

# **Speakers Bios**

## Opening Session



**H. E. Mr. John Ashe**  
**President of the General Assembly**

John W. Ashe is the President of the General Assembly. He has served in a leadership capacity on many of the governing bodies of the major UN environmental agreements, including as the first Chairman of the Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). He also chaired the same Convention's Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI), and, most recently, the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP). He successfully led negotiations that resulted in Chapter X of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation at the 2002 World Summit for Sustainable Development (Rio+10); and co-chaired the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in 2012. In 2004 he presided over the thirteenth session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development. A veteran of the multilateral process, in 2008 Mr. Ashe was elected to serve as Chairman of the New York chapter of the Group of 77 and China, the largest coalition of developing nations in the UN system. He also chaired the General Assembly's High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, the UN's main policymaking body dedicated to furthering cooperation for development among the countries comprising the global South.



**H.E. Mr. Martin Sajdik**  
**President of ECOSOC**

His Excellency Martin Sajdik became President of the Economic and Social Council on 14 January 2014. He was formerly Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations in New York. Prior to his appointment to New York, he served as Austria's ambassador to the People's Republic of China, Mongolia and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. From 2003 until 2007, Ambassador Sajdik was Director General for Economic Affairs and European Integration. Between postings at the Austrian Embassy in Moscow (1980-1985 and 1989-1991) and with the Executive Secretariat of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe in Vienna (1986-1987), he held executive positions at a major Austrian construction company and an Austrian Bank in Moscow. Earlier in his career, he served at the Permanent Representation of Austria to the United Nations Office at Geneva



**Mr. Tony Elumelu**  
**Chairman Heirs Holdings, Founder, Tony Elumelu Foundation**

Tony O. Elumelu, CON, is an entrepreneur, philanthropist, and Chairman of Heirs Holdings, a proprietary investment company operating a portfolio of businesses across the African continent. Elumelu also serves as an Advisor to the USAID's Private Capital Group for Africa (PCGA) Partners Forum. He sits on the Nigerian President's Agricultural Transformation Implementation Council (AITC). He is also Vice-Chairman and was a key driver in the formation of the National Competitiveness Council of Nigeria and serves as Co-Chair of the Aspen Institute Dialogue Series on Global Food Security. At the invitation of the Federal Government of Nigeria, he also chairs the Committee responsible for the establishment of world-class hospitals and diagnostic centres across Nigeria. Elumelu is the originator and leading proponent of the term "Africapitalism," a philosophy that views the African private sector as the key driver of lasting economic transformation in Africa, through long-term investments, that create both economic prosperity and social wealth. In 2003, the Federal Government of Nigeria conferred on him the National Honour of Member of the Federal Republic (MFR) and subsequently the further honour of Commander of the Order of the Niger (CON) in 2012, for his service in promoting private enterprise. In 2013, Mr Elumelu received the Leadership Award in Business and Philanthropy from the Africa-America Institute (AAI) Awards. He was also named African Business Icon at the 2013 African Business Awards.



**Ms. Alessandra Cabral dos Santos Nilo**  
**Co-founder and Executive Director, GESTOS**

Alessandra Nilo is a Journalist, with specialization in communication and health. She is co-founder and Executive Director of Gestos, an HIV and AIDS organization located in Recife, Brazil. In 2012 she became member of the High Level Task Force (HLTF) for ICPD and Beyond, and her role in the HLTF is articulate a bold strategic vision to inspire and mobilize government leaders to support the sexual and reproductive health and rights in the Post 2015 agenda. In 2003, she developed the UNGASS-AIDS Forum platform in Brazil. This was later expanded to Africa, Asia and the Caribbean and is used throughout the world as an advocacy and research tool to support a network of women activists in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights. Ms. Nilo has represented civil society in the Brazilian national delegations to the High Level Meetings on HIV since 2001 and for the past six years into the, CSW, MDG and CPD delegations. Currently she is co-leading the Women Won't Wait campaign in Brazil and serves on the Board of Directors of ABONG (Brazilian Association of NGOs) and Action Aid Brazil.

## Session 1- Realizing the MDGs



**Dr. Robert C Orr**  
**ASG for Strategic Planning, EOSG**

Dr. Robert C. Orr serves as the Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Planning in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and is the principal advisor on climate change, energy, global health, food security and nutrition, and public-private partnerships. Dr. Orr joined the United Nations from Harvard University where he served as the Executive Director of the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at the Kennedy School of Government. Prior to this, he served as Director of the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington, D.C. From 1996 to 2001, Dr. Orr served in senior posts in the Government of the United States, including Deputy to the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and Director of the USUN Washington office. He also served as Director of Global and Multilateral Affairs at the National Security Council, where he was responsible for peacekeeping and humanitarian affairs.



