



## **Prof. Dr. Frank Stangenberg-Haverkamp**

Chairman of Board of Trustees of MERCK Foundation  
Chairman of the Executive Board and Family Board, E. MERCK KG

**Dr. Frank Stangenberg-Haverkamp born in Dorsten, Germany. He is The Chairman of the Executive Board and Family Board of E. Merck KG and member of the Merck family.**

Following his German University entrance qualification (Abitur) he served with the German Air Force, which he left as Lieutenant. At the University of Freiburg/Br. he studied economics and economic history.

After completing his studies he worked at Commerzbank and the Investment Banks Baring Brothers and Hambros in London.

In 1984 he was elected to the Board of Partners of E. Merck KG and has been the Chairman of the Board since 2004.

In January 2014 he was elected as the Chairman of the Executive Board and the Family Board of E. Merck KG.

Under his leadership MERCK gives back to society through building research and cancer care capacity in Africa focusing on Empowering African women in Research and oncology field to improve women health

Following the success of Merck Cancer Access Program to empower women in oncology field where they are underrepresented, comes another successful initiative for MERCK to empower African women in Research to improve women health. After receiving his “**African Alliances HE for SHE**” award for women empowerment, Prof Frank Stangenberg- haverkamp has further achieved another commitment successfully to empower women in research to contribute to bridging the gap in gender equality in STEM in Africa

In 2017 Prof Frank became the Chairman of Board of Trustees of Merck Foundation ,A philanthropic organization that aims to improve the health and wellbeing of people and advance their lives through science and technology primarily focused on improving access to innovative healthcare solutions in underserved communities ,building healthcare and scientific research capacity and empowering people in STEM Education with special focus on women and youth.

**Prof Frank believes that empowering women through education is an important factor in promoting the economic well-being of Africans and as many literatures have shown that there are strong links between educating women and girls and positive outcomes for economic empowerment, social mobility and maternal health. It is also believed that women’s unemployment in a nation’s workforce was a waste of valuable human capital that has a negative impact on economic prosperity and national development.**

Moreover, the Merck Foundation under the leadership of Prof.Frank offers their support to motivate female researchers and healthcare providers and recognize their excellence to fields where they are underrepresented. Through its annual platform, the UNESCO Merck Africa Research Summit - MARS, it prepares the road for young African researchers to drive Africa’s development as an international hub for research.

As part of its contribution towards improving access to healthcare solutions and hence to the social and economic development of Africa, Merck has launched Merck’s annual “Best African Woman Researcher Award” and “Best Young African Researcher Award”.

In cooperation with Ministries of Science and Education and UNESCO, the Merck Foundation’s target is to empower over 7,000 girls and 60 women researchers across Africa in 2017 through various initiatives, including providing training, setting up computer libraries in schools and appointing the UNESCO-MARS Research Award winners as ambassadors for the ‘Merck STEM Program.

Prof. Frank Stangenberg-Haverkamp said: “Merck will work together with UNESCO to empower young researchers which raises the level of scientific research in Africa and encourages in particular young women researchers to pursue their dreams, work for improving access to health solutions and make a difference in the continent. Moreover, I am very pleased to offer my support to motivate female researchers & healthcare providers and recognizes their excellent contribution to fields where they are underrepresented”.