



United Nations Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its  
Impact on Development

**Side Event: Recovering from Global Crisis: Towards an Action Plan for Africa  
and the Least Developed Countries**

**25 June 2009, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm**  
**ECOSOC Chamber**

**PROGRAMME**

**Part I** (3:00 – 4:15 pm)

3:00 – 3:15 pm

Opening Remarks by:

- **Mr. Cheick Sidi Diarra**, Under-Secretary-General, Special Adviser on Africa and High Representative for the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS; and
- Co-Chair - **Mr. Jean-Marc Coicaud**, Director, United Nations University Office at the UN in New York (UNU-ONY)

3:15 – 3:30 pm

Keynote Address by **H. E. Ms. Asha-Rose Migiro**, United Nations Deputy Secretary-General on “Causes and Impact of the financial crisis on Africa and LDCs. Global Response to support Africa and LDCs recovery from the crisis and laying the foundation for sustained growth and poverty reduction”

3:30 – 3:45 pm

Statement by **Her Excellency Dr. Dipu Moni**, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh and Chair of the LDCs

3:45 – 4:00 pm

Presentation of Background Paper by **Mr. Wim Naudé**, Senior Research Fellow and Project Director, UNU World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER), on “Challenges to Economic Development in Africa and the LDCs and Requirements for Recovery”

4:00 – 4:15 pm

Question and Answer session

**Part II** (4:15 pm – 6:00 pm)

Chair - **Mr. Jean-Marc Coicaud**, Director, UNU-ONY

4:15 pm – 5:10 pm

Presentations by the Panelists:

- **Mr. Alexander Aboagye**, Senior Economic Adviser, Regional Bureau for Africa (UNDP)
- **Mr. Stephen Groff**, Deputy Director, Development Co-operation Directorate, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- **Alhaji Bamanga Tukur**, Chairman of the African Business Roundtable.
- **Mr. Roger Nord**, Senior Advisor, African Department, International Monetary Fund (IMF)

5:10 – 5:50 pm

Discussion

5:50 – 6:00 pm

Conclusion and closing remarks by **Mr. Wim Naude**, UNU-WIDER.

## **SPEAKERS**



**Dr. Asha-Rose Migiro**

*Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations*

Dr. Asha-Rose Migiro of Tanzania took office as Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations on 1 February 2007. She is the third Deputy Secretary-General to be appointed since the post was established in 1997.

Dr. Migiro served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation from 2006-2007 -- the first woman in the United Republic of Tanzania to hold that position since its independence in 1961. Before that, she was Minister for Community Development, Gender and Children for five years. As Foreign Minister, Dr. Migiro spearheaded Tanzania's engagement in the pursuit of peace, security and development in the Great Lakes Region. She served as Chair of the Council of Ministers' meetings of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region, a process that culminated into a Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region.

Dr. Migiro was also Chair of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ministerial Committee of the Organ on Politics, Defense and Security Cooperation and President of the UN Security Council during its open debate on peace, security and development in the Great Lakes Region. As Chair of the SADC Organ,

Dr. Migiro coordinated SADC assistance to the democratic process, including elections, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), as well as support for national elections in Zambia and Madagascar. At the time of her appointment, she was chairing an important SADC Ministerial Troika Meeting ahead of the national elections in the Kingdom of Lesotho.

Prior to Government service, Dr. Migiro pursued a career in academia. She was a member of the Faculty of Law at the University of Dar-es-Salaam, where she rose to the rank of Senior Lecturer. She headed the Department of Constitutional and Administrative Law from 1992 to 1994, and the Department of Civil and Criminal Law from 1994 to 1997. Her work was published widely in local and international journals.

Dr. Migiro served as a member of Tanzania's Law Reform Commission in 1997 and as a member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in 2000. Dr. Migiro obtained a Master of Laws from the University of Dar-es-Salaam in 1984 and a Doctorate in law from the University of Konstanz in Germany in 1992. Dr. Migiro was born in Songea, Tanzania, on 9 July 1956. She is married to Professor Cleophas Migiro and has two daughters. In addition to English, she speaks Kiswahili, basic French and German.



**Mr. Cheick Sidi Diarra**

*Under-Secretary-General, Special Adviser on Africa and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States*

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed Mr. Cheick Sidi Diarra of Mali in July 2007 as Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. At the time of his appointment, Mr. Diarra was serving as the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations in New York.

On 22 January 2008 the United Nations Secretary-General also appointed him as the Special Adviser on Africa and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (OSAA/OHRLLS). Mr. Diarra has over 25 years of professional experience in international relations- bilateral and multilateral, law and development.

Mr. Diarra has been actively involved in furthering African integration efforts and the African development agenda at the international level. He has served as one of the lead negotiators on these issues at African Union summits since 1982. From his decade-long experience dealing with the United Nations, he acquired first-hand knowledge and experience of multifaceted issues of the United Nations and its intergovernmental processes in particular.

He made important contributions to the reform process of the United Nations aimed at strengthening the Organization's global role in economic and development matters. In this context he was an active player in the inter-governmental consultation process leading up to the strengthening of ECOSOC and follow-up of the development aspects of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals. He has been a dedicated advocate for the cause of Africa, the least developed countries and landlocked developing countries.

Mr. Diarra obtained masters degrees in international public law and international relations from Dakar University in Senegal. He is married with two children.



