

Melissa Corkum



Melissa Corkum hails from the South Shore of Nova Scotia, Canada. A long-time polio warrior, Melissa is currently working as UNICEF's Senior Manager, Polio Outbreak Response, based in Geneva.

She has extensive experience within the global effort to eradicate polio, spanning more than 17 years in multiple countries, roles and organizations including UNICEF and WHO. Before joining the outbreak team one year ago, Melissa led the UNICEF polio efforts in Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan.

Anne von Fallois



Anne von Fallois is a political scientist by training. From 1994 to 2013 she served in leading positions in the German Federal President's Office with a focus on science and education policies and civil society issues. In her last role as Director General for Domestic Affairs she advised the Federal President on a wide range of policies from economics to health issues.

In 2014 Anne joined Kienbaum Consultants International, one of the leading consultancy firms in Germany. As Executive Director and head of Kienbaum's Berlin Office and the company's "Female Desk" Anne is responsible for high-level executive search- and leadership advisory projects. She focusses on clients from the Public and Non-Profit Sector.

Anne – a Rotarian's daughter – became a member of the Rotary Club Berlin-Spree in 2009. She had served as her club's Community Service Representative before being appointed to the role as RI's National Advocacy Advisor for Germany in 2019. She also serves on the Board of the Christiane Herzog Foundation for sufferers from Cystic Fibrosis.

Anne is married. She and her husband Gerd-Joachim – a political TV-journalist - have two grown-up daughters.



Tunji Funsho



Dr Tunji Funsho, born in 1948, is a member of the Rotary club of Lekki Phase 1 Lagos D 9110. Previously he was of Rotary club of Kano which he joined in 1985.

A physician/cardiologist and Healthcare Consultant Dr Tunji Funsho graduated from Ahmadu Bello University Medical School in Zaria in 1974.

Dr Tunji Funsho worked with the Kano and Lagos state governments from 1974- 1976 before proceeded to the UK for his postgraduate specialization in Medicine/cardiology where he attended National Institute for Neurology London, Royal Post Graduate Medical school London, National heart hospital London.

He returned to Kano to practice with the state government until 1985 when he retired into private practice.

Dr. Tunji Funsho was district governor in 1995/96 and was then active on many different Rotary committees at national and international level

He currently serves as Chairman Nigeria National Polio Plus Committee. He is also a Member Africa regional polioplus committee, Member International Polioplus committee IPPC, Member End of Polio Subcommittee, Member Polio awards subcommittee of IPPC.

Currently he is the coordinator of the Incubator for Africa Initiative; a Rotarian initiative that assists clubs and districts in providing baby incubators for our health institutions. The initiative has so far assisted in providing 125 incubators and resuscitators to various health institutions by Rotary clubs and districts in Nigeria

He is instrumental to the formation of the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) Nigeria division and was chair of the Nigeria Division for 5 years and regional chair for Africa until June 2015.

OTHER NON-PROFITS: Asides Rotary, Dr Funsho is also the Chairman board of trustees BENOLA cerebral palsy initiative – An initiative to create awareness and a better life for children and families living with cerebral palsy

RECOGNITIONS: Dr Funsho has received numerous recognition awards including the Rotary International Service above self-award, The Rotary Foundation meritorious service award.

He just was nominated as one of TIME's 100 Most Influential People in the world! Tunji is a second level major donor and a Rotary foundation Benefactor. He is a keen golfer and was captain of the Kano golf club. Tunji is married to Aisha who was past president of the Inner Wheel club of Kano. They have four children and are blessed with grandchildren.

Sue Gerber



Dr Sue Gerber is an epidemiologist and Senior Officer on the Polio Team at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation where she supports polio eradication efforts in Pakistan, global surveillance, and activities in high risk countries.

Dr Gerber has been an eradicator for over two decades joining the global effort while with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention where she worked for 25 years. While on the road in the US and abroad she frequently speaks with Rotary Clubs providing polio updates and appreciating the value of the partnership. She is also a Paul Harris Fellow.

