



# SDG 16 CONFERENCE

## Peace, Justice & Inclusive Societies



### SPEAKER BIOS

#### DAY 3 – 30 APRIL 2021



#### **Ms. Helen Clark, Co-Chair, The Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response**

Helen Clark was Prime Minister of New Zealand for three successive terms from 1999–2008.

Throughout her tenure as Prime Minister and as a Member of Parliament over 27 years, Helen Clark engaged widely in policy development and advocacy across the international, economic, social, environmental, and cultural spheres. She advocated strongly for New Zealand’s comprehensive programme on sustainability and for tackling the problems of climate change. She was an active leader of her country’s foreign relations, engaging in a wide range of international issues.

In April 2009, Helen Clark became Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). She was the first woman to lead the organisation, and served two terms there. At the same time, she was also Chair of the United Nations Development Group, a committee consisting of all UN funds, programmes, agencies, and departments working on development issues. As Administrator, she led UNDP to be ranked the most transparent global development organisation. She completed her tenure in 2017.

Helen Clark came to the role of Prime Minister after an extensive parliamentary and ministerial career. Prior to being elected to the New Zealand Parliament in 1981, Helen Clark taught in the Political Studies Department of the University of Auckland, from which she earlier graduated with her BA and MA (Hons) degrees

Helen continues to be a strong voice for sustainable development, climate action, gender equality and women’s leadership, peace and justice, and action on pressing global health issues. In July 2020, she was appointed by the Director-General of the World Health Organisation as a Co-Chair of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response, called for by the World Health Assembly, which will report in May this year.



**Ms. Marie Chatardová, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations**

H.E. Ms. Chatardová is Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the United Nations in New York. From July 2017 to July 2018, she served as seventy-third President of the Economic and Social Council.

In 2019, she was Vice-Chairman of the UNICEF Bureau. She also served as Co-Chair of the Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for SDGs on 14–15 May 2019. In 2021, she serves as Member of the Preparatory Bureau of the Fifth UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5).

Until her appointment in 2016, H.E. Ms. Chatardová was her country's Ambassador to France and Monaco, and its Permanent Representative to the International Organization of la Francophonie. Between 2013 and 2016, she also served as Permanent Representative to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

A career diplomat, H.E. Ms. Chatardová held several positions within the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. She was Director of Diplomatic Protocol from 2007 to 2010, and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Sweden from 2002 to 2007. Prior to that, she was Director of the Communications Strategies Department, from 2000 to 2002, and Unit Chief of the Department for the Coordination of Relations with the European Union, between 1999 and 2000.

She also served in the Permanent Mission of Czech Republic to the European Union, between 1995 and 1999, and in the Ministry's Department of Analysis and Policy Planning, from 1994 to 1995.

H.E. Ms. Chatardová was awarded Commander of the National Order of the Legion of Honour of France in 2016, and also Officer of the Order of Saint-Charles of Monaco in 2016.



**Ms. Sanda Ojiambo, CEO and Executive Director, United Nations Global Compact**

Ms. Ojiambo is the CEO and Executive Director of the United Nations Global Compact. Launched in July 2000, the United Nations Global Compact is the Secretary-General’s strategic policy and advocacy initiative calling for the alignment of business operations and strategies with 10 universal principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. It also motivates companies to integrate the SDGs into their core business strategies and operations.

Ms. Ojiambo brings 20 years of experience to lead the UN Global Compact. She has served as Head of Sustainable Business and Social Impact, Safaricom Plc, Kenya since 2010. Ms. Ojiambo was also the Senior Manager of Safaricom and MPESA Foundations, Kenya from 2008 to 2010, during which she led the implementation of several public-private partnership initiatives between Safaricom and UN organizations.

Throughout her career, she has cultivated and managed relationships with key business entities and civil society organizations, including her capacity development work in Somalia with UNDP and CARE International.

Ms. Ojiambo holds a Master of Arts in Public Policy from the University of Minnesota, USA, and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and International Development from McGill University, Canada.



**Ms. Anita Bhatia, Assistant Secretary-General and UN Women’s Deputy Executive Director for Resource Management, UN System Coordination, Sustainability and Partnerships**

Ms. Anita Bhatia serves as the Assistant Secretary-General and UN Women’s Deputy Executive Director since August 2019.

