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# WORLD HEALTH SUMMIT, Regional Meeting-Africa 2021 Kampala, Uganda

## PANEL DISCUSSION 15, Migrant and Refugee Health

Organized by the M8 Alliance  
under the leadership of the Sapienza University of Rome,  
and co-hosted by *Lancet* Migration and Makerere University

### **Migrant and Refugee Health: An Agenda for Africa**

TUESDAY June 29, 2021 16:30 – 18:00 Eastern African Time (i.e. GMT+ 3)

Free Registration:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc5-ESawzQiUABIQcKhXQyQaonUHGWrOX7SRsGEwTBhkNfUfQ/viewform>



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## PROGRAM

Time	Item	Speakers
16:30-16:35	<b>Welcome</b>	<b>Luciano Saso</b> . Sapienza University of Rome, Coordinator M8 Alliance Webinar Series on Migrant and Refugee Health
16:35-17:35	<b>Panel Discussion</b>	<p>chaired by <b>Jocalyn Clark</b>, Executive Editor at <a href="#">The Lancet</a></p> <p><i>“Key migratory trends in Africa, and the place of migrants’ and displaced people’s health in the agenda for development “Africa 2063”.</i> <b>Geoffrey Wafula Kundu</b>. AUC-African Union Commission; Migration Coordinator.</p> <p><i>“Towards a sustainable Migrant and Refugee Health agenda for the WHO African Region”.</i> <b>Abdou Salam Gueye</b>. WHO-World Health Organization/Regional Office for Africa, Regional Emergency Director (RED)</p> <p><i>“Building a health agenda within migration governance and response to displacement in Africa: the experience of the IOM”.</i> <b>Mohammed Abdiker</b> IOM-International Organization for Migration/Regional Office for Eastern Africa and the Horn, Director; former IOM Director Emergencies/HQ</p> <p><i>“IFRC’s route-based approach to promoting migrants’ access to services”</i> <b>Florine Clomegah</b>, IFRC-International Federation Red Cross/Red Crescent, Deputy Director for the Africa Region</p> <p><i>“The health of children on the move in Africa”.</i> <b>Doris Mpoumou</b>, Director and Africa Union Representative – Save the Children Global Advocacy office Addis Abeba</p> <p><i>“The Role of African Universities in Capacity Building for Research and training in migration and health: the case of Makerere University”.</i> <b>Paul Bukuluki</b>. Makerere University/Kampala, Associate Professor, Department of Social Work and Social Administration-School of Social Sciences, and <b>Ursula Trummer</b>, Director Center for Health and Migration/Wasagasse-Austria</p>
17:35-17:50	<b>Q&amp;A</b>	chaired by <b>Jocalyn Clark</b> , Executive Editor at <a href="#">The Lancet</a>
17:50-18:00	<b>Conclusions</b>	<b>Rapporteur: Davide T.Mosca</b> . Realizing Health SDGs for Migrants, Displaced, and Communities; member of the Lancet-Migration Platform, and former Director Migration Health at IOM.



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## BACKGROUND

The *M8 Alliance of Academic Health Centres, Universities and National Academies* has put Migrant and Refugee Health on the agenda of the World Health Summit since 2015. This Panel focuses on exploring and better understanding context-specific national and regional priorities in migration and health in Africa, towards the strengthening of a collaborative platform for research, policy action, responses and partnership. In particular, panelists from key Organizations will help analyzing what the health needs of vulnerable mobile groups in the Region are, what barriers they face in accessing health services, what gaps exist in policy/capacity/resources, what the role of key actors is, and what measures on a regional and continental level would be necessary to put in place.

