



## UN System Workplace Mental Health & Well-being Strategy Implementation Board Members



**Martha Helena Lopez** is the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management at the United Nations. She is responsible for the strategic leadership and direction of the UN's human resources organization, leading talent management and implementing management initiatives. Since 2015, she has served as Director of Human Resources at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Previous to that, she was Director of the Strategic Planning and Staffing Division, Office of Human Resources Management, Department of Management at the United Nations. She also held the positions of Chief of the Human Resources Policy Service (2006-2009) and Chief of the Staff Development Service (2004-2007) at the United Nations. Ms. Lopez previously served with UNDP as Chief of the Policy Unit, Office of Human Resources, Bureau of Management (2001-2004) and with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) (1989-2001), and the World Food Programme (WFP) (1984-1989). Ms. Lopez holds a Law Degree with specialization courses in socioeconomics from Xaveriana University in Bogota, Colombia.



**Therese Fitzpatrick** is the Global Lead for the implementation of the UN System Workplace Mental Health and Well-being Strategy. This includes working with each of the UN organizations, in each of the countries they operate in with a view to improving mental health across the whole system. Prior to commencing at the UN, Therese held national and global roles in Mental Health Strategy and Programme Implementation with a specific focus on both workplace and men's mental health. Therese holds post-graduate qualifications in Public Health, Business Management and Occupational Therapy.



**Tanya Quinn-Maguire** is the co-Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Security and Occupational Health and Safety for the Federation of International Civil Servants Associations (FICSA). Through this role she has been actively championing issues related to staff mental health and wellbeing for over five years. Tanya is also a staff member for UNAIDS, where she works for almost ten years for the UNAIDS Secretariat Staff Association. She has over twenty years, on and off, experience in the UN system.



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**Fikerte Assefa Ezezew** is the General Secretary of the Federation UNISERV and a Vice Chair of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPA/UNWOMEN Staff Council. She is also a staff member working at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) since 1989 and specialized in Results-based Management of Programme/Project, Financial Resource Management, including budgeting, financial planning and forecasting, performance evaluation, quality assurance, monitoring and reporting, as well as knowledge management and the dissemination of lessons learned. Ms. Ezezew holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Economics and Environmental Management from York University, United Kingdom, and a Brevet de Technicien Supérieur (BTS) in Computer Sciences from the Department of Computer Sciences of La Plaine Monceau, École Technique, in Paris, France.



**Patricia Nemeth**, PhD, President of the New York Staff Union as well as the Vice President for Conditions of Service of the Coordinating Committee of International Staff Unions and Associations (CCISUA). She also served in three different peacekeeping missions (UNTAET, MINURSO and MFO) prior to her assignment at the UN Headquarters. Patricia holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Global Affairs from Rutgers State University, New Jersey, USA, a Master's degree in Public Administration (Inspector General Program) from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, USA, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from Hungary. In addition, she has been an Adjunct Assistant Professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, USA, Public Management Department since 2006.



**Nana Taona Kuo** is a development economist and public policy specialist by training, with over 15 years of experience in global health, rural development, HIV and public health. She is currently the Senior Health Adviser in the Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General (EOSG), United Nations, New York. From 2013-2018, she led the Every Woman Every Child team in the EOSG. Prior to joining the UN Secretary-General's Office, she was the UNAIDS Country Director in China and spent almost ten years working with UNAIDS in the Asia and Pacific region. Nana Taona Kuo received her formal education in the United Kingdom in Economics and Public Policy and has a post graduate degree in Development Management from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) in London, United Kingdom.



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**Mira Celin** is an HR Partner at the International Labour Organisation for almost a decade working closely with staff and managers on all HR issues with a personalised approach. Holding Master's degrees in Public Administration and in International Economics and now completing a degree in Psychology, she has maintained a wide spectrum of interests. She previously worked at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and at the European Union (European Personnel and Selection Office), always as a human resources professional. Before that she worked as a labour market researcher.



