High-level panel discussion on the priority theme
“Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all”

Monday, 29 January 2018 (3:00 pm – 6:00 pm)
Conference Room 4

Keynote speaker

H.E. Mr. Juan Somavia, Director of the Diplomatic Academy of Chile, former Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Interregional Policy Cooperation, former President of ECOSOC, and the former Director-General of the International Labour Organisation (ILO)

Panellists

H.E. Ms. Ana Helena Chacón, Vice-President of Costa Rica

H.E. Dr. Ghada Waly, Minister of Social Solidarity of Egypt

Mr. Mark Kamperhoff, Head of Unit, EU Coordination and International Affairs, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, Germany

Mr. Mark McGreevy OBE, Group Chief Executive of DePaul International and the founder of the Institute of Global Homelessness (IGH)

Moderator

Dr. Jane Barratt, Secretary-General of the International Federation on Ageing (IFA)
Profiles of Speakers

Juan Somavia is Director, Diplomatic Academy of Chile, former Secretary-General’s Special Advisor on Interregional Policy Cooperation, and former President of ECOSOC. He was Director-General of the ILO from March 1999 to September 2012, as the first representative from the Southern hemisphere to head the Organization. At his initiative, the ILO created in 2002 the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization. Prior to this, he was Ambassador of Chile to the United Nations in New York (1990 to 1999). He was instrumental in organizing the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, 1995): he proposed and was appointed Chair of the Preparatory Committee of the World Summit for Social Development (from 1993 to 1995) and he was a key participant at the Summit. Mr. Somavia was Chairman of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) from 1996 to 1999. He was President of the International Commission of the Democratic Coalition in Chile (1983-1990) and Founder and Secretary-General of the South American Peace Commission (1986-90). His pursuit of these ideals has earned him several citations and awards, most recently the Lifetime Achievement Award by the MDG Awards Committee in New York, for his work towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and promoting social development.

Ana Helena Chacón, has been serving as Costa Rica’s Vice President, since 2014. Her political career is dedicated to issues of feminism, human rights, and public health policy. Previously a cabinet minister and deputy, Ms. Chacón has also served on numerous committees and conferences on the national and international level. Ms. Chacón served as Vice Minister of Public Safety from 2002 to 2006. She then served as a deputy in the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica from 2006 to 2010 for the Social Christian Unity Party (PUSC). In 2010, Ms. Chacón left PUSC to create a new party with other ex-PUSC members, the Christian Democratic and Social Party (CDS).

Ghada Waly, has been the Minister of Social Solidarity of Egypt since 2014. Dr. Waly is the Coordinator of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Social Justice and she chairs The Executive Council of Arab Ministers of Social Affairs in the League of Arab States. Her work experience includes 27 years in the field of Poverty Reduction and Social Protection. In the framework of her position, she is the Chairperson of Nasser Social Bank, a pro-poor developmental financial institution. She chairs the boards of National Center for Social and Criminology Research, National Fund for Drug and addiction Control and the National Authority of Social Insurance which serves 25 million Egyptians. She also sits on the board of the Social Housing Fund in the ministry of Housing and Urban development, the board of the unplanned settlement fund, the board of the youth fund, and the National Management Institute. Throughout her professional experience, she had leadership positions as Managing Director of Social Fund for Development SFD, a multi-million dollars SME’s Fund. Assistant Resident Representative for Poverty reduction at the United Nations
Ms. Waly sits on the Board of a variety of CS organizations and is an advocate for women economic and social empowerment and SMEs as well as serving as the Vice-chairperson of the Egyptian Red Crescent Association.

Ms. Waly holds an MA and a BA from Colorado State University, USA in Humanities; she also holds a diploma in international development and a diploma in Project Management.

**Mark Kamperhoff** has worked for the German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth since 2009. He currently acts as head of the division for EU coordination and International Affairs. From 2012 to 2016, he worked at the German Permanent Representation to the European Union in Brussels where he headed the corresponding unit for Family Affairs and Youth Policy. His main task there was the representation of the interests of the German government at EU level. Mr. Kamperhoff is therefore closely engaged in the elaboration as well as in the implementation of related policies at national and international level.

**Mark McGreevy** is the Group Chief Executive of DePaul International, which oversees and co-ordinates the activities of a group of DePaul charities operating in the UK, Ireland, Slovakia, Ukraine, France, Croatia and the USA and providing services for over 22,000 homeless people per annum. Mr. McGreevy joined DePaul in February 1990 as one of the first employees of the charity and has been directly responsible for all of its growth to date. In addition to his work at DePaul International, he is the founder of The Institute of Global Homelessness (IGH) in 2012 based in Chicago, which is a partnership between DePaul International and DePaul University. IGH is the first organization to focus on homelessness as a global phenomenon with an emphasis on those who are living on the street or in emergency shelters. The IGH staff and Advisory Committee work with a broad network of world-class advisors, experts, and organizations — balancing geographies, cultures, and skills. He was awarded of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) by Prince Charles for services to the homelessness at home and abroad. He is also an Honorary Fellow of Leeds Trinity University.

