2021 High-level Meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum
Development cooperation for the Decade of Action: Reduce risk. Enable recovery. Build resilience.
(6-7 May 2021, virtual)

Speaker biographies

Opening of the 2021 DCF
From old debates to a new Decade of Action: the future of development cooperation

H.E. Mr. Munir Akram is currently the President of ECOSOC, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations. Ambassador Akram previously served as Pakistan’s Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York for six years between 2002 and 2008, after serving as Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva for seven years from 1995 to 2002. During his term at the United Nations, Ambassador Munir Akram served twice as President of the Security Council; President of the Economic and Social Council; Chairman of the Group of 77 and China (developing countries), and Facilitator on UN Administrative Reform. Ambassador Akram joined the Foreign Service of Pakistan in 1967, holding various positions in the Foreign Ministry as Additional Foreign Secretary and Director-General dealing with the United Nations. He obtained a Bachelor’s degree in Law and a Master’s degree in Political Science from the University of Karachi.

Mr. Liu Zhenmin is the Under Secretary-General for the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Liu was Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of China. Among his various diplomatic assignments, he served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the People’s Republic of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Other International Organizations in Switzerland. Mr. Liu brings more than 30 years of experience in the diplomatic service, with a strong focus on the promotion of bilateral, regional and global issues. He was deeply involved for 10 years in climate change negotiations including the conclusion of the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. Mr. Liu holds a Master of Laws from the Law School of Peking University.

Professor Sir Michael Marmot is Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health at University College London and Special Advisor to Director-General of WHO. He is also currently the Director of the UCL Institute of Health Equity. In 2000 he was knighted by Her Majesty The Queen for services to Epidemiology and understanding health inequalities. Internationally acclaimed, Professor Marmot is a Vice President of the Academia Europaea, a Foreign Associate Member of the Institute of Medicine (IOM), and the Chair of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health set up by the World Health Organization in 2005. He won the Balzan Prize for Epidemiology in 2004 and won the William B. Graham Prize for Health Services Research in 2008. Professor Sir Marmot holds a Bachelor of Medicine as well as a Bachelor of Surgery from the University of Sydney and received a Master of Public Health and his Ph.D. from the University of Berkeley.

Dr. Sania Nishtar is the Special Assistant of Pakistan’s Prime Minister and Federal Minister on Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. She was elected to the Pakistani Senate in 2021, serves as chair to the UN International Institute for Global Health’s International Advisory Board and holds positions at the WHO’s High Level Commission on Non-communicable diseases, the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on the future of healthcare, the U.S National Academy of Sciences, and the International Advisory Board on Global Health of the German Federal Government. She was formally educated at the Khyber Medical University and received her Ph.D. from King’s College in London.
Navigating the risk landscape through development cooperation

 Rt. Hon. Saulos Klaus Chilima is Vice President and Minister of Economic Planning and Public Sector Reform of Malawi. He is an Economist and Politician who has been Vice-President of Malawi since June 2014. Before joining politics, H.E. Chilima held key leadership positions in various multi-national companies including Unilever, Coca-Cola and Airtel Malawi, where he rose to become Chief Executive Officer. H.E. Chilima holds a Bachelor of Social Sciences (Economics) degree and a Master of Science (Economics) degree, both from Chancellor College of the University of Malawi. Rt. Hon. Chilima received his Ph.D in Knowledge Management from the University of Bolton in the United Kingdom.

 Ms. Mikaela Gavas is the Co-director and Senior Policy Fellow for Development Cooperation at the Centre for Global Development in Europe. Formerly she was a Specialist Advisor to the International Development Committee in the House of Commons, Head of Programme of Development Strategy and Finance at the Overseas Development Institute, and a Policy Advisor for the UK Department for International Development. Ms. Gavas has a Bachelor’s Degree in European Politics and French from the University of East Anglia and earned a Master of Science in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

 H.E. Dr. Shouwen Wang is Vice Minister of Commerce and Deputy China International Trade Representative of the People’s Republic of China. His previous roles include Director General of the Bureau of Fair Trade of MOFCOM, Deputy Director General of the Department of Foreign Trade Administration and Deputy Director of the Department of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation of Tibet Autonomous Region. He also served as a Member of the Standing Committee of CPC Nanjing Municipal Committee and Vice Mayor of Nanjing. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Engineering from the Hunan University in China, a Master’s Degree in Economics from the University of International Business and Economics, and Ph.D. in Economics from the Peking University.

