

Bios for Participants



Sierra Leone
Dr. Kaifala Marah

Dr. Marah is currently the Minister of Finance and Economic Development of Sierra Leone. As Minister he is credited with introducing fiscal discipline in budget execution. Prior to his appointment as Minister, he served as the first State House Chief of Staff in the Office of the President.

Dr. Marah is a member of the World Bank Advisory Council on Gender and Women's Empowerment. He was formerly Public Finance Advisor in the Governance and Institutional Development Division at the Commonwealth Secretariat in London. He operationalised the Abuja Mandate of the Commonwealth Heads of Government on public finance, and developed a government self-assessment toolkit on financial management for member countries. He was Budget Analyst at the State Senate of New York and a Graduate Fellow at the Centre of International Development, State University of New York, in Albany. His experience in public sector leadership started as Deputy Town Clerk of the Koidu/New Sembahun Town Council.

Dr. Marah is a recipient of prestigious national and international awards on leadership. Among them, he is a recipient of the "Excellence in International Student Leadership" by the Rockefeller Public Policy School (2003), The Africa Young Leadership Award (2012) in South Africa, and National Excellence and Role Model for the Youth Award (2011), in Freetown.

Devoted to the principles of good governance, Dr. Marah draws on the power of ideas to fashion a model of new

reasoning that challenges conventional thought for change and transformation. He is married with 4 children.



Sweden
Isabella Lövin

H.E. Isabella Lövin, Minister for International Development Cooperation of Sweden and co-Chair of the International Dialogue. Isabella Lövin is currently Minister for International Development Cooperation of Sweden.

Isabella Lövin is currently Minister for International Development Cooperation of Sweden. Her main areas of responsibility are development cooperation and global development policy. Before being appointed Minister, she was an elected member of the European Parliament between 2009 and 2014, and served as member of the delegation for relations with the Pan-African Parliament (2009-2012) and as a member of the Delegation to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly from 2012-2014.

She is a leading member of the Greens in the Fisheries and Development Committees, involved in the reform of the EU Common Fisheries Policy. She is also special rapporteur on the external dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy and the role of the EU in fighting illegal fisheries globally. Until 2009, she was an acclaimed journalist and author.

She has received various prizes for her work, such as the Georg and Greta Borgström Prize from the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry for championing activities related to the world's population and food supply, and the Fair Politician of the Year Award from

Fair Politics EU for her efforts to make the European Union's Common Fisheries Policy more fair towards developing countries.

She lives in Stockholm and is married with children.



Belgium
H.E. Alexander De Croo, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Development Cooperation, Digital Agenda, Telecom and Postal Services

Alexander De Croo is Deputy Prime Minister for Open VLD and Minister of Development Cooperation, Digital Agenda, Telecom and Postal Services in the Michel I Government of the Kingdom of Belgium.

A graduate in Business Engineering, De Croo completed an MBA at the Kellogg School of Management (Northwestern University) in Chicago (United States), in 2004. Between 1999 and 2006, he was employed as a strategy consultant at The Boston Consulting Group. In 2009, he took the step from the business world into a political career, and in November 2012 took the oath as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Pensions in the presence of H.M. King Albert II. Since 2014, as Minister of Development Cooperation, he has focussed on strengthening human rights and promoting local economic growth in the partner countries. The Digital Agenda, Telecom and Postal Services portfolio focuses on the maximisation of the economic potential of the digital economy.

Addressing Fragility and Building Peace in a Changing World

5th Global Meeting of the International Dialogue

Stockholm, Sweden 5 April 2016

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Canada

Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie

Marie-Claude Bibeau was born, raised and educated in Sherbrooke. She started her career at the Canadian International Development Agency, working in Ottawa-Gatineau and Montréal, as well as in Morocco and Benin, in Africa. Marie-Claude eventually settled in the riding of Compton-Stanstead to raise her family, work, and volunteer in the community.

Marie-Claude is an experienced businesswoman and, for the last 15 years, has co-owned Camping de Compton—a successful tourism business that has won numerous awards. She was also the director of accreditation for the Sherbrooke 2013 Canada Summer Games and the Executive Director of the Sherbrooke Museum of Nature and Science.

Active in her community, Marie-Claude was the founder and coordinator of the Regroupement des institutions muséales des Cantons-de-l'Est—an association of museums in the Eastern Townships. She is a former board member of Commerce Sherbrooke, Destination Sherbrooke, Animation Centre-ville and the Société des musées québécois. She was also the secretary of the Compton revitalization committee, a member of the strategic planning committee of the regional county municipality of Coaticook, and chair of the governing board of École Louis-St-Laurent in Compton.

