



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL INTEGRATION SEGMENT

Biographies

27-29 May, 2014

ECOSOC Chamber

29 May, 10:00 – 11:30

Thematic discussion on “Effective governance, policy-making and planning for sustainable urbanization”

Mr. Berry Vrbanovic, Vice-President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Councillor from Kitchener



Mr. Berry Vrbanovic was first elected as a Councillor in 1994, and is now serving his fifth term as a Councillor with the City of Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. Prior to serving on Council, Mr. Vrbanovic had 8 years of experience in municipal administration working in the Clerk's, Fire, Licensing, Planning and Information Technology Departments. In 2000, Mr. Vrbanovic was first elected to the Board of Directors of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

From 2005-2007, he served as Chair of FCM's Standing Committee on International Relations which oversees the work FCM does in 20 developing countries in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America. In 2007, he was elected by his colleagues as the Chair of the Ontario Caucus and as Third Vice-President at Large. The same year he served on the FCM Governance Committee which revised the FCM bylaws, and the code of ethical conduct, and the Finance and Human Resources Committee. Currently, Mr. Vrbanovic is serving as FCM's Third Vice-President. He is also FCM's governance representative on post-tsunami programs in Sri Lanka and Indonesia, both of which address the question of local government strengthening in conflict and post-conflict contexts. Mr. Vrbanovic also represents Canada on the World Council of UCLG.

H.E. Ms. Angela Brown-Burke, Mayor of Kingston, Jamaica



Ms. Brown-Burke started her political career as a Corporate Area Councillor of the Kingston and Saint Andrew Corporation. She was elected a vice-president of the People's National Party in 2006. She moved from local to national politics in January 2012 with her appointment as Deputy President of the Senate of Jamaica after Portia Simpson Miller came to power in the December 2011 general election. After the PNP's victory over the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) in the March 2012 election, she became mayor of Kingston.

Prof. Hassan Radoine, Central Director of Architecture and Urban Planning, Ministry of Urban and Territorial Planning, Morocco



Prof. Hassan Radoine is also Director of the Ecole Nationale d'Architecture in Morocco, and was previously the Head of the Architecture Department at University of Sharjah, UAE. He received his first Architect Professional Diploma from Rabat's Ecole Nationale d'Architecture. As Fulbright Scholar, he completed M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania, USA. As the Prince of Wales Scholar, he also earned a Master's degree from the Prince of Wales' Institute of Architecture and University of Wales. He has taught at UPenn,



Dartmouth College, University of Sharjah, American University of Sharjah, and Al Akhawayn University, and worked as an international expert for UNESCO, ICCROM, MCC, the World Bank, and the Aga Khan Award. A contributor to several journals and books, his research and practice interest is architecture and urbanism in the MENA region. His ongoing book with Wiley International is entitled: “Architecture in Context: Designing in the Middle East.”

Ms. Clara Irazabal Zurita, Director of Latin Lab, Assistant Professor of Urban Planning, Columbia University



Ms. Clara Irazabal received a Ph.D. in Architecture from the University of California at Berkeley, and has two Masters in Architecture and Urban Design and Planning from the University of California at Berkeley and the Universidad Central de Venezuela, respectively. Irazábal has worked as consultant, researcher, and/or professor in Venezuela, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Costa Rica, Germany, Spain, Vietnam, and the US; and has lectured in many other countries.

Irazábal's scholarship can be synthesized in two interrelated research questions: What has planning done and what can planning do to serve as an instrument of community emancipation? Irazábal's scholarship is motivated by her concern for understanding social justice struggles as these are manifested in processes of transformation of urban space. Irazábal's work also explores how markers of minoritized identity (gender, ethnicity, race, age, national origin, dominant language proficiency, ideological and religious affiliations, sexual orientation, etc.) and their intersections with one another are negatively impacted by planning processes, when the supposed mandates of planning urge respect, celebration, and nurturing of diversity. The urgency of this work grows steadily because urban communities around the world (and particularly in the US) are becoming rapidly and increasingly multicultural.