

BIOGRAPHIES

SOCIAL PROTECTION'S ROLE IN ENHANCING FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION FOR GREATER RESILIENCE IN AFRICA

Wednesday, 18 May 2022 (9:00 am – 10:30 am EST)

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



H.E. MS. AMINA J. MOHAMMED

United Nations Deputy Secretary-General

H.E. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed is the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group. Prior to her appointment, Ms. Mohammed served as Minister of Environment of the Federal Republic of Nigeria where she steered the country's efforts on climate action and efforts to protect the natural environment. Ms. Mohammed first joined the United Nations in 2012 as Special Adviser to former Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon with the responsibility for post-2015 development planning. She led the process that resulted in global agreement around the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the creation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Ms. Mohammed began her career working on the design of schools and clinics in Nigeria. She served as an advocate focused on increasing access to education and other social services, before moving into the public sector, where she rose to the position of adviser to four successive Presidents on poverty, public sector reform, and sustainable development. Ms. Mohammed has been conferred several honorary doctorates and has served as an adjunct professor, lecturing on international development. The recipient of various global awards, Ms. Mohammed has served on numerous international advisory boards and panels. She is the mother of six children and has two grandchildren.



MR. DAVID M. BEASLEY

Executive Director, World Food Programme (WFP)

As Executive Director of the World Food Programme, David Beasley continues his life's work bridging political, religious and ethnic boundaries to champion economic development and education. At WFP, Mr. Beasley is putting to use four decades of leadership and communications skills to mobilise more financial support and public awareness for the global fight against hunger. These efforts were recognised when the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded WFP the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize.

The fight against hunger is even more critical now, with rates steadily rising because of persistent conflict, the impact of climate change and, most recently, the COVID-19 pandemic. Under Mr. Beasley's leadership, WFP has mobilised the resources required to respond to an ever-expanding caseload of people requiring food assistance. In 2021, the agency reached over 128 million people – the highest annual total in its history. Mr. Beasley is also driving greater focus and attention to WFP's work beyond emergency food assistance, highlighting how longer-term development can help bring peace and stability to troubled regions.

Before coming to WFP in April 2017, Mr. Beasley spent a decade working with high profile leaders and on-the-ground programme managers in more than 100 countries, directing projects designed to foster peace, reconciliation and economic

progress. He travelled to as many as 30 countries a year, organizing, leading or participating in conferences and missions in Kosovo, South Sudan, Sudan, Tunisia and Yemen, among others. His work has allowed him to develop deep relationships with leaders around the world.

As Governor of the U.S. state of South Carolina from 1995 to 1999, Mr. Beasley guided the state during years of economic transformation, helping to reshape the state's economy into a healthy, diverse and robust market. The work led to one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country, with a dramatic increase in private sector capital investment. Mr. Beasley was the first Governor in South Carolina to make a public push for the removal of the Confederate battle flag from the state capitol dome, a move that earned him the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award.

Mr. Beasley attended Clemson University and the University of South Carolina where he received his Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree. He has also taught at the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government. He was first elected to public office at the age of 21 as a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives. He is married to the former Mary Wood Payne and is the father of four children.



MR. GUY RYDER

Director-General, International Labour Organization (ILO)

Born in Liverpool (UK) in 1956, Guy Ryder studied Social and Political Sciences at the University of Cambridge and Latin American Studies at the University of Liverpool. He speaks French and Spanish as well as his mother tongue, English. He started his professional career in 1981 as assistant at the International Department of the Trade Union Congress in London.

From 1985, he held the position of Secretary of the Industry Trade Section of the International Federation of Commercial, Clerical, Professional and Technical Employees (FIET) in Geneva.

In 1988, Guy Ryder became Assistant Director and – from 1993 - Director of the Geneva office of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU). Guy Ryder first joined the International Labour Organization in 1998 as Director of the Bureau for Workers' Activities and, from 1999, as Director of the Office of the Director-General. It was during this time that the ILO's Decent Work Agenda was launched and won support from the international community.

In 2002, he was appointed General Secretary of the ICFTU, leading the process of global unification of the democratic international trade union movement. He was elected as first General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) when it was created in 2006. He headed international trade union delegations to high level talks with the UN, IMF, World Bank and WTO and to the G20 Leaders' Summits.

In September 2010, Guy Ryder came back to the ILO in Geneva as Executive Director, responsible for international labour standards and fundamental principles and rights at work. Among other activities, he supervised the application of ILO Conventions and Recommendations. He also headed several high-level ILO missions to address a range of issues related to labour standards in countries such as Bahrain, Colombia, Fiji, Georgia, Greece, Myanmar and Swaziland.

Guy Ryder was elected as ILO Director-General by the ILO's Governing Body in May 2012 and took office on 1 October 2012. On taking office, he pledged to position the

Organization as a determined actor translating principle into action and ensuring that it had the capacity to make a major difference to the working lives of people on all of the continents. To support this he launched a major reform process geared to assuring the ILO's authority on matters falling within its mandate.

