International Conference on Nutrition & Early Human Development

Nurturing Care: From Global “Pacts” to National Action, From Thriving Childhoods to Sustainable Livelihoods

24-26 October 2019
Aga Khan University

Programme
# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## DAY 1, THURSDAY OCTOBER 24, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:00-09:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00-11:30</td>
<td>OPENING CEREMONY, AKU AUDITORIUM</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00-09:05</td>
<td>Tilawat</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:05-09:15</td>
<td>Introduction to the conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:15-09:25</td>
<td>Welcome remarks</td>
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<td>09:25-09:35</td>
<td>Opening remarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:35-10:05</td>
<td>Inaugural address 1:</td>
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<td>10:05-10:35</td>
<td>Inaugural address 2:</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:35-10:40</td>
<td>Introduction of Chief Guest</td>
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<td>10:40-11:00</td>
<td>Speech by Chief Guest</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00-11:05</td>
<td>Vote of thanks</td>
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<td>11:05-11:30</td>
<td>Refreshments</td>
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### PLENARY ADDRESSES, AKU AUDITORIUM

**THEME:** Global & Regional Burden and Consequences of Maternal and Childhood Malnutrition

**Session Chair:** Dr. Baseer Ahmad Achakzai (Ministry of Health Services, Regulation & Coordination, Islamabad)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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| 11:35-12:00 | Pakistan nutrition situation and changing epidemiology  
  *Professor Zulfiqar Bhutta, Aga Khan University, Karachi & Centre for Global Child Health, the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada* |
| 12:05-12:30 | Nutrition situation in Africa: A snapshot  
  *Dr Stanley Luchters, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya* |
| 12:35-13:00 | Micronutrient deficiencies and impact on health and development  
  *Dr Shabina Raza, Head of Nutrition Program, Nutrition International* |
| 13:00-13:15 | Questions and discussion                                                                     |
| 13:15-14:15 | LUNCH                                                                                       |
| 14:15-15:50 | PLENARY ADDRESSES, AKU AUDITORIUM  
  **Session Chair:** Dr Sughra Choudhry Khan, Education Director, Aga Khan Foundation Pakistan |
| 14:15-14:40 | ECD’s own developmental trajectory as an interdisciplinary field: Advances, prospects, and challenges  
  *Dr Kofi Marfo, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya* |
| 14:45-15:10 | What the evidence tells us about designing effective holistic packages of early childhood interventions: New directions for interventions research  
  *Dr Aisha Youasfazai, Harvard University, USA (via Video Link)* |
| 15:10-15:35 | Childhood Disability: Epidemiological trends and recent developments in interventions  
  *Dr Amina Abubakar, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya* |
| 15:35-15:50 | Questions and discussion                                                                     |
| 15:50-16:05 | Tea/coffee break                                                                            |
| 16:10-16:30 | PLENARY KEYNOTE, AKU AUDITORIUM  
  Human capital and impact of nutrition,  
  *Meera Shekar, The World Bank (awaiting confirmation)* by Video Link |
| 16:30-18:00 | POSTER SESSION  
  Medical College Courtyard |
| 18:30-20:00 | CONFERENCE DINNER  
  Pool Side, Sport & Rehabilitation Centre |
### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION AND EARLY HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

**DAY 2, FRIDAY OCTOBER 25, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:00-08:20</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:20-08:30</td>
<td>Summary/Recap from Day 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:30-10:30</td>
<td>PLENARY ADDRESSES, AKU AUDITORIUM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>THEME:</strong> Addressing maternal and child undernutrition; solutions and innovations</td>
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<td><strong>Session Chair:</strong> Dr Eric Alain Ategbo, UNICEF</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:30-08:35</td>
<td>Session introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:35-09:05</td>
<td>Stunting exemplars: what has worked where?</td>
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<td><em>Nadia Akseer, Centre for Global Child Health, Toronto</em></td>
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<td>09:10-09:40</td>
<td>Evidence based nutrition actions; what can be done?</td>
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<td><em>Dr Jai K Das, Centre of Excellence in Women and Child Health, The Aga Khan University</em></td>
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<td>09:45-10:15</td>
<td>Improving outcomes with complementary feeding: the experience of a novel supplementation strategy (Ying Yang Bao) among poor populations in China</td>
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<td><em>Professor Feng Cheng, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:20-10:50</td>
<td>Questions and answers</td>
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<td>10:55-11:10</td>
<td>Tea/coffee break</td>
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**PLENARY SESSION CONTINUED, AKU AUDITORIUM**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:10-11:35</td>
<td>PLENARY PAPER</td>
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<td><strong>Session chair:</strong> Dr Shahnaz Ibrahim, Professor &amp; Pediatric Neurologist, Aga Khan University Medical College, Karachi, Pakistan</td>
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<td>Looking beyond 2030 For Impact on the Health and Wellbeing of Children With Disabilities?</td>
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<td><em>Dr Robert Armstrong, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya</em></td>
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<td>11:40-13:00</td>
<td>PARALLEL SYMPOSIA</td>
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**Lecture Hall 1**

