

Session VI

15:00 – 16:00 PM, ECOSOC Chamber

Chair

The Permanent Representative of Estonia, **Ambassador Sven Jürgenson** joined the Estonian foreign service 25 years ago. From 1998 to 2000, he was the Estonian Ambassador to the UN, and from 2000 to 2003 served as the Ambassador to the United States, Canada and Mexico. From 2003 to 2006, he was the undersecretary for political affairs of the Estonian Foreign Ministry and from 2006 to 2010 worked as the foreign policy advisor of the President of Estonia. Before assuming the post of the Permanent Representative of Estonia to the UN, from 2010 until August 2015 Sven Jürgenson was Estonia's Ambassador to France and since 2011 also Ambassador to Monaco and from 2014 as well to Tunisia



Moderator

On 1 April 2015, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed **Elliott Harris as Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**. Mr. Harris joined UNEP as Director of the New York Office and of the Secretariat of the Environment Management Group (EMG) in September 2013. Prior to joining UNEP, he worked as an Economist in the IMF from 1988 to 2013, gaining extensive policy and programmatic experience in African and Central Asian countries, as well as in the Fiscal Affairs Department on public expenditure policy issues. From July 2002 onward, Mr. Harris served as Advisor and Assistant Director in the IMF's Strategy, Policy and Review Department, including as Chief of the Development Issues Division. From September 2008 until May 2012, he was also the IMF's Special Representative to the United Nations, and was closely involved in interagency collaboration in the areas of social protection, the green economy, and fiscal space for social policy. From September 2009 until October 2013, he was the Vice Chair of the High-Level Committee on Programs (HLCP) of the UN Chief Executives Board for Coordination.



Keynote Speaker



Dr. Meshgan Mohammed Al Awar Director, Research & Studies Center, Dubai Police Academy
Secretary General, Zayed International Foundation for the Environment

A candidate for the 1st Federal National Council elections in the UAE 2006, is counted among the top women achievers of the United Arab Emirates. She received her PhD in Physical Chemistry (Polymers) from University of Wales College of Cardiff, UK.

In October 2003, Dr. Meshgan was offered Participation certificate from NASA in Mars Exploration Rover Mission. She won the Middle East Women's Achievement Award in 2004 for the best Social Contribution. In 1999, Dr. Meshgan was honoured as the best female employee in the Dubai Government Excellence Program/UAE. She has been a visiting Faculty to Center for Remote Sensing, Boston University, from 2006, and was the first lecturer in (ALLEEDS) Seminar organized by The FBI Academy for Middle Eastern and Northern African law enforcement police executives, July 2007. She is also an instructor at the College of Law and Police Sciences (Environment Security) in Dubai Police Academy.

Dr. Meshgan is a certified UN EXPERT to train regional and international technical teams on how to use the "CONTAMINATED SITES MANAGEMENT TOOLKIT FOR POPs" by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in June 2013.

Speakers



Muhsin Syihab is Deputy Director for Sustainable Development at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. Prior to assuming his current post, he was assigned as Counselor for Economic and Development Affairs at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the UN, WTO and other International Organizations in Geneva (2009-2013). In 2013, he was assigned as the special adviser of the President of Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD. In 2012, he was the lead negotiator of G77 and China for UNCTAD issues, when Indonesia was the Chair of the Group in Geneva. He obtained his Master's Degree in International Relations from Saitama University, Japan (2000), and a certificate of Foreign

Service Programme from Oxford University, UK (2007).



On 13 May 2008, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced the appointment of **Ms. Alicia Bárcena Ibarra** of Mexico as Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). Ms. Bárcena served as Chef de Cabinet to former Secretary-General Kofi Annan before serving as the Under-Secretary-General for Management. Earlier in her career, Ms. Bárcena served as Deputy Executive Secretary of ECLAC, and in this capacity increased interagency collaboration to provide a regional perspective on the Millennium Development Goals and on Financing for Sustainable Development, connecting issues of inequality, poverty, economic development and sustainability. She previously served as Director of ECLAC's Environment and Human Settlements Division, responsible for the Environmental

Citizenship programme of UNEP, and Coordinator of the Latin American and Caribbean Sustainable Development Programme of UNDP. Ms. Bárcena was the Founding Director of the Earth Council in Costa Rica, a nongovernmental organization in charge of follow-up to the agreements reached at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio in 1992. Ms. Bárcena has taught and conducted research in the Autonomous Metropolitan University of Mexico. She has published numerous articles on sustainable development, public policy, environmental issues, and public participation.



Ambassador Gyan Chandra Acharya is UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLS). Mr. Acharya has the responsibilities of monitoring and following the implementation of the dedicated programs of action, IPOA for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), VPOA for the Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and SAMOA Pathway for the Small Island Developing States (SIDS). He is also called on to analyse and advocate for the issues and concerns of these vulnerable countries and ensure their integration into and coherence with global processes, including those related to the Sustainable Development Goals and the Post- 2015 Development Agenda at the

United Nations. He also coordinates the advocacy work related to the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS in forums and platforms outside the United Nations. Mr. Acharya is a member of the United Nations Senior Management Group and the High-level Task Force on Global Food Security, a Commissioner of the High-level Broadband Commission for Sustainable Digital Development and a member of the Advisory Board of the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) Initiative. Prior to joining the UN, Mr. Acharya was the Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations in New York (2009-2012).



Mr. Mark Lewis is an Assistant Director in the IMF's Institute for Capacity Development (ICD) and serves as Division Chief for ICD's Global Partnerships Division. Mr. Lewis has worked with the IMF for more than 20 years, with experience on a wide range of capacity development, policy, and country issues. Just prior to taking up his current position in ICD, he served as Assistant Director in the European Department and Mission Chief for Cyprus. Prior to that, Mr. Lewis was the IMF's Senior Resident Representative for Turkey. Mr. Lewis has also worked in the IMF's Strategy and Policy Review Department. Previous country responsibilities included Russia, Ukraine, Morocco, and Cote d'Ivoire. Prior to joining the IMF, Mr. Lewis spent several years at the World Bank.

A US national, Mr. Lewis was born in Zurich, Switzerland in 1962, and grew up in Connecticut in the United States. He has a B.A. degree from Swarthmore College and an M.P.P. from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

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