 H.E. Dr. Teuku Faizasyah serves as the Director General of Information and Public Diplomacy in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. Formerly, he served as Expert Staff to the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Political, Legal and Security Affairs and the Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. He earned a Bachelor’s Degree from the Faculty of International Relations of the University of Bandung. He also holds a Master of International Studies from the University of Birmingham and a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Waikoto in New Zealand.

 H.E. Dr. Rania Al Mashat has been Egypt’s Minister of International Cooperation since December 2019. Prior to this appointment, she was the first woman to serve as Egypt’s Minister of Tourism between January 2018 and December 2019. Previous positions included Advisor to the Chief Economist of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Sub-Governor for Monetary Policy at the Central Bank of Egypt, and Senior Economist at the IMF. The Ministry of International Cooperation oversees an active partnerships portfolio exceeding USD25 billion and is mandated to strengthen Egypt’s inclusive multilateral, regional and bilateral engagement with development partners, governments, global policy makers, the United Nations, private sector, and civil society to deliver the National Economic Agenda, consistent with the UN SDGs, aimed at achieving a circular economy. She received her PhD and MA from UMCP. She received her BA in Economics from the American University in Cairo.
H.E Mr. Álvaro Calderón Ponce de León, a Colombian career diplomat, has been the Director of International Cooperation since January 2021. At the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, Mr. Calderón has served in several capacities, including as an advisor to the Secretary-General, Consul in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Coordinator for Germany and Nordic Countries. Most recently, he was posted to the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the Organization of American States (OAS) as an Alternate Representative. Mr. Calderón is a graduate of Externado University of Colombia, with a degree in Finance and International Relations. He holds a Master’s Degree in Analysis of Contemporary Social, Economic and Political Issues from Externado University of Colombia and the Institute of Latin American Studies at University Sorbonne Nouvelle-Paris 3 in France. He has also completed studies in Economy at Jorge Tadeo Lozano University and has a specialization in Negotiations of International Political and Economic Affairs from the Japan Fundation Osaka Program.

Mr. Kimio Takeya serves as Distinguished Technical Advisory on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for Japan’s International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Visiting Professor of Tohoku University, International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRiDeS). He was a key member of the Japanese Government’s negotiation team for the formulation of the UN Sendai Framework for DRR and played a major role in structuring the document around the importance of investment-promoting “Build Back Better” as a common term in recovery. Under the leadership of Prof. Takeya, JICA implemented the Sendai Cooperation Initiative for DRR, in which the Japanese Government pledged 400 billion yen and trained 40,000 DRR specialists between 2015 and 2019.

Ms. Laure Blanchard-Brunac is the Director of Policy & Partnerships of EDFI, the Association of European Development Finance Institutions (EDFI). Laure’s main areas of expertise are development finance and EU policy. Prior to her role at EDFI, she worked at the European Bank for Reconstruction Development in various functions, at the European Commission, and PROPARCO. After spending more than 10 years executing debt and equity transactions, Laure has contributed to the implementation of key EU policy initiatives, including EU financial instruments. Laure holds a Grande Ecole degree from HEC Paris.

Ms. Mami Mizutori is the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction, and head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, based in Geneva, Switzerland. She assumed her role on 1 March 2018. The Special Representative ensures the strategic and operational coherence between disaster risk reduction, climate change and sustainable development agendas as well as the linkage with the UN Secretary-General’s prevention agenda and with humanitarian action. Ms. Mizutori served for twenty-seven years in various capacities in the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Prior to joining the UN, Ms. Mizutori was Executive Director of the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures, University of East Anglia, UK. Ms. Mizutori graduated in law from Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo and obtained a Diploma in International Studies from the Diplomatic School of Spain.

Mr. Sandeep Chachra is Executive Director at ActionAid India and co-chair at World Urban Campaign for the UN-HABITAT. A social anthropologist by training and a development activist who has lived and worked with indigenous people and Dalit communities in India, Mr. Sandeep Chachra is currently the Executive Director of ActionAid Association. Prior to this, Mr Chachra was the international lead for ActionAid International’s just and democratic governance and economic justice theme. He has worked in several capacities in ActionAid International and other development organisations for the last two decades.
Strengthening health systems for vulnerable countries

Dr. Joy St. John is Executive Director of the Caribbean Public Health Agency. She was previously Chief Medical Officer and Senior Medical Officer of Health at the Ministry of Health in Barbados, Director Surveillance for Disease Prevention and Control for the Caribbean Public Health Agency, and Senior Advisor for the World Health Organization. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Medicine, a Bachelor of Surgery, and a Master’s Degree in Public Health from the UWI St. Augustine Faculty of Medical Sciences.