Paediatric HIV in low- and middle-income countries: Developmental impact and interventional approaches

**Session chair:** Dr Rehana Siddiqui, Associate Professor, Department of Community Health Sciences, Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan

Stimulating psychological development for HIV infected children in SSA
Dr Amina Abubakar, Institute for Human Development, Aga Khan University, Kenya

Effectiveness, feasibility and acceptability of integrating the Xpert® HIV-1 Qual test in routine settings on early infant diagnosis of HIV in Myanmar, Dr Stanley Luchters (Kenya), Dr Hla Htay, Dr Win Lei Yee, Dr Yasmin Mohamed, Dr Latt Kyaw, Dr Paul Agius, Dr Claire Ryan, Dr Steve Badman, Dr Andrew Valley, Dr Angela Kelly-Hanku, Dr David Anderson, Dr Htay Tin

Evaluation of Early Childhood Development in children exposed to HIV
Dr Megan S. McHenry, Indiana University, USA

SYMPOSIUM 2

 thematic: Nurturing care in conflict and emergencies
Session Chair: Juliet Harris, Aga Khan Foundation USA, Washington, DC, USA
Discussant: Dr Sweta Shah, Aga Khan Foundation (Global), Washington, DC, USA

Preschool healing classrooms for Somali and Eritrean refugee children: A case study with highlights from implementation research,
Shawye Tike, International Rescue Committee

ECD interventions for internally displaced children in Syria
Rasha Faraj, Aga Khan Foundation, Syria

Ahlan Simsim
Phoebe Sloane, International Rescue Committee

SYMPOSIUM 3 (CONCURRENT SESSION PAPER):

thematic: Early child development and school readiness
Session chair: Dr Jan Sanderson, Red River College, Canada

School readiness in Tanzania: learning from the Madrasa Early Childhood programme to take quality school readiness to scale
Lucy Palmer, United Kingdom

A systems approach to parental and community engagement in Early Childhood Education (ECE): Findings from the ELP survey in Punjab
Saba Saeed, IDARA-E-TALEEM-O-AAGAHI, Pakistan

Social-emotional functioning: Comparison among urban and rural preschool children in Pakistan
Seema Laasi, Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan

Early Child Development and Learning Benchmarks for Pakistan (ECDL-BP)
Sanober Nadeem & Dr Ghazala Rafique, Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan

Discussion and questions
13:15-14:15  LUNCH

14:15-16:40  PLENARY ADDRESSES, AKU AUDITORIUM

THEME: Adolescent nutrition

Session chair: Dr Shagufta Zareen, PSPU, Government of Punjab

14:15-14:20  Session introduction

14:20-14:45  Adolescent Health and Nutrition and implications for development, Professor Marleen Temmerman, Aga Khan University, Nairobi

14:50-15:15  Micronutrient deficiencies in pregnant adolescents and the effects of multiple-micronutrient supplementation
Emily Keats, Centre for Global Child Health, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada

15:20-15:45  Nutrition actions for adolescence; what does the evidence indicate?
Dr Rehana Salam, University of Adelaide, Australia

15:50-16:15  Reproductive health and nutrition outcomes; evidence from Asia and implications for the Belt & Road initiative
Kun Tang, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China & Global Child Health Fellow, Centre for Global Child Health, Toronto, Canada

16:15-16:40  Discussion and questions

16:40-16:55  Tea/Coffee Break

16:55-18:30  PARALLEL SYMPOSIA

Lecture Hall 1  SYMPOSIUM 1

THEME: Child stunting reduction trends, determinants and impact on human capital in low and middle income countries: Global evidence, stories of success, opportunities and challenges in Pakistan

