



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2 December 2020

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the Special Session of the General Assembly in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, to be held on 3 and 4 December 2020, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at United Nations Headquarters in New York, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 75/4 and circulate herewith:

- Final program of the Special Session;
- Revised list of speakers for the general debate; and
- Biographies of the panelists and moderators for the interactive dialogue, to be held on 4 December 2020, in the General Assembly Hall.

In order to ensure the smooth conduct of proceedings of the special session, I will proceed with general debate immediately after the opening segment. Given the number of delegations inscribed on the list of speakers for the general debate, I propose to continue the general debate on Friday, 4 December from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the General Assembly Hall, following the conclusion of the interactive dialogue. Please note that the agenda Item 1 titled “Report of the Credentials Committee” will be considered after the conclusion of the general debate and before the closing segment.

Consistent with the Operative Paragraph 3 (c) of General Assembly resolution 75/4, I have invited following representatives from relevant organizations, time permitting, to participate in the general debate:

- Mr. Vladimir Cuk, Executive Director, International Disability Alliance
- Ms. Mercedes Mayol Lassalle, President, World Organization for Early Childhood Education
- Mr. Mohamed Boudra, President of United Cities and Local Governments
- Ms. Marianne Haslegrave, Director of Commonwealth Medical Trust (COMMAT)
- Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow of the Center for Policy Dialogue
- Ms Harmala Gupta, Board Member of International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care, Inc.

All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York

With regards to the Question and Answer session of the interactive dialogue, please note that only those Member States who have previously registered to pose a question will be given the floor to ask questions. In line with resolution 75/4, I have also invited Permanent Observers and other stakeholders to submit questions in writing ahead of the meeting, which may be drawn upon by the moderator, time permitting.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to Member States for their support in convening the Special Session in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Volkan BOZKIR

**Special Session of the General Assembly in response to the Coronavirus  
disease (COVID-19) Pandemic**

**3-4 December 2020**

**United Nations Headquarters, New York**

**Program**

**3 December 2020**

**9:00 – 10:00 Opening Segment**

Statements by:

- **H.E. Mr. Volkan Bozkir**, President of the General Assembly
- **H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres**, Secretary-General of the United Nations
- **H.E. Mr. Munir Akram**, President of the Economic and Social Council
- **H.E. Mr. Jerry Matthews Matjila**, President of the Security Council for the month of December 2020
- **H.E. Ilham Heydar oglu Aliyev**, Chair of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries

**10:00 – 21:00 General Debate<sup>1</sup>**

---

<sup>1</sup> In accordance with A/RES/75/4, statements during the general debate are to be delivered by Heads of State or Government, head of delegation or other dignitary of Member and Observer States, the European Union, and, time permitting, a limited number of representatives from relevant organizations attending the special session, in line with subparagraphs (d) and (e) of A/RES/75/4. Pre-recorded video statements will be played in the General Assembly Hall after introduction by the representative who is physically present in the Hall. The time limit for each statement is five minutes for individual delegations and seven minutes for each statement made on behalf of a group of States. Introductory remarks and length of the video itself shall be counted in the allocated time limit.

## Program 4 December 2020

- 9:00 – 9:10 Opening by the President of the General Assembly
- 9:15 – 9:20 Statement by the Deputy Secretary-General
- 9:25 – 9:40 Presentation by the Director-General of the World Health Organization
- 9:45 – 18:00 Interactive Dialogue<sup>2</sup>**
- 9:45 – 12:15 Panel I: The UN System Response to COVID-19**
- Moderator: [Melissa Fleming](#), Under-Secretary-General for Global Communication – *in person*
  - Panelists:
    - [Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus](#), Director-General, World Health Organization / [Dr. Michael Ryan](#), Executive Director, WHO Health Emergencies Programme – *virtual*
    - [Mr. Mark Lowcock](#), Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator – *in person*
    - [Ms. Michelle Bachelet Jeria](#), United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights – *virtual*
    - [Mr. Achim Steiner](#), Administrator, United Nations Development Programme – *in-person*
    - [Mr. Filippo Grandi](#), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees – *virtual*
    - [Mr. David Muldrow Beasley](#), Executive Director, World Food Programme – *virtual*
    - [Ms. Inger Ashing](#), Chief Executive Officer Save the Children International – *virtual*
    - [Dr. Asha Mohammed](#), Secretary-General, Kenya Red Cross Society (representing IFRC and ICRC) – *virtual*
  - Member States registered to ask a question: Barbados (on behalf of CARICOM), Ecuador, Morocco, South Africa, Turkey, United States

---

<sup>2</sup> The interactive dialogue is being organized in a hybrid format, with in-person participation, live-virtual engagement, and pre-recorded content.

