

Leadership for UHC: Conventions for working together

Be open – and open-minded

Be prepared to hear views that you may not normally wish to hear - and be willing to learn something from them. You will certainly hear views expressed from other participants with whom you deeply disagree; we take the view that leaders need to know what other people are thinking, if they are to work effectively across boundaries.

Avoid both giving and taking offence

It is important that everyone feels able to say what they really think. When other people's views are articulated bluntly or clumsily, we ask you to suspend instant judgment and enter into constructive discussion on them. We also ask you to communicate in a respectful way and to listen to any feedback as to why your ideas or language might cause offence.

Be a leader

Make sure that your contributions are to the point - and be prepared to ask the difficult questions. Speak as yourself. Support fellow participants when they have the courage to go out on a limb. Don't delegate issues to the Programme Director if the group is better placed to deal with them.

Be engaged – and positive

Show commitment. Make arrangements so that you can attend each event in full, keep to the timings given, prepare yourself well and ensure that you are not interrupted. Be fair and respectful in your dealings with other participants, contributors and graduates. If you can't help someone, say so. If someone can't help you, accept this. Use shared knowledge and experience for positive ends.

Adhere to the Chatham House Rule

The Chatham House Rule was devised at Chatham House (the home of the Royal Institute for International Affairs in London*) in 1927 and was refined in 1992 and 2002. It is an internationally recognised and respected way of conducting meetings and it reads as follows: *When a meeting is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed*".

The Chatham House Rule simply means that people can talk about anything that they have learnt or discussed on the programme but cannot say who it was that expressed a particular view.