



**PMAC** | PRINCE MAHIDOL  
AWARD CONFERENCE **2018**



## **PLENARY SESSION 1**

**LEADERSHIP NEEDED FOR MANAGING EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF  
THE 21ST CENTURY**



## | BACKGROUND

We now live in a world where any local infectious disease outbreak event has the potential to become an epidemic or pandemic. While preparedness of local agencies is key to quickly identify and contain outbreaks, global partnerships and international collaboration across all sectors must be effective to support and manage events. These partnerships have the potential to proactively alter the global architecture in order to quickly detect, prevent and respond to infectious disease threats as they emerge.

The plenary session will address the *Leadership Needed for Managing Emerging Infectious Diseases of the 21st Century*. It will set the scene of the global health architecture and how the international community is organizing to address effectively EIDs. It will also address leadership needed at country level for managing emerging infectious diseases.

The session will feature speakers from organizations with recent experience of preparing for, and responding to global health crises in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and consider how, as risks, environment and global architecture change, funding varies, how organizations change and adapt to tackle the contemporary challenges, and how are the lessons learned from recent challenges being incorporated into plans for future events. Speakers from countries and civil societies will bring a national and community level perspective on how to respond to global health crises.

## | OBJECTIVES

The objective is to identify what kind of leadership, at all levels, is needed to address the increased risk and the complexity of EID and AMR and bring together different partners and groups acknowledging the various organizational and sectoral cultures.



Moderator

## Sylvie Briand

*Director, Infectious Hazard Management*

World Health Organization  
Switzerland

Dr Sylvie Briand is Director of Infectious Hazard Management (IHM) in WHO's Health Emergencies programme (WHE). Her areas of expertise are communicable diseases, epidemiology, evaluation methodology, health system analysis/reform, public health and social behavioural science. During her rich career at WHO, Dr Briand has held many management and leadership roles and been exposed to different programmes and technical areas including cholera, yellow fever, hepatitis, influenza, MERS, Zika and Ebola. She began in 2001 as a Medical Officer in cholera preparedness and response. She then developed the global strategy for yellow fever, the yellow fever initiative (2005) which allowed the elimination of Yellow fever Epidemics in West Africa (100 million people vaccinated). In 2007, Dr Briand became Team Leader in the influenza programme and then Director a.i. of the Global Influenza Programme during the 2009 influenza pandemic. In 2012 she was nominated Director of the Pandemic and Epidemic Diseases department (PED). Among her recent achievements, she has led the successful implementation of the PIP framework, the development of the Eliminating Yellow fever Epidemics (EYE) strategy supported by GAVI after the epidemic in Central Africa in 2016, and been instrumental in setting up OPENWHO, a training platform that helps up to 250,000 frontline responders. She has overseen EDCARN, a global network of clinicians which developed the guidance for Ebola treatment, managed the training of 8,000 health workers during Ebola 2014 as well as the development of community measures during the Ebola response in 2014-15. Before working at WHO, Dr Briand was project director at CREDES International, a consulting agency specialized in Public Health. She led various projects on health sector reform for development banks, the European Commission and bilateral cooperation agencies. Prior to that, she spent 4 years in South America as director of a regional project funded by the European Commission to support Andean countries in controlling the re-emergence of cholera (Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela). Dr Sylvie Briand holds a medical degree, a doctorate in "Methods for Analysing Health Systems", two Masters' in both infectious diseases and tropical medicine as well as in sociology/anthropology, and a post-graduate Diploma in statistics and epidemiology. She is mother-tongue French, fluent in English and in Spanish and has basic knowledge of German and Portuguese.