**Michele Strudwick-Alexander** is a Staff Counsellor at the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) New York Headquarters. She is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist, with over 10 years' experience providing mental health services for individuals and organisations, including support for staff in the international humanitarian sector. She has a PhD in Clinical Psychology and is a graduate of the Harvard Medical School, Global Mental Health, Trauma and Recovery Certificate Program. Michele is a former human resource professional with a Master's degree in Managing Human Resources, MCIPD certification and 6 years of organizational development experience from a Big 5 consulting firm.



**Dubravka Suzic** is the Chief of the Psychosocial Wellbeing Section at UNHCR, where she is responsible for developing, facilitating and coordinating psychosocial services to colleagues worldwide. Under her leadership, the psychosocial support unit has expanded its portfolio of forward-looking programmes designed to address a wide range of psychosocial challenges for the UNHCR workforce. She is one of the founding members of the UN Staff/Stress Counselors Group (UNSSCG), serving at its Steering Committee and liaising with the UN HR network. She is also a member of the Critical Incident Stress Working Group and collaborates with expert groups outside the UN. Dubravka holds advanced degrees in psychology and counselling and has 25 years of experience in staff counseling across the UN system.



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**Michael Emery** is the Director of Human Resources at the International Organization for Migration (IOM). He worked in areas such as talent management, recruitment, human resources services and career development in West Africa, the Balkans, East Timor and at Headquarters in both Geneva and New York. Michael has a track record of human resources innovation in the UN system, and is currently the architect of the International Organizations Career Development Roundtable – the largest human resources event on the multilateral calendar. Prior to joining the IOM, Michael served in various human resources leadership roles including most recently as the Director of Human Resources at the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), as Chief of Recruitment at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and in several roles over 13 years with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO).



**Dr Aiysha Malik** is a Technical Officer in the Department of Mental Health and Substance Use at the World Health Organization. At WHO, Aiysha is the focal point for workplace mental health, concentrating on the development of WHO global guidelines for mental health at work. Aiysha's work also includes the development, training and research of a scalable psychological intervention for young adolescents and their caregivers, working in Tanzania, Lebanon, Jordan and Pakistan; and the provision of technical support for WHO's work on suicide prevention. Prior to WHO, Aiysha worked as a clinical psychologist in HIV and sexual health and was on the faculty for the doctoral training of clinical psychologists at the Oxford Institute in the United Kingdom. Aiysha holds a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology and Doctorate in Psychiatry from the University of Oxford, United Kingdom.



**Dr. Stuart Fisher**, trained as a clinical psychologist, has been the senior psychologist and head of the World Bank Group's Counseling Unit since 2012. He serves on the United Nations Staff and Stress Counselors (UNSSC) group's steering committee as well as the UNSSC/UN Medical Director's liaison committee. Before joining the World Bank Group, he served as the Head of Behavioral Health for the US Navy's northeast region. Prior to that, he maintained an independent practice of psychology for 17 years. He also served as the clinical director of a community mental health center and was a psychologist in the US Navy after completing his internship at the Naval Hospital in Bethesda, MD (USA). He was awarded his doctoral degree by Fairleigh Dickinson University.



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**Catarina Edlund** serves as Human Resources Policy Specialist at UN Women where she leads human resources policy development and is focal point for CEB/HRN, ICSC, duty of care and mental health. Catarina has over 15 years' experience in human resources and project management, including continuous improvements, business continuity and emergency management. Before she joined UN Women in 2018, she worked at the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and prior to that at Save the Children, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) and for a number of years as a management consultant in the US private sector. Catarina holds an MBA degree in Human Resources management and a Bachelor degree in Political Science.



**Cornelia Zelter** works, since 2010, as a Senior Conflict Resolution Officer in New York at the Office of the Ombudsman and Mediation Services, which has global coverage. Cornelia is a lawyer by training and joined the Secretariat in this capacity in 1990. She studied and trained over several years to become a conflict resolution professional, mediator, ombudsman and coach. Cornelia served as an Electoral Observer in El Salvador (1994), as Chief of Personnel at MINUGUA, Guatemala (1996/97), and as Chief of Staff at BINUB, peacebuilding mission in Burundi (2007-10).



