



SPEAKER'S BIO

Dr Marc Sprenger



Dr Marc Sprenger is Director of the World Health Organization secretariat for antimicrobial resistance. Marc and this secretariat focus on coordination of an Organization-wide approach to antimicrobial resistance, working with WHO programmes carrying out technical activities required for the implementation of the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance.

The coordinating secretariat was established following adoption of the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance by the World Health Assembly in May 2015. The plan sets out five strategic objectives:

- 1. Improve awareness and understanding of antimicrobial resistance;
- 2. Strengthen knowledge through surveillance and research;
- 3. Reduce the incidence of infection;
- 4. Optimize the use of antimicrobial medicines; and
- 5. Develop the economic case for sustainable investment that takes account of the needs of all countries, and increase investment in new medicines, diagnostic tools, vaccines and other interventions.

Prior to joining WHO, from 2010 Dr Sprenger was Director of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) in Stockholm, Sweden. Before that he was Director-General of the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) in Bilthoven, the Netherlands. A national of the Netherlands, Marc is a medical doctor, medical microbiology specialist and has a PhD in epidemiology.