

THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THE TROPICS

A TropSc™ WEBINAR SERIES

# TOWARDS A FAIRER AND HEALTHIER TROPICS



## WORLD HEALTH DAY

The Tropics – home to 40% of the world’s population – has long carried a heavier health burden than the rest of the world. Not only is the climate more favourable to parasitic and vector-borne diseases, but perhaps more importantly, the greater rates of poverty and inequality are associated with poorer nutrition, lower levels of education, poorer access to medical care, and poor sanitation and water facilities.

**How can we make healthcare fairer and better in the Tropics?**

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**DR PETER SINGER**

Special Advisor to the Director General,  
World Health Organization (WHO)

### MODERATOR



**DR KHOR SWEE KHENG**

Independent Health Policies Specialist,  
Malaysia

### PANELLISTS



**PROF. AMINATA SALL DIALLO**

University of Cheikh Anta Diop,  
Senegal



**ANN PENNY**

State of the Tropics, James Cook  
University, Australia



**PROF. VIVIAN LIN**

LKS Faculty of Medicine,  
The University of Hong Kong



**PROF. DATUK AWG BULGIBA**

**AWG MAHMUD FASC**  
Academy of Sciences, Malaysia

Join us on **7 April 2021** from **15:00 - 17:00 (GMT+8)** via:



Register at [tinyurl.com/healthtropics](https://tinyurl.com/healthtropics)

Channel: Akademi Sains Malaysia

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# AGENDA

**15:00 – 15:05 INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME REMARKS**

**Mazlan Othman**

*Director, International Science Council Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific*

**15:05 – 15:20 KEYNOTE SPEECH – VACCINE EQUITY IS IN OUR HANDS**

**Dr Peter Singer**

*Special Advisor to the Director General of the World Health Organisation*

**15:20 – 16:40 PANEL DISCUSSION – A FAIRER AND HEALTHIER TROPICS**

Moderator: **Dr Khor Swee Kheng**

*Independent Health Policies Specialist*

Panellists:

***AN OVERVIEW OF THE STATE OF HEALTH IN THE TROPICS***

**Ms. Ann Penny**

*Project Manager, State of the Tropics, James Cook University*

***THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH***

**Prof. Vivian Lin**

*Executive Associate Dean, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, the University of Hong Kong*

***EDUCATION FOR BETTER HEALTH OUTCOMES***

**Prof. Aminata Sall Diallo**

*Executive Director, Partnership for Skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology (PASET) Executive Board*

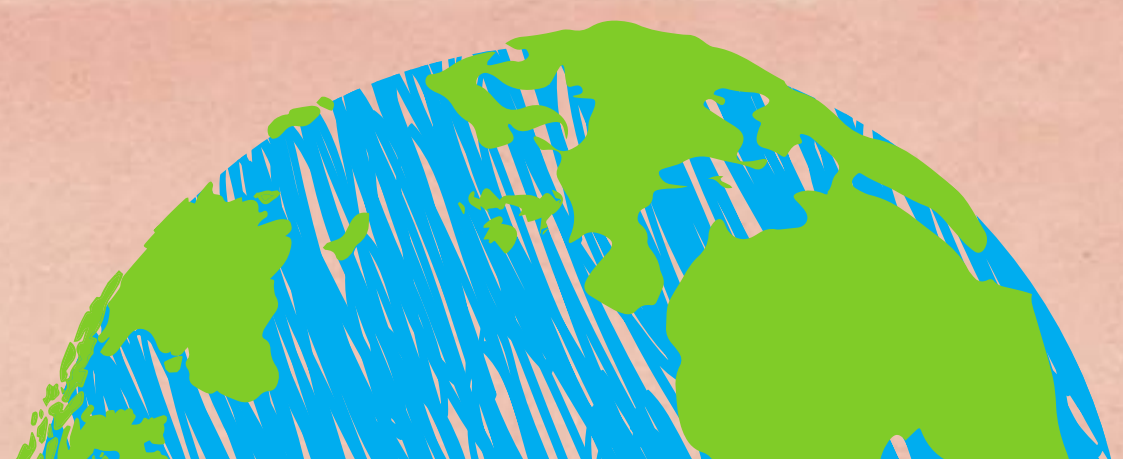
***COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR HEALTH***

