

Consultation on Human Rights in the HIV response
“Regional and subregional strategies and best practices”

Biography of panellists

Mr. Rico Gustav is an HIV positive activist who has been working & advocating on issues such as health financing, HIV, drug use, and also been working with marginalized populations since 1999. He is an Indonesian based in Amsterdam, Netherlands. Rico is the Executive Director of the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+). In the past, Rico served as the Board Member of The Global Fund, and worked with UN and other international agencies, and community-based organizations based in multiple regions and countries around the globe.

Ms. Kate Gilmore was appointed United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights on 1st December 2015. Prior to joining OHCHR, Ms. Gilmore was Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Executive Director for Programmes with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Previously she was National Director of Amnesty International Australia and then Executive Deputy Secretary General of Amnesty International. Ms. Gilmore started her career as a social worker and government policy officer in Australia. She helped establish Australia’s first Centre Against Sexual Assault at Melbourne’s Royal Women’s Hospital and her work over a number of years focused on prevention of violence against women.

Mr. Tim Martineau is the Director of the Fast-Track Implementation Department at UNAIDS. He joined UNAIDS in 2006, working until 2008 as the Director of the Executive Office and subsequently in 2011 to 2016 as Chief of Staff. Prior to joining UNAIDS Mr. Martineau worked with the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development in a number of country and regional posts, advising on bilateral health and AIDS programmes in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

Dr. Ren Minghui was appointed WHO Assistant Director-General for HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases on 4 January 2016. In September 2017, he became Assistant-Director General for Communicable Diseases. Prior to his tenure with WHO, he was Director-General for International Cooperation in the National Health and Family Planning Commission of the People’s Republic of China. Dr Ren has worked extensively on global health governance. He was Vice-chair of WHO’s Executive Board, member of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board, and representative of the Board of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. He has also served as member of the Strategy and Coordination Group of the Every Woman Every Child initiative.

Dr. Dainius Pūras is professor of child psychiatry and public mental health at Vilnius University. In 2014 Prof. Pūras was appointed by the UN Human Right Council and serves as a UN Special rapporteur on the right to health. In 2007-2011 he was a member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. Dr. Pūras is actively involved in regional and global activities that promote human rights based and evidence based health policies and services, with focus on mental health and child health.

Mr. Victor Madrigal-Borloz was in late 2017 appointed by the UN Human Rights Council as UN Independent Expert on Protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. He also serves as the Secretary-General of the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT). As a member of the UN Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture from 2013-2016, he was Rapporteur on Reprisals. Prior to this he led technical work on numerous cases, reports and testimonies as Head of Litigation and Head of the Registry at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and has also worked at the Danish Institute for Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

Ms. Suzanne Aho Assouma is one of the Vice-Presidents of the Committee on the Rights of the Child. She is the first Deputy Mayor of the town Council of Lomé. She has an extensive career working on health and social affairs, including serving as Minister of Health. She is involved in all issues around vulnerability of children, girls and boys, and has been a member of the association “Committee of Schooling of the Girl”. Besides other publications, she wrote on the Convention on the rights of the child as told to children by children. She was also a member of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child for ten years.

Mr. Leoncio Patricio Pazmiño Freire is a judge of the Interamerican Court for Human Rights, elected for the period 2016-2021. Prior to that, he served as President of the Constitutional Court of Ecuador (2008-2015), and as President of the Constitutional Tribunal (2007-2008). He had also served as National Director for Legal Assistance at Ecuador’s Attorney General’s Office. Judge Pazmiño is a lawyer and holds a PhD on Constitutional Law from the University of Valencia, Spain. He is also an honorary professor at Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain.

Ms. Lucy Asuagbor is a serving Commissioner of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights, where, among other duties, she is the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa and a member and former Chairperson of the Committee For The Protection Of The Rights Of PLHIV And Those At Risk, Vulnerable To And Affected By HIV In Africa. She is also the Country Rapporteur responsible for the promotion of human rights in Uganda, Nigeria, Rwanda and Sierra Leone, besides Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders. In her personal capacity, she is currently a Judge at the Supreme Court of Yaoundé, Cameroon.

Dr. Stefan Baral is a physician epidemiologist and the Director of the Key Populations Program at the Center for Public Health and Human Rights in the Department of Epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. Through this position, Stefan has supported HIV epidemiology, prevention, and implementation research focused on the epidemiology, human rights contexts, and effective interventions for gay men and other men who have sex with men, transgender women, and female sex workers across Western and Central, and Southern Africa and parts of Asia.

Ms. Annah Sango-Page is the National Coordinator of Zimbabwe Young Positives (ZYP+), a network for and by young people living with HIV. Annah manages two exciting programmes in Zimbabwe: the PITCH and READY to Lead programmes, both pushing for an enabling policy environment for young people living with HIV. Annah serves as an Alternate member on the Zimbabwean Global Fund Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM); on also serves on the HIV Young Leaders Fund Board and the Y+ Advisory Board.

