



## **PARALLEL SESSION 3.4**

**NO PROGRESS WITHOUT ACTION: A NEW ERA OF ACCOUNTABILITY TO END  
EMPTY PROMISES FOR NCD PREVENTION AND CONTROL**



## | BACKGROUND

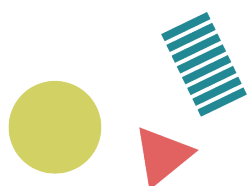
A plethora of global NCD commitments and targets have been made, but ten years since the first UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs it is evident countries are struggling to move to implementation, and the official process to track and review global progress is overwhelming and confusing. 25 outcome indicators, 10 progress indicators, and 2 SDG indicators comprise the global accountability framework for NCDs. Yet many low- and income countries (LMICs) still have inadequate national information systems, the reporting globally on NCDs is not providing the in-depth granular trends that is required to catalyse action, and all reporting on NCD targets and commitments are voluntary (unlike in the case of framework conventions such as the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control or the Paris Agreement which is legally binding).

As has been demonstrated by the HIV/AIDS and women and children's health communities, accountability can be a crucial force for political and programmatic change. Defined as a cyclical process of monitoring, review and action, accountability enables the tracking of commitments, resources, and results and provides information on what works and why, what needs improving, and what requires increased attention. Accountability ensures that decision-makers have the information required to meet the health needs and realise the rights of all people at risk of or living with NCDs, and to place them at the heart of related efforts.

This session will seek to explore if the global accountability framework and architecture for NCDs is fit for purpose. Speakers will explore whether there is ownership and adherence by countries to the international system of declarations, commitments and targets, and if the systems are in place at the country level to ensure accountability; if there is value in a greater focus on independent accountability mechanisms, as has been central pillar of accountability for women and children's health; what are the lessons learnt from other parts of global health governance and other parts of sustainable development (for example the FCTC and other conventions); and what is the role of non-state actors in driving accountability for NCDs (for example, shadow reporting and witnessing).

## | OBJECTIVES

- Review and evaluate the current accountability framework and architecture for NCDs, and explore ways of strengthening it
- Identify lessons learnt from other global health governance and mechanisms, including Framework Conventions, and their implications for NCDs
- Explore the value of independent accountability mechanisms, and the role of non-state actors in accountability.





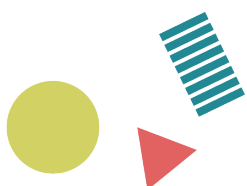
Moderator

## Robert Beaglehole

*Professor Emeritus*

University of Auckland  
New Zealand

Robert Beaglehole trained in medicine, cardiology, epidemiology and public health in New Zealand, England and the USA before becoming a public health physician. He was Professor of Community Health at the University of Auckland, New Zealand (1988-1999). In 2000 he joined the staff of the World Health Organization and was engaged in a variety of public health roles. Between 2004 and 2007 he directed the Department of Chronic Disease and Health Promotion. In 2007 he returned to New Zealand. He is now an independent global public health practitioner with a focus on the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) in New Zealand, the Pacific and globally. He founded ASH in 1982 and now chairs the organisation which actively supports the Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 Goal. He is Professor Emeritus of the University of Auckland and chairs the Lancet NCD Action Group.





Speaker

## Katie Dain

*Chief Executive Officer*

NCD Alliance  
United Kingdom

Katie Dain is Chief Executive Officer of the NCD Alliance, a global network of civil society organisations dedicated to transforming the fight against non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Katie has worked with the NCD Alliance since its founding in 2009. Katie is widely recognised as a leading advocate and expert on NCDs. She is currently a member of the WHO Independent High-Level Commission on NCDs, co-chair of the WHO Civil Society Working Group on the UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs, and a member of The Lancet Commission on NCDs of the Poorest Billion. Her experience covers a range of sustainable development issues, including global health, gender equality and women's empowerment, violence against women, and women's health. Before joining the NCD Alliance, she held a series of policy and advocacy posts in international NGOs and government, including the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) in Brussels, leading their global policy and advocacy programme; the UK Government as a gender policy adviser; Womankind Worldwide, a women's rights organisation; and the Terrence Higgins Trust (THT), a HIV and sexual health charity. She has a BA in History from Sheffield University, and a Master's degree in Violence, Conflict and International Development from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London.