Marie-Claude holds a Bachelor of Science in Economics and a graduate diploma in Environmental Management from the Université de Sherbrooke.



Côte d'Ivoire

HE Adama Kone, Minister to the Prime Minister for the Economy and Finance of Côte d'Ivoire

HE Adama Kone serves as Minister to the Prime Minister for Economy and Finance in Côte d'Ivoire. He graduated from Côte d'Ivoire's National School of Administration, holds a degree in Economics from the University of Abidjan and an MBA from Adelphy University (New York). He began his career as an auditor in charge of state companies within the Directorate of Investments of the Ministry of Economy and Finance. From 2001 to 2010, he served as Deputy General Manager within the Treasury, and was promoted to CEO, in which functions he served until January 2016 when he took office at the Ministry of Economy and Finance. He is a member of the Board of the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO), a member of the Banking Commission (WAEMU) and a member of the Audit Committee of the BCEAO. In addition to his administrative functions, he represents Côte d'Ivoire at the Commission of Accounting Standards at the Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa (OHADA CNC). In addition to French, he speaks English fluently.



Finland

Elina Kalkku, Under-Secretary of State

Elina Kalkku was appointed to serve as Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (development cooperation and development policy, Africa and the Middle East) for the Government of Finland on 28 May 2015, and started her four-year term on 1 July 2015. Prior to this, Kalkku served as the Counsellor for Foreign Affairs.

Kalkku has also gained experience as the Director General of the Department for the Americas and Asia. In the Ministry, she worked within the Political Department and the Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, among others. Furthermore, she has experience of Diplomatic Service

posts in, for example, the Mission of Finland to NATO in Brussels and Finland's Permanent Mission to the UN in New York. Kalkku joined the Ministry in 1983.



Germany

Thomas Silberhorn, Parliamentary State Secretary

Thomas Silberhorn was appointed Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development in February 2014. Prior to this appointment, he was Deputy Chairman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group in the German Parliament (Bundestag).

The focus of his work is on core development issues for the future: human rights and good governance, education, health, poverty reduction, water supply and sanitation, energy and resources. Mr Silberhorn also concerns himself with globalisation and trade issues and the new agenda for United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

He is Germany's Governor at the African Development Bank. And he is responsible for bilateral development cooperation with the continent of Africa. This also entails playing a major role in shaping the German government's strategy for the 54 countries of Africa. Another regional focus of his work is on the countries of the Near and Middle East.

Thomas Silberhorn was born on 12 November 1968 in Kemmern, Germany; he is married with two children. He has been a Member of the German Bundestag since 2002, representing the constituency of Bamberg-Forchheim. At the parliamentary elections in 2013, he won 52.2 per cent of the vote in his constituency.



Liberia

S.E. Amara Konneh, Minister of Finance

Amara M. Konneh is Liberia’s Minister of Finance and the Minister of Planning and Economic Affairs. Before becoming Minister for both posts, he served as Minister of Planning and Economic Affairs. He also served as Deputy Chief of State in the Office of the President from 2006-2007, where he spearheaded several initiatives that included reforming the management practices at the Ministry of State through a performance improvement program. Minister Konneh studied Public Administration at Harvard University. He holds a graduate degree in Management Information Systems from Penn State University, and an undergraduate degree from Drexel University.



São Tomé and Príncipe

S.E. Patrice Emery Trovoada, Prime Minister



Somalia

H.E. Abdirahman Aynte, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation

Abdirahman Yusuf Ali Aynte has served as the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation for the Somalian government since January 2015. Prior to taking office, he founded the Heritage Institute for Policy Studies (HIPS) in Mogadishu, Somalia, serving also as Executive Director. He is an award-winning journalist with more than 10 years of experience, having worked with Al Jazeera English as a Senior News Editor and producer, following positions within the BBC and VOA. As a published writer, Aynte’s articles have been featured in the New York Times, Foreign Affairs and African Arguments. Aynte has advised the

United Nations, AMISOM and a number of international organizations on Somalia. He holds a B.A. in journalism and political science as well as an M.A. in government from John Hopkins University.



Sweden

Margot Wallström, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Ms. Wallström has had a long career in politics, which began when she served as a Swedish parliamentarian from 1979 until 1985. Her ministerial career began in 1988 when she was appointed Minister of Civil Affairs, responsible for consumer affairs, women’s and youth matters. She subsequently became Minister of Culture, and then Minister of Social Affairs. In 1998, she took a break from Swedish politics to become Executive Vice-President of Worldview Global Media, a non-governmental organization (NGO) based in Sri Lanka. She served as a UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict from 2010-12. Since 23 October 2014, Wallström has served as Sweden’s Minister for Foreign Affairs and Deputy Prime Minister.

