



**Special Joint Meeting of  
the Economic and Social Council and the Economic and Financial Committee  
(Second Committee) of the General Assembly on  
Food Security and Nutrition: Scaling up the Global Response**

**14 February 2013, 10 a.m.- 1 p.m.  
United Nations Headquarters, ECOSOC Chamber  
Biographies**

**Keynote Speaker**



Mr. José Graziano da Silva is the Director-General of FAO since January 2012. He has worked on issues of food security, rural development and agriculture for over 30 years. In 2001 he led the team that designed Brazil's "Zero Hunger" programme. In 2003, he was charged with its implementation and was appointed as the Special Minister of Food Security and the Fight against Hunger. Prior to FAO, Graziano da Silva headed the Organization's regional office for Latin America and the Caribbean (2006-2011), where he actively supported the "Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative". He has written and edited 26 books on rural development, food security, and agrarian economics.

**Panelists**



H.E. Dr. Leslie Ramsammy is the Minister of Agriculture of Guyana. He was recently appointed as Vice-President of RIMSA 16, the Group of Ministers of Agriculture, Health and the Environment of the Americas. He was previously Minister of Health (2001- 2011), and was regarded as a global public health leader. He served as Chair of the Steering Committee for the establishment of the Caribbean Public Health Agency; Chairman of Affordable Medicines for Malaria; Member of the Advisory Committee of the Non-Communicable Disease Network (NCDnet). H.E. Dr. Ramsammy was the President of the World Health Organization's 61st World Health Assembly (2008-2009) and the President of the Pan American Health Organization's 47th Directing Council (2006-08). He sees agriculture as a necessary vehicle for poverty eradication and believes that is possible to have a HUNGER-FREE WORLD

TODAY. He has stated that climate change is the greatest threat to food security today.



Mr. Amadou Allahoury Diallo is the High Commissioner (Minister) at Niger President office for the national strategy for Food Security and Agriculture development called 3N Initiative "Nigeriens feeding Nigeriens". The 3N aims to address the root causes of the food insecurity in Niger and build resilience in tandem with humanitarian response. Mr. Diallo has a long-standing commitment to food security issues in Africa and particularly in West Africa. As a specialist in irrigation and food security, he has worked in water management for food security and agriculture development issues in sub-Sahara Africa at operational level as well as analytical level.



**Mr. Jonathan Shrier** is the Acting Special Representative for Global Food Security, coordinating all aspects of U.S. diplomacy related to food security and nutrition, including in support of Feed the Future. He has served as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs at the U.S. Department of Energy. While at the National Security Council and National Economic Council, Mr. Shrier coordinated interagency policy at the intersection of energy, climate, and agriculture, including responses to the spike in commodity prices in 2007-2008. Mr. Shrier handled international trade and investment issues for then Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business, and Agricultural Affairs.



**Ms. Loretta Dormal Marino** is the Deputy Director-General at DG for Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Commission. In her current position she is responsible for the directorates in charge of the international relations covering multilateral and bilateral negotiations in agriculture and food products as well as enlargement, neighborhood policy and international organizations in particular on food security issues. She was previously in charge of rural development and product quality policy, organic farming, environment and climate change issues within agriculture. Dormal Marino began her career at the European Commission in 1983 and holds a degree in Political Sciences.



**Professor Isobel Pollock** is the President of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. Professor Pollock is a Royal Academy of Engineering Visiting Professor in Engineering and Design at the University of Leeds School of Engineering. She is also Chairman of the Electromagnetics and Time Working Group for the National Measurement Office on the research programme for fundamental measurements. She has senior engineering management experience with global companies including ICI, DuPont, Robert McBride and Beatson Clark. She developed multi-discipline management and engineering skills in chemicals, metal handling, glassware, food, drinks and pharmaceuticals.

### *Discussants*



**Mr. Jos Verbeek** is Lead Economist at the World Bank and manages the work on the Global Monitoring Report. He has expertise in country specific economic policy analysis with a focus on assessing macroeconomic fundamentals, identifying structural impediments to economic development, and quantifying their impact on a country's economic prospects. In this respect he has a successful track record undertaking economic policy dialogue with Governments of Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia, and managing macroeconomic aspects of World Bank projects and economic assessments in these countries.



**Ms. Ellen Gustafson** is a sustainable food system activist, innovator, and social entrepreneur. She is the Founder and Executive Director of the 30 Project, a think and do tank connecting global hunger and obesity and crowd-sourcing long-term food system change. She is the Co-Founder and a Board member of FEED Projects and the FEED Foundation, a company and non-profit that creates products which have helped provide over 65 million school meals to children globally. Previously, she was a US Spokesperson for the World Food Programme. Ms. Gustafson serves on the Barilla Center for Food and Nutrition (BCFN) Advisory Board.



**Ms. Debra A Jones** serves as Save the Children's Director and UN Representative in New York, engaging with UN agencies, delegations, and civil society partners to create lasting positive change for the world's poorest and most vulnerable children. Her portfolio includes: child protection, child rights, humanitarian reform, health, nutrition, post-2015, and more. She is Vice-chair of the Advisory Board for the Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict; Co-chair of the Beyond 2015 UN Working Group; and an Advisory Group member for the NGO Committee on UNICEF. Prior to joining Save the Children, she was Director of Global Advocacy for Family Care International. She co-founded the Paraíso Assistance Program and the International Organization for Adolescents.