Session 1: Procurement landscape & considerations

Ms. Emily Serazin, Managing Director and Partner, Boston Consulting Group (BCG)

Emily is BCG’s leading expert on vaccines and global health issues, with deep expertise in the formation and optimization of public private partnerships and product launch strategies for players in the global vaccine market. Emily has worked across leading global health institutions such as Gavi, UNICEF, WHO, and the Bill & Melinda Gates foundation to define investment strategies, coordinate multi-stakeholder efforts, prioritize portfolios, and identify key levers to drive uptake in low- and middle-income countries. She is also a recipient of the Rhodes Scholarship.

Session 2: COVID-19 Vx Commercial Overview, Risks and Issues

Mr. John Williams, Senior Procurement Specialist, Operations Policy & Country Services, The World Bank

Mr. Williams joined the World Bank in 2015 having, as a career procurement executive, previously spent 27 years working with a variety of blue chip private sector companies such as Racal
Electronics and British Gas. He also has extensive public sector experience having worked for the UK National Health Service, Environment Agency, Natural England, Department for Farming and Rural Affairs and the UK Cabinet Office’s Crown Commercial Service as a Senior Civil Servant.

He is a Business Studies graduate, holds an MBA and a post-graduate in Law and has been a member of Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply for over 30 years.

Mr. William’s career has spanned both operational and strategic procurement with considerable experience of contracting in construction, ICT and complex goods and services. The later part of his career has been spent in procurement leadership roles driving procurement reform.

Mr. Williams joined the World Bank to support its major procurement reform program for its annual $20bn development project expenditure spread across over 180 countries. His role at the World Bank is to provide support to the Industry Engagement Program, provide specialist advice on procurement reform and the introduction and application of modern procurement techniques for the World Bank’s complex portfolio of high vale and risk contracting undertaken by client countries. He is currently leading the World Bank’s “Bank Facilitated Procurement” Team, which is providing hands on support to clients in sourcing Capital Equipment and PPE for COVID 19 Emergency, as well as supporting COVID 19 vaccine market engagement and procurement.

Session 3: Regulatory landscape

Dr. Manisha Shridhar, Regional Advisor, World Health Organization- South East Asia Regional Office WHO-SEARO, India

Dr. Manisha Shridhar WHO-SEARO works on Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs), Regulation and trade for health and medical products (medicines, vaccines, diagnostics and medical devices). That includes trade and legal issues relating to public health e.g. in areas of communicable diseases, pandemic influenza preparedness framework, traditional medicines, international health regulations, non-communicable diseases (NCDs), tobacco control and nutrition.

Dr. Shridhar received her Master’s degree in Intellectual Property Law with specialization in Patent and Biotechnology Law and is a certified International Mediator for IPRs disputes from Franklin Pierce Law Center, Concord, USA. She has an MSc Public Health degree from London School of
Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and is one of the very few persons who has a specialization on patent and biotechnology law along with public health. She has a Bachelor of Science (Botany, Zoology, Chemistry) from Delhi University, and Masters in Public Administration from Punjab University, Chandigarh, India. Her Doctorate on “Technology Innovation and Patent Activity in Indian Industry” is from Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. Dr. Shridhar is fluent in Hindi, English and French.

Session 4: Indemnification

Mr. Sam Halabi, Associate Professor, University of Missouri School of Law and a Scholar at the O’Neill Institute for National & Global Health Law at Georgetown University

Mr. Halabi served as the Fulbright Canada Research Professor in Health Law, Policy, and Ethics at the University of Ottawa, Ontario, during the 2017-18 academic year. His work has been published in several specialized journals and he is co-editor of Global Management of Infectious Disease after Ebola (OUP 2016) as well as Food and Drug Law in an Era of Globalized Markets (Elsevier Academic Press 2015). He is also the co-chair (with Gian Luca Burci) of the Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications Working Group of the Global Virome Project. He holds a JD from Harvard Law School, an MPhil from the University of Oxford (St. Antony’s College) and a B.S., summa cum laude, from Kansas State University.

Leadership Panel – Key learnings from COVID-19 Vaccine Procurement

Ms. Shirmila T. S. Ramasamy, Senior Counsel, The World Bank

Ms. Ramasamy is a capital markets lawyer who works on innovative financing mechanisms for targeted development priorities. She has been with the World Bank since 2008 and is part of the team responsible for the design and structuring of the International Finance Facility for Immunization (IFFIm), the Advance Market Commitments (AMC), the Pilot Auction Facility for Climate Mitigation (PAF) and other financing initiatives. She also advises on capital markets instruments pioneered by the World Bank, including the inaugural Issuer-Driven Exchange Traded Fund which was launched on the Brazilian stock exchange in May 2019. Prior to joining the World
Bank, she worked in London, New York and Singapore - managing cross-border structured finance transactions as Managing Associate at Linklaters LLP.

**Mr. Mark Dennis Y.C. Joven, Undersecretary, International Finance Group, Philippines Department of Finance**

Mr. Joven was formerly Assistant Secretary of the Revenue Operations Group (ROG) of the same Department, the office exercising general supervision over internal revenue and customs operations. As Assistant Secretary, he represented the Philippines in tax treaty negotiations and in various international tax fora. He recently shepherded the implementation of notable legislation: the comprehensive tax reform package or Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) Law and the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act.