**Jean-Marc Coicaud**

*Director of the United Nations University Office at the United Nations*

Before UNU, he served in the Executive Office of the United Nations Secretary-General as a speechwriter for Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali. A former fellow at Harvard University (Center for International Affairs, Department of Philosophy and Harvard Law School), Senior Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace and a Global Research Fellow at NYU School of Law, he has held appointments as Cultural Attaché with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Legislative Aide with the Financial Committee of the European Parliament, Associate Professor at the University of Paris, Visiting Professor at the Ecole Normale Supérieure-Ulm in Paris, the New School for Social Research and Keio University. Dr. Coicaud holds a Ph.D. in political science-law from the Sorbonne and a Doctorat d'Etat in philosophy from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques of Paris. He has published over ten books in several languages in the fields of comparative politics, legal philosophy, political theory, and international politics.



**Her Excellency Dr. Dipu Moni**

*Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Chair of the LDCs*

Before her induction to the cabinet as Bangladesh's first woman Foreign Minister, Dr. Dipu Moni was Secretary for Women's Affairs and a Member of the Sub-Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Bangladesh Awami League. She is a qualified physician and draws upon advanced qualifications in Public Health and Law and is an Advocate of the Bangladesh Supreme Court. Dr. Dipu Moni represents Chandpur-3 as a Member of Parliament.

Until now the principal focus of her work has been women's rights and entitlements, health legislation, health policy and management, health financing, strategic planning, and health and human rights under the Constitution and law in Bangladesh's economic and social development programmes and foreign policy issues of the region and globally. Over the past ten years Dr. Dipu Moni has represented her leader and party's position to Cabinet Ministers and public representatives of Asia, Europe and the USA, Ambassadors and Senior Representatives of International Institutions. She writes, teaches, consults, researches, conducts advocacy programmes, organizes and leads free health service clinics with a pool of qualified physicians, and promotes legislation on key issues.

Educated at the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health, Dhaka Medical College, the country's premier Medical School, and at the University of London, Dipu Moni has undertaken specialized courses at Johns Hopkins and a course at Harvard on Negotiations and Conflict Resolution.



**Wim Naudé**

*Senior Research Fellow and Project Director at UNU-WIDER*

A graduate in development economics from the University of Warwick (UK) and North-West University (Potchefstroom, South Africa) his recent research focuses on spatial economic inequalities, entrepreneurship and African economic development. Previously, he has been Director of the Work Well Research Unit at North-West University, South Africa, and a Council Member of Statistics South Africa. He has also been lecturer and research officer at the Centre for the Study of African Economies, University of Oxford, has taught economics at Addis Ababa University, and has worked as policy researcher in a number of African countries.



**Alexander Aboagye**

*Economic Adviser to the Director of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa, UNDP*

Alexander Aboagye is currently the economic adviser to the UNDP RBA Director. He had earlier served as a senior economic advisor at the United Nations Development Programme in Uganda where he was responsible for economic policy advice. He held similar positions in Mozambique, Angola and Namibia. He has extensive and first hand experience on African economic development issues. He formerly worked for the International Labour Organization in Ethiopia in the area of industrial development and employment promotion. Dr. Aboagye lectured in economics at the University of Ghana, Legon for several years. He is currently working on a book which deals with contemporary Africa, in which he challenges many of the conventional economic approaches to policy making in addressing some of the development challenges that confront the African continent.



**Stephen P. Groff**

*Deputy Director of the Development Co-operation Directorate (OECD)*

The Development Co-operation Directorate is the principal forum through which the OECD and donors deal with issues related to the volume and effectiveness of development assistance and co-operation, a global enterprise that amounts to more than \$100 billion annually. It aims to impact donor policies and practices in ways that promote aid effectiveness, capacity development, and inclusive globalisation, in order to support poverty reduction and sustainable development in developing countries. As Deputy Director, he is responsible for strategic policy analysis on a

wide range of development-related economic and political issues. He also plays a central role in the monitoring and evaluation of aid efforts of all major bilateral donors and served as the first director of the “Partnership for Democratic Governance” – a new multilateral initiative focused on fragile states.

Prior to OECD, Mr. Groff was Deputy Vice President for Operations at the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) – a new U.S. bilateral assistance initiative. As the senior-most non-political staff and member of the executive management team, Mr. Groff oversaw a broad range of MCC activities, including proposal development, proposal due diligence, compact negotiation and compact implementation. He also established strategic and operational priorities for an investment pipeline and portfolio of over \$6 billion. He was the primary advisor to the CEO on development issues, strategy and policy and played a central role in ensuring quality, technical excellence and development impact in MCC operations. Mr. Groff has extensive international development expertise having spent the last 20 years working and living in over 30 developing countries around the world. Prior to MCC, Mr. Groff was a senior advisor at the Asian Development Bank (AsDB) in Manila, Philippines and was extensively engaged in AsDB's operational work in East, Southeast, and Central Asia and in the Pacific, as well as across a wide range of the major strategic and policy issues confronting all major development institutions today. Previously, he served as an economist and mission leader at AsDB where he built a successful track record in project and program conceptualization, design, and implementation. Prior to his tenure at AsDB, Mr. Groff was the deputy director and chief economist on a large USAID project designed to encourage private sector development in the southern Philippines, a Program Director for the U.S. Refugee Program, and a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer. Mr. Groff holds a two-year MPA from the Kennedy School at Harvard University and a B.S. from Yale College.



**Roger Nord**

*Senior Advisor of the African Department at the International Monetary Fund (IMF)*

As a Senior Adviser of the African Department at the IMF, Mr. Nord specializes in West and South-East Africa. He has been at the IMF since 1983 and has previously served as Division Chief at the Policy Development (1994 – 1998) and Review Department, Regional Representative in Central Europe (1998 – 2002), Advisor at the Managing Director’s Office (2002 – 2004) and Mission Chief for Tanzania, Uganda, Cameroon and Gabon (2004 – 2008). Mr. Nord

holds a Licentiatuŝ Oeconomiaeis from the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland and a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Chicago.