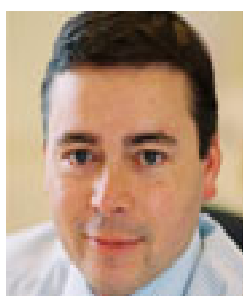
**Mr. John. H Whitehead**  
**Former Secretary New Zealand Treasury**

John H. Whitehead is a former Secretary of the New Zealand Treasury. He is the current Executive Director in the World Bank's Office of the Executive Director for Australia, Cambodia, Kiribati, Republic of Korea, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Mr. Whitehead joined Treasury in 1982, subsequently filling positions as Director of Macroeconomic Policy and Director of Tax Policy and International Economics. He was appointed Deputy Secretary and Branch Manager of Corporate Services in 1996. Between 1985 and 1992, he worked as an Economic Adviser in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (New Zealand) and as a Minister (Economic) at the New Zealand High Commission in London. In 2003 Mr. Whitehead was appointed as Treasury Secretary and chief executive. Before joining Treasury, he worked in the Statistics New Zealand and was Deputy Director of the Labour Party Research Unit (1977–82). He was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the 2011 Queens Birthday Honours, for services as Secretary to the Treasury.



**Mr. Michael O'Neill**  
**Assistant Secretary-General and Director, Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy, UNDP**

Michael O'Neill is Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Mr. O'Neill served in the British Foreign Service for several years, and his most recent appointments include Senior Foreign Office Representative to the Gulf Strategy Group and Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Qatar (2012-2013). Prior to this, he served as Head of Mission at the Helmand Provincial Reconstruction Team in Afghanistan and as the United Kingdom's Special Representative for Sudan. He has also held appointments at the UK Embassy in Washington and at the UK missions to the United Nations in New York and the European Union in Brussels, as well as in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London and the United Kingdom Delegation to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Brussels.



**Mr. Miguel Pestana**  
**Vice President Global Affairs, Unilever**

Mr. Pestana is Vice-President Global External Affairs and Media Relations at Unilever responsible for managing engagement with global stakeholders, issues and crisis management as well media relations. He first joined Unilever in November 2001 when he helped to establish Unilever's EU External Affairs office in Brussels. He is actively involved in a range of business organisations including; the World Economic Forum, the Executive of the World Federation of Advertisers (WFA), UN Global Compact LEAD and the Global Business Initiative on Human Rights (GBI). Mr. Pestana has more than 25 years of communications experience having previously held several public affairs positions in the UK, US and Brussels. He worked as Research Assistant in both the UK Parliament and the US Congress.



**Ms. Betty Maina**

**CEO, Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) (GC) (Africa)**

Ms. Maina is the Chief Executive of Kenya's Association of Manufacturers, one of the country's leading business associations with some 700 members. Previously, she served in a similar position at the Institute of Economic Affairs (1997 – 2002) where her work contributed to opening up space for public debate on Government policies and legislative proposals. She holds a BA degree in Land Economics from the University of Nairobi and a Master of Science degree in Development Administration from the University College London. Ms. Maina has received several State Commendations from H.E. the President of the Republic of Kenya for her work in Kenya and also continues to serve on various boards in the public sector and civil initiatives. In 2008/9 she was among other eminent African personalities serving on the Danish Prime Minister's Africa Commission, a Danish Platform for effective development cooperation with Africa.



**Ms. Bhumika Muchhala**

**Coordinator, Third World Network**

Ms. Muchhala is coordinator of the Finance and Development Program in Third World Network. In the United Nations General Assembly, she follows the intergovernmental negotiations in the areas of finance and development, governance and social development. She looks at the impact of macroeconomic policies, particularly those espoused by the International Monetary Fund's loans and policy advice, on economic and social development, women's rights and global economic and financial governance. Previously, she coordinated the IMF programme at the Bank Information Centre in Washington, D.C., and organized policy dialogues and published briefings in the Asia Programme of the Woodrow Wilson International Centre for Scholars, also in Washington, D.C. She also engaged in the international labour rights' movement, and has had lead roles in organizing international corporate accountability campaigns for worker's rights and codes of conduct in export processing zones across Southeast Asia.

