

Speaker biographies

Substantive informal session: “Follow-up process”

12 December, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m., Trusteeship Council Chamber, United Nations, New York

H. E. Ms. María Castro is the former Minister of Finance for Guatemala. Prior to her appointment, she served as Deputy Minister for Financial Administration under President Molina. Ms. Castro has also worked as a consultant and advisor on Economic matters for the World Bank, UNDP, and IADB. She holds an M.A. in Finance from the University of Chile.

Mr. Amar Bhattacharya is Senior Fellow in Global Economy and Development at Brookings Institution. Prior he has been Director of the G24 Secretariat. Prior to taking up his current position, Mr. Bhattacharya had a long career in the World Bank. His last position was as Senior Advisor and Head of the International Policy and Partnership Group in the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network of the World Bank. In this capacity, he was advisor to the President and Senior Management and focal point for the Bank’s engagement with key international groupings and institutions such as the G7/G8, G20, IMF, OECD and the Commonwealth Secretariat, including on the reform of the international financial architecture.

H. E. Mr. Oscar de Rojas is Director of Global Partnerships and Professor of International and United Nations Studies at Long Island University. Previously, Mr. de Rojas served for ten years as Director of the Financing for Development Office in the UN’s Department of Economic and Social Affairs. He was responsible for the organization and execution of the International Conference on Financing for Development held in Monterrey, Mexico, in 2002, and also served as Executive Secretary of its follow-up conference in Doha, Qatar, in 2008. Before joining the United Nations in 1999, Mr. de Rojas had served for 27 years in the Venezuelan Foreign and Civil Services, attaining the rank of Ambassador, and holding senior-level posts in that country’s diplomatic missions at the UN headquarters, in both New York and Geneva, bilateral postings, as well as in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Caracas.

Mr. Alexander Trepelkov (moderator), Director of the Financing for Development Office (since January 2010) at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA), is responsible for secretariat support to the intergovernmental follow-up process of the 2002 Monterrey Consensus, 2008 Doha Declaration and related outcomes, aimed at promoting policy coherence, coordination and cooperation at all levels in substantive areas of domestic resource mobilization, private capital flows, international trade, official development assistance, external debt and global financial architecture. At present, he coordinates preparations for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held on 13-16 July 2015 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with a view to providing a global financing strategy for sustainable development in the context of post-2015 development agenda. His previous assignments at UN Headquarters were in the areas of Financing for Development (2000-2009) and Macroeconomics and Development Policy (1989-1999).