Global finance, poverty and health

Thursday 6 April 2017, 1600 - 1800, Plenary Hall 3

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This World Leadership Dialogue will assist participants to better understand how the movement of resources through the global economy is controlled through rules on taxation, business, currency and banking. These rules shape the availability of resources for health care and social conditions for population health. The Dialogue will explore ways in which such resource flows could be better regulated in order to ensure a fairer distribution of wealth and income, with healthier outcomes for people and the planet.

The current model of globalisation has, over the past 40 years, increased the global skewing of wealth and the political power accorded to certain elite groups (individuals, corporations, social classes). Global economic inequality, alongside environmental distresses and climate change, are perhaps the two most pressing health issues facing us today.

Governments and intergovernmental bodies have options for policy directions and tools that could help the global economy evolve into one that is equitable, environmentally sustainable and health-promoting. The global public health community is therefore challenged to support and advocate for new directions, and to hold governments to account for bringing about their domestic and international implementation.