

Virtual Launch: Thursday, December 17, 2020, 14 :00-15 :00 CET



## Sustaining lives and livelihoods: a decision framework for calibrating social and movement measures during the COVID-19 pandemic

Public health and social measures are defined as “measures or actions by individuals, institutions, communities, local and national governments and international bodies to slow or stop the spread of an infectious disease”. Social and physical distancing and

restrictions on international travel (thereafter “social and movement measures”) have been introduced to reduce the risk of acquiring or spreading infection with COVID-19 in various community settings. Whilst the risk of infection to COVID-19 decreases, social and movement measures exacerbate the economic slowdown and can worsen socioeconomic inequalities.

Calibrating social and movement measures is complex as it has direct and indirect health and economic impacts, across different subpopulations, now and in the future, and is characterized by uncertainty, urgency, need for multiple levels of decision-making.

**Schools? Public transportation? Stores? Restaurants? Factories? Gatherings?**

**What? When? For how long? How?**

In this type of context, there is no right or wrong answer and no one-size-fits-all strategy. But inclusive decision making, systematically informed by data and communicated clearly will promote transparency in the process, increase the legitimacy of the decisions and promote trust between the population and the decision-makers.

The World Health Organization and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development describe, in their joint publication, a decision framework to assist countries as they continue to calibrate social and movement measures until there is widespread population coverage with the vaccine.

## **Programme:**

Moderator: **Dr. Tessa Tan-Torres Edejer**, Coordinator, Health systems governance and financing, WHO

### 14:00-14:10 **Opening remarks and introduction**

**Dr. Ibrahim Soce-Fall**, Assistant Director-General, Emergency Response , WHO

### 14:10-14:25 **Presentation of key messages of the report**

**Dr. Edith Patouillard**, Senior health economist, Health systems governance and financing, WHO

## **Moderated panel of reactors:**

14:30-14:35

**Prof. Soonman Kwon**, Seoul National University, South Korea

14:35-14:40

**Dr. Mark Blecher**, Chief Director: Health and Social Development  
National Treasury, South Africa

14:40-14:45

**Dr. Maria Rosario S. Vergeire**, Undersecretary of Health, Department of Health,  
Philippines

14:45-14:50

**Ms. Eliana Monteforte**, Coordinator, Secretariat of Civil society engagement mechanism  
of UHC 2030

14:50-15:00

**Closing remarks** **Mr. Ulrik Vestergaard Knudsen**, Deputy Secretary General, OECD

## Speakers:



**Dr Ibrahima Socé Fall**, Assistant Director General, Emergency Response, World Health Organization

Doctor Ibrahima Socé Fall is an internationally known epidemiologist and global health scholar. His areas of research and publication include Global health security, tropical medicine, outbreaks and humanitarian response, health policy. He was formerly the Regional Emergencies Director for WHO in the African Region and WHO Representative in Mali in the midst of the political and humanitarian crisis. He largely contributed to the reform of WHO's work in emergencies following his contribution to ending Ebola in West Africa.



**Mr. Ulrik Vestergaard Knudsen**, Deputy Secretary-General, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Ulrik Vestergaard Knudsen took up his duties as Deputy Secretary-General in January 2019. His portfolio includes the strategic direction of OECD policy on science, technology and innovation; employment, labour and social affairs, migration, health; education; and entrepreneurship, SMEs, regions and cities. He oversees the Centre for Skills and the newly established Well-Being, Inclusion, Sustainability and Equal Opportunity Centre (WISE). Jointly with the Secretary-General, Mr Knudsen transformed the OECD Executive Committee in Special Session into the Global Strategy Group (GSG) to have a strategic forum to discuss issues of global relevance, which he chaired from 2013-2017.



**Dr. Maria Rosario S. Vergeire**, Undersecretary of health, Department of Health, Philippines

Dr. Maria Rosario Vergeire is the current OIC-Undersecretary for the Health Regulation Team and the official spokesperson of the Department of Health Philippines. She was previously the Assistant Secretary in-charge of the Public Health Services Team. She also acted as OIC-Deputy Director-General Filed Regulatory Operation - Food and Drug Administration; Office Director of the Health Facilities and Services Regulatory Bureau; and Chief of the Health Research Division of the Health Policy Development and Planning Bureau. Undersecretary Vergeire has committed decades to public service, having worked in Marikina City's health office before joining the Department of Health in 2007. Aside from public service, she is also committed to nurturing soon to be public health leaders serving as faculty at the Development Academy of the Philippines and part-time faculty in Ateneo School of Government."



**Dr. Mark Blecher**, Chief Director for Health and Social Development , National Treasury, South Africa. He completed his medical training at Wits and is a public health medicine specialist. He also has a PhD in health economics from UCT. Dr. Blecher has gained experience in public sector management, health financing, planning and management through employment at provincial and national government levels. His work focuses on health budgets in provinces and he has a special interest in the economics of health service delivery, HIV and health programs. Dr. Blecher has published over 50 papers. He has been very involved in SA financing response to Covid-19



**Dr. Soonman Kwon**, Professor and Former Dean of the School of Public Health, Seoul National University (SNU), Republic of Korea.

He was the Chief of the Health Sector Group in the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and is the founding director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Health System and Financing at SNU. He has held visiting positions at the Harvard School of Public Health, London School of Economics, University of Toronto, University of Tokyo, Peking University, and University of Bremen. He received the Excellence in Education Award of Seoul National University in 2020. He is the president-elect of the Korean Society of Health Policy and Management and has served as president of the Korean Health Economic Association, the Korean Gerontological Society, and the Korean Association of Schools of Public Health. He holds PhD from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania (1993) and taught at the University of Southern California School of Public Policy



**Ms. Eliana Monteforte**, Coordinator, CSEM Secretariat, Management Sciences for Health

Eliana Monteforte has a Master in Public Health (MPH) from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She currently works for Management Sciences for Health (MSH) in Washington, DC as the Coordinator of the CSEM Secretariat for the Universal Health Coverage (UHC2030) initiative. Throughout her tenure at MSH, she has provided project management and technical assistance support to various public health institutions and over 40 civil society organizations (CSOs) in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. Her areas of expertise include health planning and budgeting, health finance, cost revenue analysis, resource mobilization, leadership and management and advocacy.



**Dr. Edith Patouillard**, Senior health economist, Department of Health Systems governance and Financing, WHO

Edith is a senior health economist with more than 15 years' experience in evaluating the health and economic impact of public health policies in low and middle income countries. Over these years, she lived in several countries in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, where she supported Ministries of Health in the evaluation of maternal, child health and malaria policies.

She worked 11 years at the LSHTM Global health and Development Department before joining the WHO in 2014 as the health economist of the Global Malaria Programme. In September 2020, she joined the WHO Health Governance and Financing Department where she leads the theme on health and the economy.



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