## Session 2: Collaborating with Businesses, Foundation, Civil Society and Other Actors



**Ms. Christine Bader**  
**Visiting Scholar and Lecturer, Columbia University**

Christine Bader is the author of *The Evolution of a Corporate Idealist: When Girl Meets Oil* (Bibliomotion 2014). She is a Visiting Scholar and Lecturer at Columbia University, where she co-teaches a course on Human Rights and Business, and a Human Rights Advisor to BSR. After earning her MBA from Yale in 2000, Ms. Bader joined BP and proceeded to work in Indonesia, China, and the U.K., managing the social impacts of some of the company's largest projects in the developing world. In 2006 she created a part-time pro bono role as Advisor to the U.N. Secretary-General's Special Representative for business and human rights, a role she took up full-time in 2008 until the U.N. mandate ended in 2011. Ms. Bader has also served as a corps member with City Year, a special assistant to the New York City Mayor's Chief of Staff and Deputy Mayor, and a Teaching Fellow in Community Service at Phillips Academy Andover. She is a Truman National Security Fellow and a Member of the Council on Foreign Relations.



**Mr. Anthony Smith**  
**Director Europe and Development Relations, DFID**

Anthony Smith has been Director, International Relations at the UK Department for International Development since May 2010. He oversees DFID's policy on EU, UN and Commonwealth development issues, the coordination of DFID's engagement with the G8 and G20, and DFID's bilateral relations with international partners including DAC members. He was previously Director for European Political Affairs at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. He joined the FCO in 1986 and worked on a range of European policy issues including the Balkans, trade policy and Common Foreign and Security Policy. In 1996 he moved to the Department for International Development (ODA at the time) and has worked on Environment Policy, Europe and Southern Africa, as well as being Private Secretary to Ms. Clare Short.



**Ms. Lise Kingo**  
**Executive Vice President Novo Nordisk A/S**

Ms Kingo joined Novo Industry A/S in 1988 and worked over the years to build up the company's Triple Bottom Line approach. In 1999, Ms Kingo was appointed senior vice president, Stakeholder Relations. In March 2002, she was appointed executive vice president and chief of staffs in Novo Nordisk assuming global responsibility for Corporate Relations. Ms Kingo is chairman of the board of Steno Diabetes Center A/S in Denmark and member of the board of Grieg Star Group AS, Norway. She is also chairman of the Danish Council for Corporate Social Responsibility and professor at the Medical Faculty, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. She holds a BA in Religions and in Ancient Greek Art (1986, University of Aarhus, Denmark), a BCom in Marketing Economics (1991, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark) and an MSc (Hons.) in Responsibility and Business Practice from the University of Bath, United Kingdom (2000).



**Mr. Benedict Cheong**  
**CEO, Temasek Foundation**

Benedict CHEONG is the first Chief Executive Officer of Temasek Foundation, a non-profit philanthropic organisation set up by Temasek Holdings Singapore. Before this, Mr Cheong was the Chief Executive Officer of the National Council of Social Service, where he served for nine years from 1998 to April 2007. He also served in the Singapore Police Force for fifteen years, from 1982 to January 1998, where he held various appointments at headquarters and in the operational units. Mr Cheong currently serves on the Medifund Advisory Council and on the boards of the Casino Regulatory Authority, the Agency for Integrated Care and Temasek Cares in Singapore.





**Mr. Yaya Winarno Junardy**  
**President Commissioner, PT Rajawali Corpora**

Mr. Junardy is the President Commissioner of PT Rajawali Corpora, an Indonesian national holding investment Company operating in diverse industries i.e. hotel & property, transportation, plantation, mining, infrastructure and IT Services. Prior to his current position he served in various companies including Managing Director of PT Rajawali Corporation, CEO of Excelcomindo, cellular operator and Board of RCTI, a national TV broadcasting. Prior to above, he was the CEO PT USI/IBM in Indonesia. He worked in IBM HQ in Hong Kong, Tokyo and USA. He is currently also serving as President of the Global Compact Network Indonesia and an active board-member in community service organizations among others: Indonesia Business Links, Asia Marketing Federation, and Indonesia Marketing Association. He is also a member of President's Advancement Advisor Committee of National University of Singapore.