**Jane Barratt** is the Secretary General of the International Federation on Ageing (IFA), which comprises government, industry, academic and non-governmental members in over 70 countries, representing some 75 million older people. The IFA is a global point of connection for experts and expertise that help to shape and influence age-related policy globally. Ms. Barratt has direct responsibility for the organization’s global operational performance, quality and strategic implementation,
and business development. This includes leadership at the United Nations Economic and Social Council in New York, Geneva and Vienna and formal relations with the WHO Department Ageing and Life-course. She has many national and international roles, including Chair, Standing Selection Committee Chair for the Networks of Centres of Excellence of Canada and is a former member of the Global Agenda Council on Ageing for the World Economic Forum.
High-level Panel Discussion on Emerging Issues
“Towards sustainable and resilient societies: Innovation and interconnectivity for social development”

Tuesday, 30 January 2018 (3:00am – 6:00 pm)  
Conference Room 4

Panellists

Dr. Sen Gong, Research Fellow of the Development Research Centre of the State Council, Executive Vice-President of the China Centre for International Knowledge on Development

Ms. Noor Al Malki Al Jehani, Executive Director, Doha International Family Institute

Prof. Walter Valdivia, Senior Fellow to CSPO, a science policy think tank at Arizona State University, and Adjunct Faculty at Johns Hopkins, and a Senior Policy Editor for the Mercatus Center at George Mason University.

Prof. Maria Garrido, Research Assistant Professor and Principal Research Scientist at the Technology and Social Change Group, University of Washington

Ms. Donna Scheeder, President 2015-2017, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

Moderator

Mr. Jeremy Millard, Chief Policy Advisor, Danish Technological Institute, Denmark, Research Fellow at Bradford University, United Kingdom and Special Advisor to DG CONNECT, European Commission on public sector innovation, e-government and public services
Profiles of Speakers

**Sen Gong** is a Research Fellow of the Development Research Centre of the State Council (DRC), Executive Vice-President of the China Centre for International Knowledge on Development (CIKD), which was announced at the UN Summit on sustainable development in September 2015 and was formally launched in August 2017. He is also member of the advisory team to the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, and to the Commission of Family Planning and Health on Chronic Disease Control. In June 2016, he was appointed as a temporary adviser to the Regional Consultation on Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in the WHO Western and Pacific Region. Before joining DRC in 2012, he worked at the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security as policy adviser. Dr. Gong’s research focuses on development areas including social security, health care, employment, social governance and public administration, and he also deeply involves in studies on connectivity in particular the Belt and Road Initiative. He is now working on a research project on the connectivity between China and selected Belt and Road Initiative countries and its impacts on shared development. Dr. Gong’s major academic publications include China’s Health Care Reform: Problems, Origins, and Suggestions; Welfare System and Social Policy: An International Comparison; Social Policies for both People's Livelihood and Inclusive Growth; Research on Salary System of Public Sectors in China; Rural Pension in China: From Land Reform to Globalization (ADB working paper).

**Noor Al Malki Al Jehani** is the Executive Director of the Doha International Family Institute (DIFI) and a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development. Ms. Al Jehani is a Board Member at Qatar Foundation for Social Work. She was also an expert in United Nations Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against women (CEDAW) from 2013-2014. Before joining DIFI, she worked as Secretary General for the Supreme Council for Family Affairs (SCFA). She was also a member of the National Committee for Human Rights in the State of Qatar since its formation in 2003 until 2011. Ms. Al Jehani was Qatar’s representative in the Arab Women Committee (Arab league) and Women Committee (UNESCWA) and head/member of many national delegations to regional and international conferences on the family, women, and child rights. Ms. Al Jehani participated in drafting many national strategies and plans including Qatar’s first national development strategy, 2011-2016. She also participated in the review or drafting of several legislations pertaining to social and women’s issues. She organized and supervised numerous workshops, panel discussions, and awareness raising campaigns on women issues such as domestic violence, family law, and women’s political rights.

**Walter Valdivia** is Senior Fellow to Consortium for Science, Policy & Outcomes (CSPO) at Arizona State University, and Adjunct Faculty at Johns Hopkins, and a
Senior Policy Editor for the Mercatus Center at George Mason University. Recent publications include the National Academies Issues in S&T, Brookings and CSPO.

