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Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services



Since 2021 Bjørn-Inge Larsen is the Special Representative for International Health in the Ministry of Health and Care Services, after serving 9 years as Secretary General. Prior to his appointment as Secretary General in 2013, he served as Chief County Medical Officer in several counties as well as Director General in the Norwegian Directorate of Health between 2001-2012. During the years 2010-2013 he represented Norway as Member of the WHO Executive Board. Throughout his career as a leading public health official, he has been engaged in the debate on the role of civil society and the private sector in public health policymaking and how they can contribute to improved health outcomes, including in reducing premature deaths from non-communicable diseases. Secretary-General Larsen is now actively engaged in taking the agenda for increased transparency in medicine pricing forward, as set out in the World Health Assembly resolution 72.8. This includes how the pharmaceutical industry itself can contribute to increased transparency in medicine pricing with a view to improve access.