



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 21st 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.



Panelist / Keynote Speaker

Mercedes Tatay

International Medical Secretary

Medecins Sans Frontieres
France

Dr Mercedes Tatay is the International Medical Secretary of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) since February 2016. A specialist in infectious diseases and tropical medicine, Dr Tatay joined MSF in 1998 and has worked in a number of conflict and epidemic settings, including in Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Burundi, Zambia, CAR, Liberia, Afghanistan, Niger, Ivory Coast, Uganda, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. This allowed her to develop expertise in operational management and medical programme planning in complex humanitarian emergency contexts. Dr Tatay became Head of Emergency Programs with MSF France, and from 2003 to 2007 she oversaw humanitarian interventions in Iraq, Jordan, Sudan, Chad, CAR, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Lebanon, Haiti, Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Angola, DRC, Philippines and Niger among others (conflicts, epidemics and natural disasters). Later on, Dr Tatay practised as an infectious diseases physician in two university teaching hospitals infectious diseases and tropical medicine departments in France until 2015. In 2015, she worked as a consultant for WHO in infection prevention and control as well as in field coordination during the Ebola outbreak response in Sierra Leone. She also took coordination responsibilities as part of the UN Country team leadership. Her teaching experience includes clinical seminars and trainings on infectious diseases, applied epidemiology, operational management emergency response and humanitarian medicine.