Panelist

## Anna Gilmore

*Professor of Public Health, Director of the Tobacco Control Research Group*

University of Bath  
United Kingdom

Anna Gilmore MBBS (hons), DTM&H MSc (dist) PhD FFPH is Professor of Public Health, and Founding Director of the Tobacco Control Research Group (TCRG) at the University of Bath. Her work focuses on understanding and addressing the commercial determinants of health (most specifically corporate influences on public policy), and policy evaluation, with a particular focus on tobacco. It has led to numerous impacts at national, European and global level as recognised through the Public Health Advocacy Institute Award and the WHO World No Tobacco Day Award. She has over 200 publications, is European Editor (previously Senior Editor) of Tobacco Control, is/has been a member of various international and national expert groups including the WHO Expert Committee to Examine Tobacco Industry Interference with Tobacco Control and the Royal College of Physicians Tobacco Advisory Group. Her research group established [www.TobaccoTactics.org](http://www.TobaccoTactics.org), a widely acclaimed and innovative knowledge exchange platform that makes research on tobacco industry conduct available in a timely manner to as broad an audience as possible. Her group, working with international collaborators - The Global Centre for Good Governance in Tobacco (Thailand), Vital Strategies and the Union (US) - was recently awarded major funding from Bloomberg Philanthropies to establish a global tobacco industry watchdog - Stopping Tobacco Organizations and Products (STOP). You can follow the TCRG on @BathTR. <https://researchportal.bath.ac.uk/en/persons/anna-gilmore>



## Panelist

### Kul Chandra Gautam

#### *Co-chair*

Independent Accountability Panel for Every Woman, Every Child, Every Adolescent  
Nepal

Mr. Kul Chandra Gautam is a distinguished international civil servant, development professional, public policy expert, and human rights activist. He is a former Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF and Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations. He has extensive experience in international diplomacy, development cooperation and humanitarian assistance. Mr. Gautam serves on the Boards of several international and national organizations, charitable foundations and public private partnerships. Currently, he is Co-Chair of the UN Secretary-General's Independent Accountability Panel (IAP) on Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health; Chair of the Board of anti-poverty advocacy organization RESULTS, Inc (USA); and a Member of the Fund Steering Committee of Global Partnership on Violence against Children. In Nepal, Mr. Gautam serves as Member of the Nepal Public Health Foundation and the Arogya Health Foundation, and several other organizations. In 2010-11 he served as Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Nepal on International Affairs and the Peace Process. In an illustrious UN career spanning over three decades, Mr. Gautam served in senior leadership and managerial positions at UNICEF in several countries and continents. He was the key senior UNICEF officer responsible for drafting the Declaration and Plan of Action of the 1990 World Summit for Children, the largest gathering of world leaders in history until that time. In 2002 he led the organization of another major United Nations Summit - the Special Session of the General Assembly on Children - attended by 70 world leaders and thousands of child rights activists and civil society leaders, including celebrities and Nobel Prize Laureates. On behalf of UNICEF, Mr. Gautam actively contributed to crafting of the Millennium Development Goals. He took special interest in the health-related MDGs, and participated actively in the High-level Forum on Health MDGs, the International Health Partnership and the Global Campaign for Health MDGs. He was actively involved in the UNICEF-led child survival and development campaigns; universal child immunization; polio eradication, and served UNICEF representative in the Board of the Global Alliance for Vaccine and Immunization (GAVI) during 2002-2007. Mr. Gautam served as Chair or member of the Boards of several international development organizations and public-private partnerships, including the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH), the Micronutrient Initiative (MI), the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), and South Asia Food and Nutrition Security Initiative (World Bank). Mr. Gautam is the winner of several awards, including the Harris Wofford Global Citizen Award conferred by the US Peace Corps in 2018; the Martin Luther King, Jr. Social Justice Award for Lifetime Achievement given by Dartmouth College, USA in 2009; and the Audrey Hepburn Humanitarian Award conferred by UNICEF-USA in 2008. A citizen of Nepal, Mr. Gautam received his higher education in international relations and development economics at Dartmouth College and Princeton University in the United States of America.



Panelist

## Kwanele Asante

*Lawyer & Bioethicist*

African Organization for Research & Training in Cancer  
South Africa

Kwanele Asante is the Former Chairperson of the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Cancer Prevention and Control in South Africa). She taught and was the Unit Head of the Health Law module at the Steve Biko Centre for Bioethics, the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa. Asante has received several awards for her African cancer equity activism, including the Harvard Global Health Catalyst - 2016 African Ambassador Award. She serves on the 2019 Global Advisory Committee of the NCD Alliance Geneva and is a member of the Lancet High-Quality Health Systems Commission People's Voice Advisory Board, USA Asante has a B. A. Liberal Arts (Psychology-Sociology major) degree from Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, USA. And LLB and MSc Medicine: Bioethics and Health Law degrees from the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa.