**Gloria Dal Forno**, MD, PhD, is currently the Senior Medical Advisor at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva, Switzerland, after having worked at the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Rome, Italy. Before joining the UN she has been for long time a clinician, a researcher, and an academician. Dr. Dal Forno holds a diploma of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. She obtained her MD from La Sapienza University of Rome, Italy, and a PhD in Neurosciences at Tor Vergata University of Rome, Italy. Besides a long clinical experience, she has been a researcher in several clinical trials and US federally funded research projects and is the author of numerous peer reviewed publications. She joined WFP in 2014 and has since worked in the occupational health services of the UN system.



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**Dr. John Barkat** presently heads the Office of Mediation for the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and chairs the IMF Mental Health Strategy Task Force, in addition to directing a programme promoting respect in the workplace. Previously, Dr. Barkat served as Assistant Secretary-General heading the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services. While at the UN, Dr. Barkat served as a negotiations advisor and moderator with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the Montreal Protocol to assist with consensus-building between member-states for the reduction of Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). He also serves on the UN Steering Committee for international religious leaders to develop a global strategy and action plan to help reduce incitement to violence caused by religious extremism. Dr. Barkat has taught at Columbia University's International Center for Cooperation and Conflict Resolution and at Pace University in New York, USA, as well as at the University of Granada School of Law, in Granada, Spain, and other universities. He has also had leadership roles in the Association for Conflict Resolution, served as former president of the International Ombudsman Association, and is a fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Dr. Barkat received his PhD from Columbia University in New York, USA. He also holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from Pace University and a Bachelor degree in Psychology from The King's College in New York, USA.



**Moussa Ba**, is the Chief of the Critical Incident Stress Management Unit (CISMU) of the Department of Safety and Security (DSS) since 2005. CISMU is responsible for the UN system wide prevention and management of stress and critical incidents stress. Prior to that he worked at the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) as a Programme Officer in in Western and Central African countries before joining the former Office of the UN Security Coordinator (UNSECOORD) at UNHQ in December 2002 as a Regional Stress Counsellor in charge of the West Africa region and missions of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO). Dr. Ba holds a Medical Doctorate from Cheick Anta Diop University in Dakar, Senegal, a PhD in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences (Certificate of Specialization) from Paris V, Renee Descartes University in Paris, France, and a Master's degree in International Health (Track Epidemiology in Complex Emergency Settings) from Tulane University in New Orleans, USA. He has worked as an Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Cheick Anta Diop University of Dakar and headed the Psychiatry Division at the Fann University Hospital Centre of Dakar for 12 years. He previously served as the Director of the Medical Research Department of the Ministry of Cooperation and Scientific Research in Senegal (1988-1989), and as Principal Advisor of the Ministry of Children, Women, and Family (1990-1994).



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**Dr. Regan Shercliffe** completed his PhD in Clinical Psychology at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver BC, Canada and his predoctoral residency at the University of British Columbia. Before joining the United Nations in 2010, Dr. Shercliffe held an academic position in Canada conducting research in the areas of trauma and refugee adjustment to Canada, as well as teaching undergraduate and graduate classes and supervising several MA and PhD students. Along with his academic work, he had an active clinical caseload specializing in PTSD and trauma. Since 2010 he has worked as a staff counsellor with UNHCR, UNICEF and is currently the Chief of Staff Counselling for The United Nations World Food Programme and is based in Rome. He has travelled to and worked with UN staff in over 30 countries including Syria, Iraq, Myanmar, Afghanistan, Pakistan, China, Egypt and Lebanon.