**Ms. Alice Albright**  
**CEO, Global Partnership for Education (US)**

Ms. Alice P. Albright has over 27 years of international experience that spans the private, non-profit, and public sectors. From July 2009 until January 2013, she served in the Obama Administration as the Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer of the Export-Import Bank of the United States (Ex-Im Bank). During Ms. Albright's tenure at Ex-Im, the Bank recorded three consecutive years of record-breaking authorizations. Her previous experience includes serving as the Chief Financial and Investment Officer for the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI) from 2001 to 2009 and from 2003, as the head of GAVI's Washington, DC office. From 1985 to 2001, Ms. Albright worked as a banker with a focus on emerging markets and held positions at the Carlyle Group, JP Morgan, Bankers Trust Company and Citicorp.

### Session 3: Towards a More Effective Framework



**Ms. Jane Wales**

**Vice-President, Aspen Institute, and President and CEO, Global Philanthropy Forum**

Ms. Jane Wales is CEO of the Global Philanthropy Forum and the World Affairs Council; vice president of the Aspen Institute; and host of the nationally-syndicated National Public Radio interview show “It's Your World”. Previously, she served in the Clinton Administration as special assistant to the President, senior director of the National Security Council and associate director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. During her tenure as National Executive Director of the Physicians for Social Responsibility, the organization's international arm was recipient of the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize. From 2007-2008, she served as acting CEO of The Elders, chaired by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and founded by Nelson Mandela. In 2008, Ms. Wales chaired the Poverty Alleviation Track for the Clinton Global Initiative.



**Ms. Brenda Killen**

**Head, Global Partnership and Policy Division, OECD**

Ms. Killen is Head of OECD's Global Partnerships and Policy Division. Among other functions, this division works to monitor implementation and drive international progress on development, through the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation in partnership with UNDP. Prior to her current position at OECD, she worked at the World Health Organization (WHO) as Deputy Director of Health Policy, Development and Services from 2004 to 2007. Before that, she worked for the Department for International Development (DFID) in the UK where she was Head of the Europe, Middle East and Americas Policy Department. An experienced development economist, she was previously DFID's Senior Economic Adviser for Asia and, from 1996-1999, was an adviser to the UK Executive Director on the board of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).



**Ms. Joy Phumaphi**

**Co-Chair, Independent Expert Review Group and Executive Secretary, African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA)**

Joy Phumaphi is the Executive Secretary of the African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA). She is a distinguished African American Institute Fellow and has been Commissioner in the UN Secretary-General's Commission on HIV/AIDS and Governance in Africa. She held the position of Vice President & Head of the Human Development Network at the World Bank until the end of 2009. Mrs Phumaphi is a member of the Global Leaders Council for Reproductive Health, the Africa American Institute, and a trustee of the Children's Investment Fund Foundation. Ms. Phumaphi chairs ACHAP (African Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Partnership), a partnership between the Botswana government, Merck and the Gates Foundation. Joy Phumaphi has a B.Com. and Masters in Financial Accounting and Decision Sciences. She has been Assistant Director-General, in WHO, and Minister of Health, Botswana.



**Ms. Frances Beinecke**

**President, Natural Resources Defense Council**

Frances Beinecke is the President of NRDC, one of the United States' most influential environmental action groups. She has bachelor's degree from Yale College, and a master's degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. She was appointed by President Obama to the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling, a member the Secretary of Energy's Advisory Board (SEAB), serves on the Advisory Board of the MIT Energy Initiative, National Academies of Science, and the board of World Resources Institute (WRI).





**Mr. Jorge Soto**

**Director, Sustainable Development, Braskem**

Mr. Soto is presently the Sustainable Development Director at Braskem. Prior to this position he was the Health and Safety Corporate Director at Vale. He is a PhD in Sustainable Development from Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro and a Master on Chemical Engineering in Process Integration from COPPE, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro , Rio de Janeiro (RJ), Brazil.

## Session 4: Scaling Up Partnerships



**Mr. Amir Dossal**  
**Chairman, Global Partnerships Forum**

Amir Dossal is Founder and Chairman of the Global Partnerships Forum, an international platform working to address economic and social challenges, through partnerships, which he established in October 2010. Amir is Co-Founder of the Pearl Initiative, a CEO-led program, promoting transparency and accountability in the Middle East. In 2013, he was appointed Co-Chair of the Sustainable Oceans Alliance, a global initiative to focus the international community on the need for healthy oceans in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Amir is also Commissioner of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development and Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union for Global Partnerships. He is a 25-year veteran of the United Nations, and was the UN's Chief Liaison for Partnerships. As Executive Director of the UN Office for Partnerships, he managed the \$1 billion gift by media mogul Ted Turner; and forged strategic alliances to address the Millennium Development Goals.



**H.E. Mr. Devant Maharaj**  
**Minister of Food Production, Land and Marine Affairs, Trinidad and Tobago**

H.E. Mr. Devant Maharaj first entered Parliament as a Senator and Minister of Transport on Monday June 27, 2011. He is an Executive Member of the Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha (SDMS), the largest Hindu body in Trinidad and Tobago, and was the youngest member of the SDMS when he was appointed in 1996. H.E. Mr. Maharaj was a weekly columnist with the Trinidad Newsday from 1997-2005, and has also been published in the Trinidad Guardian. In 2002 he was appointed the SDMS Delegate to the Inter-Religious Organization (IRO) of Trinidad and Tobago and was at that time the youngest member of the IRO. He held this position in the IRO until 2006. In 2005 Mr. Maharaj was appointed by the SDMS as Chairman of the Indian Caribbean Museum of Trinidad and Tobago. He is also the co-editor of the book "Hostile & Recalcitrant" and has also self-published booklets titled "The Persistence of the Indian Identity" and "Clash of Cultures: Indian African Clash."



**Mr. Marc Van Ameringen**  
**Executive Director, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition**

Marc Van Ameringen is Executive Director of the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), an international organization leading efforts to end malnutrition with programs in over forty countries, improving the lives of 800 million people. In 2014, he was awarded the WFP 'Hunger Hero Award' for efforts to combat world hunger and malnutrition. Mr. Van Ameringen is a member of the GSK / Save the Children R&D Advisory Board, the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory Nutrition Advisory Board, and served on the Lancet Nutrition Series Advisory Committee, Institute of Medicine's Committee on U.S. Commitment to Global Health, and as Vice Chair of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Nutrition.



**Mr. Árni M. Mathiesen**  
**Assistant Director-General, Fisheries, FAO**

Mr. Árni M. Mathiesen, Assistant Director-General of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department at the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), holds a Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery degree from the University of Edinburgh, U.K. and an MSc in Aquatic Veterinary Science from the University of Stirling, U.K. After completing his studies, he worked as a veterinarian, specializing in fish diseases for ten years and was also the Managing Director of an aquaculture firm. Mr. Mathiesen was a member of the Board of the Icelandic Veterinary Association from 1986 to 1987 as well as the Chairman of the Council for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals from 1994 to 1999. From 1990 to 1994, he was a member of the Board of the Guarantee Division of Aquaculture Loans and, from 1994 to 1998, a member of the Board of the Agricultural Bank of Iceland and of the Agricultural Loan Fund. In 1991, Mr. Mathiesen

was elected to the Icelandic Parliament and served as Minister for Fisheries from May 1999 to September 2005 and, subsequently, as Minister for Finance until February 2009. Before joining FAO in 2010, was a consultant for the Confederation of Icelandic Employers as well as working in a general veterinary practice in Iceland.



**Mr. James Hamilton**  
**President, DSM Nutritional Products USA**  
**Chairman, CRN Board of Directors**

James “Jim” Hamilton is the President of DSM Nutritional Products USA, Inc., an organization headquartered in Parsippany, New Jersey and currently serves on the global management team of DSM Nutritional Products’ Human Nutrition & Health business, an organization with approx \$2.0 billion in global sales and operations in more than 40 countries. DSM Nutritional Products is a division of the life sciences and material sciences company DSM N.V. During the course of his 25-year career Mr. Hamilton has lived and worked in Canada, Europe, and the United States and has played a leading role in the development, manufacturing, marketing and sales of vitamins, carotenoids and other nutritional ingredients in the food, dietary supplement, animal feed and personal care industries.



**Ms. Marie Haga**  
**Executive Director, Global Crop Diversity Trust**

Ms Marie Haga is the Executive Director of the Global Crop Diversity Trust. Before starting her tenure as Executive Director of the Crop Trust, Ms Haga served on the Executive Board of the Crop Trust from 2010-2012. She is also the Head of the governing board of the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA). Previously, she was the Secretary General of Norwegian Air Ambulance - the biggest voluntary organisation in Norway. She has also held the position as director of Renewable Energy of the Federation of Norwegian Industries. Ms Haga has a background from the Foreign Service as a career diplomat. She has held senior positions in the Norwegian mission to the United Nations in New York and in the embassy in New Delhi. She also has a background from politics and served as a Member of Parliament in Norway from 2001-2009. She was the political advisor to the Minister for Development Cooperation from 1997-1998. She was Chairperson of the Centre Party from 2003 - 2008. Ms Haga has held three Ministerial positions: Minister of Cultural Affairs from 1999-2000, Minister of Local Government and Regional Development from 2005-2007, and Minister of Petroleum and Energy from 2007-2008. Marie has also published three books - one novel and two on Norwegian politics.