Tayyaba Gul



Tayyaba Gul, Member-Rotary Club of Islamabad Metropolitan, encountered Rotary purely by chance 20 years ago and since then she proved her as dedicated and committed Rotarian on National and International level. She is the iron lady who never hesitates to travel and work on ground level in remote and dangerous areas especially in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province where high risk always exists of target killing, kid-apping and humiliation. She was born in Sargodha-Punjab, did master in Economics from university of Punjab. Slater on she completed Master in Public Health (MPH) from Mahidol University-Bangkok, Thailand. She started her professional career as research Consultant. Currently, she is working with Ministry of Health, The Global Fight Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

Since becoming a member of the Rotary Club of Islamabad metropolitan in 2000 she explored a desired forum where harmony, fellow ship and participation have always significance. She served her Club as President in 2013-14, Assistant Governor Rotary International, District 3272 Pakistan & Afghanistan.

Urs Herzog



Urs is a surgeon and tropical doctor (surgery and obstetrics), and since his retirement deeply involved in Rotary programs with a focus on major fundraising for polio and health and water projects.

Member of RC Allschwil-Regio Basel (Switzerland) and past district governor D1980 he serves Rotary International in various leadership roles, currently as End Polio Now zone coordinator for Germany, Switzerland and Liechtenstein and chair of the Rotary Health Major Gift Initiative.

Urs launched this year an impactful MCH project in Uganda together with the WHO. He and convener Ket wish to establish a Rotary MCH academy to educate experienced midwives as trainer for trainers in the field of 'Mother and Child Health'.

Hans-Iko Huppertz



Dr. med. Hans-Iko Huppertz, Professor of Pediatrics, Retired Head of Bremen Children's Hospital, 67 years old, married, 4 children. Graduated from Würzburg medical school in 1979, Received the degree "Dr. med" by work on the polypeptide composition of mumps virus in 1979 (mentor: Volker ter Meulen), Resident in surgery and obstetrics 1979-1981, work in a rural hospital in Rwanda, Central Africa 1982-1984, resident in pediatrics at Würzburg university hospital 1984-1988. State certified pediatrician in 1988 Work at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada in medical microbiology and pediatric rheumatology. Staff pediatrician and consultant of pediatrics at Würzburg university hospital 1990-1999, since 1996 as vice chairman, Head of a research laboratory and organizer of several multicenter-studies in pediatric rheumatology and infectious diseases. Professor of pediatrics since 1999 at Würzburg university, since 2006 at Göttingen university, Germany, Head of pediatrics at the Klinikum Bremen-Mitte (Prof.-Hess-Kinderklinik) 1999-2019 affiliation with the University of Göttingen, Germany. State certified in pediatric infectious diseases and in pediatric rheumatology. Member of the National Commission for the Eradication of Poliomyelitis. Secretary General of The German Academy of Pediatrics since 2016.

Hamid Jafari



Dr Hamid Jafari was assigned to the post of Director, Polio Eradication, based in Amman, Jordan, in August 2019.

Dr Jafari was formerly the Principal Deputy Director of the Center for Global Health at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta. He played a key leadership role supporting CDC's global public health goals. He was instrumental in establishing and accelerating Joint External Evaluations to assess country capacities in meeting the requirements of the International Health Regulations and coordinating agency efforts to end the global TB epidemic.

From 2012 to 2016, Dr Jafari was Director of Global Polio Eradication Operations and Research at WHO headquarters in Geneva and the overall leader of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Prior to this appointment, he served as the Project Manager of WHO's National Polio Surveillance Project in India from 2007 to 2012 and is widely recognized for his key leadership role in polio eradication in India. From 2004 to 2006, Dr Jafari was Director of the Global Immunization Division at CDC, leading global immunization and polio eradication efforts. He served as Medical Officer for Polio Eradication in the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean on assignment from CDC from 1996 to 2002. He played a key role in establishing polio eradication programmes across the Region.

Dr Jafari completed his residency training in Pediatrics at Dartmouth Medical School and his Pediatric Infectious Disease fellowship training at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas. He is certified by the American Board of Pediatrics in the sub-specialty of Pediatric Infectious Diseases. He is a graduate of CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) program. Dr Jafari also completed a research fellowship at Harvard Medical School. He has published more than 100 scientific papers and book chapters on pathogenesis of infectious diseases, polio eradication and other vaccine-preventable diseases and global health security.