**Nancy Beaudouin**, is currently the Staff Counsellor of UNAIDS, residing in Geneva. She has previously worked as a Staff Counsellor at International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO). In addition she has experience as a Staff Welfare Officer at United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), a Psychologist, consultant with MSF and private practice, Associate Psychologist at the National Health Service (NHS)-London in Psychiatric Complex Care, Psychologist voluntary post at Freedom From Torture, Clinical Coordinator at North London Rape Crisis, and Staff Counsellor of The Global Fund. Nancy also has a Private practice as coach and psychologist and experience at ICRC Field & HQ; IFRC HQ & Field; American Red Cross HQ & Field; Swiss Red Cross Field. Nancy has completed several Masters degrees. She holds a Masters degree in Science in Health Psychology, specializing in Intercultural psychology from the University Lyon Lumière (2009-2010). She also has a Masters of Science Therapeutic Recreation from the University of North Texas and a Maitrise in Social Psychology & Licence in Clinical Psychology from Paris Descartes Université.



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**Nancy Nyambici Macharia**, presently works at the Learning & Development Group Lead, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Nancy holds a Management Consultant MBA from East London University (formerly Thames Valley University) and UK Executive & Personal Performance Coach and NLP Practitioner from The Coaching Academy UK. She has Dual Nationality from the United Kingdom (UK) and Kenya, and is currently living in Austria. Along with her education, Nancy has previously worked as an HR manager for UNICEF and International Recruiter Team Lead for World Vision International. She is also a strategic Senior Human Resources professional with extensive Management Consulting, Organisational Development (Institutional Capacity Building), Facilitation, Training, Presentation, Change Management and Staff Development experience. Nancy thrives on tackling tough sales and new business challenges – realising innovative and robust solutions that add development to business and budget whilst always striving to push and maintain quality standards. She is current position as a senior international HR manager entails playing an instrumental role within a successful and productive multi-disciplinary team responsible for the quality provision of initiatives linking learning to performance & wellbeing and promoting a respectful workplace within a dynamic, forward thinking UN family agency.



**Karen Abbs**, has worked in the humanitarian and development sectors for over 15 years as a staff wellbeing, safeguarding and MHPSS specialist. She has worked in conflict and post-conflict countries in the Middle East as well as Central and Eastern Africa. Karen's work has included developing and delivering Staff Care Policies, National Mental Health Counsellor Training Frameworks, Staff Wellbeing Training Manuals, large scale MHPSS programmes, and organisational duty of care frameworks, with a focus on wellbeing. She is a specialist in training organisations, leadership and staff on wellbeing and safeguarding, with an emphasis on working in humanitarian and development contexts. Karen has also been a Mental Health Advisor for Médecins Sans Frontières and The Centre for Victims of Torture. She regularly provides technical subject matter support for sector projects and e-learning courses as well as training. She Has an MA in Expressive Arts Therapy and Psychology from the European Graduate School in Switzerland as well as degrees in Art Therapy (Vancouver Art Therapy Institute) and Anthropology (University of British Columbia). She has been a practising therapist for 20 years and is a registered counsellor/psychotherapist/art therapist in the UK where she presently resides. Her clinical expertise includes working with trauma, gender based violence, stress and resilience and post-incident counselling.





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**Dr. Bernhard Lennartz**, is currently the Acting Director of the Division of Healthcare Management and Occupational Safety and Health (DHMOSH) of the United Nations, based at the headquarters in New York. Prior to the current role, he served as Deputy Director in DHMOSH and Senior Medical Officer in the then Medical Services, after working 5 years as Chief Medical Officer in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq. He is a board-certified in Neurology and Emergency Medicine. In his current role, Bernhard has overarching responsibility for the UN's healthcare system with the main areas of healthcare management, patient safety and occupational safety and health.



**Dr Matthias Lademann**, is currently the Medical Director at the Vienna International Centre (VIC) Medical Service and at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, Austria. He has previously worked as a Chief Medical Officer at the UN Health Care Centre, UNECA in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and as a Senior Medical Attending in the Division of Tropical Medicine and Infectious Diseases, Department of Internal Medicine, University Clinic in Rostock, Germany. He has a Doctorate degree in Medicine with a specialty in Internal Medicine, subspecialty in Tropical Medicine and Travel Medicine. In addition to his medical degree, Dr. Lademann has a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Public Health, TMPH and a Certification in Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine.