

2021 ECOSOC Integration Segment

Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development:

Building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development

Biographies

Opening

H.E. Mr. Juan Sandoval Mendiola, Deputy Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council



Ambassador Juan Sandoval-Mendiola is a career diplomat. He joined the Mexican Foreign Service in 1992, and was promoted to the rank of Ambassador in 2014. Since 2015 he is the Deputy Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations in New York. In the Ministry of Foreign Relations, he has been Director-General for United Nations Affairs (2013- 2015), Director of Cabinet of the Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights (2007- 2013) and Assistant Director General for Inter-American Organizations and Mechanisms (2006- 2007).

He was posted as Deputy Representative of Mexico to the Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington D.C. (2001-2006). He was the Mexican expert to the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism on narcotic drugs (MEM), and in the Follow-up Mechanism of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC). He was Chairman of the Special Committee on Transnational Organized Crime of the OAS. He was posted as Legal and Human Rights Affairs Counselor to the Mexican Embassy in France (1994-2001). He has been representative of Mexico in numerous meetings of the United Nations, OECD, UNESCO, and the Council of Europe.

Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations



United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has appointed Mr. Liu Zhenmin of China as the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs effective 26 July 2017. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Liu was Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of China since 2013. Among his various diplomatic assignments, he served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the People’s Republic of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Other International Organizations in Switzerland (2011-2013). Mr. Liu brings to the position more than 30 years of experience in the diplomatic service, with a strong focus on the promotion of bilateral, regional and global issues. He was deeply involved for 10 years in climate change negotiations including the conclusion of the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. He also widely participated in the international activities on the protection of our planet including

Antarctica and the oceans. Over the last several years, in various capacities, he has been consistently highlighting and advocating for sustainable development issues. Mr. Liu started his career at the Foreign Affairs Ministry in 1982. Since then, he has served the Ministry in various capacities, including as Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs (2009-2011); Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent

Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations (2006-2009); Director-General, Department of Treaty and Law (2003-2006); and Deputy Director-General, Department of Treaty and Law (1998-2003). He also served in the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Other International Organizations in Switzerland (1992-1995) and in the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations (1984-1988).

As Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Mr. Liu guides UN Secretariat support for the follow-up processes of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. He also oversees the substantive services to many intergovernmental processes, including the annual meetings of the Second and Third Committees of the General Assembly, the meetings of the Economic and Social Council, including its Development Cooperation Forum, and the work of the subsidiary bodies of ECOSOC. In addition to intergovernmental processes, Mr. Liu oversees DESA's policy analysis and capacity development work. He also serves as the Convenor of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs, and advises the United Nations Secretary-General on all development-related issues, including climate change, internet governance, and financing for development.

Panel 1

Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



Achim Steiner became UNDP Administrator on 19 June 2017. Following the recommendation of the Secretary-General, after consultation with Member States, the General Assembly confirmed Achim Steiner of Germany as Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for a further four-year term of office beginning on 17 June 2021. Mr. Steiner is also the Vice-Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group, which unites 40 entities of the UN system that work to support sustainable development.

Over nearly three decades, Achim Steiner has been a global leader on sustainable development, climate resilience and international cooperation. He has worked tirelessly to champion sustainability, economic growth and equality for the vulnerable, and has been a vocal advocate for the Sustainable Development Goals.

Prior to joining UNDP, he was Director of the Oxford Martin School and Professorial Fellow of Balliol College, University of Oxford. Mr. Steiner has served across the United Nations system, looking at global challenges from both a humanitarian and a development perspective. He led the United Nations Environment Programme (2006-2016), helping governments invest in clean technologies and renewable energy. He was also Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi. Achim Steiner previously held other notable positions including Director General of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and Secretary General of the World Commission on Dams.

Achim Steiner has lived and worked in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe, Latin America and the United States. He graduated in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (MA) from Worcester College, Oxford University and holds an MA from the University of London/School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS).

H.E. Mr. Alessandro Cortese, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in Vienna and Chair of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) at its 30th session



Born in Rome on 16 October 1960, he graduates in Law from the University of Rome (“La Sapienza”) in 1984 and enters the Italian Diplomatic Service in March 1986. He initially serves at the Secretariat of the Development Cooperation Department of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and is then assigned to the General Secretariat of the MFA in 1988.

From 1989 to 1993 he is Head of the Commercial Office at the Italian Embassy in Pretoria (South Africa). He is then seconded to the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union in Brussels, where he works at the Directorate for Political Cooperation, and subsequently at the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) Directorate (as Head of the OSCE – Council of Europe desk, also in charge of the “Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe”). In 1995 he is assigned to the Italian Permanent Mission to the EU as CFSP Counsellor and he is Chairman of the EU CFSP Counsellors Working Party and co-Chairman of the Former-Yugoslavia Working Group during the Italian EU Presidency in 1996. In October 1997 he returns to Italy as Head of one of the desks in the Press Department of the MFA, where he is responsible for the relations with Italian and foreign media as well as for the website management and technological improvements within the Department.

In 1999 he is once more seconded to the General Secretariat of the EU Council in Brussels, as Head of the Western Balkans Unit. From 2002 to 2006 he is Deputy Head of Mission at the Italian Embassy in Ottawa. Back in Rome, he returns to the Press Department of the MFA as Deputy Head. In May 2008 he is appointed Diplomatic Advisor of the President of the Chamber of Deputies of the Italian Parliament. In July 2012 he is posted to Brussels as Permanent Representative to the Political and Security Committee of the EU.

Upon his return to Rome in early 2017, he first serves as Coordinator for the Italian 2018 OSCE Chairmanship and then as Deputy Director General for Political Affairs and Principal Director for Security at the MFA. In June 2018 he is appointed Head of the Press Department and Spokesperson of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. From 11 November 2019 he is the Permanent Representative of Italy to the International Organizations in Vienna.

H.E. Mr. Mher Margaryan, Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations and Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at its 65th session



In 2019, Ambassador Margaryan was elected Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women for the sixty-fourth and sixty-fifth sessions. He was appointed Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations in 2018. Before that, from 2017 to 2018 Ambassador Margaryan was his country’s Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations. H.E. Mr. Mher Margaryan was the Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council during the 2020 session.

From 2015 to 2017, he was Minister Plenipotentiary to the Permanent Mission of Armenia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva. He worked as Head of the European Union Division at Armenia’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2009 to 2015. With Government experience exceeding two decades, he has served his country in many capacities at Armenia’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and at Missions abroad.

Ms. Michelle Bachelet, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights



On September 1, 2018 Michelle Bachelet assumed her functions as the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights was established in 1993 and Ms. Bachelet is the seventh Commissioner.

Ms. Bachelet was elected President of Chile on two occasions (2006 – 2010 and 2014 – 2018). She was the first female president of Chile. She served as Health Minister (2000-2002) as well as Chile’s and Latin America’s first female Defense Minister (2002 – 2004). During her presidential tenures, she promoted the rights of all but particularly those of the most vulnerable. Among her many achievements, education and tax reforms, as well as the creation of the National Institute for Human Rights and the Museum of Memory and Human Rights stand out, as do the establishment of the Ministry of Women and Gender Equality, the adoption of quotas to increase women’s political participation, and the approval of Civil Union Act legislation, granting rights to same sex couples

and thus, advancing LGBT rights.

Since the early 1990s, Ms. Bachelet has worked closely with many international organizations. In 2010 she chaired the Social Protection Floor Advisory Group, a joint International Labor Organization (ILO) and World Health Organization (WHO) initiative, which sought to promote social policies to stimulate economic growth and social cohesion. In 2011, she was named the first Director of UN Women, an organization dedicated to fighting for the rights of women and girls internationally. Economic empowerment and ending violence against women were two of her priorities during her tenure. She has recently pledged to be a Gender Champion, committing to advance gender equality in OHCHR and in international fora.

