

Panel 5. Making Dignity and Prosperity the Norm (31 March 2015, 11:30 – 12:45)

**BIOGRAPHIES**



**H.E. Ambassador Bénédicte Frankinet**

*Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations and Co-Chair of the Group of Friends on Decent Work*

Her Excellency Ambassador Bénédicte Frankinet has served as the Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations since 2012. Prior to her appointment in New York, she served as Belgium's Ambassador to Israel (2008-2012), and Zimbabwe (1999-2003). She was the Director of the United Nations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Brussels from 2003-2008. Ambassador Frankinet also held a number of senior positions in the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the Counselor, the Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Belgium in Paris (1994-1999), the Adviser in Private Office Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs in Brussels (1992-1994).



**Mr. Guy Ryder**

*Director-General, International Labour Organization (ILO)*

Mr. Guy Ryder has served as the ILO Director-General since 2012. Mr. Guy Ryder started his professional career in 1981 as assistant at the International Department of the Trade Union Congress in London. From 1985, he held the position of Secretary of the Industry Trade Section of the International Federation of Commercial, Clerical, Professional and Technical Employees (FIET) in Geneva.

In 1988, Guy Ryder became Assistant Director and – from 1993 - Director of the Geneva office of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU). Guy Ryder first joined the International Labour Organization in 1998 as Director of the Bureau for Workers' Activities and, from 1999, as Director of the Office of the Director-General. It was during this time that the ILO's Decent Work Agenda was launched and won support from the international community.

In 2002, he moved to Brussels where he was appointed General Secretary of the ICFTU, leading the process of global unification of the democratic international trade union movement. He was elected as first General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) when it was created in 2006. He headed international trade union delegations to high level talks with the UN, IMF, World Bank and WTO and to the G20 Leaders' Summits.

In September 2010, Guy Ryder came back to the ILO in Geneva as Executive Director, responsible for international labour standards and fundamental principles and rights at work. Among other activities, he supervised the application of ILO Conventions and Recommendations. He also headed several high-level ILO missions to address a range of issues related to labour standards in countries such as Bahrain, Colombia, Fiji, Georgia, Greece, Myanmar and Swaziland.



## **H.E. Mr. Luis Eduardo Garzón**

*Minister of Labour, Colombia*

Luis Eduardo Garzón is the Minister for Labour since August 2014. He was born in Bogotá in 1951. Luis Eduardo Garzón began law studies at the University Libre in Bogotá and began his working life as a clerk in the company Ecopetrol, where he joined the Workers' Trade Union (USO), of which he became president. He was later elected the first president of the Confederation of Workers of Colombia (CUT). In the local elections of 2003, he was elected Mayor of Bogotá by the Political Party Polo Democrático. From the capital's mayor (2004-2007) developed the Bogota without Hunger program. In 2007 the Cooperative University of Colombia granted the title of honorary Sociologist. Since 2010 Luis Eduardo Garzón was spokesman of the Green Party and in September 2012, was appointed by President Santos as Minister Counselor for Social Dialogue.



## **H.E. Mr. Radosław Mleczo**

*Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Policy, Poland*

Mr. Mleczo is the Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of Republic of Poland. Prior to this position, he pursued a career in the area of art and history. In 2004-2007, he served as the Curator of Królikarnia, Department of the National Museum in Warsaw, where he also held the position as the Deputy Director. In 2001-2004, he was Art Director of the concept "Agrafka Muzyczna," the grant programme and workshops organized in cooperation with the Academy for the Development of Philanthropy in Poland and J&S Pro Bono Poloniae Foundation. In 1997-2000, he was Founder and the President of Radio Classic 103,7FM, the first commercial radio station broadcasting classical music in Poland.

In the 1990's, Mr. Mleczo pursued a career in art and history including Deputy Director at the Fryderyk Chopin Academy of Music in Warsaw, Creator of the Warsaw Autumn Spring Orchestra (Wiosenna Orkiestra Warszawskiej Jesieni,) and Director of the event "Blue Summer," organized for disabled students of schools of music in cooperation with the UNDP, Editor-In-Chief of the magazine "Philharmonic," and many others."



## **Mr. Philip Jennings**

*General Secretary, UNI Global Union*

Philip J. Jennings has been General Secretary of UNI Global Union since its creation on 1 January 2000 and has been described as the labour movement's "Global Warrior".

Today membership and influence continue to grow and the organization which represents the services sector, counts 20 million members in 150 nations and 900 unions. UNI is a force in Europe, Africa, the Americas and Asia and the Pacific. To date UNI has negotiated more than 50 global agreements with leading multinationals.

In a globalization process gone wrong, Philip sees unions as part of the solution to build a sustainable and fairer global economy. He says economic inclusivity is the key and that is why "Including You" has been chosen as the theme of the next World Congress in Cape Town. He firmly believes that it is time for big business to work together with global unions to 'change the rules of the game' and create a

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more responsible world.

He has taken this message to the G20, IMF, World Bank, OECD and the World Economic Forum – tireless in his pursuit of a ‘seat at the table’ for working people. Philip was instrumental in ensuring that the labour movement finally achieved a seat at the G20 table with the establishment of the Labour 20 (L20) which is now an integral part of the G20. Philip also chaired the Commission on the Future of the Irish Trade Union Movement.



**Mr. Ed Potter**

*Chair of Labor and Employment Committee of the United States Council for International Business; and Director of Global Workplace Rights, The Coca-Cola Company*

Ed Potter joined The Coca-Cola Company in March 2005 and is the Director of Global Workplace Rights. His responsibilities include global labor relations, workplace and human rights, social compliance of the business system and supply chain, workplace environment policy and practice, and employee insight surveys.

Participating in the annual International Labor Conference since 1982, Ed is known worldwide for his consensus building skills. In 1998, he was the employer spokesperson for the negotiation of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work that serves as one of the foundations for the Company’s Human Rights Statement, Workplace Rights Policy and Global Mutual Respect Policy.

Between 2005 and 2011, he was the employer spokesperson on the ILO Committee on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations that holds countries accountable for their obligations resulting from the ratification of ILO conventions.

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