Session Chair: Professor Abdul Gaffar Biloo, Karachi, Pakistan

Child stunting: An overview of global burden, trends, determinants, drivers of decline, and consequences for human capital development
Tyler Vaivada, Nadia Akseer, Selai Akseer, Anahya Somaskandan, Marianne Stefopoulos, Zulfiqar Bhutta

Successful stories of child stunting reduction in low and middle income countries: Case study methods, key findings from countries
Nadia Akseer, Luis Huicho, Roman Mogilevskii, Raj Kumar Subedi, Mohamadou
Lecture Hall 2

SYMPOSIUM 2

**THEME:** Supporting early child development and wellbeing in marginalized communities: Studies within the Child Development in Marginalized Communities (CDMC) Project

**Session Chair:** Dr Shaheen Kassim-Lakha, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, USA

- Child development in urban, marginalized communities: Framing the issues
  *Dr Amina Abubakar & the International CDMC Project Team, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya*

- Towards the design and implementation of an integrated early child development intervention for native Kenyans and embedded refugees in an urban informal settlement: Insights from community engagement activities and a household survey
  *Margaret Kabue & the International CDMC Project Team, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya*

- What we have learned, through county, sub-county, and community partnerships, about the prospects and challenges of implementing an intervention with sustainable impact on families and service delivery systems
  *Joyce Marangu, Eunice Njoroge & the International CDMC Project Team, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya*

- Validation of contextually relevant measures of early childhood development in an urban informal settlement
  *Dr Amina Abubakar & the International CDMC Project Team, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya*

ASLS

SYMPOSIUM 3—WORKSHOP:

**TOPIC:** Experience and Potential of the Science of Early Child Development Knowledge Resource

**Session Chair:** Yasmeen Mehboob, Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan

Facilitators:

- Leonard Falex, Aga Khan University, Nairobi
- Dr Ghazala Rafique, Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan
- Jan Sanderson, Red River College, Canada
- Dr Sweta Shah, Aga Khan Development Network

18:30-20:00  **DINNER ON YOUR OWN**
# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION AND EARLY HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

## DAY 3, SATURDAY OCTOBER 26, 2019

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>07:30-08:20</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:20-08:30</td>
<td>Summary/Recap from Day 2</td>
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<td>08:30-10:30</td>
<td>PLENARY ADDRESS, AKU AUDITORIUM</td>
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<td><strong>Session Chair:</strong> Dr Emma Pearson, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:30-09:00</td>
<td>Connecting the Dots in Early Child Development</td>
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<td><strong>Dr Ghazala Rafique, Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan</strong></td>
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<td>09:05-10:35</td>
<td>PLENARY SYMPOSIUM</td>
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<td>THEME: Contributions of donor agencies, international NGOs, and partnership platforms to the advancement of the ECD field</td>
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<td><strong>Session Chair:</strong> Dr Kofi Marfo, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya</td>
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<tr>
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<td>How unlikely partnerships spark change in resource poor settings</td>
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<td><strong>Dr Shaheen Kassim-Lakha, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, USA</strong></td>
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<td>Supporting Integrated ECD: Reflections from Dubai Cares’ support to ECD programs, research and advocacy</td>
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<td><strong>Nadeen Alalami, Dubai Cares</strong></td>
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<td>Toward a holistic approach in ECD</td>
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<td><strong>Dr Sughra Choudhry Khan, Aga Khan Foundation, Pakistan</strong></td>
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<td>The Hilton Foundation, Aga Khan Foundation, and the Institute for Human Development at Aga Khan University: A partnership advancing workforce development, research capacity building, and policy action</td>
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<td><strong>Dr Kofi Marfo (with Leonard Falex, Juliet Harris, Dr Hezborn Koero &amp; Dr. Sweta Shah) Institute for Human Development, Aga Khan University</strong></td>
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<td>10:35-11:50</td>
<td>Tea/coffee break</td>
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<td>11:50-12:10</td>
<td>PLENARY SESSION CONTINUED</td>
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<td>Plenary paper</td>
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<td><strong>Session chair:</strong> Professor Sameen Siddiqui, Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan</td>
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<td>No safe place: Violence among unaccompanied refugee children seeking asylum in Kenya</td>
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<td><strong>Dr Rosalind Raddatz, Aga Khan University</strong></td>
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<td>12:15-13:30</td>
<td>PARALLEL SYMPOSIA</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASLS</td>
<td>SYMPOSIUM 1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>THEME: Maternal/Child health interventions and experiences</td>
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Session Chair: Dr Kausar Waqar, Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan

