

The Mexico Institute and the Global Health Initiative at the Woodrow Wilson Center and the Americas Program of the Center for Strategic and International Studies welcome you to:

## **Influenza Outbreak in the Americas: International Cooperation in Response to the Spread of H1N1 Flu**

*With:*

**Jarbas Barbosa**

Area Manager, Health Surveillance and Disease Prevention, Pan American Health Organization



**Katherine Bliss**

Deputy Director, Americas Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies

*Moderated by:*

**Gib Clarke**, Coordinator, Wilson Center Global Health Initiative

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Tuesday, May 5, 2009

3:00pm-5:00pm

5th Floor Conference Room

Woodrow Wilson Center

1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW

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The spread of the H1N1 virus from its first confirmed cases on April 24 prompted the World Health Organization to warn five days later that the first influenza pandemic since 1968 was "imminent." Mexico has seen more than 600 cases of H1N1, and confirmed cases of the virus have appeared in twenty countries and over half of U.S. states.

Today's conference will discuss how governments, international organizations, and civil society groups in the Americas are cooperating to address it.

*For up-to-date information on the H1N1 virus in Mexico and other news, visit [wilsoncenter.org/mexicoportal](http://wilsoncenter.org/mexicoportal).*

*This video of this event will be archived at [wilsoncenter.org/mexico](http://wilsoncenter.org/mexico).*

## Speaker Biographies

### **JARBAS BARBOSA**

AREA MANAGER, HEALTH SURVEILLANCE AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT, PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Jarbas Barbosa da Silva, Jr., was named PAHO area manager for Health Surveillance and Disease Management in 2007. A Brazilian national, Barbosa received his medical degree from the Federal University of Pernambuco and studied public health and epidemiology at the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ). His 25-year career in Brazil's public health sector includes posts at the municipal, state, and federal levels. He has served as coordinator of Pernambuco's HIV/AIDS program, secretary of health of the municipality of Olinda, secretary of health of the state of Pernambuco, director of the National Center for Epidemiology, secretary of public health surveillance at the federal level, and executive secretary of the Ministry of Health of Brazil. Barbosa holds a master's degree in medical sciences and a doctorate in public health from the State University of Campinas in São Paulo state.

### **KATHERINE BLISS**

DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND SENIOR FELLOW, AMERICAS PROGRAM, CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Katherine E. Bliss is a senior fellow and deputy director of the Americas Program at CSIS. Before joining the Americas Program, she was a foreign affairs officer at the U.S. Department of State, where she focused on global health and the Western Hemisphere in the Bureau of Oceans, Environment, and Science and received the Superior Honor Award for her work on environmental health in 2006. From 1996 to 2003, she served on the faculty at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst; she is currently an adjunct associate professor at Georgetown University. Bliss is the author and coeditor of books, reviews, and numerous articles on public health, gender issues, and reform politics in Latin America, including the 2007 coedited volume of *Sexuality Research and Social Policy*, "Nuevas direcciones: Sexuality, Politics, and Reproductive Health in Mexico." Bliss received her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and was a David E. Bell Fellow at the Harvard School of Public Health's Center for Population and Development Studies in 2000–2001. Bliss received her A.B. magna cum laude and her A.M. from Harvard University and also studied at the Colegio de México in Mexico City.

### **GIB CLARKE**

COORDINATOR, GLOBAL HEALTH INITIATIVE, WOODROW WILSON INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR SCHOLARS

Gib Clarke serves as senior program associate for the Environmental Change and Security Program and as coordinator of the Global Health Initiative, addressing population, environment, and health issues. He previously worked as a program assistant for Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH), where he conducted evaluations of reproductive health and micro-lending components of the Integrated Population and Coastal Resources Management (IPOPCORM) project in the Philippines. He also worked on a cervical cancer project in Peru and served as a liaison between the central office and Latin American field offices. As a branch manager and loan officer for ACCIÓN Texas, Clarke opened a branch of the micro-lending organization, developed and implemented a marketing plan, and fostered board relationship and defined board roles. He also has performed field-based HIV/AIDS, family planning, and education assessments in Nicaragua and Guatemala with both the Northwestern University Alliance for International Development and TeenSmart International. Clarke has an M.P.H. in maternal and child health from the University of Washington and a B.A. in economics and psychology from Vanderbilt University.