Laiq Karimi



Geboren 1981 in Baghlan (verheiratet)

Abitur 1997

Beruflicher Erfahrungen:

2000 Poliomitarbeiter WHO in Afghanistan / Baghlan

2001 Polio Supervisor nach Kurs bei WHO

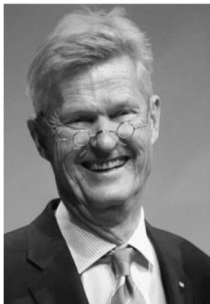
2001 – 2010 Polio-Supervisor in Afghanistan / Baghlan

2005 – 2009 Jura Studium Hochschule Mazare Sharif

2013 – 2015 GSE Protect und Detekti & Sicherheitsdienste als Security

2015 – heute Katar Soulaymane als Security

Holger Knaack



Holger Knaack is World President of Rotary International in 2020-21. He is an active member of Rotary Club of Herzogtum Lauenburg-Mölln.

Knaack is the CEO of Knaack KG, a real estate company. He was previously a partner and general manager of Knaack Enterprises, a 125-year-old family business. He is a founding member of the Civic Foundation of the City of Ratzeburg and served as president of the Golf-Club Gut Grambek. Knaack is also the founder and chair of the Karl Adam Foundation.

A Rotary member since 1992, Knaack has served Rotary as treasurer, director, moderator, member and chair of several committees, representative for the Council on Legislation, zone coordinator, training leader, and district governor.

He is an endowment/major gifts adviser and was co-chair of the Host Organization Committee for the 2019 Rotary International Convention in Hamburg.



Joachim W. Koch



Nach dem Abschluss des Medizinstudiums 1990 begann Herr Dr. med. Koch die Facharztausbildung zum Neurologen am akademischen Lehrkrankenhaus Fulda. 1992 promovierte er am Institut für Psychotherapie und medizinische Psychologie der Universität Würzburg. 1995 folgte eine Weiterbildung zum Facharzt für Psychiatrie und Psychotherapie an der Universitäts-Nervenlinik Würzburg. 1996 wurde ihm der Facharztstitel für Neurologie und 1998 Facharzttitel für Psychiatrie und Psychotherapie verliehen.

Von 1998 bis 2010 leitete er als Chefarzt Neurologie die Fachklinik für Neurologische Rehabilitation Leukerbad im Kanton Wallis. Herr Dr. med. Koch verfügt über langjährige Erfahrung und sehr fundierte Kenntnisse der Neurorehabilitation in der Schweiz. In mehreren Fachgesellschaften und Organisationen ist er aktiv tätig und hat neue Rehabilitationskonzepte entwickelt und publiziert. Schwerpunkte sind die Rehabilitation nach Hirnschlag, die neuromuskuläre Rehabilitation von Muskelkrankheiten und die Rehabilitation bei chronischen Kopfschmerzen. Herr Dr. med. Koch engagiert sich seit vielen Jahren im Fachbeirat der Schweizerischen Muskelgesellschaft Myosuisse und ist Mitglied der Therapiekommission der schweizerischen Kopfwehgesellschaft SKG.

Seit September 2010 ist Herr Dr. Koch als Leitender Facharzt Neurologie / Neurorehabilitation der Privat Klinik Im Park in Schinznach-Bad tätig.

Birgit Pickel



More than 20 years of experience in development policy and cooperation, including 11 years in management positions. Regional focus on West- and Southern Africa, thematic focus on global health, governance and sustainable economic development including skills development as well as civil society, civic engagement and international volunteering. Lived and worked in USA, South Africa, Zambia, Yemen, short-term missions to Benin, Ghana, Nigeria, Togo, Cameroon and Bangladesh.

Professional training: MA Political Science; postgraduate-certificate in Development Studies.

Language skills: German, English and French.

Current position: Director Global Health, Pandemic Prevention and One Health at Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (as of November 2019).

Oliver Rosenbauer



Oliver Rosenbauer ist seit 2003 Sprecher für die Global Polio Eradication Initiative bei der Weltgesundheitsorganisation in Genf, Schweiz, sowie seit 2016, PolioPlus National Advocacy Advisor für Rotary Schweiz/Liechtenstein.

Er ist Gründungsmitglied des Rotary Club Genève International in Genf.

Oliver hält ein Bachelor of Arts in Kommunikation von der Universität Tulsa, USA, sowie ein Master of Science in Psychologie der City University, London.

Er begann seine Tätigkeiten im Public Relations Bereich bei Edelman PR in London in 1996.