Dr. Stefan Swartling Peterson is Professor of Global Transformations for Health at the Karolinska Institutet in Sweden. He was appointed Associate Director of the Programme Division and Chief of Health at UNICEF in April 2016. As a health systems researcher and medical doctor, Dr. Peterson has done extensive field work in Tanzania and Uganda, and worked with different ministries of health, and organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO). He was a co-founder of Médecins Sans Frontières Sweden and the CCM Task Force Operations Research Group. Dr. Peterson is a medical doctor with degrees in Medicine, Public Health and a Ph.D. in International Pediatrics.

Mr. Bård Vegar Solhjell is Director General of the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation and Secretary General of WWF Norway. Previously he served as Minister of the Environment, Minister of Education and Research, and Secretary of the Socialist Left Party in Norway. Mr Solhjell holds a Master’s Degree in Political Science, with Sociology, Comparative Politics, and History of Ideas, from University of Oslo and University of Bergen.

H.E. Mr. Andalib Elias is Director General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh. Prior to his current position, he was Minister at the Embassy of Bangladesh in Brussels, Counsellor at the Bangladesh Permanent Mission to UN in New York, and Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bangladesh. He holds a Degree from Notre Dame College in Dhaka and a Degree in Economics from the University of Dhaka in Bangladesh.

H.E. Dr. Pablo Tettamanti is Deputy Foreign Minister of Argentina and Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Formerly he served as Ambassador of Argentina to the Russian Federation. He also held various positions at the Argentine Embassies to the United Nations, the United States, and the United Kingdom. He holds a Law Degree and Doctorate in Public Law from the University of Buenos Aires.

Ms. Natasha Bilimoria is Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Bureau of Global of Health with USAID and Director for U.S. Strategy at Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Formerly she was a Board Member and President for Friends of the Global Fight Against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and was a Member of the Obama-Biden Transition Team within the Foreign Assistance Agency Review Team. Ms. Bilimoria holds a Bachelor’s Degree of Political Science from the University of Chicago and a Master of International Policy from the University of Pennsylvania.
Dr. Vanessa Rouzier currently serves as Assistant Professor at Weill Cornell Medicine Faculty at the Centre for Global Health and Chief of Pediatrics at the Haitian Global Health Alliance (GESKIO). In her role with GESKIO, Dr. Rouzier was on the frontline of response to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, directing GESKIO’s field hospital and providing care to thousands of patients. Dr. Rouzier also established a collaboration with the Haitian Ministry of Health and Partners in Health to address the cholera epidemic, having led vaccination efforts for over 2 million people in Haiti. Dr. Rouzier’s research focuses on developing structural and biomedical interventions to improve health outcomes among women, children, and adolescents living with HIV in Haiti and other resource-limited settings. She also conducts research to improve diagnosis and treatment for pediatric tuberculosis. Dr. Rouzier received her MD from McGill University.

Ms. Kate Dodson is the Vice President for Global Health at the United Nations Foundation. Ms. Dodson is currently chair of the board of the Global Health Council, and a board member of Women in Global Health. She sits on the UHC2030 Steering Committee, representing the Foundation Constituency, and is a member of the National Academy of Medicine’s Forum on Public-Private Partnerships in Global Health. Ms. Dodson joined the UN Foundation in 2004 and spent her first five years in the sustainable development program in various positions, focused at the intersection of poverty reduction and environmental stewardship. She has a master’s degree with distinction from Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service and a bachelor’s degree with departmental honors from Bates College in Maine.

Mr. Jan Van Zanen is currently the Mayor of The Hague. Previously he was the Mayor of Utrecht and Amstelveen as well as the National Chairperson of the People's Party for Freedom and Democracy of the Netherlands. He holds a Bachelor of Laws and a Master of Laws from the Free University of Amsterdam and a Master’s Degree of Studies in Law from the Cornell Law School.

