



SINGAPORE

**SINGAPORE RED CROSS HUMANITARIAN CONFERENCE 2019
PARTNERSHIP AND VOLUNTEERISM FOR HUMANITY**

SPEAKERS INTRODUCTION

Mr. Nishit Majmudar
CEO of Aviva Singapore

**Partnerships and Volunteerism in Humanity- Corporate Partnership for Social
Good**



To provide critical assistance for the needy families in Singapore, Aviva Singapore has been in close partnership with the Singapore Red Cross. Aviva Singapore has committed to support several Red Cross programmes, with funding and volunteers, including Family Life Aid, exclusively adopting the Food Aid programme where we jointly provide food subsidies to the needed families; the HoME+ monitoring system where we help seniors living alone; the Shop+ where we hold sales to support our services and the Tour le Care cycling fundraising event.

Mr Nishit Majmudar, CEO of Aviva Singapore, has set the tone from the top by championing employee-centric policies and voluntary community work in Aviva Singapore.

Nishit Majmudar joined Aviva Singapore as the Chief Executive Officer in February 2012. In 2018, he was awarded the CEO of the year award from Insurance Asia Awards. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce from Bombay University and is an accredited member of the Institute of Investment Management and Research (UK). He is also a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries in London and India, and has over 29 years of experience in finance and executive management in India, UK, Philippines, Thailand, and Singapore.

Ms. Bonnie So
Secretary General, Hong Kong Red Cross

Building Coalitions to Serve the Vulnerable - Partners & Volunteers



Ms So joined Hong Kong Red Cross Society in 1990, participating in multiple different major services. She was promoted to Secretary General in 2015, and currently leads 1,400 staff members and 22,000 volunteers. She has since been involved in a wide range of disaster relief and reconstruction projects worldwide. Furthermore, Ms So is a member of the Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) of the International Federation of Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and the founding member of the IFRC Asia Pacific Fundraisers' Network.

Beyond her work at Red Cross, she established the Face-to-Face Monthly Giving Alliance in Hong Kong in 2012 as the founding Chairperson. She is also the current Vice Chairman of the Steering Committee on Work in Mainland China of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS), and a member of its Executive Committee. Additionally, she is a Consultant of the Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women, Advisor of the Inspiring HK Sports Foundation, and a Selection Committee member of the Community Involvement Broadcasting Service of Radio Television Hong Kong.

In 2006, Ms So was presented with “The Ten Outstanding Young Persons of Hong Kong” award. She also holds a Master’s Degree in New Media, and Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management from Harvard Business School and is currently undergoing the Executive Master’s Program in Business Administration.

Dr. Harish L Metha
Chairman of Indian Red Cross, Tamil Nadu Branch

Building a Network of Humanitarians - Recipe for Swift & Effective Response



Dr. Harish L Metha is the current Chairman of Indian Red Cross Society, Tamil Nadu Branch. Singapore Red Cross's first disaster relief mission with the Indian Red Cross was during the severe Chennai floodings in 2015. Our work in India has only increased since, with a mobile clinic and ongoing weekly medical camps reaching out to the poor in Chennai.

For his contributions, Dr Harish received the "Red Cross Gold Medal" from the President of India. In addition, he has an extensive and diverse experience in humanitarian and philanthropic endeavors. Dr Harish is served as the Chairman of *Sri. Sumathi Vishal Dialysis Centre*, President of *Society of Prevention to Cruelty to Animals (SPCA)*, and is the State Commissioner of *Bharat Scouts & Guides*. During his time as State Commissioner, he received the "Silver Elephant Award" – a distinguished scouting award, presented for his commendable and extraordinary service.

Apart from his altruistic efforts, Dr. Harish L Metha is also a veteran in the operations of business organisations. He is the Senior National Vice President of *All India Manufacturers Organisation*, to create an environment for co-operation between Government and Industry. He is also the Vice President of the *National Chamber of Commerce* and a member of *E.S.I. Corporation, Ministry of Labour, Government of India*.

Dr. Hugo Slim
Head of Policy, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

ICRC Partnerships Today & Tomorrow in Conflict and Disaster



Dr Slim is the Head of Policy at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva. Dr Slim has combined a career in both academia and in practice. Before joining ICRC in 2015, he was Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict (ELAC) at the University of Oxford where he led research on humanitarian ethics and the protection of civilians.

Dr Slim's other experiences in academia include being the Chief Scholar at the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue from 2003—2007 and Reader in International Humanitarianism at Oxford Brookes University from 1994-2003. Between 1983 and 1994, he also worked for Save the Children and the United Nations in Morocco, Sudan, Ethiopia, the Occupied Palestinian Territories, and Bangladesh.

His most recent books include *Humanitarian Ethics: a Guide to the Morality of Aid in War and Disaster* (2015 Hurst/OUP) and *Killing Civilians: Method, Madness and Morality in War* (2007 Hurst/OUP).

Mr Jan Gelfand
Head of Country Cluster Support Team (Indonesia & Timor-Leste),
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

The Case for Volunteerism - The Bedrock & Energy of Red Cross



Jan Gelfand is currently the Head of the Country Cluster Support Team for Indonesia, Timor-Leste and Representative for ASEAN for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). He possesses an extensive and unique set of skills in Senior Management, Disaster Risk Management, Health and Community Development, cross cultural education, disaster response, programme management, and evaluation, and training. Mr Gelfand was previously the Deputy Regional Director in the Americas Regional office in Panama, where he was responsible for strategic and operational oversight on the application of IFRC Strategies of Implementation and Areas of Focus.

During 12 years of full time employment in the Red Cross Movement, Mr Gelfand has held senior field positions with both the Canadian RC and the IFRC Secretariat. He has taught sociology and community development at the senior undergraduate level in the departments of Sociology, Recreation Administration and the School of Native Studies at the University of Alberta in Canada. He also has an extensive experience working with community based organisations both in Canada and throughout Latin America.

Mr Gelfand's sharing will highlight how the global connection established by the Red Cross Movement allows it to accomplish works in areas that go beyond other organisations' jurisdictions. It will also focus on how anyone, regardless of their background and circumstance, has the ability to be an active volunteer.