After finishing her second term in March 2018, she was named Chair of the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, an alliance of more than 1000 organizations in 192 countries from the sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health communities. As Co-Chair of the High-Level Steering Group for Every Woman Every Child, Ms. Bachelet launched Every Woman Every Child Latin America and the Caribbean, the first platform for tailored, regional implementation of the EWEC Global Strategy.

Mr. Omar Castañeda Solares, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the United Nations, Member of the of the Like-Minded Group of Countries Supporters of Middle-Income Countries



Since 2009, Mr. Castañeda-Solares has been appointed as Minister Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the United Nations. During his term, he has worked in the 5th Committee of the General Assembly (Administrative and Budgetary). He was also in charge of press issues and during Guatemala’s membership of the Security Council, 2012-2013, he has been the expert of the Great Lakes Region and Central Africa. Mr. Castañeda Solares has been vice-chair of the 5th Committee during the 70 session of the General Assembly and was promoted to Deputy Permanent Representative of Guatemala in 2016. Mr. Castaneda- Solares has joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala and has held different positions in the Directorate of Economic Policy and in the Directorate General of Protocol since 2005. Mr. Castaneda-Solares holds a Master Degree in

Diplomacy and International Relations from the Complutense University of Madrid and a degree in International Relations from the University of San Carlos, Guatemala.

H.E. Mr. Martin Bille Hermann, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations

Martin Bille Hermann took up his post as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations on 1 January 2019.



Before taking up his position, Ambassador Martin Bille Hermann served as State Secretary for Development Policy in the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This position is sometimes referred to as 'Head of DANIDA'. DANIDA is the brand name for Danish Development Cooperation.

Prior to this appointment, Martin Bille Hermann served as Ambassador to Indonesia and was also accredited to East Timor and Papua New Guinea.

Before his appointment as Ambassador, Martin Bille Hermann held several positions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including as Head of Department for Asia and the Pacific Ocean region. Before joining the Danish Foreign Service, Martin worked for UNDP in Bhutan.

Martin Bille Hermann is an economist by profession, and also holds a Masters Degree in Development Management from London School of Economics.

Panel 2

Mr. Guy Ryder, Director General of the International Labour Organization (ILO)



Mr. Guy Ryder has served as the ILO Director-General since 2012. He started his professional career in 1981 as assistant at the International Department of the Trade Union Congress in London. From 1985, he held the position of Secretary of the Industry Trade Section of the International Federation of Commercial, Clerical, Professional and Technical Employees (FIET) in Geneva. In 1988, Guy Ryder became Assistant Director and – from 1993 - Director of the Geneva office of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU).

Guy Ryder first joined the International Labour Organization in 1998 as Director of the Bureau for Workers' Activities and, from 1999, as Director of the Office of the Director-General. It was during this time that the ILO's Decent Work Agenda was launched and won support from the international community.

In 2002, he was appointed General Secretary of the ICFTU, leading the process of global unification of the democratic international trade union movement. He was elected as first General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) when it was created in 2006. He headed international trade union delegations to high level talks with the UN, IMF, World Bank and WTO and to the G20 Leaders' Summits.

In September 2010, Guy Ryder came back to the ILO in Geneva as Executive Director, responsible for international labour standards and fundamental principles and rights at work. Among other activities, he supervised the application of ILO Conventions and Recommendations. He also headed several high-level ILO missions to address a range of issues related to labour standards in countries such as Bahrain, Colombia, Fiji, Georgia, Greece, Myanmar and Swaziland.

Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)



Inger Andersen is Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya.

Between 2015 and 2019, Ms. Andersen was the Director-General of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Ms. Andersen has more than 30 years of experience in international development economics, environmental sustainability, strategy and operations. She has led work on a range of issues including agriculture, environmental management, biodiversity conservation, climate change, infrastructure, energy, transport, and water resources management and hydro-diplomacy.

