

## Bios of Speakers



**H.E. Ambassador Rodrigo A. Carazo** is the Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations. Ambassador Carazo has wide-ranging experience in politics, international relations, business and law. From 2008 to 2015, he was the President of Volta Asesores S.A., having worked as a business professional in industry, commerce, agriculture, tourism and the service sector, and as a business consultant to international organizations. He was a Deputy of the Legislative Assembly from 2002 and 2006, and the first Ombudsman of Costa Rica, a position he held from 1993 to 1997.

Between 1984 and 1987, he was a representative of the University for Peace to European offices of the United Nations, and from 1978 to 1980 Special Ambassador of Costa Rica to the United Nations General Assembly and various countries.

Having earned a bachelor's degree in economic and social sciences and a law degree from the University of Costa Rica, he also holds a doctorate degree in political science and international relations from the University of Geneva.



**Mr. Stanley Kimaren** is an indigenous peoples' leader from the Pastoralists Maasai Community in southern Kenya. He is the Founder and Director of Indigenous Livelihoods Enhancement Partners (ILEPA) – an indigenous peoples' organization that advocates for indigenous peoples' rights.

Mr. Kimaren, as team leader of ILEPA, continues to spearhead innovative community driven and responsive initiatives respective of and informed by the indigenous peoples' cosmovisions and indigenous knowledge systems.

Mr. Kimaren has extensive experience in engaging with and influencing international processes and mechanisms of interests to indigenous peoples, including the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Green Climate Fund as well as the mechanisms related to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Mr. Kimaren has represented the global indigenous peoples' movement in various capacities.

Additionally, Mr. Kimaren has extensively engaged with the UN Human rights instruments, particular through the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

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**Mr. Jose Viera** has more than 18 years of experience working nationally and internationally in the field of human rights and development. As a person with a disability, Mr. Viera has a personal commitment to improving the lives of persons with disabilities and advocating for their human rights and well-being.

Mr. Viera is the Chief Executive Officer for the World Blind Union, a global organization with broad international membership of 235 organizations at the sub-national and regional levels and in over 196 countries. Mr. Viera is a professor in the department of International Relations at Silo 21 University in Argentina and has contributed to various publications and research projects on disability and development with a special focus on the Global South.

Mr. Viera has been actively involved in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development implementation over the past few years. In particular, as the Permanent Representative of the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities, Mr. Viera has been at the forefront of including persons with disabilities in 2030 Agenda processes. Mr. Viera has participated and presented at the HLPF for the last three years, as well as at the ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development, and other related events. Mr. Viera has been engaged in the Voluntary National Review process at the national, regional and global levels and has strengthened the participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in these processes

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**Ms. Anne Nuorgam** is the Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. She is a long-term Saami politician and has been a member of the Saami Parliament of Finland since 2000.

Ms. Nuorgam is also the Chair of Veahčanjárga Fishery. She has been working on reconciliation issues and now works as the Head of the Saami Council's Human Rights Unit and has served as a trustee to the UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples during 2015-2020.

Ms. Nuorgam holds a Master of Laws degree, particularly of Sami law, and is a currently a PhD student at the University of Lapland.

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**Moderator:**



**Ms. Chandra Roy-Henriksen** leads the Indigenous Peoples and Development Branch/Secretariat of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) at the UN Headquarters in New York.

Ms. Roy-Henriksen is a lawyer by training, with specialization in international law, human rights and indigenous peoples. She received her Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from Punjab University, Pakistan and her Masters in Law (LL.M) from The American University, Washington D.C., USA.

Ms. Roy-Henriksen has worked in law firms, and with indigenous and non-governmental organizations. She also worked in the Standards Department of the International Labour Organization (ILO), Geneva. In 1995, Ms. Roy helped establish a project to promote ILO Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (PRO 169) that is ongoing. On leaving the ILO in 2000, Ms. Roy worked as a consultant and has published on a range of issues relating to indigenous peoples (land rights, ILO Manual on C 169, customary law etc.).

In September 2004, Ms. Roy-Henriksen joined UNDP's regional centre in Bangkok, Thailand and initiated a regional programme on indigenous peoples' rights and development (RIPP).

Ms. Roy-Henriksen took up her post at UNDESA in December 2010.

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