Commissioner for England, 2005-9)**

**Chairs: Professor Gian Carlo Di Renzo and Professor Ariadne Malamitsi-Puchner**

#### **Panellists**

- **Professor Jeanne Conry** (President and CEO of the Environmental Health Leadership Foundation, former President of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, President elect of the International Federation of Gynaecology and Obstetrics)
- **Ms Silke Mader** (Chair and co-Founder of European Foundation for the Care of Newborn Infants)
- **Professor Anne Kihara** (President African Federation of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, President Emeritus Kenya Obstetrics and Gynaecological Society, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist and Senior Lecturer, University of Nairobi)
- **Professor Hema Divakar** (past Chair of the Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecological Societies of India)
- **Ms Ann Yates** (Lead Midwife Advisor, International Confederation of Midwives)
- **Professor Eleanor Nwadinobi (President, Medical Women International Association)**

### **THEME E: The Venice Forum: taking forward the agenda**

**Weds 24 March 13.00-15.00**

**Chairs: Professor Linda Giudice and Dr Marleen Temmerman**

#### **Panellists**

- **Ms Sarah Brown** (Chair of children's charity Theirworld and Executive Chair of the Global Business Coalition for Education)
- **Professor Keith Godfrey** (Nutrition Theme Lead, NIHR Southampton Biomedical Research Centre, Professor of Epidemiology & Human Development, MRC Life course Epidemiology Unit, University of Southampton and University Hospital Southampton)
- **Ms Stacey Stewart** (CEO and President, March of Dimes)
- **Mr Aboubacar Kampo** (Associate Director, Health UNICEF)
- **Professor Flic Gabbay** (Vice President, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine, London)
- **Professor Robyn Norton** (Executive Director, The George Institute for Global Health and Chair of Global Health, Imperial College London)

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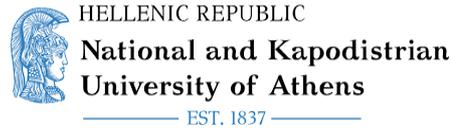
Despina Briana

Chandni Maria Jacob

## Conclusions

15:00-15:15

Summary of meeting highlights and plan for a road map Ms Helga Fogstad (Executive Director, Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health) and Mark Hanson (Chair)



UNIVERSITY OF  
**Southampton**



NIHR Southampton  
Biomedical Research Centre