She has received several honorary doctorates and awards for her work on sustainable development and climate change, and has also done extensive work to endorse a European Union-Africa partnership on renewable energy, and to champion equal opportunities.

Born in 1954, Ms. Wallström is married and has two children.



Switzerland

Didier Burkhalter, Minister, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland

Didier Burkhalter, born on 17 April 1960, grew up in the village of Auvernier on the shores of Lake Neuchâtel. He obtained a degree in economics from the University of Neuchâtel. Before moving into politics, he held a number of posts in the academic world and the private sector. Mr. Burkhalter is married with three

children.

In 1985, Mr. Burkhalter joined the Radical Democratic Party FDP (now the Liberal Democratic Party). He was secretary of the Neuchâtel branch of the party, before becoming the full-time secretary for French-speaking Switzerland within the FDP Switzerland. He served as a member of the communal parliament of Hauterive in the canton of Neuchâtel und was a member of the cantonal parliament. In 1991 he was elected to the executive (town council) of Neuchâtel, which he chaired for three legislative periods (1994/1995, 1998/1999, 2001/2002). He remained a member of the council until 2005.

In 2003 Mr. Burkhalter was elected to the National Council, and to the Council of States in 2007. During this time he served on a number of parliamentary committees and was also a member of the Swiss delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Didier Burkhalter was elected to the Federal Council on 16 September 2009 and appointed as the head of the Federal Department of Home Affairs (FDHA), a post he held until 31 December 2011. Burkhalter has been head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) since 1 January 2012.

In 2014 Mr. Burkhalter assumed the presidency of the Swiss Confederation and the chairmanship of the OSCE.



Timor Leste

H.E. Santana Viegas Cardoso, Minister of Finance

H.E. Santana Jose Rodrigues Fereirra Viegas Cardoso was sworn in as the Minister of Finance under the VI Constitutional Government of Timor-Leste in February 2015, having previously occupied the post of the Vice-Minister of Finance. As Vice-Minister, she is credited with overseeing the corporate reforms including the performance management system (KPIs) that has been put in place within the Ministry. She directed and coordinated the Ministry’s activities, with support from its various general directorates, in accordance with the public service law and under the guidance of the Minister of Finance.

Ms. Cardoso holds a degree in Economics specialised in Development Studies from the University Widya Mandira in Kupang, Indonesia. Her professional career started within a non-governmental organization focused on Timorese children's issues. This was followed by her involvement with the Constituent Assembly in 2001 as part of its Working Secretariat.



Helder Lopes, Vice Minister of Finance

H.E. Mr. Helder Lopes was sworn in as the Vice Minister of Finance under the VI Constitutional Government of Timor-Leste in February 2015. Having graduated from the Universidade Nacional Timor Lorosa in 2007 with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics, he completed his Masters' studies at Michigan State University in 2010. Between 2011 and 2015, Lopes served as the Resident Economic Advisor and the Chief Economist within the Economic Policy Directorate of the Ministry of Finance. His main responsibility was to provide economic policy advice to the Ministry of Finance. At the same time, Mr. Lopes acted as Coordinator of the Economic Policy Directorate; he led, managed, coordinated and supervised the day-to-day work of the Directorate. Lopes has also worked extensively with international organizations. From 2013 to 2015, he was the focal point of the Ministry of Finance for the CPLP, the ASEAN, the Special Economic Zones and the UN-ESCAP. Lopes has co-authored more than 25 policy briefs on economics and public finance.



Mustafa Aria, Director of Aid Management, Ministry of Finance, Afghanistan

Mustafa Aria is the Director of Aid Management at the Ministry of Finance, Government of Afghanistan. He received his BA from California State University, East Bay in Economics and International Development. He is a development professional and has worked with the Afghan Government and numerous

international organizations, including the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In his current capacity as the Director of Aid Management, Mr. Aria is responsible for managing and coordinating international development assistance provided to Afghanistan and leads the dialogue on development cooperation with all development partners in the country. He has conducted several research projects and is the co-author of the Third Human Development Report on Afghanistan. Mr. Aria is an active contributor to global dialogue on development cooperation; he is the co-chair of the Implementation Working Group of the International Dialogue on Peace Building and State Building and is a member of the Steering Committee of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation representing the g7+ group of fragile countries.