Between 1999 and 2014, Ms. Andersen held several leadership positions at the World Bank including Vice President of the Middle East and North Africa; Vice President for Sustainable Development and Head of the CGIAR Fund Council. Prior to her 15 years at the World Bank, Ms. Andersen worked 12 years at the United Nations, first on drought and desertification, beginning with the UN Sudano-Sahelian Office. In 1992, she was appointed UNDP's Water and Environment Coordinator for the Arab Region.

Ms. Andersen holds a Bachelors from the London Metropolitan University North and a Masters in Development Economics from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

Ms. Alicia Barcena, Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)



Ms. Bárcena assumed office as the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) on 1 July 2008. She had previously served as the Under-Secretary-General for Management at United Nations Headquarters in New York, Chef de Cabinet and Deputy Chef de Cabinet to the former Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan.

Alicia Bárcena held the post of Deputy Executive Secretary and Director of ECLAC's Environment and Human Settlements Division. Prior to her time at ECLAC, Ms. Bárcena served as Co-ordinator of the Latin American and Caribbean Sustainable Development Programme of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), responsible for the Environmental

Citizenship Project at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Alicia Bárcena was the Founding Director of the Earth Council in Costa Rica, a non-governmental organization in charge of follow-up to the agreements reached at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992. Ms. Bárcena has published numerous articles on sustainable development, public policy, environmental issues, and public participation. Alicia Bárcena holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM, in Spanish), as well as a Master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University. She has completed the courses for a degree of Master in Ecology, and has initiated studies for a PhD degree in Economics at the UNAM.

She has been awarded honoris causa doctorates from the University of Oslo, Norway, in September 2014, the University of Havana, Cuba, in March 2016, and the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) in September 2019. In July 2015, she was appointed by the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) as extraordinary teacher to collaborate at the Economics School and other entities. On 1 October 2014 she received the medal 2013 in International Relations of the University of Anáhuac.

Professor José Antonio Ocampo, Chair of the 23rd session of the Committee for Development Policy (CDP)



José Antonio Ocampo is Member of the Board of Banco de la República, Colombia's central bank, and Chair of the Committee for Development Policy of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). He is also Professor at the School of International and Public Affairs, co-President of the Initiative for Policy Dialogue and Member of the Committee on Global Thought at Columbia University.

He has occupied numerous positions at the United Nations and his native Colombia, including UN Under- Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and Minister of Finance, Minister of Agriculture and Director of the National Planning Office of Colombia. In 2015-16, he was also the head of Colombia's Rural Development Commission. In 2012 he was one of the two candidates from developing countries for President of the World Bank. He has received numerous academic distinctions, including the 2012 Jaume Vicens Vives award of the Spanish Association of Economic History for the best book on Spanish or Latin American economic history, the 2008 Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought and the 1988 Alejandro Angel Escobar National Science Award of Colombia. He has published extensively on macroeconomic theory and policy, international financial issues, economic and social development, international trade, and Colombian and Latin American economic history.

Mr. Julio Santaella, Vice-Chair of the 52nd session of the Statistical Commission



Since January 2016, Julio A. Santaella is the President of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of México. From 2001 to 2015, served at the Bank of Mexico as the Executive Coordinator of the Mexican Petroleum Fund, Manager of Information and Analysis, Director of the Central Bank Operations Support, Researcher for the General Direction of Economic Research, as well as for the Central Bank Governing Board. From 1992 to 1997 he served as an economist of the Research Department and the European Department of the International Monetary Fund.

In the academic field, he has been a researcher and teacher at the Technologic Autonomous Institute of Mexico (ITAM, 1985-1986, 1997-2003), Coordinator of the Applied Economics Center, Chairman of the Economics Department and Deputy Director of the Economic Research and Analysis Center. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the ITAM, and holds a Master's degree and PhD. in Economics from the University of California (UCLA).