Globally, Africa is the region of birth of estimated **36 million migrants**, 25 million out of whom (i.e. 10 per cent of the global migrant stock, or 2.08 per cent of the whole African population), have migrated within the region. With Asia, Africa is the region of the world with the highest migration increase over the past two decades; a trend set to grow with the continent's population expected to double by the year 2050, and an overall aspiration enshrined in the African Union Agenda 2063 (*The Africa We Want*) towards a regional integration, and the free circulation of people, trade, and goods. In 2019, before the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, migrants in the Sub-Saharan Africa region have sent home through **remittances US\$ 48 billion**, representing roughly 1.8% of the global Africa GDP; this exceeds the OECD Official Development Assistance (ODA) disbursed to Sub-Saharan Africa by OECD donors in 2019 and totaling US\$ 29 billion. Additionally, UNCTAD estimates that 85 per cent of the benefits of intra-African migration goes to the host country (estimated **US\$ 215 billion**), with the rest going back to origin countries in trade and remittances. Money sent back home by migrants and refugees are spent by families in healthcare, education, livelihood, and small investments benefitting and stabilizing estimated 100 million people. Thus migration is - with full rights - recognized by the Migration Policy Framework for Africa (MPFA), the Development Agenda 2030 and the SDGs, as a factor of development. Healthy migrants better unleash their capacity to contribute to the economies of their countries of origin and destination, therefore the enjoyment of an equitable access to UHC in their countries of origin, transit or destinations not only represents the fulfillment of a human right, but is a critical factor for socio-economic development, a public health good, and a critical step towards realizing in future the Africa integration. Furthermore, sub-Saharan Africa hosts over one-third of the global displacement population, including some **7 million refugees** and **18 million people displaced** within their own countries (IDPs), because of conflicts, climate-related disasters, and land degradation. Many others are nomadic, pastoralists, and transnational, and move along transhumance corridors in many areas of the continent. Hundreds of thousands of migrants - including women and unaccompanied children - move in mixed irregular flows and through migration hubs along migratory corridors, towards medium and high-income countries within and outside the Continent; they often face health risks and death, violence, exploitation, incarceration, and xenophobia. Many others are forcibly returned to home countries after being exposed to trauma and illnesses. Finally, the volume of **internal migrants** within each African State and globally is not fully quantified, yet migration - either international or national - is significantly contributing to the fast growing



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urbanization process in the continent, including in the case of refugees; a phenomenon dense of social and health-related challenges. The nexus between migration, population flows and health is conspicuously more apparent at this time of Covid-19 which permeates all spheres of life; it is exacerbated in Africa by the pervasive spectre of conflicts, systemic fragility, climate change, the impact of irregular migration, all compounded by recurrent outbreaks of illnesses of public health concern, and the shortage of health personnel also partially due to outmigration. Yet, a well-defined regional migrant health agenda is still lacking at policy level. For many migrants and displaced people accessing health services remains a challenge, while the conditions within which they migrate, live and work in, too often act as adverse social determinants of health, making them subject to a variety of health risks.

**Mr. Geoffrey Wafula Kundu**, Migration Coordinator at the *African Union Commission* will describe the recently launched new AUC program on Migration and Health aimed at defining Policy and Programming priorities to advance a regional discourse on access to health for migrants and refugees. **Dr. Abdou Salam Gueye** from WHO/AFRO will discuss the Framework of Principles and Priorities and the WHO Global Action Plan in promoting the health of refugees and migrants, launched by the 72<sup>nd</sup> World Health Assembly in 2019, as well as crisis-related and public health challenges in the context of displacement and migratory flows. **Mr Mohammed Abdiker** from the IOM, will touch upon health aspects addressed in the Region by the UN Migration Network (UNMN) in support of Member States implementing the *Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration*. **Dr. Florine Clomegah**, from the *International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies* (IFRC), will present the IFRC operational framework for involvement in migrant health, and the Federation's work along migratory routes to support migrants in need of essential services, information and protection. **Dr. Waringa Nganga**, and **Dr. Doris Mpoumou** from Save the Children, will illustrate health challenges faced by million of African children displaced or migrating within and outside the region. **Prof. Paul Bukuluki**, of the *Makerere University, Department of Social Work and Social Administration* and **Dr. Ursula Trummer**, *Center for Health and Migration/Wasagasse-Austria* together with various partners, are advancing training, capacity development, and research in the field of migration and health in Africa, and are also joining efforts to establish an Africa Centre of Excellence in Migration and Displacement at Makerere. The Chair of the Session, **Dr. Jocalyn Clark** will introduce *Lancet-Migration*, - a global collaboration between *The Lancet* and researchers, implementers, and others in the field of migration and health, that building on the regional approach recommended by the *UCL-Lancet Commission on Migration and Health* in 2018, aims at addressing evidence gaps through in depth and context-specific national and regional research and dialogue.



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## SPEAKERS

### Introduction



**Prof. Luciano Saso** (Faculty of Pharmacy and Medicine, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy) received his PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences from Sapienza University in 1992. He is author of more than 250 scientific articles published in peer reviewed international journals with impact factor (SASO-L in [www.pubmed.com](http://www.pubmed.com), total impact factor > 800, H-index Google Scholar 47, Scopus 39). He coordinated several research projects and has been referee for many national and international funding agencies and international scientific journals in the last 30 years. Prof. Saso has extensive experience in international relations and he is currently Vice-Rector for European University

Networks at Sapienza University of Rome. In the last 15 years, he participated in several projects and has been speaker and chair at many international conferences organised by the UNICA network of the universities from the Capitals of Europe (<http://www.unica-network.eu/>) and other university associations. Prof. Saso has been Member of the Steering Committee of UNICA for two mandates (2011-2015) and he is currently President of UNICA (2015-2023). Prof. Saso is a member of the executive committee of the M8 Alliance of Academic Health Centers, Universities and National Academies (<https://www.worldhealthsummit.org/m8-alliance.html>) and Coordinator of the M8 Alliance webinar series on Migrant and Refugee Health <https://www.worldhealthsummit.org/m8-alliance/topics/migrant-and-refugee>