## Session 5: Scaling Up Partnership Opportunities in Sustainable Infrastructure



**Mr. Gyan Acharya**

**USG & High Representative for LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS**

Gyan Chandra Acharya (Nepal) was appointed Under Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLS) in September 2012. Prior to that, as the Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations, Mr. Acharya served as Chair of the Global Coordination Bureau of the Group of Least Developed Countries, contributing to the successful conclusion of the 4th UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries. He was also closely involved in the 2010 MDG mid-term review process and the Rio+20 Conference. He was also a member of the Bureau of Landlocked Developing Countries and was elected Chair of the Commission on Social Development. From 2010 to 2011 he served as Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission's Working Group on Lessons Learned. Prior to that, Ambassador Acharya was Foreign Secretary with the Government of Nepal (2007-2009), Permanent Representative to the United Nations and the World Trade Organization in Geneva (2003-2007), Spokesman of the Foreign Ministry (1999-2002) and Joint Secretary (Director-General) responsible for South Asia, Europe and the Americas and Regional Organizations, Economic Relations and Coordination Divisions (1998-2003).



**H.E. Mr. Yamfwa Mukanga**

**MP, Minister for Transport and Communications, Zambia**

H.E. Mr. Yamfwa Mukanga was appointed the Minister of Mines, Energy and Water Development in July 2012. Before this he was the Minister of Transport, Work, Supply and Communications after his appointment following the election of Sata in September 2011. H.E. Mr Mukanga is also the former Provincial Governor for the Copperbelt Province - the focal point for mining activity in Zambia.



**Mr. Kandeh Yumkella**

**SRS/CEO, Sustainable Energy for All**

Dr. Kandeh Yumkella is a Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General; Chief Executive Officer, Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All). From 2005-13 he served as the Director-General, UNIDO. Before that he served in different high-level policy positions, including as Special Adviser to two previous Directors-General and as Representative and Director, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Regional Office, Nigeria. From 1994-95 he was Minister for Trade, Industry and State Enterprises of Sierra Leone.



**Mr. Cornie Huizenga**

**Secretary General, Sustainable Low Carbon Transportation (SLoCaT) Partnership**

Cornie Huizenga is the Secretary General of the Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT), the largest multi-stakeholder partnership on sustainable, low carbon transport in developing countries. The SLoCaT Partnership is leading global efforts to promote the integration of sustainable transport in global policies on sustainable development and climate change. Mr. Huizenga has a distinguished career of over 25 years in development in which he has dealt with various environmental issues. He managed projects in Pakistan targeting domestic energy saving. He advised the Asian Development Bank on its operational business processes. He was the Executive of Clean Air Asia, the leading regional initiative on urban air quality in Asia. He also acted as an advisor to various international organizations on sustainable transport.



**Mr. Umberto de Pretto**

**Secretary General, International Road Transport Union (IRU)**

Umberto de Pretto is the Secretary General of the International Road Transport Union (IRU). He joined the IRU in 1995 as Head of Economic Affairs. He then became Policy Coordinator and Head of Strategy, and was appointed Deputy Secretary General in 2002. After graduating from Ottawa's Carleton University in Political Science, Economics and International Relations, he worked as a Legislative Assistant for Ministers and Members of the Canadian Parliament and then moved to Paris in 1992 to take on the position of Head of the Transport Division, to be shortly afterwards named Deputy Director of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), responsible for International Commercial Practices and Techniques.



**Mr. Shishir Priyadarshi, Director**

**Development Division, WTO**

Shishir Priyadarshi is one of the Directors of the World Trade Organisation in Geneva. He heads the Development Division of the WTO, whose mandate is to facilitate work on all trade related developmental issues in the WTO. A significant part of Mr Priyadarshi's responsibilities extends to taking care of the developmental aspects of the Doha negotiations, especially in so far as they relate to addressing the concerns of developing countries. Having earlier worked for the Government of India for nearly twenty years, Mr Priyadarshi has had a long experience in examining various aspects of the WTO agreements, from a developing country perspective. Mr Priyadarshi has written a number of papers, primarily detailing the concerns that developing countries have on various WTO agreements.