Ms. Thembisile Nkadimeng, is the Mayor of Polokwane and President of the South African Local Governments Association SALGA and Co-President of UCLG. Formerly she was a Corporate Affairs Manager at Anglo American Platinum as well as Chief Director for Corporate Communications and Marketing in the Office of the Premier. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree and Higher Education Diploma from the University of the North and Bachelor’s Degree in Policy Studies from the University of Stellenbosch. She also completed an Advanced Program in Management at Wits Business School.

Ms. Amanda Banda is global health advocate in the East and Southern African region at Wemos. She focuses on the programmes Human Resources for Health and Finance for Health. Amanda is also co-chair of the Health Workers For All Coalition. Amanda has over 10 years of experience influencing national governments in Africa, global health institutes and donors; holding them accountable and calling to prioritize investments in health. Prior to joining Wemos, she was part of the Health Politics team of Médecins Sans Frontières as HIV Advocacy Coordinator in charge of the African region. Ms. Banda has a background in International Relations and Political Science at universities in Zimbabwe and South Africa.
Development cooperation in addressing the dual challenge of pandemic recovery and the climate emergency

Mr. Vladislav Kaim is a Member of the Secretary-General’s Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change. He was formerly the Treasurer at the Malmö Association of Foreign Affairs and Secretary General of SDG International Youth Forum. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Economics from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations and a Bachelor’s Degree of Business Administration and Management from the Academia de Studii Economice Din Moldova. Moreover, he earned a Master's Degree in Economics from the Lund University in 2021.

Ms. Paloma Costa is a Brazilian Law Student, Climate Educator and Youth Mobiliser. From 2018 to 2020, as part of the youth-led organization Engajamundo, she coordinated the Climate Working Group and the youth delegations to COP24, COP25 and UNLAC Climate Week. Paloma co-founded the #FreeTheFuture movement and Ciclimáticos and is a member of Abu Dhabi Youth Voices. She also participated in the opening of the Climate Action Summit alongside the UN Secretary General and is a member of the Secretary-General’s Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change.

Ms. Archana Soreng is an environmental activist belonging to the Indigenous Kharia Tribe from Bhabbandh Village of Rajganganpur in India. Ms. Soreng has earned a B.A (Hons) in Political Science from Patna Women's College and an M.A in Regulatory Governance from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) in Mumbai. Currently, she is a Research Officer at TISS Forest Rights and Governance Project in Odisha. Ms. Soreng has advocated for the protection of traditional knowledge and practices of indigenous communities in combatting the climate crises and is a Member of the Secretary-General’s Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change.

Ms. Donna Mitzi Lagdameo is Technical and Policy Advisor for the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. She has 25 years of experience in the fields of Adaptation, Risk Reduction and Resilient Development, from Government, Academia, NGOs, IGOs, and the UN, effectively bridging Science-Policy-Practice to address the needs of vulnerable communities. Formerly she was engaged at the Climate Centre providing policy-related technical support on Climate Change Adaptation Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Building to the Red Cross Red Crescent family and partners in the Asia Pacific region. She also held various positions with ASEAN, APEC and the AMCDRR and the UNFCCC.

Dr. Patrick V. Verkooijen is CEO of the Global Centre for Adaptation. Prior to this role, he was a World Bank Special Representative for Climate Change and managed the Global Commission on Adaption with Ban Ki-moon, Kristalina Georgieva and Bill Gates. Prof. Dr. Verkooijen holds a Master’s Degree in Social and Political Philosophy from the University of Amsterdam, a Master of Public Administration from Harvard University, and a Ph.D. in Sustainable Development Diplomacy from the Wageningen University.

H.E. Mr. Malik Amin Aslam is currently Federal Minister for Climate Change and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister of Pakistan on Climate Change. From 2002-2007 he served as a Member of Parliament and from 2004-2007 as the Minister of State for Environment and, in this capacity, has been the architect of the country’s National Policies on Environment and Climate Change. Amin Aslam has also had the privilege of chairing the G77+China Negotiations Group and leading Pakistan’s Climate Change Negotiations at various COP Meetings since 1999. Mr. Malik is an Electrical Engineer with an MBA from McGill University and an MSc from Oxford University.
H.E. Ms. Josefa Sacko is Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission. Prior to her election, she was Special Adviser to two Ministers in Angola: the Angolan Minister of Environment where she also served as Ambassador responsible for Climate Change. As Advisor to the Minister of Agriculture, Amb. Sacko oversaw Food Security, Eradication of Hunger and Poverty Reduction. Amb. Sacko has worked with several Regional, and Global Institutional on Agriculture including the World Trade Organization (WTO), African Union (AU), International Coffee Organization (ICO), African Development Bank (AfDB), African Export Import Bank (AFREXIMBANK), (FAO), UNECA, NEPAD etc. Madam Sacko speaks fluent Portuguese, French, English, Spanish and Lingala.

