

Robert E. Black, MD, MPH, is Professor and Director of the Institute for International Programs of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, Maryland. Trained in medicine, infectious diseases and epidemiology, he served as a medical epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control and worked at institutions in Bangladesh and Peru on research related to childhood infectious diseases and nutritional problems. He was Chair of the Department of International Health of the Bloomberg School of Public Health from 1985-2013. He is chair of the UN Interagency Group on Mortality Estimation that publishes annually the levels of child mortality for all countries and Principal Investigator of the Maternal and Child Epidemiology Estimation grant which includes work with WHO on the causes of child and maternal deaths. As a member of the US Institute of Medicine and advisory bodies of the World Health Organization, the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh and other international organizations, he assists with the development of research and policies intended to improve child health. He serves on the governing boards of the Micronutrient Initiative and Vitamin Angels. He has more than 650 scientific journal publications and is co-editor of the textbook "Global Health." Dr. Black is the recipient of the Programme for Global Paediatric Research Award for Outstanding Contributions to Global Child Health, the Prince Mahidol Award for Public Health, the Canada Gairdner Global Health Award, the Nutrition Leadership Award from Sight and Life, the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award, and the Pediatric Nutrition Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Society of Nutrition. He was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society in 2025.



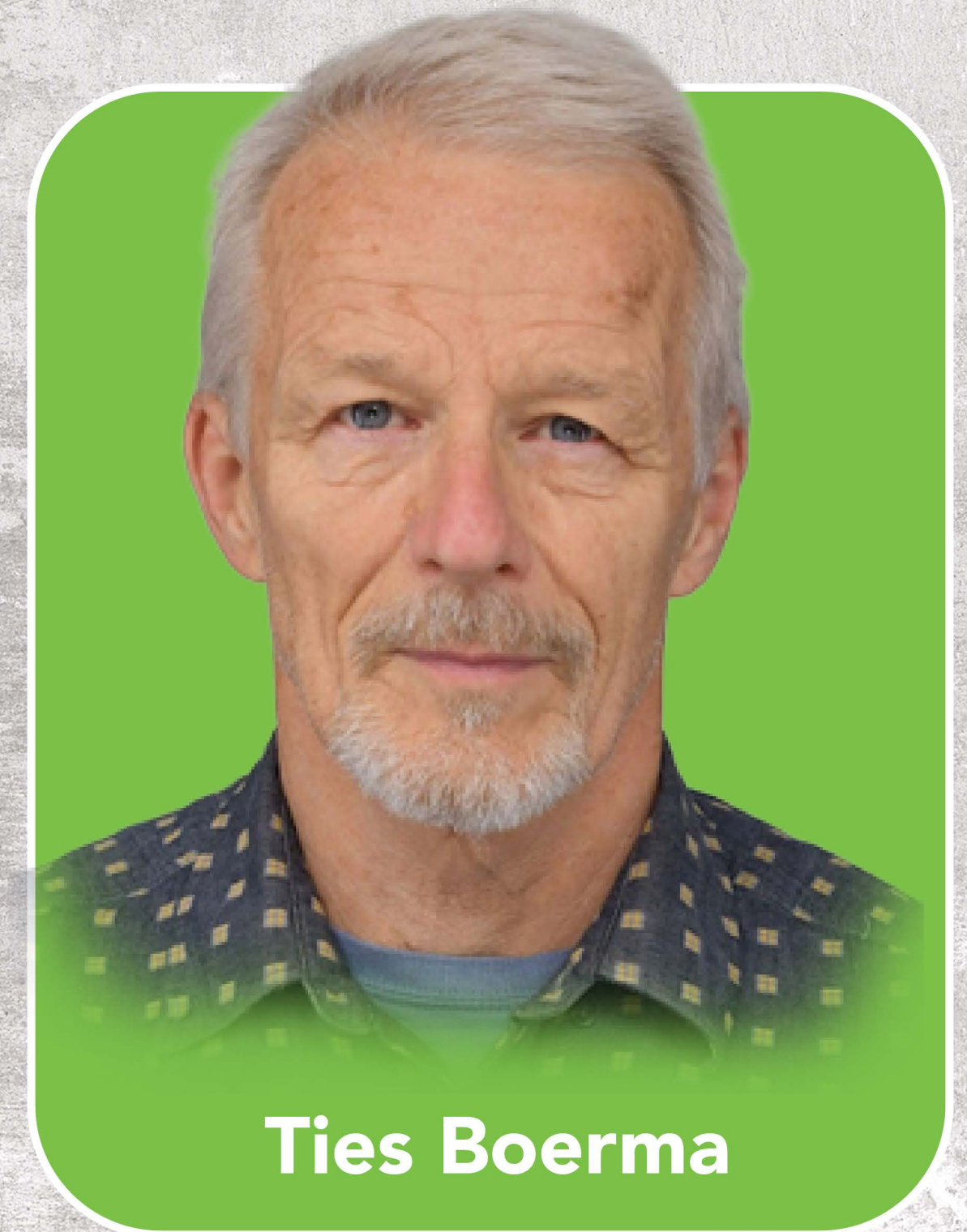
**Robert Black**

Dr. Zulfiqar A. Bhutta is the Inaugural Robert Harding Chair in Global Child Health and Inaugural Ibn Sina Scholar in Global Child Health at the Hospital for Sick Children, Co-Director of SickKids' Centre for Global Child Health, and Founding Director of both the Centre of Excellence in Women and Child Health, and Institute of Global Health and Development at Aga Khan University.



**Zulfiqar A. Bhutta**

Dr. Ties Boerma, MD, PhD, is professor and Canada Research Chair for Population and Global Health at the University of Manitoba, Canada, and former director of Countdown to 2030 for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health. He has 4 decades of experience in global public health and research programmes, including 10 years at national and districts levels in Africa, and directed the World Health Organization's work on health information and evidence for 12 years.



