Operational Activities for Development Segment  
22-24 February 2016

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Day 1 - Monday, 22 February, 10.00 – 10.45 a.m. Opening

H.E. Mr. Claver Gatete, Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Rwanda

Ambassador Claver Gatete completed his undergraduate degree in 1991 at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., Canada; specializing in Agricultural Economics. Prior to his appointment as the Governor of the National Bank of Rwanda in 2011, Ambassador Claver Gatete has been the Deputy Governor; a post he held from December 2009. Ambassador Claver Gatete joined the National Bank of Rwanda from United Kingdom where he was Rwanda’s Ambassador to the UK, Ireland and Iceland, a position he held from November 2005 to December 2009.

From November 2003 to September 2005, Ambassador Claver Gatete was the Secretary General and Secretary to the Treasury in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning. From October 2001 to May 2005, he worked in the Office of the President as a Personal Representative of the President on NEPAD Steering Committee; Coordinator of the National African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), member of the APR National Commission; and Member of the NEPAD’s African Partnership Forum (APF). At the Office of the President, Ambassador Claver Gatete had also served as Director General for social and economic Affairs and member of the Presidential Advisory Council between July 2000 and October 2003. Before joining the Office of the President, Amb. Claver Gatete worked with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Kigali-Rwanda, between 1997 and 2000 as the National Economist.

10.45 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. Panel discussion

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: What are the implications for policy, programming and operational cooperation and coordination in the UN development system?

Ms. Sarah Cliffe, Director, Center on International Cooperation, New York University

Sarah F. Cliffe is currently the director of New York University's Center on International Cooperation. Prior to that, she was the Special Representative for the World Bank's World Development Report on Conflict, Security and Development, and the Special Adviser and Assistant Secretary-General of Civilian Capacities to the United Nations.

Ms. Cliffe has worked for the last twenty years in countries emerging from conflict and political transition, including Afghanistan, Burundi, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea Bissau, Ethiopia, Haiti, Indonesia, Liberia, Mali, Rwanda, South Sudan, South Africa, Somalia, and Timor-Leste. At the World Bank, her work has covered post-conflict reconstruction, community driven development, and civil service reform. Ms. Cliffe was the chief of mission for the Bank’s program in Timor-Leste from 1999 to 2002; led the Bank’s Fragile and Conflict-Affected Countries Group from 2002-2007; and was the Director of Strategy
and Operations for the East Asia and Pacific Region from 2007-2009. Ms. Cliffe has also worked for the United Nations Development Programme in Rwanda, the Government of South Africa, and the Congress of South African Trade Unions, as well as for a major management consultancy company in the United Kingdom on public sector reform issues.

H.E. Ms. Zhanar Aitzhanova, Minister for Economic Integration, Kazakhstan

Her Excellency graduated from the S.Kirov Kazakh State University, Joint Vienna Institute, John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Her Excellency is fluent in English and Czech languages. After graduation she served internship in the Kazakh State University, Moscow State University, Charles University and Central European University (Prague).

She coordinated programs of the UN Representation Office in Kazakhstan, was the Assistant to UN Coordinator and the UNDP Representative in Mongolia. She was the curator of programs implemented by the UNDP’s Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS in Central Asia in New York. In September 2003, Aitzhanova was appointed Vice Minister of Industry and Trade. In 2005 she was appointed Special Representative of Kazakhstan to hold negotiations on Kazakhstan’s accession to the WTO. In March 2010, she was appointed Minister of Economic Development and Trade. In April 2011 – appointed Minister of Economic Integration of Kazakhstan. She was awarded “Eren Enbegi Ushin” medal (state award for conscientious public service).

H.E. Mr Macharia Kamau, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations

H.E. Mr Macharia Kamau is the Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary and Permanent Representative to United Nations Office Nairobi.

In addition to his diplomatic assignments, Ambassador Macharia Kamau was International Consultant to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the United Nations AIDS. He has vast experience at the United Nations where he served for over twenty five years mostly in senior management positions at the UNDP, UNICEF and UNTAG. During this period, he was deployed in various countries in Eastern and Southern Africa as well as the Caribbean.