H.E. Ms. Olaya Dotel is Deputy Minister of International Cooperation at the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development for the Dominican Republic. Formerly she was a Professor and Researcher at the University of Santo Domingo School of Political Sciences, an Associate Researcher at the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences, as well as a Member of the International Working Group, Education and Life in Common, of the Latin American Council of Social Sciences. She has a Degree in Political Science from the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo, a Master’s Degree in Social Science for the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences in Buenos Aires in Argentina, and is currently pursuing a Master’s Degree leading to Doctorate in Philosophy from the University of Basque Country and the University of Santo Domingo.

Mr. Moreira da Silva is since 1st November 2016 the Director of the Development Co-operation Directorate (DCD) at OECD. From 2013 to 2015, he was Portugal’s Minister of Environment, Energy and Spatial Planning. Prior to this Ministerial position, Mr. Moreira da Silva served as Senior Environmental Finance Advisor and Programme Manager on Climate Change Innovative Finance at UNDP’s Bureau for Development Policy (2009-2012); Senior Advisor to the President of Portugal (2006-2009); Secretary of State for Science and Higher Education (2003-2004); and Secretary of State for Environment and Spatial Planning (2004-2005). Mr. Moreira da Silva graduated from the University of Porto with a Degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering and holds a Postgraduate Degree in Senior Management from the AESE-IESE Business School, Navarra University, Spain.

H.E. Amm. Walton Alfonso Webson is Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations and serves as Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS). He is also President of the UNICEF Executive Board. Prior to that, he was the Director of Institutional Development and Coordinator of Education Programs for Africa and the Caribbean with Perkins International. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree and a Master of Science in Management of Non-profit Organizations from The New School for Social Research in New York as well as a Ph.D. in Management from Case Western Reserve University in Ohio.

H.E. Mr. James Paul Roscoe is Ambassador for General Assembly Affairs for the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom to the United Nations and Acting Deputy Permanent Representative at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. Mr. Roscoe was previously appointed as Director for Communications and Stakeholders at the Department for Exiting the European Union. Prior to that, he was Director of Communications at the Cabinet Office. He was previously Communications Secretary to Her Majesty The Queen in the Royal Household and was Chief Press Officer in the Prime Minister’s Office for Prime Ministers Blair and Brown. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Politics from Durham University.
H.E. Amb. Silvio Gonzato is Ambassador and Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations. He was previously Head of the Secretariat of the European Parliament’s Committee on Foreign Affairs. In 2014 he was appointed Director for Human Rights and Democracy European External Action (EEAS). In September 2015 he was appointed Director for Interinstitutional relations, Policy coordination and Public diplomacy at the EEAS. His responsibilities covered relations with all EU institutions and representation of the EEAS in negotiations having institutional or legal implications, including sanctions. He was in charge of coordinating all political and legislative files and preparing the meetings of the Foreign Affairs Council. He was also responsible for public diplomacy activities (including promoting cultural affairs in EU external relations), strategic communication issues. In this context he oversaw the EEAS communications strategy.

Ms. Jennifer del Rosario-Malonzo is Executive Director at IBON international. Her previous roles at IBON included Manager of the Development Finance Program, Head of Partnership in Education for Development, Publications Head, Research Head, and Senior Researcher at the IBON Foundation. She also served as Global Secretariat Coordinator at The Reality of Aid Network. Ms. Rosario-Malonzo studied at the University of the Philippines.

Regional cooperation to support science, technology and innovation in the COVID-19 period

Ms. Adva Saldinger is a Senior Reporter at Devex, where she covers the intersection of business and international development, as well as U.S. foreign aid policy. From partnerships to trade and social entrepreneurship to impact investing, Ms. Saldinger explores the role the private sector and private capital play in development. A journalist with more than 10 years of experience, she has worked at several newspapers in the U.S. and lived in both Ghana and South Africa. She earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Journalism and Political Science from the Northwestern University.