Mr. Renato Zerbini Ribeiro Leão, Chair of the 69th session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)



Mr. Renato Zerbini Ribeiro Leão is the Chair of the 69th session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR). Holding a Doctorate degree in International Law and International Relations from the Autonomous University of Madrid, Renato Zerbini Ribeiro Leão is a lawyer specializing in international human rights law, focusing on economic and social rights and on constitutional law, areas in which he performs important scholarly activity.

H.E. Mr. Walton A Webson, Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations and Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)



H.E. Mr. Walton A Webson has been appointed as the Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda in 2014. Until his appointment, Mr. Webson had a long career with Perkins International, serving as its Director since 2011. Prior to that, he was the organization’s Director of Institutional Development and Coordinator of Education Programs for Africa and the Caribbean. Before joining Perkins International in 1992, Mr. Webson was the Caribbean Regional Representative for Sight Savers International for two years, beginning in 1990. From 1981 to 1986, he was the Executive Director of the Caribbean Council for the Blind. He has also been teaching Leadership and International Management at Assumption College, Worcester, Massachusetts, since 2006. He has authored books on empowering persons with disabilities and academic papers on development, education and aspects of disability.

Mr. Webson holds a doctorate in management from Case Western Reserve University in Ohio, United States. He earned his Master of Science in management of non-profit organizations and his Bachelor of Science from the New School for Social Research, New York, United States.

H.E. Mr. Diego Pary Rodríguez, Permanent Representative of Bolivia to the United Nations and Member of the Bureau of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs)



H.E. Mr. Rodríguez was appointed as the Permanent Representative of Bolivia to the United Nations since December 2020. Prior to his latest appointment, Mr. Rodríguez held numerous positions within his country’s Government, including Minister for Foreign Affairs (2018-2019), Ambassador to the Organization of American States (2011-2018), Vice-Minister of Higher Education (2008-2011) and Advisor to the Constituent Assembly (2006-2007). He also worked at the International Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples (2008) and prior to that at the Fundación Acción Cultural Loyola (2002-2006).

Mr. Rodríguez holds a bachelor’s degree in education from the Universidad Mayor, Real and Pontificia de San Francisco Xavier de Chuquisaca and a master’s degree in international trade negotiations from the University of Barcelona and Simón Bolívar Andean University. He also completed expert studies in indigenous people, human rights, public administration, and International Cooperation at the Carlos III University of Madrid.

Ms. Maria-Francesca Spatolisano, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, DESA (Moderator)



Maria-Francesca Spatolisano of Italy was appointed Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in December 2018. Ms. Spatolisano has 33 years of experience in public service including extensive senior leadership in multilateral affairs. She has served as the European Union Ambassador to the OECD and UNESCO, Monaco and Andorra. She was a member of the EU Delegation to the United Nations, serving as the Head of its Economic and Trade Section. She covered all issues related to trade, development and environmental policies in the Second Committee and ECOSOC and

was also the EC representative to the Fifth Committee. Since 2017, she has been responsible for International Organizations and Development Dialogue with other Donors in the Commission's Directorate General for Development Cooperation. In this capacity, she has assured the EU presence and developed EU positions on development policy in a number of international fora including the United Nations, the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, OECD, G-7 and the G-20, where she represented the EU in the G-20 Development Working Group. Ms. Spatolisano holds a Doctorate in Law (cum laude) from Florence University and is fluent in Italian, English and French.

Panel 3

Mr. Qu Dongyu, Director-General of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)



Qu Dongyu, who took office on 1 August 2019 as Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, has spent his life working on how to make sure the world is fed. Before coming to FAO, Qu served as China's Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, where one of his achievements was to promote inclusive and innovative development and make sure ICT were available in rural areas so that more than 400 million farmers could use their smartphones as a new farming tool. That vision has been consistent across a professional career that includes periods in central and local government, in and leading research institutes, and as a human resources leader at the China Three Gorges Project Development

Corporation, a \$40 billion investment project.