United Kingdom

Desmond Swayne, Minister of State for International Development

Minister of State for International Development, Desmond Swayne was born in 1956 and is a graduate of St Andrews University in Scotland. He worked as an Economics teacher from 1981 to 1987 and as a manager with the Royal Bank of Scotland from 1987 to 1997, following which he was elected to Parliament for the New Forest West constituency. Having served in Iraq as a Territorial Army Officer in 2003, he contributed a popular audio diary to BBC Radio Four. Following the election of David Cameron as leader of the Conservative Party in December 2005, Desmond was appointed as his Parliamentary Private Secretary (PPS). He maintained his role as PPS in government until appointed as Government Whip in September 2012. Within the British Department for International Development (DFID), Swayne leads on the following issues (non-exhaustive): Middle East and North Africa, conflict, security, governance, anti-corruption and economic development (private sector, trade and International Financial Institutions).



Ruth Jacoby, Director General for International Development Cooperation Ministry for Foreign Affairs Stockholm

Ruth Jacoby is the Director-General for Development Cooperation, a position she has held already once before. She has most recently been the Swedish Ambassador to Germany, and to Italy, before returning to this current position. Earlier positions include Ambassador for Economic and Social Affairs at the Permanent Mission of Sweden to the United Nations. During that period, from 1999 to 2002, she served as Co-Chair of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Financing for Development at the Monterrey Conference, and was instrumental in bringing the negotiations of the Monterrey Consensus to a successful conclusion. 1994 to 1997 Ms. Jacoby was Executive Director of the World Bank representing Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden. She also served for four years at the Swedish Delegation to the OECD in Paris. Ms. Jacoby received her degrees from the University of Uppsala, Sweden.



USA

Eric Postel, Assistant Administrator, USAID

Eric G. Postel was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in March 2011 as Assistant Administrator for the Bureau of Economic Growth, Education and Environment. Since May 2015, he has also served concurrently as Associate Administrator. Mr. Postel brings to the position more than 25 years of private sector experience working in emerging markets.

Mr. Postel also serves as the Agency's coordinator for the government-wide Partnership for Growth program and the "Plus 1" (alternate director) to the Millennium Challenge Corporation. From October 2014 to December 2015, he also served as the Assistant to the Administrator to Africa.

Previously, Mr. Postel worked as a vice

president at Citibank Tokyo, where he arranged financing for borrowers on four continents. This work included arranging the first ever financing for new Boeing aircraft in Zimbabwe, serving as Bangladesh's first-ever financial advisor and arranging India's first-ever Japanese tax-lease financing. In 1988, Mr. Postel devised a \$30 million financing for Jamaica International Telecommunications Limited (JAMINTEL) from Japanese investors which was the first international securitization of future receivables without a corporate guaranty - this structure has subsequently served as the basis of more than \$80 billion worth of financings.

Mr. Postel has a BA from Wesleyan University and an MBA from Stanford University. Between Wesleyan and Stanford, he served as a United States Naval Officer.



United Nations
H.E. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations

On 2 March 2012, Jan Eliasson was appointed Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. He took office as Deputy Secretary-General on 1 July 2012.

Mr. Eliasson was from 2007-2008 the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for Darfur. Prior to this, Jan Eliasson served as President of the 60th session of the UN General Assembly. He was Sweden's Ambassador to the US from September 2000 until July 2005. In March 2006, Mr. Eliasson was appointed Foreign Minister of Sweden and served in this capacity until the elections in the fall of 2006.

Mr. Eliasson was the first UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and was involved in operations in Africa and the Balkans. He took initiatives on landmines, conflict prevention and humanitarian action. 1980-1986, Mr. Eliasson was part of the UN mediation missions in the war between Iran and Iraq, headed by former Prime Minister Olof Palme. In 1993-94 Mr. Eliasson served as mediator in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). He has been a Visiting Professor at Uppsala University and Gothenburg University in

Sweden, lecturing on mediation, conflict resolution and UN reform.

Mr. Eliasson was born on 17 September 1940 in Goteborg, Sweden. He graduated from the Swedish Naval Academy in 1962, earned a Master's degree in Economics and Business Administration in 1965, and is married with 3 children.



Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
Filippo Grandi, The High Commissioner, UNHCR

Filippo Grandi became the 11th United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on 1 January 2016. He was elected by the UN General Assembly to serve a five-year term, until 31 December 2020.

As High Commissioner, he heads one of the world's largest humanitarian organizations. UNHCR has twice won the Nobel Peace Prize. Its over 9,700 staff members work in 126 countries providing protection and assistance to nearly 60 million refugees, returnees, internally displaced people and stateless persons. Some 88 per cent of UNHCR staff work in the field, often in difficult and dangerous duty stations. The organization's needs-based budget for 2016 is US\$6.5 billion.