Mr. Adeolu Ogunrombi, is the project coordinator of YouthRISE Nigeria, an advocacy and service delivery organisation and the 2016 UNAIDS Red Ribbon AWARD Winner. He is also a commissioner of the West Africa Commission on Drugs. A regional initiative convened by the former UN secretary General, Kofi Annan and Chaired by former president of Nigeria Olusegun Obasanjo. He facilitated the formation of the West Africa Drug Policy Network, a coalition of civil society organizations in West Africa promoting drug policy reform. He has served in many capacities including the Johns Hopkins-Lancet Commission on Drug Policy and Health.

Mr. Evghenii Alexandrovici Goloşceapov serves as a Member of the Council for Preventing and Eliminating Discrimination and Ensuring Equality (Equality Council) – national anti-discrimination enforcement body, in Moldova. Previously he coordinated Justice and Human Rights portfolio at the UNDP Moldova and was also a focal point on health and HIV, worked as an independent expert in the field of human rights in Moldova, Belarus, Lithuania and Ukraine, and served as the Executive Director of the Moldovan branch of the human rights campaigning NGO Amnesty International. His interests are focused on the protection of rights of persons belonging to vulnerable, minority and marginalized groups, including people living with or affected by HIV.

Mr. Bikas Gurung is the Program and Communication Manager of the Asian Network of People who Use Drugs (ANPUD). Bikas's understanding of the issues of people who use drugs comes from almost 10 years of his direct involvement at the community-led harm reduction and drug dependence assistance programs. He holds a Master's degree in Public Health and studied implications of law enforcement on access to health services, human rights and risky behavior among people who use and inject drugs.

Ms. Boemo Mmandu Sekgoma is the Acting Secretary General of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, which is the apex inter-parliamentary organisation in the Southern African region that regroups Parliamentarians from 14 SADC Member Parliaments. Ms Sekgoma has an experience of over 13 years working with Parliaments, in particular in advancing HIV and AIDS governance through development of normative content related to HIV and sexual and reproductive health rights such as Model Laws on HIV, Child Marriage and Minimum Standards for Key Populations. As CEO of the Forum, she is committed to assist Parliamentarians in view of eradicating HIV in the SADC region.

Dr. Olusegun Odumosu is African Men for Sexual Health & Rights (AMSHer)'s acting Executive Director and also manages AMSHer's HIV and Health Systems Advocacy portfolio. He is responsible for strategic and operational oversight of AMSHer secretariat, a consortium of 18 MSM/LGBT led organisations in 15 countries in Africa. A Medical practitioner with over 10 years' experience working with key populations on a wide array of programmatic areas cutting across advocacy for policy implementation and change, access and uptake of HIV and other health services across Africa. Prior to his foray in development and public health, he practiced as a physician for over 5 years in the field of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Paediatrics.

Ms. Eszter Kismödi is an international human rights lawyer, specialized in sexuality, sexual and reproductive health and gender diversity. Presently she is the Chief Executive of Reproductive Health Matters, that promotes sexual and reproductive health and rights globally through its multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed journal. Previously she has been working as an independent human rights lawyer and as a human rights adviser at WHO, Department of Reproductive Health and Research for ten years (2002-2012). She is a board member of several organisations, such as Global Action for Trans Equality, and the Global

Advisory Board on Elimination of Mother and Child Transmission of HIV and Syphilis of WHO. She is Hungarian and lives in Geneva, Switzerland.

Ms. Marcela Romero is an activist for the rights of trans people. Currently, she is president of the Argentine Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Federation (FALGBT), general secretary of Association of Transvestites, Transsexuals and Transgenders of Argentina (ATTTA), and regional coordinator of Latin American and Caribbean Network of Trans people (RedLacTrans). The Chamber of Deputies of the Argentine Nation named her "Outstanding Woman of the Year" in 2009 and in 2012 the Legislature of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires designated her as an Illustrious Personality. Since March 2016 she was appointed as the Regional Coordinator of the Global Fund project "Trans woman against transphobia and VIH/AIDS."

Mr. Ralf Jurgens joined the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria as Senior Coordinator, Human Rights, in May 2015. Prior to his current role, he worked in the Open Society Public Health Program in New York City. Jürgens also co-founded and served as executive director of the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network, in Montreal, Canada, and consulted on health and human rights for many organizations. Ralf is the recipient of the International Rolleston Award and the Award for Action on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights. He has a master's degree in law from McGill University and a doctorate in law from the University of Munich.

Ms. Ruth Morgan Thomas has been involved in the sex work for almost 40 years. 8 years as a sex worker, 2 ½ years as an academic researcher looking at HIV related risks in the sex industry and more than 30 years as a sex workers' rights advocate campaigning for, developing and maintaining services and support for sex workers within a human rights framework. Ruth was one of the founding members of the Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP) in 1992, and has been employed as their Global Coordinator since 2010. She currently co-chairs the UNAIDS Steering Committee on HIV and Sex Work and represents NSWP in the recently formed Sex Worker Inclusive Feminist Alliance (SWIFA).

Ms. Michaela Clayton is the Director of the AIDS and Rights Alliance for Southern Africa, a regional partnership of 115 civil society organisations working together to promote a human rights based response to HIV and TB in 18 countries in southern and east Africa. Ms Clayton is a human rights lawyer who has worked on HIV and human rights issues in Namibia, and subsequently regionally and internationally since 1989. Ms. Clayton is the co-chair of the UNAIDS Reference Group on HIV and Human Rights and is a member of the UNAIDS Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee.