



## The Role of Sport in Addressing Inequalities in Times of Crisis and Recovery

### UN Multi-stakeholder Dialogue

#### Speaker Bios

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**Ambassador Sheikha Alya Ahmed bin Saif Al-Thani, Ambassador of Qatar**

Ambassador Alya holds a Master's Degree in International Studies and Diplomacy (ISD) from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) part of the University of London. The Ambassador has been the Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations from October 17, 2013 to Present. Previously the Ambassador was the Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the UN Office in Geneva (UNOG); permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and General Consul of the State of Qatar to the Swiss Federation: 2011-2013. The Ambassador worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar, and served as a Counselor at the Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the UN in New York.

She started her career as a Social Policy Researcher, then Director of the Department of the Rights of the Child, Policy Division at the Secretariat of Qatar's Supreme Council for Family Affairs from 1999 to 2007.



**Amadou Gallo Fall**

**President, Basketball Africa League**

As President of the Basketball Africa League (BAL), Amadou Gallo Fall led the historic league's launch last May and has defined its vision and strategy for years to come. Fall, who was named BAL President in May 2019, oversees the league's business and basketball operations, leading its efforts to build a comprehensive basketball ecosystem in Africa.

Prior to being named BAL President, Fall was Vice President & Managing Director of NBA Africa, where he worked to grow the game of basketball across the continent. He helped open the NBA's office in Johannesburg in 2010 and oversaw the league's grassroots development efforts and partnerships with marketing, media and consumer products companies in Africa.

Before joining the league office, Fall worked for the Dallas Mavericks as Director of Player Personnel and Vice President of International Affairs. In this role, Fall was an integral part of Basketball Without Borders, the NBA and FIBA's global basketball development and community outreach program that uses the game to create positive social change in the areas of education, health and wellness.

Fall is a recipient of multiple leadership awards for his contribution to the growth of the game of basketball and youth development on the African continent. This includes New African's 100 Most Influential Africans (2019), African Leader 4 Change (2017) and the South African Sport Industry's Leadership in Sport (2018). Fall is also the Founder of SEED (Sports for Education and Economic Development), a global non-profit organization established in 1998 with the mission of using sport as a vehicle to inspire, empower and support the holistic development of promising African youth, preparing them to become global citizens.

Fall graduated magna cum laude from the University of the District of Columbia, where he played center on the basketball team.



**Nicole Matuska**

**Director, Women Win**

Nicole Matuska is the GRLS Director at Women Win. She has been working with Women Win in various capacities since 2011 on a range of projects and programs both in the U.S. and globally. Currently, Nicole has taken on the strategic lead of girls rights through sport initiative at Women Win, working with implementing partners and other stakeholders across the development, sport and women's rights sectors to advance the playing field that empowers adolescent girls and young women to exercise their rights through sport and play. Together with our implementing partners, we have impacted the lives of over 4 million adolescent girls and young women in over 100 countries.

Graduating with a journalism degree from Northwestern University in Chicago IL, Nicole received a Fulbright scholarship in 2006 to study women's football and ended up staying 10 years in the

country working with local and international organizations using sport as a tool for girls' and young women's empowerment.



**Massimo Seregni**

**Inter-Campus, Senior Area Manager**

Born in Milan 07-05-1967, Massimo Seregni is a graduate in International Political Science from the Università Cattolica. Massimo has served as a volunteer in an NGO helping Immigrants in Milan and worked in the Malta Development Corporation in Milan and the Fiera Milano European Project Office. Since 1999, Massimo has worked with Inter-Campus first as a Project Manager and currently as the Senior Area Manager for Sub-Saharan Africa and Russia.

Inter Campus is a corporate social responsibility initiative run by FC Inter Milano. Inter-Campus gives the Right To Play to thousands of needy children, using the values of sport and the game of football as an educational tool. Inter Campus contributes to the development of the local communities, supporting educational, social and sanitary protection programs carried out by local partners. Moreover, Inter Campus promotes social integration among differing ethnic groups and cultures.



**Maria-Francesca Spatolisano**

**Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)**

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres announced on 20 December 2018 the appointment of Maria-Francesca Spatolisano of Italy as Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Ms. Spatolisano has 33 years of experience in public service including extensive senior leadership in multilateral affairs. She has served as the European Union Ambassador to the OECD and UNESCO, Monaco and Andorra. She was a member of the EU Delegation to the United Nations, serving as the Head of its Economic and Trade Section. She covered all issues related to trade, development and environmental policies in the Second Committee and ECOSOC and was also the EC representative to the Fifth Committee.

Since 2017, she has been responsible for International Organizations and Development Dialogue with other Donors in the Commission's Directorate General for Development Cooperation. In this capacity, she has assured the EU presence and developed EU positions on development policy in a number of international fora including the United Nations, the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, OECD, G-7 and the G-20, where she represented the EU in the G-20 Development Working Group. Ms. Spatolisano holds a Doctorate in Law (cum laude) from Florence University and is fluent in Italian, English and French. She is married with two children.



**Daniela Bas**

**Director of the Division for Inclusive Social Development at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs**

Ms. Daniela Bas, of Italian nationality, is the Director of the Division for Inclusive Social Development at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs since May 2011. Political scientist with a major in International Politics, she graduated Magna Cum Laude with a dissertation on “The elimination of architectural barriers and the employment of people with physical disabilities”. She is also a certified journalist and worked for the major press, Radio, and Television networks and is also a certified multicultural/life coach. Ms. Bas's interest has always been people-centred in the various activities, associations, and professional roles she has held. In addition to her work at the United Nations from 1986 to 1995, she held managerial roles until 2000 in the private sector in Italy.

From then until 2011, before joining UNDESA she was, inter alia, adviser for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and for the Presidency of the Council of Ministers in Italy. On behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, she was Board Member of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights and of the Committee to Promote non-Armed and non-Violent Civil Defense of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. Ms. Bas was also the special adviser to the Vice President of the European Commission (On. Frattini) on human rights, democracy, and social affairs.