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Dr. Tuula Helander is the Director of the Biotechnology and Medicines Unit at the Finnish Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. She is a MS representative and co-chair with the Commission for the Declaration "Towards access to at least 1 million sequenced genomes in the EU by 2022", and MS representative at the Sub-group on Cancer (Mission on Cancer; Europe's Beating Cancer Plan). Previously she was Senior Adviser in Permanent Secretary's Cabinet at the Ministry. She made her PhD thesis at the Dept. of Pathology in the University of Helsinki (main results published in Nature, Helander et al. 1996). She has been Secretary General of Finnish Cancer Institute, and the Director of Southern Cancer Center at the Helsinki University Hospital.