Maria Garrido is a Principal Research Scientist at the Technology & Social Change Group of the University of Washington’s Information School. Experienced in conducting multi-country studies that span diverse geographic regions, much of her research focuses on the appropriation of information and communication technologies (ICTs) to catalyze social change, specifically in communities facing social, political, and economic challenges. Keenly interested in the role of ICTs in social movements, youth employability, and skill development, Ms. Garrido has worked closely with civil society organizations, NGOs, public libraries, and development funders to conduct participatory research that results in actionable recommendations for policy and practice. Recent examples of her research include the role of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) in advancing youth employability in Colombia, the Philippines, and South Africa; employability of migrant women and e-skills in the European Union; and youth movements, ICTs, and the struggle for democracy in Egypt’s Arab Spring. She is currently leading a multi-year research effort focusing on the role of access to information in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She holds a Ph.D. in Communications from the University of Washington and a Masters in International Relations from the University of Chicago.

Donna Scheeder was the President of International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) for the period 2015-17, choosing to focus her presidency on the theme of ‘A Call to Action’. During this time, she worked both to lead change within the library field, as well as engaging closely and successfully in the process that led to the agreement of the 2030 Agenda. She also oversaw the development of new efforts to bring the global library field together to realise its potential to deliver development. She spent her career in the Library of Congress, rising to be Deputy Chief Information Officer. She has also previously been President of the Special Libraries Association.

Jeremy Millard currently serves as Chief Policy Advisor at Danish Technological Institute, Denmark and Research Fellow at Bradford University, United Kingdom. Special Advisor to DG CONNECT, European Commission on public sector innovation, e-government and public services, and to DG Research & Innovation on social sciences and humanities, including as rapporteur on the SC6 Expert Advisory Group (Europe in a changing world - inclusive, innovative and reflective societies). He undertakes selective assignments on eGovernment, public sector innovation, the knowledge society plus open and social innovation, in Europe, North-America, Africa and Asia. He counts the EC, UN, OECD and WB amongst his clients and partners, as well as numerous governments, businesses and civil organizations. He has published over 20 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters over the last five
years, as well as edited a number of specialized journal editions.
High-level Panel Discussion on
“The third Review and Appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action on Ageing”

Wednesday, 31 January 2018 (10:00 am – 1:00 pm)
Conference Room 4

Panellists

H.E. Mr. Héctor Ramón Cárdenas Molinas, Minister of Social Action, Paraguay

H.E. Mr. José António Vieira da Silva, Minister of Labour, Solidarity, and Social Security of Portugal, and the Chair of the ECE Regional Review and Appraisal Conference

H.E. Mr. Lazarous Kapambwe, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Permanent Representative, Zambia

Hon. Ms. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Speaker of the Bangladesh Parliament

Dr. Abla Sibai, Chair of the Epidemiology and Population Health Department at the American University of Beirut, and the Co-founding Director of the Centre for Studies on Ageing in Lebanon, and the Co-founding Director and Executive Committee Member of the AUB University for Seniors Program

Moderator

Ms. Sylvia Beales, Independent inclusive social development consultant and former Head of Strategic Alliances, HelpAge International
Profiles of speakers

**Héctor Ramón Cárdenas Molinas** is the current Minister - Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of Social Action of the Presidency of the Republic of Paraguay (SAS). He has a Bachelor’s degree in History from the National University of Asunción. He has a Master’s Degree in Public and Social Policies from the Join Program of the Pompeu Fabra University of Spain, and the John Hopkins University of the United States of America.

Minister Cárdenas has a broad professional trajectory in the design and management of public and social policies. He led an inter-institutional technical Task-Team for the elaboration of the Public Policy for Social Development of Paraguay, in his role as Executive Secretary of the Technical Unit of the Social Cabinet of the Presidency of the Republic of Paraguay.

Previously, he designed and became the first National Coordinator of the implementation of the Conditional Cash Transfers Program of Paraguay called "Tekoporã", of the SAS.

In addition, he participated in the elaboration of other relevant documents for the definition of Social Policies in Paraguay, such as the National Strategy for the Reduction of Poverty and Inequality.

He also served as a professor of undergraduate and master’s degrees in the areas of public and social policies’ design and management at the National University of Asunción and private universities.