Among his national initiatives has been to improve reporting of wholesale prices for agricultural products in China and foster the establishment of more than 100 specialty production areas geared to making local comparative advantages work to the benefit of local farmers. As Vice Governor of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, one of China's landlocked and poorest areas, Qu formulated action plans aimed at poverty reduction, disaster reduction and prevention, women empowerment, agritourism and mutual learning platforms designed to boost trust between ethnic groups.

Qu says he represents the combination of an "Asian soul" and a "global mind". Recognized for scientific innovation as a young scholar, Qu has for 30 years been involved in international exchanges and orchestrated major events including the World Potato Congress, the International Rice Congress and the International Conference on Plant Protection, and participated in multilateral initiatives such as the World Trade Organization and the G20 as well as numerous bilateral initiatives involving Asia, Africa and Latin America. He has also directly helped design flagship South-South Cooperation projects with FAO and the World Bank.

H.E. Mr. António Vitorino, Director-General, International Organization for Migration (IOM)



In 2018, the member states of IOM, the United Nations Migration Agency, elected Portugal's António Vitorino as the Organization's next Director General. Mr. Vitorino is a former European Commissioner for Justice and Home Affairs (1999-2004) and former Minister of the Presidency and National Defence (1995-1997). He has also enjoyed a distinguished career in Portugal as a lawyer as well as in electoral politics.

He was elected to Portugal's Parliament in 1980. In 1983 he became Secretary of State for Parliamentary Affairs. He later served as Deputy Secretary for the Governor of Macau until 1989, when he returned to Lisbon to become a judge of the Constitutional Court, a term that ended in 1994. He subsequently served as Minister for National Defence and Deputy Prime Minister within the government of António Guterres, now the United Nations' Secretary General.

Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, World Health Organization (WHO)



Dr. Soumya Swaminathan was most recently WHO's Deputy Director-General for Programmes. A pediatrician from India and a globally recognized researcher on tuberculosis and HIV, she brings with her 30 years of experience in clinical care and research and has worked throughout her career to translate research into impactful programmes. Dr. Swaminathan was Secretary to the Government of India for Health Research and Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research from 2015 to 2017. In that position, she focused on bringing science and evidence into health policy making, building research capacity in Indian medical schools and forging south-south partnerships in health sciences. From 2009 to 2011, she also served as Coordinator of the UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases in Geneva.

She received her academic training in India, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America, and has published more than 350 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters. She is an elected Foreign Fellow of the US National Academy of Medicine and a Fellow of all three science academies in India. She has previously been on several WHO and global advisory bodies and committees, including the WHO Expert Panel to Review Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property, the Strategic and Technical Advisory Group of the Global TB Department at WHO, and most recently was Co-Chair of the Lancet Commission on TB.

Mr. Peter Major, Chair of the 24th session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)



Peter Major is the chair of the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (UN CSTD). He participates in various activities of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) and other international forums for more than 30 years. Peter chaired the UN CSTD Working Group on the Improvements of the IGF. Subsequently he chaired the UN CSTD Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation.

While working for the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau (ITU/BR) Peter was moderator and panelist on most of the ITU/BR World and Regional Seminars on Radio Regulations/Frequency management. He conducted workshops on the BR information system and in particular on the use of Space Network Systems Online -a web based query and submission system developed by him, launched in 1995. Peter published many articles and papers on a variety of subjects including internet governance and cyber security. Peter is faculty member of the European Summer School in Internet Governance (Meissen, Germany) and he is visiting professor at the Higher School of Economics, National Research University (Moscow, Russia).

