

# Panel discussion

**Moderator**



**Mr. Vincent Jean Martin**  
*Director of the  
Office of Innovation, FAO*



**H.E. Ms. Agnes Mary Chimbiri-Molande**  
*Permanent Representative of Malawi  
to the United Nations*



**Mr. Deodat Maharaj**  
*Managing Director of the  
Technology Bank for LDCs*



**Mr. Vincent Jean Martin**  
*Director of the  
Office of Innovation, FAO*

Dr. Vincent Martin is the Director of the FAO Office of Innovation, where he is charged with leading the organization's innovation agenda as part of the Science and Innovation strategy.

Vincent Martin is a doctor in Veterinary Medicine and brings 28 years of experience in science, research, and policy as they relate to issues surrounding agrifood systems.

He has held positions in the United Nations as Resident Coordinator in the Republic of Guinea, as FAO Representative to China and DPR Korea, and to Senegal, where he also headed the FAO Regional Hub for emergency and humanitarian interventions in the Sahel and West Africa.

He also served in the FAO Animal Production and Health Division in Rome.



**H.E. Ms. Agnes Mary  
Chimbiri-Molande**

*Permanent Representative  
of Malawi to  
the United Nations*

Her Excellency Dr. Agnes Mary Chimbiri-Molande is the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Malawi to the United Nations (U.N.) in New York, United States of America (U.S.A.). She was appointed the Permanent Representative in June 2021 by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Malawi, Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera.

Prior to her appointment, Ms. Chimbiri-Molande served as Portfolio Manager for Governance with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Lilongwe, Malawi, a post she held since 2015.

Having spent much of her career at the intersection of policy, health and community engagement, Ms. Chimbiri-Molande also served as UNDP's Assistant Resident Representative in Lilongwe, responsible for Millennium Development Goals Achievement, from 2008 to 2015. From 2003 to 2007, she was Director of the Centre for Reproductive Health at the Malawi College of Medicine, where she wrote Government policy papers, worked with institutional donors and taught courses in population and development, as well as sexual and reproductive health.

Ms. Chimbiri-Molande also served as Community and Non-Governmental Organization Liaison Officer at the World Bank, from 1996 to 1997, and as Head of the Research and Planning Unit within Malawi's Ministry of Information, from 1989 to 1995.

She holds a Doctor of Philosophy in social demography from Waikato University in New Zealand, a master's degree in international affairs from the University of Ohio in the United States and a bachelor's degree in education from Chancellor College in Zomba, Malawi.



**Mr. Deodat Maharaj**  
*Managing Director of the  
Technology Bank for LDCs*

Mr. Deodat Maharaj of Trinidad and Tobago was appointed as the Managing Director of the United Nations Technology Bank for LDCs a few weeks ago.

Mr. Maharaj has 25 years of international leadership experience.

Prior to this appointment, he served as the Executive Director at the Caribbean Export Development Agency in Barbados. He also served as Deputy Secretary General, Economic and Social Development at the Commonwealth (2014-2017) and held multiple senior positions at UNDP (1992- 2017).