**José António Vieira da Silva** is the Minister of Labour, Solidarity, and Social Security of the Portuguese Republic. He holds a degree in Economics from the Instituto Superior de Economica. Since 2011, he has been a Member of the Assembly of the Republic, having been between 2011 and 2015 President of the Eventual Commission to Follow-up the Program of Financial Assistance to Portugal. He was Minister of Economy, Innovation and Development (2009-2011); Minister of Labour and Social Solidarity (2005-2009); Deputy to the Assembly of the Republic (2002-2005), Head of the Parliamentary Committee of Work and Social Security (2004-2005); Secretary of State for Social Security (1999-2001); Secretary of State for Public Works (2001-2002).

**Lazarous Kapambwe** is currently the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations since 2007. He was elected sixty-seventh President of the Economic and Social Council in 2011.

Prior to the United Nations, he served as Zambia’s Ambassador to Ethiopia and the African Union (2003-2007). He was concurrently accredited as Ambassador of Zambia to Sudan, Yemen, Djibouti and Somalia. Before holding that post, he was Permanent Secretary of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (2002-2003), after serving as Deputy Permanent Secretary responsible for Asia, Africa and the Middle East. He was the Director for Africa and Organization of African Unity Affairs (1996-2000).

Mr. Kapambwe also held posts in Europe and the United States, as Counsellor and Deputy Chief of Mission at the Zambian Embassies in Bonn, Germany and in
During his career, Mr. Kapambwe represented Zambia in major multilateral and regional meetings of the United Nations, Organization of African Unity, African Union, Southern African Development Community (SADC), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Great Lakes region and the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD).
Mr. Kapambwe, obtained a bachelor’s degree in political economy from the University of Zambia and has a post-graduate diploma in international relations from Nairobi University, Kenya and received a certificate in contemporary American politics from New York University.

**Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury** is the current and the first woman Speaker of the National Parliament, Bangladesh since 2013. She is also the Chairperson of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.
She previously served as the State Minister of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs of Bangladesh. She was elected MP in 2009 and was State Minister of the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs (Bangladesh) until 2013.
She was awarded Asia Society’s Humanitarian Service Award in 2010 in recognition of her role as a leader in advocating the elimination of violence against women and mainstreming women’s empowerment and employment in Bangladesh.
She has also been honoured with Women Leadership Achievement Award in 2015.
She was a practicing advocate of the Bangladesh Supreme Court for 15 years.
Dr. Chaudhury earned her PhD degree in constitutional law and human rights and in 2014, she received an Honorary PhD from University of Essex.

**Abla Mehio Sibai** is Professor and Chair of Epidemiology and Population Health Department at the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS), American University of Beirut (AUB). She is the co-founder of the University for Seniors Program at AUB and the founding Director of the “Center for Studies on Aging” in Lebanon. During the past 20 years, Dr. Sibai has led the way to placing older adult issues at the forefront on the national agenda and in the region. She is a frequent consultant to the Ministry of Social Affairs in Lebanon, ESCWA, UNFPA and WHO, and has frequently been commissioned to prepare technical papers, reports and briefs on population ageing in Lebanon and the Arab countries from a social and policy perspective. Dr. Sibai is the author of over 200 scholarly articles in prestigious journals, book chapters and reports. She was a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Ageing for 2 cycles and is currently a Board member of HelpAge International.
She holds a PhD (1997) from the London School of Hygiene of Tropical medicine.

**Sylvia Beales** is a successful analyst, communicator and advocate, with a track record in high level policy analysis, public affairs and political relations on the topics of inclusive social development, global ageing, social policy, social protection, gender, inclusion, and human rights. She has developed a wide portfolio of partnerships built up over her 36 years working within the NGO sector and with organisations of the United Nations. While working with HelpAge International, Ms.
Beales was the international policy lead for the 2008 revision of the African Union Social policy framework, co-manager with the UNFPA of the global publication ‘Ageing in the 21st Century, a celebration and a challenge’, securing input from 13 UN agencies and older people from 36 countries, and was co-leader of three editions of the Global Age Watch Index 2013-15. With in-depth expertise on Agenda 2030, the Sustainable Development Goals and intergovernmental negotiations, she is the founder and active member of the Stakeholder Group on Ageing, which speaks for the community of ageing on the SDGs at the United Nations. Ms. Beales was one of five civil society representatives selected to speak at the 2015 UN General Assembly. She is a distinguished ‘Fellow’ of the International Council of Social Welfare (ICSW), advisor to Widows for Peace and Democracy (WPD), member of and strategic advisor to Gray Panthers, and Strategic Partnerships Adviser to the Africa Platform for Social Protection (APSP).
Panel discussion on disability under the theme “Towards inclusive, resilient and sustainable development: an evidence-based approach to the mainstreaming of disability in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the 2030 Agenda”

Wednesday, 31 January 2018 (3:00am – 6:00 pm)
Conference Room 4

Panellists

Madame Zhang Haidi, Chairperson of China Disabled Persons’ Federation

Prof. Mary Crock, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Sydney, Australia