Anke Schewe



Dr Anke Schewe, LL.M., Governor D1900 (Germany), RC Essen-Gruga, lawyer, lawyer for collaborative practice, mediator, specialist author and systemic coach. Anke held a leading position in health care for several years and always worked in academic training, currently as a lecturer at the Law Faculty of the Ruhr University Bochum.

She is married to Dr Markus Schewe (RC Essen) and has two children (Quint 2007, Vito 2013). Anke is Rotarian since 2009 (until 2017 at RC Witten), Paul Harris Fellow and was club president in Rotary 2013/14.

Christian Schleuss



1991 Abitur in Hagen
Ausbildung zum Rettungsassistenten

Medizinstudium an der Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, an der open international university for complementary medicine Colombo/Sri Lanka, an der Eidgenössischen Technischen Hochschule in Zürich und im Mc-Cord-Zulu-Hospital, Durban/Südafrika
Dissertation und Approbation 1998

Facharztausbildung an der Kinderklinik der Kaiserswerther Diakonie Düsseldorf

Naturheilkundliche Ausbildung in Bad Kissingen, Bad Aachen und an der Modellklinik
Naturheilverfahren des Landes NRW, Hattingen
2010 Ausbildungen in der Umweltmedizin

Seit 2004 in eigener Praxis niedergelassen

Verheiratet, 2 Kinder, spielt Kontrabass im Hagener Kammerorchester,
seit 6 Jahren Rotarier im RC Hagen und genauso lange Poliobeauftragter Distrikt 1900



Stephen Sosler



Stephen Sosler is the Immunization Technical Advisor in the Vaccines and Sustainability team at the Gavi Alliance Secretariat. In this role Dr Sosler provides guidance, expertise and leadership on a range of immunization programme and vaccine issues associated with Gavi's supported vaccine portfolios. Specific to polio, Dr Sosler has led collaborative efforts to roll-out inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV) in Gavi eligible countries as well as the reshaping of Gavi's broader engagement in polio eradication. Before joining Gavi, Dr Sosler held key positions at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, seconded to the World Health Organization (WHO) as the Deputy Project Manager, Universal Immunization Programme for India's National Polio Surveillance Project (NPSP), coordinating immunization strengthening, measles control and new vaccine introduction activities supported by the Project's central team and network of 300+ Surveillance Medical Officers posted throughout the country (2009-2012). Prior to India, he was seconded to the WHO Central Africa Inter-country Support Team in Libreville, Gabon (2004-2009), where he served as the Accelerated Disease Control Officer providing technical assistance to 11 central African national immunization programmes and WHO and UNICEF country offices to strengthen immunization delivery and vaccine preventable disease surveillance and outbreak response activities. Dr Sosler has a PhD and Master of Public Health in International Health-Epidemiology from the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

Hans-Joachim Günther Wöbbeking



Geboren 1949 im Kreis Stendal, Beruf: Bauzeichner, Bergingenieur. Verheiratet mit Cornelia Franziska Wöbbeking-Berndt, 5 Kinder, 7 Enkelkinder

1952 an Polio (Kinderlähmung erkrankt): Akute paralytische Poliomyelitis durch einheimisches Wildvirus mit Befall der Atemmuskulatur: Eiserne Lunge, kontinuierliche Erholung der Muskulatur durch intensives Training. 1995 erneute Lähmungen: Diagnose: PPMA Post-Polio Muskelatrophie
Post-Polio-Syndrom: Rollstuhlpflichtig, Beatmungspflichtig, nachts mittels BIPAP Gerät. In der Folge erwerbsunfähig und Frührente

Verschiedene Projekte im ehrenamtlichen Bereich über 25 Jahre: u.a. Behindertenbeirat der Stadt Bergkamen, Mitarbeit im Bundesverband Polio, 20 Jahre Erster Vorsitzender

Michel Zaffran



Michel Zaffran is the Director, Polio Eradication at the World Health Organization and chairman of the Strategy Committee of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative since 2016.

He joined WHO in 1987 where he has held several positions including Coordinator of the Expanded Programme on Immunization and has led work on logistics, vaccine quality and immunization financing.

Michel represented WHO on the Group that designed and launched Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and was Deputy Executive Secretary at Gavi during the period 2006-2007.

He is a French National born in Algeria. He is an engineer and holds a certificate in Tropical Epidemiology. He has worked in Morocco, Burkina Faso, DRC, and Ethiopia for the Paris based Groupe de Recherche et d'Echanges Technologiques (GRET).