Before joining UN Women, Ms. Bhatia has had a distinguished career at the World Bank Group, serving in various senior leadership and management positions, both at Headquarters and in the field. She brings extensive experience in the area of international development, strategy, resource mobilization, strategic partnerships and organizational change management. In various positions, she led teams to deliver significant resources for scaled-up impact, including at the country level, and to craft innovative partnerships to advance development agendas and has made significant contributions to the evolving discourse on development finance. She has led diverse teams, including as Global Head of Knowledge Management, Head of Business Process Improvement and Head of Change

Management. In addition to Latin America, she has worked in Africa, Europe, Central Asia and South and East Asia.

Ms. Bhatia holds a BA in History from Calcutta University, an MA in Political Science from Yale University and a Juris Doctor in Law from Georgetown University.



**Mr. Giulio Lo Iacono, General Coordinator, ASviS**

Giulio Lo Iacono is the General Coordinator at the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (Alleanza Italiana per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile, ASviS). As such, he is an expert in issues related to sustainability in CDP (Cassa Depositi e Prestiti) and Enel, also dealing for many years with communication and relations with stakeholders. In New York, at the UN Global Compact, he was Manager for European Networks. In the past he worked with BNL as well as Rai and several professional master courses. Mr Lo Iacono holds a Master's Degree in Institutional Relations,

Lobbying and Business Communications.



**Ms. Ariunzaya Ayush, Minister, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Mongolia**

Mrs. Ariunzaya Ayush has been working as Member of the Cabinet of the Government and Minister for Labour and Social Protection of Mongolia since July, 2020.

Previously, Mrs. Ariunzaya has experience working in private and public sectors, including as Human Resource manager and General Manager in the insurance field (2005- 2013), as Director of the Management and Strategic Planning Department, Director of Socio-Economic Policy Development Department of the Mongolian People's Party (2013- 2016), and Chairperson of National Statistics Office of Mongolia (2016-2020).

She did her primary education in Mongolian-Russian joint school No.3, one of the prestigious Russian secondary schools of Mongolia, and pursued her higher education at the Institute of German Studies of Halle, Germany, later on obtained her master's degree in major of political science, sociology and history at the University of Hannover of Germany, and in major of business administration at the National University of Economics of Mongolia. Moreover, she also graduated in the field of international leadership and management at the International Law Institute of Georgetown University, USA. Regarding to her language skills, she can speak in English, German and Russian fluently.



**Ms. Mary Robinson, Chair, The Elders**

Mary Robinson is Adjunct Professor for Climate Justice in Trinity College Dublin and Chair of The Elders. She served as President of Ireland from 1990-1997 and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights from 1997-2002. She is a member of the Club of Madrid and the recipient of numerous honours and awards including the Presidential Medal of Freedom from the President of the United States Barack Obama. Between 2013 and 2016 Mary served as the UN Secretary General’s Special Envoy in three roles; first for the Great Lakes region of Africa, then on Climate

Change leading up to the Paris Agreement and in 2016 as his Special Envoy on El Niño and Climate. Her Foundation, the Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice, established in 2010, came to a planned end in April 2019.

A former President of the International Commission of Jurists and former chair of the Council of Women World Leaders she was President and founder of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative from 2002-2010 and served as Honorary President of Oxfam International from 2002-2012. She was Chancellor of the University of Dublin from 1998 to 2019.

Mary Robinson serves as Patron of the International Science Council and Patron of the Board of the Institute of Human Rights and Business, is an Ambassador for The B Team, in addition to being a board member of several organisations including the Mo Ibrahim Foundation and the Aurora Foundation. Recently she became joint Honorary President of the Africa Europe Foundation. Mary’s memoir, ‘Everybody Matters’ was published in September 2012 and her book, ‘Climate Justice - Hope, Resilience and the Fight for a Sustainable Future’ was published in September 2018. She is also co-host of a podcast on the climate crisis, called ‘Mothers of Invention’.



**Mr. Stefano Stefanile, Deputy Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in New York**

Amb. Stefano Stefanile is the Deputy Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in New York.

Ambassador Stefano Stefanile is the Deputy Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in New York. Prior to his current appointment, he served as Deputy Director-General/Principal Director for Global Issues and G7/G20 Processes at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (2016-2018) and Deputy

Principal Director for Asia and the Pacific (2015-2016). He has previously served at the Italian embassies in Tokyo, Athens, London and the Permanent Mission of Italy to the UN in New York.