### Chair



**Prof. Jocalyn Clark** is Executive Editor of The Lancet, the world's leading medical journal, based in London UK. Previously Jocalyn was Executive Editor at the public health research organisation icddr, in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Senior Editor at PLOS Medicine, and Assistant Editor at The BMJ (British Medical Journal). She serves as a scientific advisor to the INDEPTH Network of health surveillance systems and to Global Health 5050, which tracks gender representation in the world's health organisations, and is an appointed member of the governance council of the CMAJ (Canadian Medical Association Journal). Since 2006 Jocalyn has been adjunct professor of medicine

at the University of Toronto. In 2013 she received an academic residency from the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center for her work on the (over)medicalisation of global health. In 2014 she was named among the top 100 women leaders in global health and in 2018 she founded the first-ever Canadian Women in Global Health (#CWIGH) List. In 2019 she was elected a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. Jocalyn holds a BSc in biochemistry & microbiology, and a MSc and



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PhD in public health sciences (with gender studies), the latter for which she was a Canadian Institutes of Health Research fellow. She is a passionate advocate for global health, the social and political contexts of health, and gender equity.

## Panel



**Mr. Geoffrey Wafula Kundu** is the Migration Program Coordinator, Department of Health, Humanitarian and Social Development of the African Union Commission. Mr. Wafula coordinates various migration and human mobility programs and policy development and implementation at the African Union that includes policy development, irregular migration (including Trafficking in persons and Smuggling of Migrants) and Labor migration. Others include supporting AU Member States in Interstate dialogue on Migration, Migration and Health, Migration and research, migration statistics and data; among others. Before joining the African Union Commission, Mr. Wafula worked as the Head of Protection and Head of Policy Development at the Department of Refugees Affairs, Government of Kenya for several years. Mr. Wafula holds an MA in Coexistence Studies from the Heller School for Social Policy at Brandeis University, USA. He has undertaken various professional courses in International Humanitarian and Refugees Law in various institution both in the US and Europe.



**Dr. Abdou Salam Gueye**, Senegalese citizen, is currently the WHO AFRO Regional Emergency Director. He was previously WHO representative in Mauritania. He holds a medical doctorate and master's degree in public health from the University of Dakar and a PhD in biomedical informatics from the University of Utah. Dr. Abdou Salam Gueye's areas of expertise include Health Security and Emergency Outbreak Response, epidemiology, use of information technology in global health, and health system strengthening. A Fulbright fellowship recipient, he has worked for the US CDC for over a decade in a variety of capacities including, US CDC-Benin Country Representative, Strategic Information officer at Atlanta, Associate Director for Science at Cote d'Ivoire, and Director of Global Health Protection Program at DRC. Previously, Dr. Gueye worked in Senegal as a chief medical officer in Kolda District and assistant professor at the University of Dakar and served as a United Nations peacekeeping medical officer in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). During the West Africa Ebola epidemic, Dr. Gueye was appointed USCDC Field Response Lead from April 2015 until the end of the epidemic. Since 2017, Gueye is the WHO lead Incident Manager of major outbreaks in Africa; leading grade 3 emergencies. He is co-founder and editorial board member of the Pan African Medical Journal and founded the Institut Mere Enfant de Kaolack (IMEK). He has published dozens of peer-reviewed scientific journals. In 2019, he won the US CDC Charles C. Shepard Science Award: This





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award is presented to the best manuscript on original research published by a CDC or ATSDR scientist in a reputable, peer-reviewed journal.



**Mr. Mohammed Abdiker**, is the Regional Director for East and Horn of Africa at the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Nairobi, Kenya. He leads the Organization's formulation, promotion and implementation of strategic responses to migration issues and trends in support of Member States and migrants in the region. IOM's Regional Office for the East and Horn of Africa covers Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. Mr. Abdiker has over 20 years of experience on a range of migration issues in crisis and post crisis settings. Prior to this post, he led IOM's world-wide response to migration crises as the Director of Operations and Emergencies at

Headquarters in Geneva for 9 years. Under his leadership, the Organization saw a major expansion both in scope and reach of its programmes, covering humanitarian, transition and recovery, and resettlement portfolios, as well as support for land, property and reparations and other dimensions of transitional justice. Mr Abdiker oversaw advances of IOM's policy and technical expertise, through the introduction of new frameworks to guide its field interventions, to navigate and respond to the evolving nature of crises and to global commitments. He began his rich professional career with IOM in 1996, working on refugee resettlement and cultural orientation programmes in Kenya and has served as Chief of Mission in Sri Lanka (2007-2010) and the Chief of Mission in Zimbabwe (2003-2007); as well as covering the return and resettlement of refugees for IOM offices in Ethiopia, Kenya, and West Africa. He has also focused extensively on IOM's Disarmament Demobilization and Reintegration programming.



