

Forum on the Implementation of Anti-AIDS Therapies in the Developing World

Friday, June 22, 2001

Select biographies of attendees - in alphabetical order

Dirk Buyse, MD

International Program Officer

Call to Action Project

Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation

Dr. Buyse is a physician with post-graduate training in tropical medicine and a Masters Degree in health policy. He has extensive experience in program management in developing countries. He spent several years working with the Ministry of Health in the Democratic Republic of Congo, with responsibility for management of programs to control trypanosomiasis (sleeping sickness). In 1998, he attended the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to obtain his Masters Degree. More recently, he has worked at the World Health Organization with responsibilities in programs related to prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission. Dr. Buyse has extensive knowledge in both research and program implementation issues related to prevention of perinatal transmission in developing nations. Dr. Buyse joined the Foundation on January 22, 2001.

Ezio Távora dos Santos Filho, JD

Vice President

Grupo Pela Vidda/Rio de Janeiro

Mr. Santos-Filho is the Vice President of Grupo Pela Vidda in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He graduated from the law school at the Rio de Janeiro State University in 1990. He is currently a candidate for a master's degree at the International Relations Institute of the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro. He serves as a member of the UNAIDS Theme Group, Brazil. He received an International AIDS Society Young Investigators Award in Geneva in 1998, for community contributions for the 12th World AIDS Conference. Mr. Santos-Filho is HIV+ and was diagnosed in July, 1985.

Joia Stapleton Mukherjee, MD, MPH

Instructor

Harvard Medical School

Boston, Massachusetts

Dr. Mukherjee trained in Infectious Disease, Internal Medicine and Pediatrics at the Massachusetts General Hospital and has an MPH from the Harvard School of Public Health. Joia has been involved in health care access and human rights issues since working with the Hmong community in Minneapolis during the Measles outbreak in 1989. In 1991, Dr. Mukherjee worked in Kenya providing outreach medical services for patients with TB and Leprosy. In 1994-1995 she worked with a maternal child health program in rural Uganda and there designed and implemented an HIV prevention program for adolescents which is now in its sixth year. After her work in Africa, Joia worked for two years at the Partners AIDS Research

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Center and under the direction of Bruce Walker studied the immunology of acute HIV infection. In July of 2000, Joia was appointed to the faculty in the Department of Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School in 2000 and now works with Paul Farmer and Partners in Health in Peru, Russia and Haiti treating patients with tuberculosis and HIV and advocating for the equitable medical treatment of the poor.

Peter Piot

Executive Director

UNAIDS

Nationality: Belgian

Languages: Dutch, English, French

Before joining UNAIDS as its first Executive Director and Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations in 1995, Peter was Associate Director at the World Health Organization Global Programme on AIDS (WHO/GPA). He was Professor of Microbiology and Head of the Department of Infection and Immunity at the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Belgium, from 1980 to 1992, focusing on research, training and technical co-operation on HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, women's reproductive health and tuberculosis in the developing world. He also launched a series of joint projects throughout Africa, including Projet SIDA in Kinshasa, Zaire, which was the first international HIV/AIDS project to be established in the developing world.

Born in 1949, Peter is the author of 12 books and over 500 scientific articles, and was the President of the International AIDS Society from 1992 to 1994. He has a medical degree and a PhD in microbiology and has held Associate Professorships in Public Health, and in Microbiology at the Free University of Brussels and the University of Nairobi, Kenya, respectively. He was Senior Fellow at the University of Washington, Seattle, from 1978 to 1979, researching infectious diseases, and was one of the discoverers of the Ebola virus in Zaire in 1976.

Bernard Pecoul, MD, MPH

Executive Director

Access to Essential Medicines Campaign

Médecins Sans Frontières

Bernard Pécoul, MD, MPH has been the Executive Director of the Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Access to Essential Medicines Campaign since 1998. From 1991-1998 he led the French section of MSF as Executive Director, where he oversaw one hundred field projects in 40 countries. He was also a co-founder and Director of Research and Training from 1988-1991 at Epicentre, an epidemiological research organization in Paris, France. He first joined MSF as a

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volunteer physician in 1983 in Honduras, where he provided healthcare to refugees from El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Guatemala. He also worked in Thailand and Malaysia, managing public health projects for refugees from Vietnam, Burma, and Laos in the early 1980's. He received his medical degree from the University of Clermont Ferrand, France, and his Masters of Public Health from Tulane University, United States. He is fluent in French (mother tongue), English, and Spanish.

Bruce Walker, MD

Professor of Medicine

Director, Division of AIDS

Harvard Medical School

Dr. Walker is Professor of Medicine and Director of the Division of AIDS at Harvard Medical School. He is also Director of the Partners AIDS Research Center at Massachusetts General Hospital where he is an Associate Physician. He has been a member of the Department of Medicine at Harvard Medical School since 1980 and has been affiliated with Massachusetts General Hospital for the same period. He is a member of the American Association of Immunologists, the Infectious Diseases Society of America, the American Society for Clinical Investigation and the Association of American Physicians. Dr. Walker's clinical specialty is infectious disease, focusing on HIV/AIDS. His basic science research focuses on cellular immune responses to HIV and hepatitis C viruses, his laboratory having been the first to characterize cytotoxic T lymphocyte responses to both of these viruses. Recent studies have shown that early treatment of acute HIV infection leads to augmentation of virus-specific immune responses and augmented control of virus once therapy has stopped. In addition, he has been involved in collaborative research with the University of Natal for the last two years, and with this group has recently been awarded a 10 million dollar five year contract from the NIH to perform vaccine preparedness work in South Africa.

Senator Jon Ungphakorn

Secretary

AIDS Access Foundation

Bangkok, Thailand

Jon Ungphakorn is a Thai who has worked with Thai NGOs on human rights and social development issues for the past 25 years, and has worked on HIV/AIDS for over 10 years. Formerly Director, now, Secretary, of the AIDS Access Foundation, he was elected to the Thai Senate in March 2000 with the help of votes from people living with HIV/AIDS. He is Vice-Chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Health, and actively campaigns for universal access to ARV in Thailand.
