

Introduction

ECOSOC Chamber, 21 May 2018, 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, UN



United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has appointed Mr. Liu Zhenmin of China as the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs effective 26 July 2017. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Liu was Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of China since 2013. 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 (2011-2013). Mr. Liu brings to the position more than 30 years of experience in the diplomatic service, with a strong focus on the promotion of bilateral, regional and global issues. As Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Mr. Liu guides UN Secretariat support for the follow-up processes of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development, including the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. He also oversees the substantive services to many intergovernmental processes. In addition to intergovernmental processes, Mr. Liu oversees DESA's policy analysis and capacity development work. Mr. Liu holds a Master of Laws from the Law School of Peking University.

Mr. Jeremy Heimans, Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of Purpose



Jeremy Heimans is co-founder and CEO of Purpose, a home for building 21st century movements and ventures that use the power of participation to change the world. Since its launch in 2009, Purpose has launched several major new organizations and advised institutions like the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the ACLU, and Google. With Henry Timms, Jeremy is co-author of the book *New Power: How Power Works in Our Hyperconnected World – and How to Make It Work for You*, forthcoming April 2018 from Doubleday. Jeremy has been building movements since the age of 8 when, as a child activist in his native Australia, he ran media campaigns and lobbied leaders on issues like children's rights and nuclear non-proliferation. In 2007, Jeremy co-founded Avaaz, the world's largest online citizens' movement, now with more than 35 million members. In 2011,

Jeremy received the Ford Foundation's 75th Anniversary Visionary Award for his work as a movement pioneer and the World Economic Forum named him a Young Global Leader. In 2012, *Fast Company* ranked him 11th on their annual list of the 100 Most Creative People in Business. The World e-Government Forum has named him as one of the top ten people who is changing the world of politics and the internet, and the *Guardian* named him one of the ten most influential voices on sustainability in the US. Jeremy began his career with the strategy consultants McKinsey & Company and he has degrees from Harvard University and the University of Sydney. He lives in New York.

Ms. Judith Randel, Co-Founder, Strategic Adviser, Development Initiatives



Judith is a co-founder and Strategic Advisor of Development Initiatives. Together with Tony German, she provides direction for Development Initiatives. Prior to establishing Development Initiatives in 1992, Judith and Tony job-shared as director of public affairs at ActionAid. They have produced a wealth of publications and papers, notably as founding editors and advisors on *Reality of Aid*, 1991-2004. Judith is well known in the NGO and donor communities for her work on aid statistics, financing instruments and humanitarian aid trends and is a sought-after speaker on the issue. Judith notably directs the Global Humanitarian Assistance programme and our work with ONE/DATA.