

NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE FOR PHG FOUNDATION WILL BOOST FOCUS ON INTERNATIONAL HEALTH

PHG Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Mukesh Kapila *CBE* as its new Chief Executive.

With a background in medicine and public health, Kapila is perhaps best known for his work in international development and humanitarian affairs, in leading roles with the UK Government, World Health Organization and the United Nations. He is currently Special Representative of the Secretary General of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Geneva and a policy adviser to the World Bank. He was attracted to the Foundation by its reputation for innovation in translating scientific research to benefit the health of populations. "I am passionate about liberating people from the effects of illness and poverty" he says, "and harnessing the latest knowledge is vital to making this happen in both developed and developing countries. The Foundation is demonstrating that a strong public health approach is crucial in the 21st century to bridge the gap between the development of new technologies and their application in bringing health for all."

Dr Kapila will take over from Ron Zimmern, who will become the Foundation's Chairman later this year. Dr Zimmern is excited about the Foundation's future, commenting: "Looking ahead, our priorities are the translation agenda; our international programme; and the impact of the exponential growth in genomic and molecular science, new technologies and personalised medicine on the practice of public health. Mukesh has enjoyed a diverse and challenging global career in public health, medicine and international development, and brings with him a wealth of experience and a fresh approach to the Foundation's cause. I and my fellow trustees are delighted that he has agreed to join us and we look forward to working with him during the next phase of the Foundation's development".

Dr Kapila is married with three daughters and lives in Cambridgeshire.

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For more information please contact Carol Lyon on 01223 741934 Fax: 01223 740892

Notes to Editors

- The PHG Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit, multidisciplinary health policy research and development organisation based in Cambridge, UK, but working internationally.
- The Foundation aims to speed the translation of 21st century biomedical science into services that improve the health of populations worldwide.
- The Foundation's programmes contribute to better health policy and the design of more effective health services to deliver the benefits of scientific research.

The PHG Foundation is the working name of the Foundation for Genomics and Population Health, a charitable company registered in England and Wales, charity no. 1118664 / company no. 5823194. Registered address: Strangeways, 2 Worts Causeway, Cambridge CB1 8RN, UK.