**Prof. Paul Bukuluki**, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor at Makerere University, Department of Social Work and Social Administration, School of Social Sciences. He is a social worker and medical anthropologist with more than 15 years of experience in implementation research in the fields of gender, social norms, sexual, reproductive health and rights, violence against women and girls, child protection and social protection in development and humanitarian settings particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. He is the coordinator of the migration and health thematic focus (research and capacity building) in the School of Social Sciences and currently coordinating the online course on health and migration

at Makerere University. He is also coordinating efforts to establish the Africa Centre of Excellence in Migration and displacement.



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**Ursula Trummer**, Ph.D Sociology, MSc Organisational Development, Mag.rer.soc.oec. Political Science, is Head of the Center for Health and Migration, Vienna/Austria. Her research focus is on the interfaces of Public Health and Health Promotion, Migration, and socio-economic determinants of health. A special focus of her work is on irregular migration and the management of paradoxical demands in migration and health. She has built up her expertise in developing and conducting interdisciplinary projects on health, migration, and social inclusion over more than 20 years. She lectures at different universities, works as independent expert to the European Commission, and as consultant for IOM . She is active member of the European Public Health Association (<https://eupha.org/>) and the Global Migration Health and Development Research Initiative (MHADRI <https://mhadri.org/>). Ursula Trummer is project director of a Project on Good Migration Governance and Health (2020-2022) which aims at fostering the development of a community of health and migration experts in Africa.



**Florine Clomegah** is the IFRC Deputy Director for the Africa Region. She is a driven and focused leader with significant experience in managing relations and operations in international organisations and in overseeing large, medium- and small-scale programmes involving a wide array of stakeholders, including donors, partners, and employees. Prior to joining IFRC, she was the Director of Operations at the African Initiatives for Relief and Development (AIRD) - an African International NGO based in Uganda. In this capacity, she led operations covering ten countries across West, Central, East and Southern Africa. Prior to joining AIRD, Florine held leadership roles at the Worldwide Women's Forum, the International Rescue Committee, the International Women's Initiative, and GIABA (an executive agency of the Economic Community of West African States). In these organisations, she leveraged her management and strategic expertise to supervise complex operations, projects, and programmes. A long-time humanitarian, Florine enjoys volunteering and is keen to help and serve others.



**Ms Doris Mpoumou** is the AU Representative and Director of Save the Children African Union Liaison and Pan Africa Office. A child rights and social justice advocate, Doris has over 20 years of experience in advocacy, policy analysis, and coalition building on issues as diverse as child and adolescent health, sexual and reproductive health and rights, peace and security including children and armed conflicts, gender equality, violence against children and violence against women and girls. Over the past five years, she has led Save the Children advocacy at the AU for a stronger protection of children in humanitarian and conflict settings including an emphasis on children on the move. Before joining Save the Children, Doris led the international advocacy portfolio for International Planned Parenthood Western Hemisphere in New York where she helped shape among others, the health and gender equality, violence against women and girls and the sexual and reproductive health and rights communities' recommendations in the post-2015 process. Doris also served as the first Director of the





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International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect (RtoP) and co-spearheaded advocacy efforts at Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) that led to the creation of UN Women.

## Rapporteur



**Prof. Davide T. Mosca**, is a medical doctor with more than thirty-five years' experience in global and migrant health, humanitarian response and emergencies, with twenty-five years at field level in Africa and the Middle East, first as a surgeon and emergency specialist, shifting later to public health. A former *Director of Migration Health* at the *International Organization for Migration* (IOM) – the UN Migration Agency – during his ten years tenure in the position he has contributed in advancing the global migration health agenda participating at the process that led to the adoption of two World Health Assembly resolutions on migrant health (2008 and 2017) and two Global Consultations in Madrid (2010) and Colombo (2017), Prof. Mosca has contributed as well in the mainstreaming of health aspects within the *Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration* (2018), and the adoption of migration health policies at global level and in several countries. He has published several publications and studies, has contributed to several review panels and international commissions on migration health and global health issues, and has provided training, teaching, and lectures in migrant health world-wide. He was one of the Commissioners of the UCL-Lancet Commission on Migration and Health, and is a Consultant to WHO and the UN Migration Network, and founder of the advocacy network *Realizing Health SDGs for Migrants, Displaced and Communities*. Prof. Mosca is contract professor with various Universities, an Honorary Associate Professor at the UCL Institute of Global Health, and an affiliate with the Center for Humanitarian Health, John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health