Transforming the South African Health System: A Forum with the South African Minister of Health

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

SHORT BIOS

DR. JENNIFER COOKE is director of the CSIS Africa Program, which she joined in 2000. She works on a range of U.S.-Africa policy issues, including security, health, conflict and crisis, and democratization. From 2001-2008 she helped manage the CSIS Task Force on HIV/AIDS, authoring numerous reports, including Advancing U.S. Leadership on HIV/AIDS: Opportunities in the PEPFAR Reauthorization Process; Battling HIV/AIDS in Ethiopia; and HIV/AIDS in Nigeria: Toward Sustainable U.S. Engagement; She recently contributed a chapter entitled “South Africa and Global Health: Minding the Home Front First,” in the CSIS report Key Players in Global Health: How Brazil Russia, India, China, and South Africa are Influencing the Game.


AMBASSADOR ERIC GOOSBY serves as the United States Global AIDS Coordinator, leading all U.S. Government international HIV/AIDS efforts. In this role, Ambassador Goosby oversees implementation of the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), as well as U.S. Government engagement with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. He serves on the Operations Committee that leads the U.S. Global Health Initiative, along with the heads of the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Ambassador Goosby served as CEO and Chief Medical Officer of Pangaea Global AIDS Foundation from 2001 to June 2009. He also previously served as Professor of Clinical Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. Ambassador Goosby has played a key role in the development and implementation of HIV/AIDS national treatment scale-up plans in South Africa, Rwanda, China, and Ukraine. He focuses his expertise on the scale-up of sustainable HIV/AIDS treatment capacity, including the delivery of HIV antiretroviral drugs, within existing healthcare systems. Ambassador Goosby has extensive international experience in the development of treatment guidelines for use of antiretroviral therapies, clinical mentoring and training of health professionals, and the design and implementation of
local models of care for HIV/AIDS. He has worked closely with international partners on the development of successful HIV/AIDS treatment and treatment-based prevention strategies for high-risk populations.

**DR. AARON MOTSOALEDI** is the South African Minister of Health, a position he has held since May 2009. Before his appointment to the national Cabinet in the administration of President Jacob Zuma, Dr Motsoaledi served from 1994 in various portfolios as a Member of the Executive in Limpopo Province, South Africa. Dr. Motsoaledi is a graduate of the Medical School of the University of Natal and played a prominent role as a student and in later life in the anti-apartheid struggle, providing leadership to the progressive health sector.

Dr. Motsoaledi also lead important efforts in his home district of Sekekuneland to eliminate early childhood malnutrition and combat infant mortality, establishing pilot programs that have informed national policy. Since becoming Health Minister, Dr. Motsoaledi has been hailed for his accessible and energetic style of leadership, and for his strong commitment to implementation of a comprehensive HIV/AIDS management strategy for South Africa. Dr. Motsoaledi is also leading the government’s planning and implementation of national health insurance for all South Africans.

**DR. MICHAEL SINCLAIR,** Ph.D. is Senior Vice President of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation with responsibility for the Foundation’s South Africa program. A born South African, educated in South Africa and the United Kingdom, Michael left South Africa in 1986 for political reasons and soon afterwards persuaded the Kaiser Family Foundation to initiate a program in support of an equitable post-apartheid health system in that country.

Dr. Sinclair is responsible for long term strategy development, program implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Over the past 23 years, Kaiser has invested more than $300 million in programs in South Africa focusing mainly on health systems restructuring and development, and with a major focus on health leadership development, as well as key health priorities including early childhood malnutrition, child health, maternal mortality, adolescent reproductive health and HIV/AIDS. Dr. Sinclair has also been responsible for extensive media work including public health media education campaigns as part of an Africa-wide initiative to combat HIV/AIDS.