

The importance of vaccines – why the Global Vaccine Summit 2020 matters: 26 May 2020

World news story

Ambassador Julian Braithwaite hosted a virtual briefing ahead of the Global Vaccine Summit on 4 June.



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The UK's Permanent Representative in Geneva, Julian Braithwaite hosted a virtual briefing today for Geneva based Missions for ahead of the Global Vaccine Summit on 4 June. He was joined by Seth Berkley (Gavi CEO), Sir Andrew Witty (WHO Vaccine Envoy), Rachel Glennerster (DFID Chief Economist) and Richard Clarke (DFID Director General).

The purpose of the briefing was to discuss the UK-hosted Global Vaccine Summit 2020 – the next major global health moment. It marks the end of an 18-month drive to secure investment for the Global Vaccine Alliance (Gavi). Since its inception in 2000, Gavi has supported vaccinations in 68 of the world's poorest countries.

The Summit will see UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson host Heads of State and global health leaders in a virtual format, with the aim of uniting the international community behind Gavi's mission and raising further funds to reach the \$7.4 billion target.

The event was in the calendar long before COVID-19, but the ongoing pandemic has meant that Gavi's work is more relevant than ever. During today's briefing, the speakers explained that Gavi's work in the world's poorest countries will be critical to:

- Sustaining immunisation coverage on vaccine preventable diseases. •
- Bolstering the resilience of primary health care systems to tackle COVID-19.

- Ensuring the distribution of a COVID-19 if and when it is available.

The UK announced last month that it will commit the equivalent of £330 million a year over the next five years to Gavi. The speakers agreed that it was encouraging to see other countries coming forward with their respective pledges and called for active participation in the Summit next week.

More information on the Global Vaccine Summit 2020 is available here:
<https://www.gavi.org/investing-gavi/resource-mobilisation-process/gavis-3rd-donor-pledging-conference-june-2020>

Published 26 May 2020

[Charity Commission appoints Nick Baker as new Chief Operating Officer](#)

The Charity Commission has appointed Nick Baker to the regulator's new role of Chief Operating Officer.

Nick will join the Commission from Staffordshire Police Force, where he is Deputy Chief Constable.

In this role, which he has held since 2014, Nick has been responsible for overseeing people services, technology, corporate services, business services, legal functions, corporate communications, professional standards and force transformation, amongst other functions. He has held a number of other senior leadership roles within the police, including as National Police Chiefs lead for Digital Forensics and Technical Surveillance Units, and was also Temporary Chief Constable of the Force between November 2019 and March 2020.

The Chief Operating Officer is a new post the regulator has introduced to strengthen the organisation and drive forward internal improvements that will ensure continued progress against its ambitious strategy.

In his capacity as Chief Operating Officer Nick will lead key corporate functions, including HR, finance, governance, risk and assurance, and will be based in Liverpool, the Commission's main office.

Helen Stephenson CBE, Chief Executive of the Charity Commission said:

I am thrilled to welcome Nick to my senior team. His experience of both policing in the public interest and leading the support

functions of the Force stand him in good stead to lead this new function at the Commission. Nick's impressive technical knowledge and skills will equip us well to move forward confidently in delivering on our strategy. His commitment to helping ensure those who need our services get the best from us stood out, and I am confident Nick will support us in becoming a stronger organisation that can really maximise the benefit of charities to society.

Nick Baker said:

Charity relies on good people coming together to make a difference and improve peoples' lives. I am excited to support this by helping underpin the Commission's work in the public interest. The Commission has a very clear vision – I am looking forward to working with my new teams and helping to put its ambitious plans into action.

Nick is expected to take up his new role in August.

Nick Baker: Curriculum Vitae (CV)

2014 – present: Deputy Chief Constable, Staffordshire Police Force

November 2019 – March 2020: Acting Chief Constable, Staffordshire Police Force

2013 – 2014: Assistant Chief Constable with responsibility for Investigative Services, Professional Standards and Anti-Corruption

2010 – 2012: Detective Chief Superintendent, Head of Investigative Services

Earlier career: Nick worked in various policing roles, predominantly as a detective and within specialist units, also spending time on secondment with the Home Office.

Ends.

