

O'Neill Institute

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Reforming the World Health Organization

PRESENTATION BY: LAWRENCE GOSTIN

Comments by: Kenneth Dretchen and Ira Shoulson

Professor Lawrence Gostin is the Linda D. and Timothy J. O'Neill Professor of Global Health Law at the Georgetown University Law Center, where he directs the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law. Professor Gostin is the Director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Center on Public Health Law and Human Rights. He serves on the Director-General's Advisory Committee on Reforming the World Health Organization. In 2007, the WHO Director-General appointed Professor Gostin to the International Health Regulations (IHR) Roster of Experts and the Expert Advisory Panel on Mental Health. Professor Gostin is currently engaged in three major international initiatives on global health governance: (1) a "Framework Convention on Human Services" for the World Bank—a multilateral treaty on the health care professional capacity in poor and middle income countries; (2) a "Framework Convention on Global Health"—a multilateral treaty ensuring "basic survival needs" for the world's poor; and (3) a Global Plan for Justice—a voluntary global compact to fund essential medicines, basic survival needs, and climate change. He founded the *Joint Learning Initiative on National and Global Responsibilities for Health* (A Global Partnership for Fundamental Global Health Reform) featured in the WORLD HEALTH REPORT 2011. Professor Gostin is currently working on a book for Harvard University Press, entitled: *Global Health Law: International Law, Global Institutions, and World Health*.

Professor Kenneth Dretchen is the chair of the Department of Pharmacology at Georgetown University Medical Center. He received his B.S. in pharmacy at Long Island University and his PhD. from the University of Iowa. Professor Dretchen served on the National Biodefense Board, to provide expert guidance to the Secretary of Health and Human Services on technical issues related to bioterrorism and public health emergencies. He was part of a team that developed a portable chemical antidote injection that every member of the U.S. military now carries.

Dr. Ira Shoulson is the Director of the Program for Regulatory Science and Medicine at Georgetown University Medical Center. He was previously the Louis C. Lasagna Professor of Experimental Therapeutics and Professor of Neurology, Pharmacology and Medicine at the University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry. Dr. Shoulson founded the Parkinson Study Group and the Huntington Study Group—international academic consortia devoted to research and development of treatments. He has authored more than 260 scientific reports.

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1:20 – 3:20 PM

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