Dr. Joan Clos, Executive Director, UN-Habitat

Dr. Joan Clos is the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), at the level of Under Secretary General by the United Nations General Assembly. He has held this office since October 2010. Born in Barcelona on 29 June 1949, he is a medical doctor with a distinguished career in public service and diplomacy. He was twice elected Mayor of Barcelona, serving two terms from 1997 until 2006. He was Minister of Industry, Tourism, and Trade of Spain between 2006 and 2008. Prior to joining the United Nations, he served as the Spanish Ambassador to Turkey and Azerbaijan. He is a medicine graduate from the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona (UAB), and specialized in Public Health and Epidemiology at the University of Edinburgh (Scotland). Dr. Joan Clos then joined the Barcelona Municipal Government as the Director of Public Health in 1979.

As a city councillor between 1983 and 1987, he earned a reputation for improving municipal management and for urban renewal projects, notably managing the renovation of downtown Barcelona’s Ciutat Vella district. From 1990 to 1994, he was the Deputy Mayor in charge of finance and budgeting, playing a key role in preparations for the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona. At the international level, in 1998 Dr. Clos was elected President of Metropolis, the international network of cities. Two years later, he
was elected President of the World Association of Cities and Local Authorities (WACLAC). Between 2000 and 2007, he served as the Chairman of the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities (UNACLA). And between 1997 and 2003, he was member of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR).

Mr. Alain Noudéhou, UN Resident Coordinator, China

Mr. Noudéhou is currently the United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in the P. R. of China. From 2010 to 2014, he was the UN RC and UN Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP RR in Zimbabwe. During his tenure, Mr. Noudéhou guided the alignment of the UN System’s operational activities with national development plans and improved the effectiveness of UN contributions, including the UN’s assistance to the constitutional development process. Under his leadership, UNDP Zimbabwe managed a program delivery of US $ 410 million for the period of 2010 to 2012 – one of the three biggest UNDP programs on the continent.

Previously, he was UNDP Country Director in Tanzania (2007-2010) where he managed the implementation of UNDP policy and program support activities. From 2004 to 2007 he served as UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Rwanda. From 1995 to 2002, Alain Noudéhou worked for CHF International, an international development service provider based in the USA. He held various positions including CHF’s Country Director in South Africa (1996 to 2000) and Deputy Director of Program Initiatives (2000–2002) in MD, USA. Mr. Noudéhou started his career in 1994 as a Management Consultant at ICF-Kaiser Inc. He speaks French, English, Fon and Chinese (Mandarin).

3:15 – 6:00 p.m.  Dialogue with Heads of UN Funds and Programmes

Ms. Helen Clark, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme

Helen Clark became the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on 17 April 2009, and is the first woman to lead the organization. She is also the Chair of the United Nations Development Group, a committee consisting of the heads of all UN funds, programmes and departments working on development issues.

Prior to her appointment with UNDP, Helen Clark served for nine years as Prime Minister of New Zealand, serving three successive terms from 1999 - 2008. Throughout her tenure as Prime Minister, Helen Clark engaged widely in policy development and advocacy across the international, economic, social and cultural spheres. Helen Clark came to the role of Prime Minister after an extensive parliamentary and ministerial career. First elected to Parliament in 1981, Helen Clark was re-elected to her multicultural Auckland constituency for the tenth time in November 2008. Earlier in her career, she chaired Parliament’s Foreign Affairs Committee. Between 1987 and 1990, she was a Minister responsible for first, the portfolios of Conservation and Housing, and then Health and Labour. She was Deputy Prime Minister between August 1989 and November 1990. From that date until December 1993 she served as Deputy Leader of the Opposition, and then as Leader of the Opposition until winning the election in November 1999.

Mr. Anthony Lake, Executive Director, UNICEF

On 1 May 2010, Anthony Lake became the sixth Executive Director of the United Nations Children’s Fund, bringing to the position more than 45 years of public service. In 2007-2008, he served as a senior foreign policy adviser to the presidential campaign of Barack Obama, a role he also performed during the Clinton presidential campaign of 1991-1992.
He has managed a full range of foreign policy, national security, humanitarian and development issues at the most senior levels: as National Security Advisor (1993-1997) under President Bill Clinton, and as Director of Policy Planning in President Carter's administration (1977-1981). He joined the US State Department in 1962 as a Foreign Service Officer. Over the past 10 years, Anthony Lake has been an International Adviser to the International Committee of the Red Cross (2000-2003) and Chair of the Marshall Legacy Institute. From 1998 to 2007 he served on the Board of the US Fund for UNICEF, with a term as Chair from 2004 to 2007.

Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director, UN Women

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka is United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women. She was sworn into office on 19 August 2013 and brings a wealth of experience and expertise to this position, having devoted her career to issues of human rights, equality and social justice. Ms. Mlambo-Ngcuka has worked in government and civil society, and with the private sector, and was actively involved in the struggle to end apartheid in her home country of South Africa.

From 2005 to 2008, she served as Deputy President of South Africa, overseeing programmes to combat poverty and bring the advantages of a growing economy to the poor, with a particular focus on women. Prior to this, she served as Minister of Minerals and Energy from 1999 to 2005 and Deputy Minister in the Department of Trade and Industry from 1996 to 1999. She was a Member of Parliament from 1994 to 1996 as part of South Africa's first democratic government. Ms. Mlambo-Ngcuka began her career as a teacher and gained international experience as a coordinator at the World YWCA in Geneva, where she established a global programme for young women. She is the founder of the Umlambo Foundation, which supports leadership and education.

Ms. Laura Londén, Deputy Executive Director, UNFPA

Ms. Londén is the Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director (Management) of UNFPA. Ms. Londén brings to UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, over 25 years of progressive inter-agency experience at both headquarters and field duty stations with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), the United Nations Office of Human Resources Management (OHRM), the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

She has served the United Nations system in several headquarters and field duty stations including Amman, Freetown, Dili, Sarajevo, Zagreb, Geneva, Vienna, Jerusalem and New York. Ms. Londén holds a Master's degree in Political Sciences (Public Law and Administration) from the University of Åbo Akademi in Finland.

Mr. Amir Abdulla, Deputy Executive Director, WFP

Amir Mahmoud Abdulla became the Deputy Executive Director of the World Food Programme in March 2009. Mr Abdulla is currently based in New York to coordinate WFP's activities and relationships within the UN System, including the many summits and events in 2015 and 2016.

Before moving to New York, Mr Abdulla was the Chief Operating Officer (COO), overseeing the Regional Directors and Directors of Emergencies and Field Security and was responsible for leading WFP's extensive field operations. Prior to becoming the Deputy Executive Director, Mr Abdulla held key positions in WFP such as Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Regional Director for Southern Africa, Regional Director for the Middle East, and Director of Budget. Mr Abdulla's career at WFP began as a logistics officer in 1991.
H.E. Ms. Nguyen Phuong Nga, Permanent Representative of Vietnam to the United Nations

H.E. Ms. Nguyen Phuong Nga is Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations. In October 2014, she was appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations. Her Excellency has also served as the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs since 2011.

Her Excellency has held numerous senior level positions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 2009 to 2011, she was Director General, Department of Press and Information, Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 2007 to 2009, she served as Deputy Director General, Department of Press and Information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 2004 to 2007, she appointed as Counsellor, then Minister Counsellor, Embassy of Viet Nam in Belgium and Luxembourg, Viet Nam's Mission to the European Union. Her Excellency started her career with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1988.

H.E. Mr. Geir O. Pedersen, Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations

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. From 1995 to 1998 he held different positions at the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Oslo, among them as Chief of Staff for the Norwegian Foreign Minister. Mr. Pedersen has also served as a Norwegian diplomat in China and Germany. In 1993 he was a member of the Norwegian team to the secret Oslo negotiations that led to the signing of the Declaration of Principles and the mutual recognition between the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel.

Day 2 - Tuesday, 23 February, 10:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Panel discussion

How to strengthen coordination and integration of development, humanitarian and peace pillars in the work of the UN system?

Baroness Verma, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for International Development, United Kingdom

Baroness Verma was appointed Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for International Development on 13 May 2015. She is a Conservative member of the House of Lords.

