# The Global Health Policy Forum

Update for Registered Invitees

# Innovation is the only answer to modern health challenges

#### Answering the healthcare challenge

How best to provide high quality, accessible and affordable health services is one of the most pressing challenges shared today by governments across the world. Each country's circumstances are unique. But the basic issues are surprisingly similar.

In many developed nations, increasing costs and seemingly insatiable demand for health care combine to create expenditure pressures on already stretched public and private resources.

In other countries, the challenge is to increase the number of people who have access to health services, for example by

extending the availability of primary care and improving the health of mothers and babies. Here too, the challenge is to satisfy unmet demand without generating unsustainable pressure on public resources.

At the same time, health needs are set to change radically in the coming years with the explosion of conditions such as diabetes and heart disease, combined with rapidly ageing populations.

Many healthcare systems look increasingly ill-suited to meet these challenges. Innovation – in treatments, technologies and in how services are delivered – is badly needed. So too are ways of sharing the best ideas and scaling them up so they can meet the health challenges of the future.

Incubated by the Institute of Global Health Innovation at Imperial College London, the Global Health Policy Forum has been formed to stimulate and support the innovation, international learning and global co-operation required to transform health systems. We are pleased that you will be joining us in London during the Olympics for its inaugural Summit on 1st August 2012.



#### A message from the British Prime Minister, Rt Hon David Cameron MP

"Governments around the world are grappling with the challenge of ensuring high-quality, affordable health services. It's a challenge that will become ever more difficult with pressures on budgets, ageing populations, the rise of lifestyle epidemics like obesity, and diseases like dementia and diabetes. But the transformation needed to meet this challenge will also create exciting new opportunities for global growth.

That's why this summit is so important. It is an opportunity to deepen international collaboration to catalyse the innovation necessary to extend universal access to healthcare in more effective and affordable ways. I very much look forward to welcoming you to the summit."

#### The summit: Health leaders from around the world

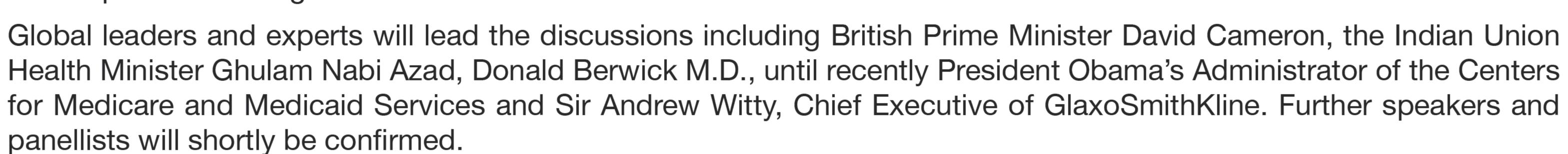
This inaugural invitation-only Summit will bring together about 250 health leaders from over 20 countries including ministers, senior government officials, industry executives, thinkers and innovators. They, and you, are some of the most influential people in global healthcare. Our objective is to foster and support this global community of health reformers. The summit is the start of this, enabling you to meet other senior decision-makers grappling with similar issues and to find practical solutions drawn from the most exciting innovations worldwide. It will also lay the ground for future work, providing a continuing resource and global network.



### The agenda and speakers

The agenda will be fast-paced and interactive, combining plenary sessions with smaller, panel discussions to share new ideas and solutions. The sessions will be linked to reports prepared by international working groups, identifying key innovations for meeting global healthcare challenges now and in the future:

- Innovation in the prevention and management of non-communicable diseases
- Implementing effective maternal health programmes
- Financing health systems
- What works in implementing sustainable primary care systems
- Coping with ageing societies
- Learning from innovative healthcare delivery models
- The potential for digital innovation in healthcare



During the summit you will have plenty of time to meet with international peers and innovators, including a closing reception on the night of the 1st August.

The summit itself will run for a full day, opening at 08.00 BST and finishing with an evening reception.

Our next newsletter will provide you with the full agenda and details of the sessions to help you choose your programme for the day.

For guests not based in the United Kingdom, we urge you to book your flights (arriving on the 31st July) at your earliest convenience as demand will be high during the Olympic period.

If you require assistance with accommodation or anything else, please email Joy.Barker@globalhealthpolicyforum.org or ring +44(0) 20 7820 5043



## A message from Professor the Lord Darzi of Denham KBE

"Like the Olympics, the Summit is an opportunity to focus attention. And like the Olympics it will leave a legacy. But this one will be global. The Global Forum will be a lasting resource for improving healthcare, creating an active community of leaders ready to pursue new ideas and meet the shared healthcare challenges which face our world. I very much look forward to seeing you there."

