

## Intersessional Seminar on Access to Medicines and Vaccines in the Context of the Right of Everyone to the Enjoyment of the Highest Attainable Standard of Physical and Mental Health

**8 December 2021 | 10:00-12:00 and 14:30-16:30 (CET)**

Virtual on Zoom platform / Room XX Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

Registration link: <https://indico.un.org/event/35630/>

(only those pre-registered will receive Zoom link)

### Provisional Programme

This intersessional seminar is organized in accordance with Human Rights Council [resolution 41/10](#). It is a space to exchange promising practices, key challenges, and new developments relevant to access to medicines and vaccines as one of the fundamental elements of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. The event is open to Member States, relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes, treaty bodies, special procedure mandate holders, national human rights institutions, civil society, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders.

**10:00-10:20**

#### ***High level opening***

- Ms. Michelle Bachelet, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) [video statement]
- Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, World Health Organization (WHO) (TBC)
- Dr. Marcelo Queiroga, Minister of Health, Brazil [video statement]

**10:20-12:00**

#### ***PANEL I. Human rights challenges in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, with a special focus on developing countries, particularly their poorest and most vulnerable populations***

Moderator: Mr. Rio Hada, Officer-in-Charge, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Section, OHCHR

- Mr. Michel Kazatchkine, Member of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response (IPPR) and Senior Fellow, Global Health Center, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland
- Ms. Nizia Trindade, President of FIOCRUZ [video statement]
- Mr. Deprose Muchena, Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, Amnesty International
- Ms. Jane Barratt, Secretary General, International Federation on Ageing
- Dr. Adeeba Kamarulzaman, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Malaysia, and Member of the WHO Science Council
- Ms. Fatima Hassan, Health Justice Initiative, South Africa

**14:30-16:15**

***PANEL II. Global cooperation and measures to improve the universal access to health as a fundamental human right***

Moderator: Ms. Chitrlekha Massey, Coordinator, Partnership and Outreach for Social Justice, OHCHR

- Mr. Anand Grover, former Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health
- Hon. Justice Zione Ntaba, Judge of the High Court of Malawi
- Mr. Anthony Taubman, Director, Intellectual Property Division, World Trade Organization
- Dr. Clive Ondari, Director of Health Products Policy and Standards department, World Health Organization
- Ms. Magdalena Babinska, COVID-19 Project Manager, Medicines Patent Pool
- Mr. Obijiofor Aginam, Adjunct Research Professor of Law, Carleton University, Canada
- Mr. Mohamed Abdel-Moneim, Chair of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

**16:15-16:30**

***Conclusions and closing***

- Ms. Peggy Hicks, Director, Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development, OHCHR
- H.E. Mr. Tovar da Silva Nunes, Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations Office at Geneva