



## Round Table 5

### “Looking ahead: External debt”

(3 p.m. - 6 p.m., 1 December 2008, Al Majlis Auditorium)

#### Provisional Programme

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3:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

#### Panel Discussion

*Co-Chairs:*

- **H.E. Ms. Isatou Njie-Saidy**, Vice-President of Gambia
- **Mr. Mario Delgado Alfaro**, Deputy Director General for International Financial Affairs Ministry of Economy and Finance, Spain

*Moderator:* **Mr. Murilo Portugal**, Deputy Managing Director, International Monetary Fund

*Panelists:*

- **Ms. Nancy Birdsall**, President, Center for Global Development
- **Mr. Carlos Braga**, Director, Economic Policy and Debt Department, World Bank
- **Mr. Benoît Coeuré**, Co-Chairman, Paris Club
- **Mr. Robert Gray**, Chairman, Debt Financing and Advisory, HSBC
- **Ms. Mary Robinson**, President, Ethical Globalization Initiative

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4:45 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

#### Interactive Debate

## Biographical notes

**Ms. Nancy Birdsall** is the founding president of the Center for Global Development. Prior to launching the Center, Ms. Birdsall served for three years as Senior Associate and Director of the Economic Reform Project at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Her work at Carnegie focused on issues of globalization and inequality, as well as on the reform of the international financial institutions. From 1993 to 1998, Ms. Birdsall was Executive Vice-President of the Inter-American Development Bank where she oversaw a \$30 billion public and private loan portfolio. Before joining the Inter-American Development Bank, Ms. Birdsall spent 14 years in research, policy, and management positions at the World Bank, most recently as Director of the Policy Research Department.

**Mr. Carlos Braga** is Director of Economic Policy and Debt in the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network (PREM). His main responsibilities are to: provide integrated support to country programs in the areas of debt, macro-policy and shared and sustainable growth; provide low-income countries with better growth diagnostics as well as debt management policy advice; and provide institutional guidance in the areas of fiscal policy, macroeconomic management, and overall economic policy, acting as the Chairman of the Economic Policy Sector Board of the World Bank. Before joining the World Bank in 1991, he taught economics at the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, and he was a Visiting Professor at the Paul Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, The John Hopkins University, USA.

**Mr. Benoît Coeuré** is co-Chairman of the Paris Club. He is also head of multilateral affairs, trade and development at the French Treasury and G8 finance sous-sherpa for France. He served as chief economic adviser to the permanent head of the French Treasury between 1997 and 2002 and deputy CEO, then CEO of Agence France Trésor, the French debt management office, between 2002 and 2007. He also teaches international economics and economic policy at Ecole Polytechnique in Paris.

**Mr. Robert Gray** has been in his current position of Chairman of Debt Financing and Advisory of HSBC since 2001. He joined HSBC in 1994 as Chairman of HSBC Markets Limited, with particular responsibility for developing HSBC's capital markets capabilities worldwide. He was subsequently appointed Vice Chairman, Client Development of HSBC Investment Bank plc. Prior to joining HSBC, he was head of J P Morgan's capital markets activities in Europe. Previously he was President and Tokyo branch manager of J P Morgan Securities Asia Ltd. Mr. Gray also headed J P Morgan's world wide loan syndication group and was later responsible for their eurobond underwriting business.

**Ms. Mary Robinson** is the President of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative. She served as United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights from 1997 to 2002 and as President of Ireland from 1990-1997. She is a member of the Elders. She is Chair of the Council of Women World Leaders and Vice President of the Club of Madrid. She chairs the Fund for Global Human Rights and is Honorary President of Oxfam International and is Patron of the International Community of Women Living with AIDS (ICW). She is chair of the GAVI Fund Executive Committee and Vice-chair of the GAVI Fund Board. She is a professor of practice at Columbia University and member of the Advisory Board of the Earth Institute and Extraordinary Professor at the University of Pretoria in South Africa. She serves as Chancellor of Dublin University.