



# SDG 16 CONFERENCE

## Peace, Justice & Inclusive Societies



### OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS

#### DAY 1 – 28 APRIL 2021



**Ms. Marina Sereni, Vice Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy**

Born in Foligno (Perugia) in 1960.

Active in students' organizations and in the Peace Movement.

In 1985 she was elected member of the Regional Council of Umbria.

From 1993 to 2001 she served as Alderwoman holding the portfolio for Budget, Personnel and Social Policies.

In 2001 she was elected for the first time to Parliament in the constituency of Umbria.

From December 2001 to 2005, she was a member of the National Executive Committee of the Democrats of the Left, with responsibility for Foreign Affairs.

In 2005, she took responsibility for the national organisation of the Democrats of the Left and contributed to the establishment of the Democratic Party. She served on the Foreign Affairs Committee until 2006.

In 2006, she was re-elected to the Chamber of Deputies and served as Vice President of the "Olive Tree" Parliamentary Group until 28 April 2008.

First candidate on the list of her region for the 2008 early elections, she served as Vice President of the Parliamentary Group of the Democratic Party until November 2009.

She was elected Vice President of the National Assembly of the Democratic Party during the 2009 Convention of the Democratic Party.

On the occasion of the 2013 general elections, she was first candidate on the list of the Democratic Party in the constituency of Umbria. She served as First Vice President of the Chamber of Deputies from 2013 to 2018. During this period she was also member of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

From July 2018 to September 2019 she was member of the National Secretariat of the Democratic Party. She is currently member of the National Directorate of the Party.

On September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 she was appointed Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (government Conte II).

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 she has been appointed Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (government Draghi).



**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. 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.

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.

Mr. LIU holds a Master of Laws from the Law School of Peking University. He was born in August 1955 in Shanxi Province, China. Mr. LIU is married.



**Ms. Jan Beagle, Director-General, IDLO**

Jan Beagle is the Director-General of the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) since January 2020. She was elected by Member Parties in November 2019. She has some forty years of experience as a diplomat and a senior international civil servant, working on peace and security, development, human rights, management, gender and organizational reform issues.

Ms. Beagle has served as Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on System-wide Implementation of Chief Executives Board (CEB) decisions; United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance; Deputy Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); Deputy Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva; and Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management. She has held senior positions in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, the Office of the Administrator of UNDP, and the Department of Political and Security Council Affairs.

Throughout her career, Ms. Beagle has been a committed advocate for gender equality and played a leadership role in the interagency bodies of the UN system, including as Chair of the High-Level Committee on Management of the CEB, and Chair of the CEB Task Force to address sexual harassment in UN organizations. She was formerly the Chair of the Assistant Secretary-General Advisory Group of the UN Development Group and a member of the Board of the UN System Staff College.

Ms. Beagle began her career in the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including as a delegate to the United Nations in New York. She holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts in History and International Relations from the University of Auckland, New Zealand.