He is regularly invited as keynote speaker, moderator or panelist to conferences, academic courses and technical forums. His activities have been recognized by the “Puskás Tivadar” award (2014) and by the Certificate of the International Telecommunication Union (2015)

H.E. Mr. Perks Master Clemency Ligoya, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Malawi to the United Nations and Chair of the Group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs)



Dr. Perks M. Ligoya is a macroeconomist holding four university degrees, including a doctorate degree in Economic Policy Management obtained from CERDI, Clermont Ferrand, France, in 1998. He is fluent in both English and French. He was Governor of the Reserve Bank of Malawi, (September 2009 to April 2012). He served as Senior Economist at the International Monetary Fund. He served as Malawi's High Commissioner to India, Sri Lanka and Kenya and also accredited to Uganda, Central Africa Republic and Somalia. At the UN Office in Nairobi, Kenya he was the Permanent Representative to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and to UN-Habitat. Under a World Bank funded project (Financial Management and Transparency Project (FIMTAP) he was hired as a consultant to serve as Director of Economic Affairs in the Ministry of Finance and Treasury Economic Advisor to the Minister of Finance.

In 2001 he was a visiting lecturer at Yokohama State University, Japan, where he gave summer lectures in macroeconomic modelling. He was one of the founding members and President of the Economics Association of Malawi. After a stint serving as Chairman of the Board for the Malawi Enterprise Development Fund (MEDEF), he served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Electricity Supply Commission of Malawi (ESCOM) from April 2017. He was appointed by the State President of the Republic of Malawi to serve as the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Malawi to the United Nations with effect from 1st April 2018. He arrived in New York on 11th August 2018 to take up that position. Currently, he is Chairman of the Coordination Bureau of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

H. E. Mr. Mohammad Koba, Ambassador, Charge d'Affaires of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations



Mohammad K. Koba was appointed the position of Deputy Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations in New York on January 2019. He then took upon the role of Charge d'Affaires in February 2021. Prior to his current posting, he was the Director of the General Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Indonesia. He also served as the First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the UN, Geneva between 2008-2012. Ambassador Koba holds a Master's degree in European Integration and Development from Vrije Universiteit in Brussels and a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from University of Airlangga. He is married with two children.

Ms. Katia Maia, Executive Director, Oxfam Brazil



Katia Maia is sociologist and began her activism during her youth in the environmental movement in the city of Belo Horizonte, in the state of Minas Gerais in Brazil. In much of her professional life, she worked with issues related to sustainability, development, international relations, human rights, food security and social justice. Katia devoted years of her career working in Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), being part of several Brazilian and international NGOs both in Brazil and abroad. She also assumed responsibilities in the federal government in the area of human rights. After 12 years working for Oxfam in Brazil and globally, in March 2015 she took on the challenge of leading the construction of a Brazilian Oxfam as the first Executive Director of Oxfam Brazil.

Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB)

Ms. Simona Petrova, Secretary of the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB)



Simona Petrova of Bulgaria serves as Secretary of CEB and is also Director of the CEB Secretariat, a position she has held since March 2012. She has over 30 years of experience in the UN system.

Prior to joining the CEB Secretariat, she was Principal Officer in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and adviser to the Secretary-General on management and budget issues, as well as Chief of Office for the Deputy Chef de Cabinet.

Ms. Petrova has worked in various capacities in the UN Secretariat, including as member of the initial team establishing the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO); Chief of Office for three Under-Secretaries-

General for Management; and coordinator with member states during the early consultations on the UN Capital Master Plan.

Appointed in UNDP as the first Area Officer for the CIS countries immediately after their admission as UN members in 1992, Ms. Petrova traveled extensively to the region for negotiations on the opening of UN offices, project formulation, fund-raising and contacts with international financial institutions. She later served as Deputy Chief of Division in the Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS with direct country responsibilities for the five Central Asian Republics and thematic responsibilities for the regional UNDP programmes on aid management, public administration and governance.

Prior to joining UNDP, Ms. Petrova worked in the Bulgarian National Commission for UNESCO on international cooperation projects in education and academic research.