The Mbereko+Men Model: a community based intervention to improve maternal mental health, uptake of MNCH services, and care and support in the home in Manicaland, Zimbabwe
*Dr Stanley Luchters, Aga Khan University, Nairobi*

Women’s Experience of Facility Care During Antenatal Care, Delivery and Post Natal Care
*Adelaide Lusambili, Aga Khan University Medical College-East Africa, Nairobi, Kenya*

Barriers and facilitators in identification and support provision to Children of Parents with Mental Illness (COPMI) – a systematic review of qualitative and quantitative studies
*Dr Batool Fatima, Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan*

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**SYMPOSIUM 2**

Lecture Hall 2

THEME: Nurturing Care through the health sector: Experiences in Syria, Tanzania, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyz Republic

**Session chair: Juliet Harris, Aga Khan Foundation, Washington, DC**

Syria
*Dr Maher Aboumayaleh, Aga Khan Health Services, Syria*

Tanzania
*David Siso, Aga Khan Foundation, Tanzania*

Tajikistan
*Guldarbogho Sadonshoeva, Aga Khan Health Services, Tajikistan*

Kyrgyz Republic
*Jyppara Tashkamatova, Aga Khan Foundation, Kyrgyz Republic*

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**SYMPOSIUM 3 (CONCURRENT PAPERS)**

Lecture Hall 3

THEME: Building programmes, measuring impact

**Session chair: Dr Adelaide Lusambili, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya**

Equal start for Urban Children in the First 1,000 Days of Life, *Jefferson Gregario, affiliation goes here*

Investigating the benefits of integrated approaches to Early Childhood Development (ECD) in Cambodia
*Emma Pearson, University of Sheffield, UK*

Impact of Cash Transfers on the Wellbeing of Caregivers and Vulnerable
Children in a Kenyan Context
Joyce Marangu, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya

Towards systematic reviews of AKU’s research in early child development and sustainable development goals: A bibliometric analysis
Peter Gatiti & Dr Anil Khamis, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya

FOB SYMPOSIUM 4 (CONCURRENT PAPERS)

THEME: Mixed topics: Language development, science learning, practitioner knowledge, and support for vulnerable children
Session Chair: Dr Hezborn Kodero, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya

Caregivers’ capacity development need in contexts of poverty: The foundation for success in children’s early language development
George Andima, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya

Sciencing activities and science learning outcomes in pre-primary school in Ibadan, Nigeria
Dr Eileen Akintemi, University of Ibadan, Nigeria

Integrated support structure for children with disabilities in Tanzania, a case of children with albinism”
Fortidas Bakuza & Gamriel Mboya, Aga Khan University, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Building practitioner knowledge to create best practice early literacy experiences for children under 3 years old: Experience of a field-based professional development model from Pakistan
Dr Almina Pardhan, Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan

13:30-14:30 LUNCH

14:30-17:00 CLOSING PLENARIES, AKU AUDITORIUM

14:30-15:45 PLENARY SYMPOSIUM
Early childhood development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Chair and discussant: Dr Anil Khamis, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya

UNICEF nutrition and ECD programmes in the region (via Video Link)
Dr Harriet Torlesse, UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia

State’s ownership of early childhood education: From policy promises to implementation
Honorable Mehnaz Aziz, Member, National Assembly of Pakistan

The Sustainable Development Goals and the agenda of ECD
Dr Hirokazu Yoshikawa, New York University, USA

Discussant’s remarks
Dr Anil Khamis, Aga Khan University, Nairobi, Kenya

15:50-16:05  CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

16:10-16:45  Conference Action Highlights and Communiqué
Professor Zulfiqar Bhutta & Dr Kofi Marfo

16:45-17:05  Comments by Provincial Representatives

17:05-17:25  Early childhood development: Taking charge of our collective responsibility
Ms Aida Girma, UNICEF Representative, Pakistan

17:25-17:30  Comments by Dr. Baseer Achakzai
Director, Nutrition, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination

17:30-17:40  Comments by Dr. Carl Amrhein
Provost, Aga Khan University

17:40-17:45  Vote of Thanks
Asghar Ali, Centre of Excellence in Women and Child Health