**Ties Boerma**

Dr. Mickey Chopra is currently the Global Solutions Lead for Service Delivery in the Health Nutrition and Population global practice of the World Bank. He leads its work around the organization, management and quality of health services. Previous to this he was the Chief of Health and Associate Director of Programs at UNICEF's New York Headquarters. Additionally, he has chaired the Evaluation and Research Group at the Global Fund for HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria to ensure that their investments are reaching those most in need and chaired the Special Committee for Large Countries for GAVI that worked on ensuring increased coverage of vaccines for Nigeria and India in particular. He led the technical team that oversaw the UN Commission on Essential Medicines and Commodities.



**Mickey Chopra**

Amadou Doucouré is a public health leader and health economist with over 20 years of experience shaping health policy in Senegal. He currently serves as Director of Maternal and Child Health at the Ministry of Health, where he oversees reproductive health strategies, and previously served as Director of Disease Control.



**Amadou Doucouré**

Dr. Benson Droti is a seasoned health systems development expert with more than 15 years of experience in health information systems, data analytics, and knowledge management. Currently, he serves as the Team Lead for Health Information and Knowledge Management at the World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa, where he also coordinates WHO's work on digital health in the African Region. Dr. Droti supports member states in enhancing their health data systems and capacities. Prior to his work at WHO, Dr. Droti worked as a medical doctor and medical superintendent in a district hospital in Uganda and as an HIV researcher at the Medical Research Council in Uganda.



**Benson Droti**

Dr. Cheikh Mbacké Faye is Director of the Countdown to 2030 initiative and Head of the West Africa Regional Office of the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), based in Dakar, Senegal. A public health leader and statistician, he has over two decades of experience advancing monitoring, evaluation, and accountability for women's, children's, and adolescents' health. He has played a central role in shaping Countdown's evolution, from a global reporting initiative to a strategic platform supporting country-led accountability, equity analysis, and the use of data for policy and action. His work focuses on strengthening health data systems, integrating routine and survey data, and addressing sub-national inequalities, particularly for maternal and newborn health. Dr. Faye works with governments and global partners to ensure that evidence remains central to decision-making and drives progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals.



**Cheikh Mbacké Faye**

Ms. Fogstad is currently the Director of the UNICEF Health Programme. Previously, she was the Executive Director of PMNCH and was the Director of the Department for Global Health, Education and Research at the Norwegian Agency for Development. She represented Norway on several international boards and expert committees and has been involved with several global initiatives, partnerships and funds related to global health. She has 30 years of working experience in health planning and development at facility, district and national levels, as well as at international levels within multilateral and bilateral agencies.