Ms. Catalina Devandas Aguilar, Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of the Human Rights Council

Ms. Margaret Mbogoni, Senior Statistician, United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), DESA

Moderator

Ms. Venus Ilagan, Secretary General of Rehabilitation International and former president of Disabled People’s International
Profiles of speakers

Zhang Haidi has been a world known disability movement leader taking a number of important positions in both China and international organizations. Madame Zhang has been elected and is currently serving as the Chairperson of China Disabled Persons’ Federation (Minister level) a national unified organization of and for 85 million persons with disabilities in China since 2008 and a member of the Standing Committee of the 12th Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). Madame Zhang, a wheelchair user who contracted spinal angioma at the age of 5, has been a key leader in disability movement in China and the Asian Pacific region over the last decades and she attaches great importance and dedicates herself to the implementation of UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other UN documents on disability in China and beyond. Madame Zhang was elected in 2016 as the President of Rehabilitation International (an international organization with over 1000 national and regional member organizations in 96 countries). As a well-known writer in China (a member of the Chinese Writers’ Association and Vice President of Shandong Writers’ Association in China), Madame Zhang published many literature works and books in China and other countries such as Germany, Japan and Korea since 1983. She holds a Master Degree of Philosophy (Jilin University, China) and an honorary doctorate (University of York and University of Massachusetts, USA).

Mary Crock is Professor of Public Law at Sydney Law School, a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law, solicitor and Accredited Specialist in Immigration Law. Her expertise spans immigration, citizenship and refugee and disability law, administrative and constitutional law, public international law, particularly human rights and international refugee law, and comparative law. Her research has been frequently referred to by scholars and cited in Australia’s Federal Courts and High Court, and she has given evidence before many parliamentary hearings in Australia and (once) in Canada. She has worked as an adviser to the Australian Senate (Inquiry into Australia’s Refugee and Humanitarian Program, 2000); consultant to the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (on immigration detention); and consultant to the Royal Commission into Child Sex Abuse (on children in immigration detention). Professor Crock has a broad experience of working with the United Nations system including UNHCR and spoke on disability inclusion in humanitarian actions and development in many international forums and conferences such as the 9th session of the Conference of States Parties to the CRPD in 2015.

Catalina Devandas Aguilar is the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of the Human Rights Council. She is a lawyer by training and human rights advocate, who has worked extensively on disability issues at the national, regional and international level. Before taking up her duties as the first Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities of the Human Rights Council in 2014, Ms. Devandas Aguilar worked as a Programme Officer for Strategic Partnerships with the Disability Rights Advocacy Fund, and was formerly with the
United Nations Secretariat unit responsible for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the World Bank as a consultant for the Disability and Inclusive Development team for Latin America and the Caribbean region. Acting as the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, she was specifically mandated to raise awareness of the human rights of persons with disabilities and has been working closely with the UN human rights mechanisms from a human rights-based approach.

**Margaret Mbogoni** is Senior Statistician at the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) of DESA where she is the Manager for the Disability Statistics Programme. In this capacity, she oversees the Division’s work with regard to development of international methodological guidelines, providing technical assistance to countries to strengthen national statistical capacity, and compilation and dissemination of statistics on disability. Ms. Mbogoni’s other notable achievements in the area of disability include contributions to the development of the WHO International Classification of Functioning and Disability (ICF); and organization of the UN International Seminar on Disability Measurement that recommended the formation of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics.

**Venus Ilagan** is the Secretary General of Rehabilitation International and former president of Disabled People's International. She currently serves as Secretary General of Rehabilitation International (RI), the first women with a disability from a developing country to ever occupy the post since the establishment of the RI in 1922. Prior to joining RI, she was the first women Chairperson of Disabled People’s International and a DPI’s representative in charge of International Relations. Ms. Ilagan has extensive experience in disability, inclusive education and employment policies, human rights advocacy among the global disability community who were actively involved in the negotiations work for the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Aside from her involvement in international disability initiatives, Ms. Ilagan was also the National Project Director for the last 14 years for the Breaking Barriers for Children Project in the Philippines, which provides free comprehensive rehabilitation services to over 13,000 children in need and youth with disabilities. She has been a member of the Editorial Committee for the World Report on Disability – an initiative of the World Health Organization and the World Bank launched in New York in June 2011. Ms. Ilagan also participated in the development of WHO’s CBR and Wheelchair Guidelines and was a member of a team which produced reports on disability for the Asian Development Bank and the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She actively took part as a member of Civil Society in the elaboration of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in the United Nations.