Dr. Javier Dávila Torres is General Director of Technical and Scientific Cooperation for the Mexican Agency of Development Cooperation of the Secretariat of Foreign Relations. He is a Member of the Global Collaboration Network on Patient Safety of the World Health Organization (WHO); the Technical Council of Knowledge and Innovation; and the Mexican Academy of Surgery. He also served as Director of Medical Benefits National Level of the Mexican Institute of Social Security, and Advisor to the Federal Secretary of Health. Dr. Torres is a national and international lecturer and has authored various academic publications on health.

Dr. Samuel Annim is Government Statistician for Ghana and a Professor of Economics at the University of Cape Coast, Ghana. He has approximately 20 years of teaching experience in universities both in Ghana and abroad, and has more than 40 peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters and technical reports. His publications are available in academic outlets such as World Development, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of International Development and the Oxford University Press. His passion for scholarly work includes adherence to the tenets of data quality to inform national and global development agenda. He provides professional advice to Ghana’s National Development Planning Commission, Statistical Eco-System and several international bodies. Prof. Annim earned a Bachelor of Arts, Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Economics at the University of Cape Coast (Ghana), University of Ghana (Ghana) and University of Manchester (United Kingdom), respectively.
Dr. Carlos Santiso is Senior Director for Governance Practice and Digital Innovation in Government at the CAF Development Bank of Latin America and Member of the Global Future Council on Transparency and Anti-Corruption. Prior to his current position, he was Division Chief for Innovation in Citizen Services and Division Chief in Institutional Capacity of the State at the Inter-American Development Bank and Sector Manager and Head of Governance Division at the African Development Bank. He holds a Master’s Degree in International Relations and Public Policy at the Sciences Po, a Master’s Degree in International Economic Policy from the Columbia SIPA, and a Ph.D. in Comparative Political Economy from the John Hopkins University, the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies.

Mr. Stefano Bonaccini is President of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions, President of CEMR Italian Section, and President of Emilia Romagna Region. Formerly he was appointed a Municipal Assessor in the town of Campogalianno, and also served as Municipal Assessor for Public Works, Cultural Heritage and Historical City Center of Modena. He served as Provincial Secretary of the Democratic Party and the Regional Secretary of the Democratic Party for Emilia-Romagna and was appointed to National Coordinator for Local Authorities in the National Secretariat of the Democratic Party. He attended the Scientific Lyceum.

Closing of the 2021 DCF

Global challenges inspiring action – building a new paradigm for development cooperation

Mr. Nikolaj Gilbert is President and Chief Executive Officer of PATH. He brings to his roles more than 20 years of international experience as a Leader, Strategist, and Director of Complex Partnerships. Before joining PATH, Mr. Gilbert served as Director of Partnerships for the United Nations Office for Project Services. In that position, he cultivated a deep understanding of the Development Ecosystem and of Health Inequity’s underlying causes—from those rooted in global systems and markets, to those at local levels. Previously, Mr. Gilbert served as a Director for Novo Nordisk, where he worked in Corporate Strategy, Public-Private Partnership, Business Development, Global Marketing, and Finance. Earlier in his career, he worked in Supply Chain Management for Accenture, a Global Consulting Firm, and performed Management Research at INSEAD, an International Business School. Mr. Gilbert holds Advanced Degrees in Business Administration from Copenhagen Business School in Denmark and Ivey Business School in Canada.

Dr. José Antonio Ocampo is director of the Economic and Political Development Concentration in the School of International and Public Affairs, Member of the Committee on Global Thought and co-President of the Initiative for Policy Dialogue at Columbia University. He is also the Chair of the Committee for Development Policy, an expert committee of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Prior to his appointment, Dr. Ocampo served in a number of positions in the United Nations and the Government of Colombia, most notably as United Nations Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs; Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); Minister of Finance and Public Credit, Chairman of the Board of Banco del República (Central Bank of Colombia); Director of the National Planning Department (Minister of Planning); Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, and Executive Director of FEDESARROLLO. Dr. Ocampo received his BA in Economics and Sociology from the University of Notre Dame in 1972 and his Ph.D. in Economics from Yale University.