



**PMAC** | PRINCE MAHIDOL  
AWARD CONFERENCE **2022**

## **OPENING SESSION**

**KEYNOTE SESSION - ARMCHAIR CONVERSATION**

## | BACKGROUND

For the Keynote Session of PMAC 2022, the live armchair conversation will replace the usual series of keynote speeches. The armchair conversation will be the highlight of this event, with world top class speakers discussing about “THE WORLD WE WANT: Actions Towards a Sustainable, Fairer and Healthier Society”. In the armchair conversation, the speakers will each give a brief 5-minute speech, then the moderator will ask questions.

## | OBJECTIVES

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## Keynote

### Margaret Chan

*Founding Dean, Vanke School of Public Health, Tsinghua University;  
Emeritus Director-General, World Health Organization*

Tsinghua University  
China

Dr. Margaret Chan, 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.