Panelist

**Leanne Riley**

*Coordinator, NCD Surveillance*

Department of Prevention of Noncommunicable Diseases, WHO  
Switzerland

Leanne Riley has been serving as a Scientist with the World Health Organization, Geneva Switzerland since August 1996. She currently works in the Department for Prevention of Noncommunicable Diseases, where she leads NCD Surveillance. This includes developing global standards for noncommunicable disease surveillance and risk factor assessment; producing standard methodologies for collecting, analysing and displaying data; and supporting the collection, analysis and dissemination of country-level noncommunicable diseases and risk factor information to inform and improve public health policy. Specific survey initiatives supported by her team include the WHO STEPwise Approach to NCD Risk Factor Surveillance (STEPS), Global School Based Student Health Survey (GSHS), Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS), Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS), and the NCD Country Capacity Survey. Prior to this she worked in the WHO Tobacco Free Initiative, with responsibility for youth programming and surveillance and for tobacco product regulation issues; and the WHO Programme on Substance Abuse with responsibility for work in the area of alcohol surveillance, policy and programme development. She was educated in both New Zealand and the United Kingdom, and has an MSc (Econs) from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).







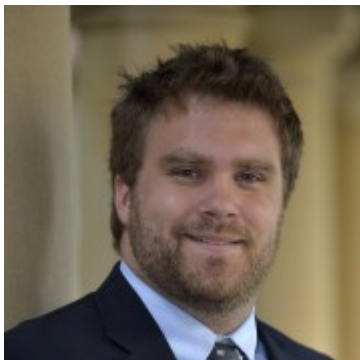
Panelist

## Majid Ezzati

*Professor of Global Environmental Health*

Imperial College London  
United Kingdom

Majid Ezzati (<http://www.globalenvhealth.org>) is Professor of Global Environmental Health at Imperial College London, Director of Wellcome Trust-Imperial Centre for Global Health Research, and Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre on NCD Surveillance and Epidemiology. His research focuses on exposure to and health effects of environmental, behavioural, nutritional, and metabolic risk factors and their interventions, and on health inequalities. Majid and his research group have conducted field studies on air pollution in Kenya, Ghana, The Gambia, and China. He led the World Health Organization's Comparative Risk Assessment Study, which was the first consistent global analysis of behavioural, environmental, nutritional, psychosocial, and metabolic risk factors and formed the scientific core of World Health Report 2002: Reducing Risks, Promoting Healthy Life. Majid leads the NCD Risk Factor Collaboration ([www.ncdrisc.org](http://www.ncdrisc.org)) and co-leads NCD Countdown 2030 ([www.ncdcountdown.org](http://www.ncdcountdown.org)), worldwide scientific collaborations that aim to strengthen the evidence for more effective NCD prevention and management. He is a fellow of the UK Academy of Medical Sciences.



Panelist

## Nick Watts

*Executive Director*

Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change  
United Kingdom

Nick is the Executive Director of the Lancet Countdown: Tracking Progress on Health and Climate Change, an independent and multi-disciplinary research collaboration between academic centres around the world. It is based at University College London's Institute for Global Health, and is a continuation of the 2015 Lancet Commission on Health and Climate Change. The Countdown tracks and drives progress towards a world which is responding to climate change in a way that protects and promotes public health. Nick is a medical doctor having qualified from the University of Western Australia, and trained in population health (UWA) and public policy (University College London). He works to engage the health profession on the links between climate change and public health, having founded both the Global Climate and Health Alliance and the UK Health Alliance on Climate Change.



Panelist

## Taoufik Bakkali

*Senior Strategic Information Adviser*

UNAIDS Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific  
Thailand

Dr Taoufik Bakkali is Senior Regional Strategic Information Advisor, UNAIDS Regional Support Team for Asia and Pacific. Dr Bakkali carries 15 years of rich experience in guiding and supporting countries in fulfilling their global HIV reporting mandates among other initiatives he works on, including national health information system strengthening.





Panelist

## Thelma Alafia Samuels

*Director, George Alleyne Chronic Disease Research Centre*

University of the West Indies  
Barbados

Professor T. Alafia Samuels is the Director of the George Alleyne Chronic Disease Research Centre, University of the West Indies in Barbados. She is a medical doctor, trained at UWI Mona. She also holds a MPH (Masters in Public Health) and a PhD in Chronic Disease Epidemiology, from Johns Hopkins University. She is an appointed member of the multi-sectoral Barbados National NCD (Non Communicable Diseases) Commission and was the principal author of the Barbados Ministry of Health Strategic Plan of Action for NCDs 2015-2019. She was the Principal Investigator for the formal evaluation of the CARICOM Heads of Government 2007 Port of Spain NCD Summit Declaration, which received the Vice Chancellors Award for Excellence for Multi-campus research. She is currently the Principal Investigator for the follow-on project, also funded by the IDRC Canada, "Improving Household Nutrition Security in CARICOM" Her research interests include policy and practice in NCD prevention and control, clinical quality of care, evaluation of NCD programmes and translation of evidence