Before being elected High Commissioner, Grandi had been engaged in international cooperation for over 30 years, focusing on refugee and humanitarian work. He served as Commissioner-General of the UN agency for Palestine refugees, UNRWA, from 2010 to 2014, after having been the organization's Deputy Commissioner-General since 2005. Prior to that, Grandi served as Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General in Afghanistan, following a long career first with NGOs and later with UNHCR in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and at the organization's Geneva headquarters.

Grandi was born in Milan in 1957. He holds a degree in modern history from the State University in Milan, a BA in Philosophy from the Gregorian University in Rome, as well as an honorary doctorate from the University of Coventry.



United Nations
Oscar Fernandez-Taranco, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support

On 2 September 2014, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced the appointment of Oscar Fernandez-Taranco of Argentina as Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support.

With more than 30 years of experience in the United Nations System, Mr. Fernandez-Taranco worked both at Headquarters and in the field, managing development, political, peacebuilding, human rights and humanitarian operations in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific and Europe. Prior to his appointment, he was Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs in the Department of Political Affairs since July 2009. He also served as United Nations Resident Coordinator and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative in the United Republic of Tanzania.

From 1994 to 1998, he served as Deputy Special Representative of the Administrator in the West Bank and Gaza Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People. He was also the Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Regional Director in the Regional Bureau for Arab States, UNDP, from 2001 to 2006, and Resident Representative, United Nations Resident Coordinator and Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Haiti from 1998 to 2001.

Mr. Fernandez-Taranco was educated at Cornell University, where he studied economics, and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, studying urban-regional economic planning. Born in 1957, he is married and has two children.



United Nations

Helen Clark, UNDP Administrator

Helen Clark became the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on 17 April 2009, and is the first woman to lead the organization. She is also the Chair of the United Nations Development Group, a committee consisting of the heads of all UN funds, programmes and departments working on development issues.

Prior to her appointment with UNDP, Helen Clark served for nine years as Prime Minister of New Zealand, serving three successive terms from 1999 - 2008. Throughout her tenure as Prime Minister, Helen Clark engaged widely in policy development and advocacy across the international, economic, social and cultural spheres. Under her leadership, New Zealand achieved significant economic growth, low levels of unemployment, and high levels of investment in education and health, and in the well-being of families and older citizens. She and her government prioritized reconciliation and the settlement of historical grievances with New Zealand's indigenous people and the development of an inclusive multicultural and multi-faith society.

Prior to entering the New Zealand Parliament, Helen Clark taught in the Political Studies Department of the University of Auckland. She graduated with a BA in 1971 and an MA with First Class Honours in 1974. She is married to Peter Davis, a Professor at Auckland University.



United Nations

Jens Wandel, Assistant Administrator and Director of Bureau for Management Services

Mr. Jens Wandel is the Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Management Services at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Mr. Wandel has had many years of distinguished service in UNDP. He served as Deputy Regional Director, Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), UNDP Bratislava, from August

2008 until April 2012. Prior to this, Mr. Wandel served in several management functions focusing on change initiatives, including as Director, Centre for Business Solutions, as Management Adviser and Project Director for the Work Improvement Tools Project and as a country-level coordinator of UNDP's New Horizon 2001 change management exercise.

Mr. Wandel has also held various leadership positions at the country level, including as United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, Turkmenistan; UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, Kyrgyzstan; and UNDP Assistant Resident Representative, Viet Nam. Mr. Wandel began his UNDP career as a junior professional officer in Western Samoa. Prior to joining UNDP, he served with DANIDA at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Denmark.



World Bank: Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group

Saroj Kumar Jha, Senior Director

Jha leads the World Bank Group's Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group, responsible for providing strategic, operational, and analytical support to address the challenge of fragility, conflict and violence, working across the Bank Group and in close collaboration with partners. Prior to this, he was Regional Director of the World Bank's Central Asia Region based in Almaty since February 2012. Jha also worked as the World Bank's Global Manager for Disaster Risk Management Practice and served as head of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), which he established in 2006. Jha is an Indian national, and joined the World Bank in 2005 as a Senior Infrastructure Specialist in the Sustainable Development Network, after significant experience with the Government of India and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). He holds a dual degree in civil engineering and development economics from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur, India.



Helder Da Costa, Head, g7+ Secretariat

Helder da Costa, Ph.D., is the General Secretary of the g7+ Secretariat, serving 20 fragile and conflict-affected states. Dr. da Costa received his Ph.D. in Trade Policy from the University of Adelaide, South Australia in 2001. With 27 years of experience in development economics, agriculture, and aid effectiveness and management in Southeast Asia and Australia and New Zealand, Dr. da Costa has been entrusted to assume the responsibilities to coordinate the g7+ Secretariat to ensure its efficient day-to-day functioning. In addition, Dr. da Costa shall continue to provide advice to the g7+ Ministers of Finance on Aid Effectiveness and the New Deal.



Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

Charlotte Petri Gornitzka Director-General, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

As head of Sida since February 2011, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Charlotte Petri Gornitzka has the ultimate responsibility for implementing government and parliament decisions and for resolving overall issues regarding Sida's organization. She was formerly the Director of Swedfund International AB. Ms. Gornitzka is a Board Member of Swedish Research Council, as well as for an international high-level group on Redesigning Financial Development and the Global Agenda Council on Sustainable Development. She studied at Calle Flygares Theatre School, Stockholm University College of Music Education and holds a degree in Marketing and Business studies.



OECD

Erik Solheim, DAC Chair

Erik Solheim took the lead of the main body of world donors the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in January 2013. In the DAC he has emphasized reform of Official Development Assistance, focusing more assistance to the least developed countries and using assistance "smarter" in blending with private investment and supporting domestic resource mobilization through better taxation. He has brought new members into the DAC as well as underlined the need for DAC to partner with China, Arab donors and other main providers of assistance. Erik Solheim is also serving as United Nations Environment Programme's special envoy for environment, conflict and disaster.

From 2007 to 2012 he held the combined portfolio of Norway's Minister of the Environment and International Development; he also served as Minister of International Development from 2005 to 2007. During his time as minister Norwegian aid reached 1%, the highest in the world.

Solheim has focused on fragile states, encouraged use of New Deal principles and worked to align DAC-donors behind state building and peace processes in war torn countries. From 2000 to 2005, Mr. Solheim was the main negotiator in the peace process in Sri Lanka. As minister he contributed to peace processes in Sudan, Nepal, Myanmar and Burundi. He is married, with four children, living in Paris.



Africa Platform (ACP)

Paul Okumu, Head of Secretariat, Africa Platform (ACP)

Paul Okumu heads the Secretariat of the Africa Platform (ACP), a Pan African Platform working with societies, governments and businesses across Africa to rebuild the social contract between states and societies. The Africa Platform works primarily with Civil Society and societies in post conflict countries

Africa, 11 of them members of the g7+. He has been involved with the International Dialogue since 2011, first as an observer to the first ever IDPS Four Working Groups and later as part of the Global and Regional Civil Society support to the New Deal Implementation in g7+ countries. He was the first and only Civil Society Panellist during the launch of the New Deal in Busan in 2011. The Africa Platform hosted the meeting that established CSPPS. Since then, he has supported Civil Society engagement in the New Deal as a member of the Executive Committee of the CSPPS. Paul has written extensively on State Society Relations, Peacebuilding and Statebuilding and an Africa-driven development agenda, including with The World Economic Forum, the African Union, NEPAD agency and East African Parliament. Paul sits on the UNDP Africa Program Advisory Board, The Global Civil Society Steering Committee on a Civic Charter, The Africa Civil Society Team on SDGs and the Jury of The Civil Society of the Year Awards for Kenya.



Deqa Yasin, Operations Manager, IIDA

Deqa Yasin, is the Operations Manager at IIDA Women's Development Organization, one of the largest grass roots civil society based organizations in Somalia working on women's empowerment, human rights, peace building and conflict resolution issues. She is a renowned conflict resolution & crises Management expert and has a keen sense of social justice and a belief that diverse communities can co-exist peacefully under a political framework that protects the rights of the vulnerable and minorities.

Born in Somalia and raised in Italy and Canada, Deqa knows much about conflict, civil strife and human displacement because her entire adult life was spent as an exile and refugee as a result of civil war and political instability in her country, Somalia. Since 2013, represented IIDA as member of the Oversight Board Committee in the Special Financing Facility (SFF) Committee of the Ministry of Finance. Deqa Yasin, as a representative of Somali civil society organizations has, from its inception, participated in the policy deliberations leading to the New Deal Compact between the Somali

government and the international donor community, and still serves to sit on the Peace and State Building (PSG's) of the New Deal program. She is also the National Civil Society representative at the National Consultative Forum on the Electoral model for 2016.



Centre for Sustainable Development and Education in Africa

Theophilus Ekpon, Executive Director, Centre for Sustainable Development and Education in Africa

Theophilus Ekpon is the Executive Director of the Centre for Sustainable Development and Education in Africa (CSDEA). He also serves as the National Coordinator of the National Peace Summit Group (NPSG) in Nigeria. He has worked in various capacities at the United Nations in New York and in Nigeria, in addition to consulting on development and peacebuilding issues for various government agencies in Nigeria. He is presently a member of the Executive Committee of the Global Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS), and member of the UN Working Group on Youth and Peacebuilding. Theophilus Ekpon holds a Masters Degree in International Politics.