**Mr. Thomas Guerber, Director, DCAF - Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance**

Ambassador Thomas Guerber is Director of DCAF - Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance. He brings to the position extensive experience in multilateral diplomacy and policy development relating to human security, human rights and sustainable development.

From 2010 to 2013, Ambassador Guerber was Switzerland's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York. From 2007 to 2010, he worked as a Counsellor for financial, budgetary and institutional issues at Switzerland's Permanent Mission to the UN in New York. Prior to these assignments, he held various functions within the Swiss Department of Foreign Affairs' Human Security Division, including Head of Section for Peace Policy and Human Security. He entered the Swiss diplomatic service in 1997.

Thomas Guerber holds an LL.M. degree in public international law and international economic law from the University of Berne, a master's degree in European integration and economics from Institute for European Global Studies (Basel) and a master's degree in history and literature from the University of Basel. He is married and has two sons.



**Mr. Silvio Gonzato, Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations**

Silvio Gonzato started his career at the EU in 1988.

Previous to his appointment in the EEAS, Mr. Gonzato was Head of the Secretariat of the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs, where his responsibilities covered among others, advice to the chair regarding the organization of the activities of the committee, contacts with other EU Institutions, with the European External Action Service and with diplomatic missions in Brussels.

In July 2014 he was appointed Director for Human Rights and Democracy European External Action (EEAS). In this capacity he was responsible for the organization and contents of all HR-related dialogues and consultations between the EU and partner countries (over 40 of them), the development of policy guidelines, and guidance to EU bilateral and multilateral delegations in matters pertaining to HR and democracy support. He was also responsible for Election Observation activities.

In September 2015 he was appointed Director for Interinstitutional relations, Policy coordination and Public diplomacy at the EEAS. His responsibilities covered relations with all EU institutions and representation of the EEAS in negotiations having institutional or legal implications, including sanctions. He was in charge of coordinating all political and legislative files and preparing the meetings of the Foreign Affairs Council. He was also responsible for public diplomacy activities (including promoting cultural affairs in EU external relations),

strategic communication issues. In this context he oversaw the EEAS communications strategy.

On May 1 he was appointed Ambassador, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations in New York.



**Mr. Stefano Manservisi, Special Advisor to European Commissioner for Economy**

Stefano Manservisi serves as Special Advisor to the European Commissioner for Economy Paolo Gentiloni and Professor at the Sciences Po's Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA). He is also Chair of the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund, Senior Advisor at the European Institute of Peace, Distinguished Non-Resident Fellow at the Center for Global Development and a Member of the IDLO Board of Advisers.

Previously, Manservisi was Director-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO) at the European Commission. Prior to that, he was the Head of the Private Office of Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Commission Vice-President. In 2014, he was the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Turkey. Before that, he held different positions at the Commission, including as Director-General for Migration and Home Affairs, and Director-General for Development and Relations with African, Caribbean, and Pacific States. He has also headed the Private Offices of the Commission's President Romano Prodi and Commissioner Mario Monti. Mr. Manservisi is a lawyer by training.



**Mr. Gerald Abila, Founder, Barefoot Law, Uganda**

Gerald Abila is an American Bar Association "Legal Rebel" and pioneer of the legal innovation movement in Africa.

He is "still" a natural person and founder of BarefootLaw which, through the innovative use of digital technology, empowers people to develop legal solutions for their justice needs.

Gerald is steadfast in the belief that access to the law for all is fundamental to a just, equitable, and thriving society and that new and emerging technologies have a significant

role to play in achieving this goal.



**Mr. Michael Zammit Cutajar, former Head of UNFCCC Secretariat and climate change negotiator, Malta**

Michael Zammit Cutajar worked in and around the United Nations on development and environment issues for most of his career. In 1991, as a UN staff member, he was assigned to set up and head the secretariat unit supporting the negotiation and launch of the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). He went on to be the first Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC secretariat, with the rank of Assistant Secretary-General of the UN (1996-2002). After retiring from the UN, he was appointed Malta's first Ambassador on Climate Change (2002-2011) and, as such, elected to chair negotiating bodies under the Convention. He later advised the delegation of France in preparing for the 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change.