Dr. Hansen leads the results & learning workstream at the Global Financing Facility, which focuses on results measurement, data use and learning in support of country clients and within the GFF. He has more than 20 years of experience with monitoring and evaluation, health systems strengthening and reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health and nutrition. Previously he worked at Results for Development, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, Gavi the Vaccine Alliance, the Johns Hopkins University, and with nongovernmental organizations.



Richard Horton is Editor-in-Chief of The Lancet. He joined The Lancet in 1990. In 2016, he chaired the Expert Group for the High Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth, convened by Presidents Hollande of France and Zuma of South Africa. From 2011 to 2015, he was co-chair of the UN's independent Expert Review Group on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health. In 2011, he was elected a Foreign Associate of the US Institute of Medicine and, in 2015, he received the Friendship Award from the Government of China. In 2019, he was awarded the WHO Director-General's Health Leaders Award for outstanding leadership in global health and the Roux Prize in recognition of innovation in the application of global health evidence. In 2021, he received the Physicians for Human Rights Award in recognition of extraordinary leadership in advancing health and human rights. He now works to develop the idea of planetary health – the health of human civilizations and the ecosystems on which they depend. In 2020, he published *The COVID-19 Catastrophe: What's Gone Wrong and How to Stop It Happening Again*. A revised, updated, and expanded second edition was published in 2021. As part of the UK's 2023 Honours, Dr Horton was awarded the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in recognition for services to Health and Medical Journalism.



Rajat Khosla is the executive director of PMNCH. Previously he was director of the International Institute on Global Health (UNU-IIGH). Over the last twenty years his work has focused on global health and inequalities, sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality and health equity. He previously worked at the World Health Organisation and UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights where his work focused on research and normative development for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals related to health.



Dr. Dr. Catherine Kyobutungi is the Executive Director of the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) based in Nairobi, Kenya.

APHRC is the continent's premier research and policy organization committed to evidence-informed decision making. Catherine has a medical background and is a trained epidemiologist with research interests at the interface between Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and Health Systems Strengthening.

Catherine is a strong advocate for the societal benefit of research beyond traditional research outputs. At APHRC, she has strengthened the Center's approaches to policy engagement and advocacy and supported the development of policy and advocacy models to ensure timely and effective uptake of evidence in decision making. She has published more than 150 peer-reviewed papers, sits on multiple national and global expert advisory Boards and panels.

Catherine is also the co-Director of the Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa (CARTA) – a PhD and Post-doctoral fellowship Program to strengthen the capacity of eight public Universities in Africa to produce the next generation of African research leaders. She is a strong advocate for a strong African-led knowledge system underpinned by strong African research and academic institutions embedded in decision making processes. She is a Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences and former holder of the Joep Lange Chair at the University of Amsterdam



**Catherine Kyobutungi**

Joy Lawn, Professor, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK. Joy is a paediatrician/neonatal clinician and perinatal epidemiologist with 30 years' experience especially in sub-Saharan Africa including: clinical care, measurement and epidemiological burden estimates, implementation/evaluation of maternal, newborn and child health.



**Joy Lawn**

Pamela Rao is a global health and development expert with over 30 years of experience advancing health systems, including data systems and health financing across Africa and Asia. She currently leads the Gates Foundation's investment portfolio with the World Bank- Health and the Global Financing Facility (GFF) and serves on GFF's Results Advisory Group. A former Senior Advisor in USAID's Global Health Bureau, Pamela supported country-led health system strengthening and health financing efforts across Africa and Asia and oversaw global health programs across Southern Africa, contributing to major initiatives including the COVID-19 response, Innovation & Impact, and PEPFAR. She has worked with governments in more than 20 countries through leadership roles at USAID, the European Commission, and managed large portfolio of work for FCDO and other European bi-laterals through implementing partners like Abt Associates. She currently serves as a Technical Review Panelist for the Global Fund. Her multidisciplinary expertise underpins a strong focus on measuring outcomes and impact and accelerating progress in global health outcomes.



Dr. Victora is Emeritus Professor of Epidemiology at the Federal University of Pelotas in Brazil, where he has worked since 1977. He has had honorary appointments at Harvard, Oxford and Johns Hopkins universities. He has conducted extensive research in maternal and child health and nutrition, birth cohort studies, inequalities in health, and on the evaluation of the impact of major global health programs in a large number of countries. He was President of the International Epidemiological Association from 2011 to 14 and won the Canada Gairdner Global Health Award in 2017 and the Richard Doll Prize in 2021. In 2024, he was elected to the Royal Society.