Democracy and Development Associates-Sierra Leone (DADA-SL)/New Deal

Foday Dauda Musa Sesay, Executive Director/CSPPS EC Member/Co-Chair Peer Support and Focal Points Coordination Workstream (New Deal/g7+ countries)

Born in Sierra Leone, Foday D.M. Sesay originates from Samu Chiefdom, Kambia District in the Northern Province. He is a Sociologist by academic discipline with a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree, a Higher Teachers Certificate (HTC), a diploma in International Relations and a diploma in community Development Studies.

Sesay is the Founder and Executive Director of a local Human Rights, Peacebuilding, Governance and Community Development Non-Governmental Organization (LNGO) called Democracy and Development Associates-Sierra Leone (DADA-SL). He also provides other strategic leadership roles to different Human Rights, Peace Building and Governance networks in Sierra Leone, ranging from district,

regional and national levels, including international responsibilities on the New Deal/g7+ Countries, as both an EC CSPPS Member and Co-Chairing, the Peer Support and Focal Points Coordination Workstream of the CSPPS.



International Alert
Harriet Lamb, CEO, International Alert
 Harriet Lamb became CEO of International Alert in November 2015 having previously been CEO of Fairtrade International (FLO) and Executive Director of the Fairtrade Foundation. She guided the Foundation through a period of staggering growth, which saw estimated sales of Fairtrade products in the UK increase from £30m in her first year to £1.3bn in 2011. The number of products in the UK carrying the FAIRTRADE Mark grew from 80 to more than 4,500 licensed products. A flourishing grassroots social movement has also grown across the UK with over 500 Fairtrade Towns - where a commitment to Fairtrade has been made by the council, shops and businesses - and thousands of Fairtrade schools, universities and faith groups.

Harriet was awarded a Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in the New Year's Honours List 2006, in recognition of her work in building Fairtrade in the UK, and has won many other prestigious awards, including Credit Suisse Business Woman of the year.



Interpeace
Scott Weber, Director General, Interpeace
 Scott M. Weber was appointed as Director-General in 2005 by the then-Chairman (2000-2009) of the Interpeace Governing Council, 2008 Nobel Peace Prize laureate and former President Martti Ahtisaari. In recognition of his record of professional accomplishments, his commitment to society and his potential to contribute to shaping the future of the world through his inspiring leadership, Scott was selected as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum in

2009. Each year the Forum recognizes "the 200 most distinguished young leaders below the age of 40 from around the world."

Interpeace's work has also been personally highlighted by H.E. President Bill Clinton at the 2006 and 2007 Clinton Global Initiative meetings as an innovative approach to conflict prevention. In 2010 Scott was nominated by the Governing Council, chaired by former President of Ghana, John A. Kufuor, for a second 5-year term as Director-General.

Scott began his career in the United Nations, first in disaster reduction and then in political affairs. Scott is a member of the Young Presidents' Organization (YPO), The Chatham House (UK), the Steering Committee of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform. He is also a member of the Advisory Boards of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) and the Center for the Democratic Control of the Armed Forces (DCAF). He holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations, Economics and Russian from Georgetown University. Scott is French and American.



Saferworld
Paul Murphy, Executive Director, Saferworld
 Before joining Saferworld, Paul Murphy spent almost 20 years living and working in Africa (mostly in the Horn of Africa) in support of a broad range of development and humanitarian initiatives with non-governmental organisations, the United Nations and as a freelance consultant. Paul has spend considerable time working in Sudan, and his last post was as Director of Pact's country programme that focused on the lead up to, and the period after, the Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the leaders from the North and South of the country.

Paul's focus in recent years has been on the development of conflict prevention and post conflict recovery initiatives. Paul was previously Head of Saferworld's Europe and Central Asia Programme and then Director of Programmes overseeing all Saferworld's country and regional work, before becoming Saferworld's Executive Director in 2012.



Larry Attree, Head of Policy, Saferworld
 With over 11 years' experience in conflict prevention and peacebuilding research, Larry is an internationally recognised policy expert on conflict issues, who has played a leading role in civil society inputs into global negotiations on peace-related themes including the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States, the Busan Partnership and the post-2015 development framework. Larry's experience is focused on aid institutions and policies, peacebuilding and statebuilding, conflict sensitivity, arms control and violence reduction, reintegration of ex-combatants, and security and justice sector development. In his work with Saferworld's Europe, Asia and Conflict & Security teams since

2003, he has managed and contributed to a variety of projects on these themes. His experience includes project management, advocacy, advisory support, capacity building, conducting evaluations and published research and policy documents on issues such as: children and armed conflict, small arms control and disarmament, reintegration of youth and children, security and justice sector development, arms transfer controls and conflict sensitivity (including conflict analysis, programme design and evaluation). Aside from his various roles within Saferworld, Larry has worked on security and development with a variety of UN and other international agencies, NGOs and the corporate sector in Europe, the Pacific, Asia and Africa.