Guy Ryder was re-elected as ILO Director-General by the ILO's Governing Body on 7 November 2016 with overwhelming support across the ILO's tripartite constituency. His second term started on 1 October 2017.



MR. MOUSSA OUMAROU

Deputy Director-General for Field Operations & Partnerships, International Labour Organization (ILO)

Mr. Oumarou completed his secondary studies in his home country, Niger, and from 1978 undertook advanced studies in France. He holds diplomas from the Institut Universitaire de Technologie de Béthune, the Ecole Normale Nationale de Lyon and the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan from which he graduated as Inspector of Technical Studies and Vocational Training.

Before joining the ILO, Mr Oumarou occupied many positions in teaching and in public administration which led him to occupy several positions of responsibility such as that of Inspector in Technical Studies and Vocational Training and Secretary-General of the Ministry of National Education. Following this, he was appointed Minister of Public Services, Labour, Employment and Social Security from 1997 to 1999. In these various positions of responsibility, he was, in particular, a member of the Inter-Ministerial Committee responsible for negotiating with the International Financial Institutions (IFI) in the context of economic and social reforms, and President of several committees instructed to negotiate on behalf of the Government with the social partners. It is during this period that he had the texts adopted for the establishment of a National Commission of Social Dialogue (one of the first in Africa). He also proceeded to the revision of the General Statutes of Public Service and implementing supplementary regulations of law on the Labour Code.

After leaving the Government in Niger, Mr Oumarou started working for the ILO, first as a consultant for social dialogue, then as coordinator of a national project for the promotion of the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. He then became Chief Technical Advisor of the Regional Programme for the Promotion of Social Dialogue in French-speaking Africa. In 2006, he joined the ILO headquarters where he served as Senior Labour Administration and Labour Inspection Specialist.

In 2011 he was appointed Director of the Industrial and Employment Relations Department and, during this period, also assumed the duties of the Executive Director of the Social Dialogue Sector.

He became the Director of the Governance and Tripartism Department in 2013 and subsequently Deputy Director-General for Field Operations and Partnerships on 1 January 2018.

He has authored several publications on social dialogue and labour administration. His career earned him the decoration of Chevalier des Palmes Académiques (Academic Order) and Chevalier de L'Ordre National de Niger (National Order of Niger).



MS. CRISTINA DUARTE

United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa

Ms. Cristina Duarte is the United Nations Special Adviser on Africa and Under-Secretary-General of OSAA since 1 August 2020. She is the strategic adviser to the Secretary-General on African Affairs, the focal point in UNHQ for relations with the AUDA-NEPAD as well as the African Group with regard to Africa's development. As the head of OSAA, she supports the Secretary-General in promoting coherence in the UN system's engagement in Africa and chairs the Inter-Departmental Task Force on African Affairs (IDTFAA), and advocates and mobilizes the United Nations, its Member States and other key stakeholders around Africa's transformative vision articulated in the 2030 and 2063 Agendas.

Prior to joining the UN, Ms. Duarte served as Cape Verde's Minister of Finance and Planning for 10 years. She has also served as Director of a World Bank reform program and Vice President of Citibank giving her a valuable exposure on the functioning of international finance systems. When Mrs. Duarte left Government in 2016, she was invited to governance and advisory positions in various international and regional organizations; namely, Member of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration, Member of the United Nations High-Level Advisory Board on Economic and Social Affairs, a Member of President Paul Kagame's Advisory Committee on African Union Reforms, a Member of the Board of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) and a Member of the Board of the Institute of African Leadership for Sustainable Development (UONGOZI Institute). Mrs. Duarte is committed to public service.

PANELISTS



HON. NIVINE EL-QABBAGE

Minister of Social Solidarity, Egypt

Nivine has more than 25 years of experience in the field of international cooperation, strategic management and institutional development. She also had considerable experience in social policies and in evaluation. Her graduate studies in international political economy and international relations in Canada complemented her practical experience in international organizations and in managing development cooperation agreements.

Working as a Deputy for Minister of Social Solidarity in social protection and development broadened her policy scope on working for poverty alleviation, economic empowerment equity, as well as disability. Nivine is currently managing the secretariat of the Ministerial Committee for Social Justice led by the Prime Minister. Ten years working for UNICEF enhanced her international experience on development framework and specifically on women and children issues. Before joining UNICEF, Nivine was the Deputy Director for America's Development Foundation in Egypt and in National Council for Negro Women, which strengthened her skills in Advocacy, Governance and Sound Management. She was also a Policy, Planning and Monitoring Advisor for the General Secretary of the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood and for the National Council for population. Nivine is the founder and was the chairperson of the first Egyptian Research and Evaluation Network (EREN) in Egypt.

Nivine has been nominated as the Minister of Social Solidarity in December 2019. She has already started launching the strategy for the Ministry focusing on strengthening Governance practices, enhancing grievance redress mechanism and

emphasizing citizens' satisfaction, leading a mega reform on social care institutions, promoting the rights of people with disabilities and elderly, optimizing the resources of the ministry towards economic empowerment and income generation opportunities, expanding collaboration with civil society and private sector, and mobilizing volunteerism for the sake of social causes.