Notes to editors:

The Charity Commission's purpose is to ensure charity can thrive and inspire trust so that people can improve lives and strengthen society. It is the independent, non-ministerial government department that registers and regulates charities in England and Wales.

[Readout of PM call with Chancellor Merkel: 8 May 2020](#)

News story

Readout of the Prime Minister's call with Chancellor Merkel.



The Prime Minister spoke with Chancellor Merkel of Germany to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

They spoke of the freedom which was won on VE Day, and the deep friendship which our countries have built in the 75 years since.

They also discussed the response to the coronavirus pandemic, and the importance of continuing to work together. They looked forward to meeting again in person once the pandemic is over.

Published 26 May 2020

[PM call with the Emir of Qatar: 15 May 2020](#)

Press release

Prime Minister Boris Johnson spoke to the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad al-Thani.



The Prime Minister spoke to the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad al-Thani, today to discuss the global response to coronavirus and our shared economic interests.

He expressed the UK's gratitude to Qatar for keeping Hamad International Airport operational as a transit hub, which has helped to facilitate the return of tens of thousands of British citizens from around the world.

They discussed the importance of the UK and Qatar's cooperation in security, trade and investment, and confirmed their shared ambition to further boost these ties.

Both leaders agreed on the need to step up the international response to coronavirus. The Prime Minister extended an invitation to Sheikh Tamim to attend the Global Vaccine Summit the UK is hosting virtually on 4 June, in partnership with Gavi, to raise vital funds to vaccinate millions of children worldwide against deadly diseases.

Published 26 May 2020

[The Prime Minister has appointed Harris Bokhari and Yadvinder Malhi as Trustees of the Natural History Museum.](#)

Harris Bokhari

Harris is a social entrepreneur, public engagement advisor and chartered accountant. He serves as a board member of Prince's Trust Mosaic Initiative and as an ambassador for the British Asian Trust.

In 2012, in memory of his late father, Naz Bokhari OBE, Harris co-founded the

Naz Legacy Foundation, which went on to receive the 2014 Big Society Award from the Prime Minister for their work with disadvantaged youth.

Harris founded Patchwork Foundation in 2010, recognising the vital need for a vehicle through which to promote the political and democratic engagement of under-represented communities. In 2018 he was awarded the Diversity Champion Award by the Cabinet Office as part of its inaugural National Democracy Week.

Harris serves as a member of the Mayor of London's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Group, an Independent Member of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service Committee and for Community and Voluntary Service Honours Committee – also sitting on the Diversity and Inclusion Group. He was awarded an OBE in Her Majesty's 2015 Birthday Honours List for services to young people and interfaith relations; named as one of London's most influential figures by the Evening Standard's Progress 1000 List; and awarded Imperial College's inaugural Distinguished Alumni.

Professor Yadvinder Malhi FRS

Yadvinder Malhi is Professor of Ecosystem Science at the University of Oxford, Jackson Senior Research Fellow in Biodiversity and Conservation at Oriel College, Oxford, and Director of the Oxford Centre for Tropical Forests and the Oxford University Biodiversity Network.

His research interests have focused on the impacts of climate change and other types of change on the biosphere, and how the protection and restoration of the biosphere can contribute to mitigating and adapting to climate change. Much of his work has focussed on the tropics, and he has established a network of intensive study and monitoring of tropical ecosystems spanning Amazonia, Africa and Asia.

More locally, he has a strong interest in the many possible forms of ecosystem restoration in the UK and Europe, how such restoration can be scaled up, and how it can best contribute to biodiversity recovery and climate change goals.

Professor Malhi is former President of the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation, Chair of Trustees of the Global Biodiversity Foundation, a Fellow of the Royal Society. He has authored or co-authored over 400 scientific papers on ecosystems and climate change.

These roles are not remunerated. These appointments have been made in accordance with the [Cabinet Office's Governance Code on Public Appointments](#), the process is regulated by the Commissioner for Public Appointments. The Government's Governance Code requires that any significant political activity undertaken by an appointee in the last five years is declared. This is defined as holding office, public speaking, making a recordable donation or candidature for election. Neither Mr Bokhari or Professor Malhi have declared any activity.