In 2006 she was raised to the peerage as Baroness Verma of Leicester in the County of Leicestershire. She was Opposition Whip from 2006 to 2010 and then Government Whip following the 2010 general election. Prior to becoming Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for DECC, Baroness Verma was Spokesperson for Cabinet Office, International Development, Women and Equalities and Business Innovation and Skills. Baroness Verma started her first business at the age of 19 in high fashion, supplying high street multiples. In 2000 she changed her business to the service sector.
Ms. Ameerah Haq, Bangladesh, former UN Under-Secretary-General for Field Support

Ameerah Haq is the former UN Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Field Support (2012 to 2014). She most recently served as the Vice Chair of the High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations for the United Nations (UN). She has over 39 years of UN experience including 19 years of field experience. She was the last Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) in the UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste.

She has also held the positions of Deputy SRSG and UN Resident Coordinator in Sudan, as well as Deputy SRSG and UN Resident Coordinator in Afghanistan. In addition, Ms. Haq has held senior positions within the UN Development Programme and has served as UN Resident Coordinator in Malaysia and Laos. She currently serves on the Board for the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, on the Secretary-General’s Senior Expert Group on Human Rights Up Front, and the Center for International Peace Operations, Berlin.

Mr. Alex Aleinikoff, Huo Global Policy Initiative Research Fellow, Columbia Global Policy Initiative and Visiting Professor of Law, Columbia Law School

Alexander Aleinikoff, a leading scholar in immigration and refugee law, is currently on assignment with the U.N. Secretariat in New York. From 2010 to 2015, he served as the United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva. Prior to his service with the U.N., he was a professor at Georgetown University Law Center (1997-2010), where he also served as dean (2004-2010). Aleinikoff was a professor of law at the University of Michigan Law School from 1981 to 1997.

Aleinikoff was co-chair of the Immigration Task Force for President Barack Obama’s transition team. From 1994 to 1997, he served as the general counsel, and then executive associate commissioner for programs, at the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Aleinikoff has published numerous books and articles in the areas of immigration law, refugee law, citizenship, race, statutory interpretation, and constitutional law.

H.E. Ms. Stephanie Hochstetter Skinner-Klée, Ambassador of Guatemala and President of the WFP Executive Board

Her Excellency Ms. Stephanie Hochstetter Skinner-Klée is Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Guatemala to the Republic of Italy, and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Rome-Based Agencies. From June to August 1992, she was an intern at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Guatemala City. In 1994 she was appointed cultural attaché ad honorem at the Embassy of Guatemala in Paris, France.

She was subsequently appointed interim Third Secretary at Guatemala’s Diplomatic Mission and the Permanent Representation of Guatemala to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which she held until July 1995. In December 1999 she was transferred to the Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the United Nations and other International organizations in Geneva, Switzerland, as Second Secretary, subsequently taking on the role of First Secretary. In September 2003 she was promoted to the position of Counsellor in the diplomatic mission, and in August 2007 she was assigned the role of Minister-Counsellor. In March 2010 she was appointed to the position of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Guatemala in Honduras and subsequently, in May 2013, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Guatemala to the Republic of Italy.
Ms. Helen Clark, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme

Helen Clark became the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on 17 April 2009, and is the first woman to lead the organization. She is also the Chair of the United Nations Development Group, a committee consisting of the heads of all UN funds, programmes and departments working on development issues.

Prior to her appointment with UNDP, Helen Clark served for nine years as Prime Minister of New Zealand, serving three successive terms from 1999 - 2008. Throughout her tenure as Prime Minister, Helen Clark engaged widely in policy development and advocacy across the international, economic, social and cultural spheres. Helen Clark came to the role of Prime Minister after an extensive parliamentary and ministerial career. First elected to Parliament in 1981, Helen Clark was re-elected to her multicultural Auckland constituency for the tenth time in November 2008. Earlier in her career, she chaired Parliament’s Foreign Affairs Committee. Between 1987 and 1990, she was a Minister responsible for first, the portfolios of Conservation and Housing, and then Health and Labour. She was Deputy Prime Minister between August 1989 and November 1990. From that date until December 1993 she served as Deputy Leader of the Opposition, and then as Leader of the Opposition until winning the election in November 1999.