H.E. ALI BETY

High Commissioner, 'Nigériens Nourishing Nigériens' (3N) Initiative, Niger

Mr. Ali Bety is leading the High Commission for the 3N Initiative (HC3N), an Institution under the Niger Republic President's Office, in charge of piloting the National Food and Nutrition Security, and Sustainable Agriculture Strategy also called the 3N Initiative "les Nigériens Nourissent les Nigériens ". The HC3N's mandate is to lead multisector governance and dialogue, reforms, coordination and resources mobilization. It works closely with Government institutions and Ministries, farmers organizations, the private sector, donors and technical agencies including United Nations' Agencies.

The High Commissioner for the 3N Initiative is also in charge of leading Niger's Nutrition Policy and is the Vice-President of the National HDP Nexus Committee. In 2021 the High Commissioner has been appointed National Convenor of the Food Systems Dialogues and has thus been piloting an inclusive dialogue process to determine pathways to food systems transformation in Niger by 2030, feeding the 2021 World Food Summit, and to be carried out through the 2021-2026 3N Initiative Action Plan. He represents Niger in a wide range of regional and international Forums (COPs, Nutrition Summits, Global and Regional Networks for Food Crises Prevention, World Bank's Spring Meetings etc.).

Prior to his appointment by the President of the Republic of Niger, Mr. Ali Bety had been working for almost 13 years with AFD, the French Development Agency as "Rural, Environment and Regional Development Projects Sector Expert" where he had successfully conducted a portfolio of numerous projects related to food security, nutrition, agriculture, integrated water resource management, rural development and natural resources management. He has also worked with major national and international NGOs based in Niger managing projects from donors such as GIZ, the EU, USAID, the WB, NORAD, DANIDA, AFD.

Mr. Ali Bety started his carrier within the Ministry of Agriculture, as a field agent at district level, then as a coordinator of various major donor funded rural development programmes supervised by the Ministry.

He holds a master's degree in Agricultural Policy and Development Administration - Rural Development and Projects from the Institut Agronomique Méditerranéen de Montpellier (IAM-M) in France, and a Degree in Agronomy (Agricultural engineer) from the Ecole Nationale d'Agriculture de Meknès (ENA) in Morocco.



DR. JIMI O. ADESINA

Professor and South African Research Chair in Social Policy, University of South Africa

Dr. Jimi Adesina is Professor and the South African Research Chair in Social Policy at the University of South Africa. He taught at the University of Ibadan (Nigeria), he was a Professor of Sociology at Rhodes University and University of the Western Cape. He has held visiting appointments at several institutions including the University of Oxford (UK), Nordic African Institute (Sweden), and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (Geneva, Switzerland). His areas of research interests include Sociology, Social Policy, and the Political Economy of Africa's Development. He has published extensively in these areas.



MR. JOEL AKHATOR ODIGIE

Deputy General Secretary, African Regional Organisation of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC-Africa)

Mr. Odigie is an activist and trade unionist with over 2 decades of organising experience. He is from Nigeria and the Deputy General Secretary of the African Regional Organisation of the International Trade Union Confederation.

Mr. Odigie has a Master degree in Labour and Globalisation from the Berlin School of Economics and Law.

He has recently co-authored a study on African Labour Migration to the GCC States that looks at how labour migration governance and the human and labour rights of African migrants can be better improved and protected.



MR. DOUGLAS OPIO

Executive Director, Federation of Uganda Employers (FUE)

Mr. Douglas Opio is the Executive Director of Federation of Uganda Employers, Uganda's leading Employers Organization recognized by Government of Uganda as well as the International Labor Organization (ILO).

He is an experienced Labour and Employment Expert with a demonstrated history of working with local and international Employers. Skilled in business strategy, industrial relations, Nonprofit Organizations, Sustainable Development, EAC regional integration, training, public speaking and resource mobilization.

Mr. Douglas Opio has also worked in different positions and these include: Lecturer at Kyambogo University, Board Chairman for Rural Research and Development Innovations (RREADI), Member for Industrial Training Council, Head Policy and Research at Federation of Uganda Employers (FUE), Policy and Research Coordinator at East African Employers Organization, Teacher at Amuca SDA Secondary School. He graduated with a master's degree in International Business (MBA) from Amity University India, A Bachelor's degree in Developmental Studies from Makerere University, A diploma in private sector growth, private sector development from SIDA-International Training Programme and with a Diploma in Education Secondary from Kyambogo University

MODERATOR



MS. ELIZABETH NYAMAYARO

Humanitarian & Gender Expert, Special Advisor, World Food Programme (WFP)

Elizabeth Nyamayaro is an award-winning humanitarian and Special Advisor for United Nations World Food Programme. Born in Zimbabwe, Elizabeth has worked at the forefront of global development for over two decades improving the lives of underserved populations and has held leadership roles at the World Bank, World Health Organization, UNAIDS, and UN Women. Elizabeth is a Political Scientist by training and holds a MSc in Politics from the London School of Economics and Political Science and leadership education from the Harvard Business School. *I Am a Girl from Africa* is her first book.