



## **OPENING**

**THE OPENING SESSION OF PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD CONFERENCE 2021 &  
ARMCHAIR CONVERSATION**

## | BACKGROUND

- Remarks by **Dr. Vicharn Panich**, Chair of the PMAC 2021 International Organizing Committee
- Opening Speech by **HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn**
- Video of Prince Mahidol Award Foundation
- Video of PMAC 2021
- Opening Remarks by **Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**, Director-General of WHO
- **Armchair Conversation**

## | OBJECTIVES



Panelist

## Margaret Chan

*Inaugural Dean, Vanke School of Public Health,*

Tsinghua University, Emeritus Director General of World Health Organization  
China

Dr Margaret Chan, from the People's Republic of China, obtained her medical degree from the University of Western Ontario in Canada. She joined the Hong Kong Department of Health in 1978, where her career in public health began.

In 1994, Dr Chan was appointed Director of Health of Hong Kong—the first woman to hold that position. In her nine-year tenure as director, she launched new services to prevent the spread of disease and promote better health. She also introduced new initiatives to improve communicable disease surveillance and response, enhance training for public health professionals, and establish better local and international collaboration. She effectively managed outbreaks of avian influenza and of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS).

In 2003, Dr Chan joined WHO as Director of the Department for Protection of the Human Environment. In June 2005, she was appointed Director, Communicable Diseases Surveillance and Response as well as Representative of the Director-General for Pandemic Influenza. In September 2005, she was named Assistant Director-General for Communicable Diseases. Dr Chan was elected to the post of Director-General on 9 November 2006. The Assembly appointed Dr Chan for a second five-year term at its sixty-fifth session in May 2012. Dr Chan's last term began on 1 July 2012 and ended on 30 June 2017.

On 2 April 2020, Dr Chan was appointed as inaugural Dean of Vanke School of Public Health, Tsinghua University, China.