Prior to public service, Mr. Joven was active in tax practice for 15 years. He earned his Master of Laws degree from Harvard Law School (Tax Concentration) and his Bachelor of Laws cum laude from the UP College of Law.

Mr. Joven is licensed to practice law in the Philippines and in the State of New York. He is an active member of the Philippine Bar Association, American Bar Association, International Fiscal Association, New York County Lawyers’ Association, Integrated Bar of the Philippines and Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He previously chaired the Tax Committee of the Philippine Bar Association and co-chaired its Legal Education Committee.

**Dr. Shyam Raj Uperti, Coordinator, National COVID-19 Vaccine Expert Advisory Committee, Government of Nepal**

Dr. Uperti is the Coordinator of the National COVID-19 Vaccine Expert Advisory Committee to provide technical support to the Government of Nepal for the successful implementation of COVID-19 vaccination. Dr. Uperti worked as the National Immunization Program Manager and Director of the Child Health Division in the Ministry of Health and Population from 2004 to 2014. During the decade of work, he has experience in conducting many successful vaccination campaigns in Nepal like Measles-Rubella, Polio, and Japanese encephalitis vaccination campaign including new vaccine introduction from 2004 to 2014.

He worked as a Consultant for WHO SEARO to support the measles catch-up campaign in India, Pakistan, and PNG respectively in 2011, 2018, and 2019. He worked as WHO/ SAGE working
member for Japanese Encephalitis in 2014. He also supported Meningitis-A vaccination campaign in Ethiopia as a WHO consultant in 2015. Dr. Upeti holds M.B.B.S. and M.P.H. degrees.

Dr. Bhim Singh Tinkari, Director, Management Division, Department of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Population Nepal

He is Director of Management Division, Department of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Population Nepal. His key responsibility is Procurement and Supply of different Health commodities like Vaccine, Family planning commodities and medical Equipments. He has worked as Director of Different division of Department of Health Services. He has also worked as Regional Director outside Kathmandu Valley. He has experience of conducting different immunization Campaign in Nepal, Indonesia and Myanmar. He has also worked in WHO IPD as Surveillance Medical officer. Rota Virus vaccine introduction along with hygiene promotion was initiated in his tenure when he was Director of Family welfare division. He holds MBBS and MPH degrees.

Mr. Patricio V Marquez, Senior Associate (Public Health Specialist), Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health

Mr. Patricio V Marquez, from Cuenca, Ecuador, has been serving since March 2020, as Consultant for the preparation and implementation support of the US$6 billion World Bank Group (WBG) COVID-19 Global Emergency Response Program, as well as for providing technical support for the implementation of the US$12 billion Additional Financing for COVID-19 Vaccines and Vaccination under the Program.

After 32 years of service at the WBG), retired in August 2019, as a Lead Public Health Specialist--Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice, working in over 80 countries across the globe, and leading global initiatives such as the Global Tobacco Taxation/Control Program and the Global Mental Health Initiative.
In February 2020, he was appointed as a Senior Associate at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, and in 2019 as Member of the External Advisory Board of the University of Washington Global Mental Health Program.

**Closing Remarks**

**Ms. Mamta Murthi, Vice President for Human Development, The World Bank**

Ms. Murthi started as Vice President for Human Development at the World Bank on July 1, 2020. In this role she oversees the Global Practices for Education; Health, Nutrition, and Population; Gender; Social Protection and Jobs – as well as the Human Capital Project.

She has held many leadership positions at the World Bank, including as Director of Operations Policy (2019), Director of Strategy and Operations in Infrastructure (2018), Director of Strategy and Operations in the Africa Region (2015-2018), and Regional Country Director for the EU, based in Brussels (2012-15).

An economist by training, she has had technical roles in Social Protection and Labor (1996-2004) and Education (2006-10). She was Deputy Director of the World Development Report on Development and the Next Generation in 2006. During 1998-2000, Mamta was MacArthur Fellow for Poverty and Inequality at King’s College, Cambridge.

Ms. Murthi joined the World Bank as a Young Professional in 1995. She has a Bachelors’ Degree in Economics from St. Stephen’s College, University of Delhi and a D.Phil in Economics from the University of Oxford. Mamta has written extensively on poverty, demography, education, pensions, and skills and is well-known for her econometric studies on fertility in India.
Mr. Ajay Tandon, Lead Economist, Health Nutrition and Population Practice Group, South Asia Region, The World Bank

Mr. Ajay Tandon is currently Lead Economist with the World Bank. He works on several countries including most recently on India, Indonesia, Bhutan, Laos, and Vietnam. He received a PhD in economics from Virginia Tech with a dissertation that focused on the intersection of macroeconomics and population dynamics. Previously, over 2004-2007, he worked with the research department of the Asian Development Bank in Manila where he worked on issues related to human development. He also worked with the Evidence and Information for Policy department of the World Health Organization in Geneva from 1998-2003, primarily on measurement challenges including those related to correcting biases in self-reported responses in household survey data and on health system performance. He has held visiting research appointments at both Oxford University and Harvard University. He has written several publications on the issues of statistical methodology, health systems efficiency, health financing, domestic resource mobilization, and universal health coverage. He is co-author of several books, including most recently of ‘Going Universal: How 24 Countries Are Implementing Universal Health Coverage from the Bottom-up’.