



Mr Thomas Mettenleiter

Co-Chair, One Health High-Level Expert Panel

Mr Mettenleiter studied biology and earned his doctoral degree in Genetics at the Eberhard Karl University of Tübingen for his research work on animal herpesviruses conducted at the Federal Research Centre for Virus Diseases of Animals (BFAV) in Tübingen in Germany.

With a research fellowship granted by the German Research Foundation (DFG) he did a research stay at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, in the United States of America. After returning to BFAV, he obtained his post-doctoral habilitation in virology at the University of Tübingen.

Between 1994 and 2019, he headed the Institute of Molecular Virology and Cell Biology at the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, Federal Research Institute for Animal Health (FLI) in Germany. After, he was an appointed head of the FLI and afterwards a president of the FLI.

His main field of research is virus infections of farm animals. In addition to studies on the basic processes of virus-host interactions, he is involved in the development of novel vaccines based on molecular biological techniques. To date, his scientific work includes more than 450 peer reviewed publications and numerous presentations and book chapters. He has acted as academic supervisor of more than 100 junior scientists and as a coordinator of several international projects focusing on animal health and One Health aspects.

Mr Mettenleiter is a member of several international committees and working groups. Of particular note is the founding co-chair of the „One Health High Level Expert Panel” jointly initiated by WHO, OIE, FAO, and UNEP in 2021. He was also a member of the OIE working groups e.g. on SARS-CoV-2 in animals, and the OIE Scientific Commission for two terms.



Mr Mettenleiter is a member of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, the Academy of Sciences in Hamburg, the Polish Academy of Sciences, and the Royal Belgian Academy of Medicine. He has been awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover, an associate professorship from the University of Greifswald and an honorary professorship from the University of Rostock. He is also a recipient of the Robert von Ostertag Medal of the German Federal Chamber of Veterinarians. He is senior editor of the scientific journals "Advances in Virus Research" and "Berliner und Münchener Tierärztliche Wochenschrift". Furthermore, he is an active member of the editorial and review boards of several international scientific journals.

