

# GOVERNANCE

BASEL INSTITUTE ON GOVERNANCE

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## Scenarios for the future

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1. Whereas market forces in developed states more or less manage to maintain a self-sustaining R+D process, in developing nations not only the availability of medication specifically targeting the health needs of these countries is uncertain, but even where drugs exist to combat major illnesses, they are typically not affordable for the vast majority of the afflicted. Finally, problems of distribution and application (lack of trained personnel, transportation, political will or risk of corruption) may, in addition, endanger access to essential medication.
2. These levels of difficulties need to be addressed separately. The talk will evaluate the solutions offered so far and discuss their advantages and disadvantages (including benevolence, compulsory licensing, PPP's and differential pricing).
3. It appears on balance that in order to promote 'availability', targeted public research funding and promoting of so-called PPP's, addressing the specific needs of developing countries, are the most promising avenues. However, more international coordination is needed. On 'affordability' differential pricing models seem to be most promising. They, however, need to be further elaborated, and again a lack of coordination is part of the problem.
4. Overall a multi-stakeholder-approach with a strong role of the WHO as a convenor and all key parties as members appears as the most promising next step to coordinate action on access to essential medication.