**Prof. Datuk Dr Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud FASc**

*Secretary-General, Academy of Sciences, Malaysia*

**DISCUSSION/Q&A**

**16:40 – 16:50 WRAP-UP AND CLOSING**





# SPEAKER PROFILES



**Dr Peter Singer** is Special Advisor to the Director General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, and Assistant Director General of the World Health Organization. He supports the Director General to transform WHO into an Organization sharply focused on impact at the country level. Dr Singer co-chaired the transition team; was the architect of WHO's strategy and its "triple billion" target; supports colleagues to guide consistent strategy implementation of WHO's programme budget, results framework, delivery stock-takes, investment case, and innovation strategy; and provides leadership to the Global Action Plan for Healthy Lives and Wellbeing to strengthen collaboration among 13 multilateral agencies to accelerate the health-related Sustainable Development Goals.

**Dr Swee Kheng Khor** is a Malaysian physician with international experience in the public, Fortune 100, non-profit and think-tank sectors. Currently, he specialises in health systems & policies and global health and holds fellowships at Chatham House, the United Nations University (UNU-IIGH) and ISIS Malaysia. Previously, he held progressively senior roles in four practice areas (clinical medicine; refugee & disaster relief; clinical research; and pharma anti-corruption). Over a 15-year career, he was based in Malaysia, Singapore, Dubai, Shanghai and Paris, covering >90 countries across Asia, Africa, Europe and the Middle East. He holds postgraduate degrees in internal medicine (Royal College of Physicians), public health (Berkeley) and public policy (Oxford), and is published widely, including for Council on Foreign Relations, Project Syndicate, Foreign Affairs and Lancet.



**Professor Vivian Lin** joined the LKS Faculty of Medicine as Executive Associate Dean in March 2019. She is concurrently Professor of Public Health Practice. Responsible for resource development & management, policy implementation and organizational development to the Faculty of Medicine - including human resources and budget, infrastructure, and institutional developments. She has more than 30 years' experience in health policy and program development, health planning, and public health teaching and research. She was previously Professor of Public Health and Head of the School of Public Health at La Trobe University, in Melbourne, and is the author of several leading public health textbooks in Australia.



# SPEAKER PROFILES



**Ann Penny** is a multi-disciplinary research communication and management specialist. She has provided project leadership for the multi-institutional State of the Tropics project, convened by James Cook University, for the past seven years. Previously she has worked in the tourism industry, as a fisheries technician, lab manager, science communicator, and as a research manager. At the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility, Ann coordinated the eight Adaptation Research Networks which brought thousands of researchers and practitioners together to develop innovative solutions for a changing climate. Alongside the major outputs of the State of the Tropics project, Ann is particularly proud of her small role in the successful campaign for the United Nations recognised International Day of the Tropics, first celebrated in 2016.

**Professor Aminata Sall Diallo** is a Professor of Physiology at the University Cheikh Anta Diop of Dakar, Executive Director of the PASET Executive Board and Special Advisor to the Minister of Higher Education and Research of Senegal. She is also a member of the Senegal National Academy of Sciences. Aminata Sall Diallo is a frontrunner in the fight against hepatitis and was instrumental in establishing the National Programme against hepatitis in Senegal making Senegal to be the first African country to introduce vaccines against the disease. She revolutionized the prevention of hepatitis B in Africa through her research that showed for the first time in the world, that mother-to-child transmission of hepatitis B virus is as high as 19.8% thus changing the vaccination schedule which is decisive for the control of this disease.



**Prof. Datuk Dr Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud FASc** is a Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Malaya. He was the first Malaysian doctor to gain a PhD in Health Informatics. He is also the Secretary-General for the Academy of Sciences Malaysia (Malaysia's foremost science think tank), Council Member for the Academy of Medicine Malaysia and President of APACPH-KL, an NGO dedicated to public health. He is also the Project Director for the National Policy on Science, Technology and Innovation 2021-2030 which was commissioned by the Malaysian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation. Prof Awang Bulgiba is currently the Chair of the National Specialist Register Specialty Sub-Committee on Public Health. In 2018, he was awarded the Asia-Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health (APACPH) Excellence in Leadership Medallion.