

FRONTLINE EXPERIENCE WITH THE EBOLA OUTBREAK IN WEST AFRICA

SPECIAL SESSION:

DATE: Monday, 1 December

TIME: 16:30 – 18:00

Moderator:

Peter Piot, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

Co-Discoverer of the Ebola Virus

Panelists:

Jean-Bosco Ndiwokubwayo, WHO AFRO, Brazzaville, Congo

Austin Demby, US Department of Health and Human Services, Washington DC, USA

Amadou Sall, Institut Pasteur, Dakar, Senegal

Shannon Hader, Division of Global HIV/AIDS, CDC, USA

Muyembe Tamfum, University of Kinshasa, DR Congo

Since the first cases of the Ebola virus outbreak were reported in West Africa in December 2013, about 10,000 people have been infected, resulting in > 5,000 deaths. The WHO has declared the Ebola outbreak an international public health emergency. The outbreak has decimated the fragile health systems of the affected countries and tremendously impacted their economic activity. The World Bank estimates that if the Ebola outbreak is not contained, it could cost the countries in the hot zone as much as \$33 billion over the next 18 months.

Outcome:

This panel will discuss experiences in combating the Ebola outbreak and the potential impact on efforts to fight other diseases.

