



Financing Sustainable Development beyond 2015

Briefing on the Report of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on
Sustainable Development Financing

Friday, 17 October 2014, 1:15 – 2:45 p.m.
Conference Room B (CB)

Speakers

Mr. Thomas Gass

Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, UN DESA

Mr. Mansur Muhtar

Committee Co-Chair, World Bank Executive Director for Nigeria, Angola, South Africa

H.E. Mr. Pertti Majanen

Committee Co-Chair, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland

H.E. Mr. Geir O. Pedersen

Permanent Representative of Norway, Co-facilitator of the preparatory process for the third International Conference on Financing for Development

H.E. George Wilfred Talbot

Permanent Representative of Guyana, Co-facilitator of the preparatory process for the third International Conference on Financing for Development

Prof. Stephany Griffith-Jones

Columbia University

Ms. Eva Hanfstaengl

Bread for the World

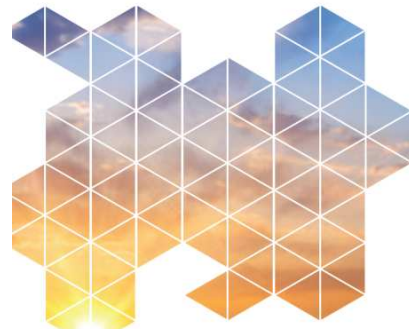
Chaired and Moderated by Mr. Alexander Trepelkov

Director, Financing for Development Office, UN DESA

Links to the Report of the Committee

- [Official Document \(A/69/315\)](#)
- [Publication](#)

Report of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on
Sustainable Development Financing



Bios of Speakers

Mr. Thomas Gass is Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Prior to this appointment, he has served as Head of the Mission of Switzerland to Nepal, and was Head of the Economic and Development Section at the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations in New York. He also served as Policy and Programme Officer for the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and as Deputy Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Guyana.

Mr. Mansur Muhtar is an Executive Director on the Board of the World Bank Group. He has previously served as Minister of Finance in the Federal Republic of Nigeria (2008 to 2010), as Executive Director of the African Development Bank (2007-2008) and as Director-General of Nigeria's Debt Management Office (2003-2007). Mr. Muhtar holds a Ph.D. in Economics, obtained from the University of Sussex. He is also an alumnus of Ahmadu Bello University (Zaria) and the University of Cambridge, U.K. Mr. Muhtar is a recipient of the Nigeria National Honours Award, Officer of the Federal Republic (OFR), for contributions to national development.

Ambassador Pertti Majanen has a broad view on all development issues based on over 30 years of experience that has covered practical development cooperation work and policy questions including development financing in Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe. Mr. Majanen joined the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland in 1974 and served in various positions in development cooperation at home and abroad. After serving as Ambassador of Finland to the Philippines, he was nominated the Under-Secretary of State for Development Cooperation for 2000-2005. Thereafter he has served as Ambassador to OECD and UNESCO, and to Ireland, completing his mission in August 2013.

Ambassador Geir O. Pedersen was appointed Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations in New York, 5 September 2012. Mr. Pedersen was previously Director General in the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department for the United Nations, Peace and Humanitarian Affairs. Mr. Pedersen served as the Secretary General Special Personal Representative and Special Coordinator for Lebanon at the level of Under-Secretary-General from April 2007 to February 2008. Mr. Pedersen has also served as Director of Asia and Pacific Division in the Department of Political Affairs. Between November 1998 and March 2003, Mr. Pedersen served as the Norwegian Representative to the Palestinian Authority.

Ambassador George Wilfred Talbot was appointed Permanent Representative of Guyana to the United Nations in January 2012. Prior to his appointment, he was Chargé d'affaires a.i. at the Permanent Mission of Guyana in New York, where he also held the rank of Minister Counsellor, having previously been Second Secretary and First Secretary. Mr. Talbot has held a variety of posts in the field of multilateral diplomacy, working on economic, social and political issues. He headed his country's delegation in New York when Guyana was Chair of the Union of South American Nations in 2011, and the Rio Group in 2006.

Professor Stephany Griffith-Jones is Financial Markets Director at the Initiative for Policy Dialogue at Columbia University, and was Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies. She has published widely on the international financial system and its reform. Her research interests include global capital flows; macro-economic management of capital flows in Latin America, Eastern Europe and sub-Saharan Africa; proposals for international measures to diminish volatility of capital flows and reduce likelihood of currency crises; analysis of national and international capital markets; and proposals for international financial reform.

Ms. Eva Hanfstaengl is Policy Officer for Development Finance at Bread for the World (Brot fuer die Welt). Her work focuses on development financing, in particular debt relief and official development assistance, as well as financial crises and international financial policy. She has worked on these issues for several organisations, including CIDSE, the United Nations and the think tank SocDevJustice.