

*Speaker biographies*

**Substantive informal session: “Learning from partnerships and follow-up process”**

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

*Morning session, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.: ‘Learning from partnerships’*

**The Hon. Mangara Birima** is Deputy Minister of Economy, Finance and Planning of Senegal, in charge of Budget. He holds this position since July 2014, and previously served as Deputy Director of the Cabinet of the President of the Republic, and as General State Inspector at the Presidency of the Republic.

**Dr. Barry Herman** (moderator) is Visiting Senior Fellow at the Graduate Program in International Affairs of The New School in New York. He has been a member since its founding in 2010 of the Advisory Board of Social Justice in Global Development e.V. Also, from its inception in 2005 until end 2011, he was a member of the Board of Directors of Global Integrity, a research NGO based in Washington that works with independent scholars and investigative reporters on assessing laws, institutions and practices to improve governance and limit corruption in developed and developing countries. In addition, from 2004 to 2009 he co-chaired the Task Force on Debt Restructuring and Sovereign Bankruptcy at the Initiative for Policy Dialogue at Columbia University. He completed almost 30 years in the United Nations Secretariat in 2005, the last two years of which were as Senior Advisor in the Financing for Development Office in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA).

**Prof. Jeffrey D. Sachs** is the Director of The Earth Institute, Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, and Professor of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University. He is Special Advisor to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the Millennium Development Goals, having held the same position under former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. He is Director of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network. He is co-founder and Chief Strategist of Millennium Promise Alliance, and is director of the Millennium Villages Project. Sachs is also one of the Secretary-General’s MDG Advocates, and a Commissioner of the ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission for Development. Prior to joining Columbia, Sachs spent over twenty years at Harvard University, most recently as Director of the Center for International Development and the Galen L. Stone Professor of International Trade. A native of Detroit, Michigan, Sachs received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees at Harvard.

**Dr. Naoko Ishii** is the CEO and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), with 182 member nations, the world’s leading international institution dedicated to investing in the stewardship and health of the global environment. Dr. Ishii was unanimously selected by the GEF Council as the organization’s fourth CEO and took office August 1, 2012. Previously

Dr. Ishii served in the Japanese Government as Deputy Vice Minister of Finance. She has worked at the International Monetary Fund and Harvard University's Institute for International Development and was World Bank Country Director for Sri Lanka from 2006 to 2010. Her writings have been awarded the Suntory Prize (1990) and Okita Memorial Prize for International Development Research (2004).

**Dr. Mercy Ahun** is the Special Representative to GAVI-eligible countries. She has more than 20 years of experience working with immunization programs and is well acquainted with developing country health systems. She has worked at all levels of health delivery and brings experience in establishing systems for planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating programs within the wider health system. Dr. Ahun joined the GAVI Alliance Secretariat in May 2003 as director of country programmes. She was formerly in charge of the Expanded Program on Immunization in her native country, Ghana.

**Mr. Nick York** is Director of Country, Corporate and Global Evaluations at World Bank IEG since 2013. He oversees independent evaluations of country programs, of major corporate issues such as working in fragile and conflict states, and of the World Bank Group's partnerships with global and regional programs. Prior to this shift to Washington DC, Mr. York was Chief Professional Officer for evaluation in DFID in the UK. He joined DFID in 2004 working on country program evaluations. His team was responsible for independent evaluation of DFID's major policies and programmes and developing the evaluation function in DFID including support on capacity and quality. In 2006/7 Nick chaired the steering group for the multi-donor evaluation of budget support. He also chaired the DAC evaluation network and helped to set up and lead the network of networks on impact evaluation (NONIE) and to set up 3ie. Nick's background and training in economics includes advising on health systems and quality for 10 years for the UK government and he has also worked as a macroeconomist in the UK.