



Geneva  
Health  
Forum



**KOFIH**  
Korea Foundation for  
International Healthcare

# GHF2026

Public Forum

## DR LEE JONG-WOOK MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH 2026



**MAY 22, 2026**  
13:30 - 18:00



## Presentation

The Korea Foundation for International Healthcare (KOFIH) was established to commemorate the election of the late Dr LEE Jong-wook as the 6th Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) and to honor his leadership and contributions to advancing global health. Celebrating his legacy remains one of the Foundation's core missions.

Dr LEE, the first Korean Director-General in WHO's history, championed the vision of "Health for All" and spearheaded pivotal initiatives such as reducing drug prices, expanding access to essential medicines, strengthening infectious disease preparedness, and enhancing the capacity of the global health workforce.

In the post-pandemic era, the Republic of Korea has been actively sharing its public health achievements and infectious disease response capacities with the international community, thereby contributing to efforts to reduce global health inequities.

As a nation that has transitioned from an aid recipient to a donor country within just half a century, Korea offers a unique model of development cooperation and is well positioned to build practical, mutually beneficial partnerships with developing countries.

The year 2026 marks the 20th anniversary of Dr LEE's passing, providing a timely opportunity to reflect on his remarkable legacy and contributions to global health while showcasing Korea's healthcare policy achievements and leadership over the past two decades on the global stage.

# KOFIH

The Korea Foundation for International Healthcare (KOFIH) is committed to advancing global health through international collaboration and sustainable development. Founded to honor the legacy of Dr LEE Jong-wook, the former Director-General of the WHO, KOFIH partners with countries around the world to strengthen healthcare systems, enhance medical education, and improve public health services.

For 17 years, KOFIH has proudly awarded the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health, celebrating exceptional contributions to global health and public service. As the organizer of the Dr LEE Jong-wook Memorial Prize for Public Health Laureate Lecture and Dialogue, KOFIH unites health leaders to exchange insights and drive impactful solutions for a healthier world. Through this platform, we continue Dr. LEE's vision of equitable healthcare for all.

## Agenda

### 13:30      **Opening Remarks**

*Dr LEE Jong-wook's Legacy and the Future of Global Health Leadership*

***Robert Mardini***

***Il-Soo Ha***

***Eun Kyeong Jeong***

### 14:00      **Special Keynote Address**

*From Past to Future: Public Intelligence in Future Health System*

***Jiho Cha***

# Agenda

**14:20      Session 1**

*Laureate Lecture  
Panel Discussion*

*Rafael Ruiz de Castaneda  
Saia Piukala  
Sania Nishtar  
Kwon Jun-Wook  
Mohammad Abul Faiz*

**15:00      Coffee Break**

**15:15      Session 2**

*Keynote Address and Panel Discussion*

*Ian Smith  
Jerome Kim  
Youngmee Jee  
Gini Arnold  
Iris Blom*

**16:00      Session 3**

*Interactive Discussion*

*Dorine van der Wal  
Iris Blom  
Seo Yim Shin  
Katja Cic  
Sie Meng Lee  
Pablo Estrella Porter*

**16:55      Closing Remarks**

## Speakers



**Robert Mardini**  
*Director*  
Geneva University Hospitals



**Eun Kyeong Jeong**  
*Minister for Health and Welfare*  
Republic of Korea



**Il-Soo Ha**  
*President*  
Korea Foundation for International Healthcare



**Jiho Cha**  
*Member*  
National Assembly of Republic of Korea



**Rafael Ruiz de Castaneda**  
*Head of One Health Unit*  
Institute of Global Health, University of Geneva



**Saia Piukala**  
*Director*  
World Health Organization Regional Office for the Western Pacific



**Sania Nishtar**  
*CEO*  
GAVI



**Jun-Wook Kwon**  
*Professor*  
Yonsei University Graduate School of Public Health



**Mohammad Abul Faiz**  
*Professor*  
Laureate

# Speakers



**Ian Smith**

*Senior Advisor to the Director-General*  
World Health Organization



**Jerome Kim**

*Director-General*  
International Vaccine Institute, Republic of Korea



**Youngmee Jee**

*Professor*  
University of Science and Technology, Republic of Korea



**Gini Arnold**

*Unit Head, Ambassador Program*  
World Health Organization



**Iris Blom**

*Climate-Health Researcher and Policy Expert*  
World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe



**Dorine van der Wal**

*Youth Engagement, Partnerships and Financing*  
World Health Organization



**Seo Yim Shin**

*External Relations Officer*  
World Health Organization



**Katja Cic**

*Chair*  
Planetary Health Working Group, WHO Youth Council



**Sie Meng Lee**

*Liaison Officer to World Health Organization*  
International Federation of Medical Students Associations

## Speakers



**Pablo Estrella Porter**

*Chair*

World Medical Association Junior Doctors Network



**20<sup>th</sup>**  
ANNIVERSARY  
2006 - 2026

# Practical Information

## Organizers

Geneva Health Forum

Korea Foundation for International Healthcare (KOFIH)



Scan to get more information!

## Location

Campus Biotech, 9 chemin des mines, 1202 Geneva

## Accessibility

Bus 1, 11, 25, stop Jardin Botanique

Tram 15, stop Maison de la Paix

Train CFF & CEVA, stop Sécheron

