

***The Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea Region:
Advancing Regional and International Cooperation Towards Comprehensive
Strategies in Support of Sustainable Development***

Organised by the Governments of Japan, Nigeria, Norway and Uzbekistan
in cooperation with the UN Human Security Unit, the United Nations Country Team in
Uzbekistan and the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office

27 November 2018
10:00-12:00, Conference Room 4
United Nations Headquarters, New York

Speaker Biographies



H.E. Ambassador Knut Vollebæk, *Chair of the Advisory Board on Human Security*

Ambassador Knut Vollebæk is the chair of the Advisory Board on Human Security. He served as Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Norway from 1997 to 2000, and chairman of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe in 1999. He was Norway's ambassador to the United States between 2001 and 2007, and Costa Rica from 1991-1993. He is currently a member of the International Commission on Missing Persons Board of Commissioners and has previously held positions with the Council of the Baltic Sea States, the Barents Euro-Arctic Council, and the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia. He was educated at the Norwegian School of Economics, and has also attended the University of Oslo, the University of California, Santa Barbara, the Institut Catholique de Paris and the Universidad Complutense of Madrid.



Professor Michael Edelstein, *Director of the Institute of Environmental Studies, Ramapo College*

Professor Michael Edelstein is the Director of the Institute of Environmental Studies at Ramapo College, New Jersey, where he has taught for 37 years. He regularly teaches courses on Sustainable Communities, Environmental Assessment, Environmental Psychology and World Sustainability. Dr. Edelstein is a recognized expert in toxic tort litigation and environmental administrative hearings. He has traveled extensively to study sustainability issues, particularly in the former Soviet Union. Projects currently under application for funding involve studies of the impacts of the Central Asian Aral Sea disaster and of cultural adaptation of Swedish Saami to the Chernobyl disaster as a model for future climate adaptations.



Ms. Helena Fraser, *UN Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan*

Ms. Helena Fraser is the UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative for the Republic of Uzbekistan. Prior to this appointment, she served twenty years with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). From 2014-2017, she headed OCHA's Amman-based Regional Office for the Syria Crisis, prior to which she established and led OCHA's Partnerships & Resource Mobilization Branch in Geneva (2012-2014). From 2008-2012, Ms. Fraser was Chief of OCHA's Donor Relations Section and from 2002-2008 she served in a variety of positions with OCHA in Geneva and New York. She holds a Master's degree in International Relations from Oxford University in the UK and a Bachelor's degree in History and Russian Language and Literature, also from Oxford University.



H.E. Tijjani Muhammad Bande, *Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations*

Ambassador Bande has served as the Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations since March 2017. Ambassador Bande was, from January 2000 to February 2004, the Director-General of the Centre African de Formation et de Recherche Administrative pour le Development (CAFRAD) in Tangier, Morocco, Africa's premier institution with responsibility for training and research in public administration and management. He was the Vice-Chancellor of Usman Danfodiyo University, Sokoto, between 2004 and 2009 and served as Acting Director General of the National Institute from 2010 till March 2016. He holds M.A in Political Science from Boston University and a PhD in Political Science from the University of Toronto.



H.E. Dr. Toshiya Hoshino, *Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations*

Dr. Toshiya Hoshino is a Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, a position he has held since August 2017. Previously, he was an Adjunct Professor at Kyung Hee University, Republic of Korea, the Vice President of Osaka University, and the Dean of Osaka School of International Public Policy (2011-2014). He was Vice President of the EU Institute Japan (2009-2011), and Minister Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (2006-2008). He began his career as a Special Assistant at the Embassy of Japan to the United States, in Washington DC, in 1988. Dr. Hoshino holds a master's degree in international relations from the University of Tokyo, a PhD in international relations from the University of Tokyo and a PhD in international public policy from Osaka University.



Ms. Henriette Keijzers, *Deputy Executive Coordinator of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, UNDP*

Ms. Henriette Keijzers is the Deputy Executive Coordinator of the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), a UN center of expertise on pooled financing mechanisms hosted by the UNDP. Before joining the MPTF Office in 2009, Ms. Keijzers held the position of Deputy Executive Secretary/Executive Secretary *ad interim* of the United Nations Capital Development Fund, a UN fund that focuses on investing in the Least Developed Countries. Ms. Keijzers started her career with UNDP in West-Africa in 1989 and worked over a period of fourteen year in different UNDP field offices in Africa. Ms. Keijzers holds a master's degree in International and Development Economics from Tilburg University in The Netherlands.