Mr. Stephen O’Brien, Under-Secretary-General, OCHA

United Kingdom national, Stephen O’Brien is the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator. Mr. O’Brien was a Member of Parliament for Eddisbury, a Privy Counsellor, as well as the Prime Minister's Envoy and United Kingdom's Special Representative for the Sahel since 2012, working intensively with international partners seeking to secure peace in Mali and neighbouring countries through the integrated strategy of security, governance, humanitarian action, resilience and development.

He has more than 20 years of experience in international development and health care, notably as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for International Development (2010–2012), Shadow Minister for Health and Social Care (2005–2010), and in numerous voluntary roles, Founder and Chairman of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases (since 2004), Chairman of the non-governmental organization Malaria Consortium (2006–2010), Director-Trustee of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and of the Innovative Vector Control Consortium.

Mr. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic

National of Gabon, Parfait Onanga-Anyanga is the Special Representative for the Central African Republic and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA). Mr. Onanga-Anyanga served as the Acting Special Representative for the Central African Republic and Head of MINUSCA since 16 August 2015, when he succeeded Babacar Gaye of Senegal, who served as the first Special Representative of the Secretary-General of MINUSCA.

Mr. Onanga-Anyanga previously as Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Burundi and Head of the United Nations Office in Burundi, as well as Assistant-Secretary-General and System-Wide Senior Coordinator on Burundi (2012–2014). From 2007 to 2012, he was the Director of the Office of the United Nations Deputy Secretary-General. Previously, Mr. Onanga-Anyanga was Special Adviser to the President of the sixtyieth and sixty-first sessions of the General Assembly from 2005 to 2007 and served as the Chef de Cabinet to the President of the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly in 2004.
Mr. Mourad Wahba, Deputy Special Representative for the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti

Mr. Mourad Wahba was appointed Deputy Special Representative in Haiti in July 2015, and is the Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative. Before Haiti, Mr. Wahba was Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Regional Director for the Regional Bureau for Arab States of UNDP in New York since 2013.

Prior to this role, Mr. Wahba was the Director of the Security Office in the Bureau of Management of UNDP in New York from 2009 to 2013, and United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Morocco from 2006 to 2009. He served as Director of United Nations Affairs in UNDP in New York and UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Guyana and held several senior officer and adviser positions in UNDP and the United Nations Secretariat in New York from 1993 to 2001. Before joining the United Nations, he worked in media and academia.

3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Panel discussion
Organizational arrangements: How to strengthen inter-agency collaboration in organizational presence at country, sub-regional and regional levels?

H.E. Ms. Rossana Guevara, Vice President of Honduras

Her Excellency Ms. Rossana Guevara holds a degree in journalism from the National Autonomous University of Honduras. She covered the cold war in Central America with ABC, Univision, and NBC News. Her Excellency has been the Director of various media television stations in Honduras and was founder of the TN5 Noticiero, where she was a firm and loyal advocate for the rights of Hondurans and for its permanent struggle against corruption and impunity in the country. She speaks perfect Spanish (mother tongue), English (second language), Portuguese and Italian.

Her Excellency has worked actively in the political world of Honduras, as is currently serving as one of three Vicepresidents of Honduras. During the electoral campaign of former President Porfirio Lobo Sosa, she directed the movement Alliance for Change. She has served as Honduras Ambassador to Italy and was the first Ambassador of Honduras, after the political crisis of 2009, in the Federal Republic of Brazil. She gave up her post as Ambassador of Hondurus to Brazil, to accompany President Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado, as one of three Vicepresidents along with Lorena Herrera and Ricardo Alvarez. Her greatest desire is the transformation of Honduras, where all citizens enjoy social justice, peace, freedom and true democracy.

Mr. David Nabarro, Special Advisor to the Secretary-General on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

David Nabarro serves as Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. He works with Governments and other stakeholders to galvanize action on implementation of both the 2030 and Climate Action agendas. He also oversees the Secretary-General’s special initiatives, including Every Woman Every Child, Global Pulse and Zero Hunger Challenge, and the UN Office for Partnerships.

David Nabarro joined the UN system in 1999, leading the Roll Back Malaria initiative at the World Health Organization (WHO). He was appointed as a WHO Executive Director in 2001 and led WHO’s Department for Health Action in Crises from 2003. Between 2005 and 2014 he served as the UN System’s Senior Coordinator for Avian and Pandemic Influenza. Since 2009 he has been the Special
Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Food Security and Nutrition, a position he continues to hold. From 2011 to 2015 he served as Coordinator of the Movement to Scale Up Nutrition. From September 2014 until December 2015 he was Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on Ebola, providing strategic and policy direction for the international response.

H.E. Ms. Sahar Nasr, Minister of International Cooperation, Arab Republic of Egypt

Dr. Sahar Nasr was sworn in as the Egyptian Minister of International Cooperation on September 19, 2015. Dr. Nasr earned her Professorship from the Supreme Council of Universities. She is a Professor of Economics at the American University in Cairo and a Lecturer at several Egyptian and foreign universities. Throughout her academic career, she published over 60 research papers, technical reports and books merging her technical and practical expertise in the fields of international finance, economic development, private sector and SME development, as well as the fields of financial reform, the labor market, women empowerment on economic and social levels, and economic legislations.

Dr. Nasr has been a member of the Economic Development Council of the Presidential Office and she has extensive experience in negotiating and securing international grants and loans, especially within her role as Lead Economist at the World Bank. She has managed funds exceeding US$ 4.3 billion that were injected into the Egyptian economy in the areas of economic reform, economic policy development, small and medium enterprise (SME) development and social housing. Furthermore, she has broad expertise in organizing and heading committees of several international economic aid and foreign investment funds, as well as in the coordination with several international organizations, on top of which is the United Nations.

Ms. Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary, ECLAC

Ms. Bárcena assumed office as the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) on 1 July 2008. She had previously served as the Under-Secretary-General for Management at United Nations Headquarters in New York, Chef de Cabinet and Deputy Chef de Cabinet to the former Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan. Alicia Bárcena held the post of Deputy Executive Secretary and Director of ECLAC’s Environment and Human Settlements Division. Prior to her time at ECLAC, Ms. Bárcena served as Co-ordinator of the Latin American and Caribbean Sustainable Development Programme of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), responsible for the Environmental Citizenship Project at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Alicia 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 (UNCED) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 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. Alicia Bárcena holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, and holds a Master degree in Public Administration from Harvard University. She has completed the courses for a degree of Master in Ecology, and has initiated studies for a PhD degree in Economics at the National Autonomous University of Mexico.
Ms. Nardos Bekele-Thomas, Director, Office of the Chef de Cabinet, Executive Office of the Secretary-General, former UN Resident Coordinator, Kenya

Prior to her recent appointment by the United Nations Secretary-General as Director of the Office of the Chef de Cabinet, Executive Office of the Secretary-General, Mrs. Nardos Bekele-Thomas served as the United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Kenya (2013-2016) and the United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Benin (2008-2013).

As Private Sector Policy Adviser (1998-2001), Mrs. Bekele-Thomas conducted extensive research on private sector development, supported the strengthening of African business associations, provided advisory services and played advocacy role in the development and management of micro, small and medium-scale enterprises. Mrs. Bekele-Thomas also served for over four years in Kenya as Deputy Resident Representative of UNDP. During the period 2001-2004, she was the UNDP Senior Programme Adviser in New York providing programme and policy oversight and support in national planning and strategy formulation covering East and Central African countries. Over the last three decades, Mrs. Bekele-Thomas has also lived and served in various capacities in Ethiopia (1974-82), the United States, (New York) (1983-87), India (1987-88), Bhutan (1988-89), Comoros Islands (1989-90), Republic of Benin (1990-93), and Uganda, (1994-98), promoting human development anchored on the principles of economic, social and political rights for all.

Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, Senior Vice President for the 2030 Agenda, UN Relations, and Partnerships, World Bank

Mahmoud Mohieldin is the World Bank's Senior Vice President for the 2030 Development Agenda, United Nations Relations, and Partnerships. He is in charge of coordinating the World Bank Group’s efforts to strengthen partnerships with the United Nations and multilateral development institutions.

Prior to joining the World Bank, Mr. Mohieldin held numerous leading positions in the government of Egypt and served on several boards of directors in the Central Bank of Egypt and the corporate sector. He was a member of the Commission on Growth and Development and selected a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum in 2005. His professional experience extends into the academic arena as a professor of economics at Cairo University, also serving as member of the board of several universities in Egypt and holding leading positions in national and regional research centers and think tanks. He has authored numerous publications and articles in leading journals in the fields of finance and development in English and Arabic. He received his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Warwick, M.Sc in Economic and Social Policy Analysis from the University of York, and B.Sc from Cairo University.

Day 3 - Wednesday, 24 February, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Panel discussion

Partnership approaches: How to ensure accountability, coherence and evaluation of impact?

Mr. Amir Dossal, Founder & Chairman, Global Partnerships Forum

Amir Dossal is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Global Partnerships Forum, a not-for-profit knowledge platform to provide changemakers with tools to build innovative partnerships to address economic and social challenges, which he established in 2010.

Amir is co-founder of the Pearl Initiative, a CEO-led program promoting transparency and accountability in the Middle East, and the Ocean Sanctuary Alliance, a multi-stakeholder partnership to protect coastal and marine seas around the world. Amir is also a Commissioner of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development. In 2015,
the UN Global Compact appointed Amir as Special Adviser for Strategic Relationships. From 2010 to 2014, he served as Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union for Global Partnerships. In 2014, President Tommy Remengesau, Jr., President of Palau, appointed Amir as his Special Representative for Global Partnerships.

**Mr. Ibrahim Mayaki, Chief Executive Officer, New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), African Union**

Since 2009, Dr Mayaki is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) Planning and Coordinating Agency, head-quartered in Midrand, South Africa. Prior to this, he was the Executive Director of the Platform in support of Rural Development in West and Central Africa in Dakar, Senegal (2004-2009). He is a former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Prime Minister of the Republic of Niger (1996-2000).

He served as guest Professor at the University of Paris XI (2000-2004), and as a Professor of Public Administration in Niger and Venezuela. From 1987 to 1996 he was a Senior Executive in the uranium industry in the Republic of Niger.

**Mr. Sayed Aqa, Vice President Cooperation and Capacity Development, Islamic Development Bank**

Sayed Aqa, Afghan national, was appointed a Vice President of the Islamic Development Bank on 25 May 2015. As Vice President, Cooperation & Capacity Development, he is responsible for managing the Departments of Cooperation & Integration; Capacity Development; Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD); Special Assistance; and Trust Funds. An Engineer by education with a Master’s degree in Business Administration, he has been engaged in humanitarian and development work at senior levels for the past 27 years. He worked with a number of NGOs prior to joining the United Nations.

He played a leading role in the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and represented ICBL in the award ceremony of the 1997 Nobel Peace prize to ICBL. During his tenure at the UN, both at the Headquarters and in the field, Sayed Aqa had managed projects in 32 conflict and post-conflict countries in five continents. In 2006, he was appointed by the UN Secretary General as the UN Resident Coordinator and Representative in Bahrain. He then led UNDP operations in Sudan. Most recently Sayed Aqa served as the UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative to the UAE, covering UAE, Qatar and Oman. He has managed UNDP programs in the areas of good governance, poverty reduction, energy and environment, women empowerment and institutional capacity development including parliamentary development. Sayed Aqa is also the founder of two non-government organizations (NGOs) in Afghanistan.

**Ms. Lise Kingo, Executive Director, UN Global Compact**

Lise Kingo is the Executive Director of the UN Global Compact and a recognized expert in corporate sustainability. She leads the world’s largest corporate sustainability initiative with more than 12,000 signatories from 170 countries that have committed to aligning strategies and operations with universal principles on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption, and taking actions that advance societal goals.

Prior to joining the UN Global Compact in 2015, Ms. Kingo was Chief of Staff, Executive Vice-President and member of the Executive Management team at Novo Nordisk A/S that led the company through a significant growth phase to become the sixth largest pharmaceutical company in the world and the largest company in the Nordic region by market capitalization. While at Novo Nordisk, she oversaw the company’s participation in the UN Global Compact
and led the integration of sustainability into the company’s business strategy, including the development of “Changing Diabetes” to transform how diabetes is managed and ultimately defeat the disease.