Working Group on Peace and Development (FriEnt)
Natascha Zupan, Coordinator, Working Group on Peace and Development (FriEnt)
 Natascha Zupan studied Middle Eastern Studies and History in Marburg, Damascus and Bonn. After short term assignments with peace building organisations in Palestine and Macedonia, she worked for swisspeace/KOFF, focusing on peace building and

development, the Middle East and former Yugoslav Countries. Early in 2003, she joined the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs as an Adviser in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Serbia and Montenegro, supporting the design and implementation of Switzerland's regional peace building program with a focus on transitional justice and dealing with the past, political dialogue and media. Since 2004, Natascha is the coordinator of the Working Group on Peace and Development (FriEnt), an association of nine German governmental organisations, church development agencies, civil society networks and political foundations.



Malawi, Ministry of Finance
Betty Ngoma, Assistant Director for Debt and Aid Management, Ministry of Finance

Betty Ngoma works as an Assistant Director in Debt and Aid Management within the Ministry of Finance in Malawi. She is the Head of the Development Assistance Coordination Unit. She is therefore the focal point for the domestication of international agreements and development effectiveness initiatives. Betty provides technical support to the Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development in his role as Co-Chair for the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation.

Since 2008, she has been the Coordinator of General Budget Support, popularly known in Malawi as the Common Approach to Budget Support (CABS). Betty has also represented the Malawi Government in Loan/Grant negotiations with the World Bank and African Development Bank. She is also a Coordinator for the UNDP-supported Strengthening Institutional Capacity for Development Effectiveness and Accountability Programme. Betty has also worked as a Principal Budget officer, Budget Officer, Secondary School Teacher and part-time lecturer at the University of Malawi (Bunda College of Agriculture).

She holds a Master of Arts degree in Policy Economics from Williams College, one of the oldest colleges in Massachusetts and a leading Liberal Arts College in the United States of America.

She has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Malawi.



Alfeine Siti Soifiat Tadjiddine, General Commissioner of Plan, the Comoros Islands

Mrs Alféine Siti soifiat born Tadjiddine, 31 decembre 1959 is the commissioner General of planning of union of the comoros. Siti Soifiat is born in Moroni. In 1991, she married Alféine Mohamed with whom he had three children. She began a succesful career in Moroni as responsible for control of state companies from 1988 to 1995. After having directed a project to support the Ministry of Finance to the implementation of EU funded projects; she left the Comoros in 2001 for the Indian Ocean Commission in Mauritius where she supports the Secretariat of the IOC as a technical assistant in the implementation of EDF regional projects. Back in Comoros after a stint at the administration of the Island of Ngazidja as Commissioner of plan from December 2003 Plan to April 2004, she was appointed commissioner General of Plan in May 2007. During her career she has had to follow training in various institutions including the IAP in Paris in 1988, and the Institute for Monetary Fund in Washington in 1984 and the procedures of many donors including the World Bank and the European Union.



Folke Bernadotte Academy
Sven Eric-Soder, Director General, Folke Bernadotte Academy

Sven-Eric Soder has served as the Director General for the Folke Bernadotte Academy since 2012. He previously held positions as State Secretary in the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Ministry for Trade. In the former he was responsible for aid to Central and Eastern Europe, in addition to managing the Baltic Co-operation and Nordic affairs. From the mid 1990s to early 2000s he participated in the group that facilitated the Stockholm talks between Israeli and

Palestinian representatives. Sven-Eric Soder has also worked as a Political Advisor and Press Officer in the Swedish Ministry of Defence.



Institute for Economics and Peace
Ms Camilla Schippa, Director, Institute for Economics and Peace

Ms. Camilla Schippa is a Director of the Institute for Economics and Peace, which produces the Global Peace Index. She has over 15 years of professional experience in building new initiatives for development and peace, guiding public-private partnerships, leading teams and coordinating vast public outreach efforts. Her first-hand expertise is in intergovernmental organizations, philanthropic strategy and academic research.

The Institute for Economics and Peace, based in Sydney, Australia is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit research organization dedicated to shifting the world's focus to peace as a positive, achievable, and tangible measure of human well-being and progress. Camilla is also a member of numerous expert groups including the UN's expert reference group for the Global Consultation on Conflict, Violence and Disaster in the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Her career has been instrumental in creating many pivotal partnerships between foundations, civil society and the private sector in South East Asia.