*This discussion will take stock of the UN system's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will examine comprehensive and coordinated responses of UN entities and partners, focusing on the most vulnerable people and those disproportionately impacted in different operational contexts, including those in low-resource settings, conflict situations, and displaced communities. The role of, and impact on, women and girls will be a focus, particularly women as front-line responders. The discussion will outline what has worked well, identify operational and policy gaps as well as lessons learned. It will highlight actions required for the continued immediate humanitarian and health response, protection of human rights, and the launch of urgent economic recovery and social protection measures.*

**12:45 – 15:15 Panel II: The Road to a COVID-19 Vaccine – a Global Public Good**

- Moderator: [Lyse Doucet](#), BBC Presenter and Chief International Correspondent – *virtual*
- Panelists – Part I: The Science (12:45 – 14:00)
  - [Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus](#), Director-General, World Health Organization / [Dr. Soumya Swaminathan](#), WHO Executive Director and Chief Scientist – *virtual*
  - [Prof. Uğur Şahin](#), Chief Executive Officer, BioNTech – *virtual*
  - [Dr. Özlem Türeci](#), Chief Medical Officer, BioNTech – *virtual*
  - [Prof. Sarah Gilbert](#), Oxford University – *virtual*
- Panelists – Part II: Vaccines for All (14:00 – 15:15)
  - [Dr. Seth Berkley](#), Chief Executive Officer, GAVI – *virtual*
  - [Ms. Henrietta H. Fore](#), Executive Director, United Nations Children's Fund – *virtual*
  - [Dr. Richard Hatchett](#), Chief Executive Officer, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) – *virtual*
  - **Sir Andrew Witty**, WHO Special Envoy for ACT-Accelerator – *virtual*
- Member States registered to ask a question: Algeria, Barbados (on behalf of CARICOM), Cameroon, Dominican Republic, Singapore, Sweden (on behalf of a group of Member States), United Kingdom

*Significant progress has been made in developing new tools and strategies in the fight against COVID-19, including vaccines, as the result of unprecedented international collaboration, much-needed investments, and world-class scientific efforts in research and development. The world is at a critical acceleration point in the vaccine development and deployment timeline, poised to turn the corner into the vaccine era of the COVID-19*

*pandemic. The objective of this dedicated discussion on a COVID-19 vaccine is to breakdown the process of vaccine development and address the ‘infodemic’ around it in publicly digestible terms. How many vaccines are currently being tested and at which stages in the process is each one? How will vaccines be produced and distributed? How is the multilateral system working with governments and private sector partners to ensure the equitable distribution of, and access to, a COVID-19 vaccine as a global public good? How are the financial resources required to ensure equitable access to COVID-19 tools, including a vaccine, being mobilized? What other testing and treatments need to be readily accessible, pending the universal access to vaccines?*

**15:45 – 18:00 Panel III: Resilience and Recovering Better from COVID-19**

- Moderator: [Femi Oke](#), International Journalist – *virtual*
- Panelists:
  - [Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus](#), Director General, World Health Organization / [Dr. Zsuzsanna Jakab](#), Deputy Director General, World Health Organization – *virtual*
  - [Dr. Natalia Kanem](#), Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund – *virtual*
  - [Ms. Mari Pangestu](#), Managing Director, Development Policy and Partnerships, World Bank – *virtual*
  - [Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka](#), Executive Director, UN Women – *virtual*
  - [Mr. Guy Ryder](#), Director-General, International Labor Organization – *virtual*
  - [Mr. Robert Piper](#), Assistant Secretary-General, UN Development Coordination – *virtual*
  - [Mr. Pavan Sukhdev](#), President, WWF International / UNEP Goodwill Ambassador – *virtual*
- Member States/Observers registered to ask a question: Barbados (on behalf of CARICOM), Canada (on behalf of a group of Member States), China, European Union (on behalf of a group of Member States), Russia, Sierra Leone, Tanzania

*This discussion will examine the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and consider the path toward a resilient recovery, including the requisite preparedness for future threats. There will be a focus on trade and finance, including inclusive stimulus and recovery packages, addressing debt crises ensuing from the pandemic, mobilizing investment that support sustainable solutions and the implementation of the 2030*

*Agenda for Sustainable Development. The discussion will highlight opportunities for accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals through recovery plans and policies that favor inclusion, sustainability and resilience—such as expanding universal protection; promoting green jobs; making; and increasing digital connectivity.*

\*\*\*

***The Special Session will conclude with the Closing Segment.***

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>1. His Excellency Filipe Jacinto NYUSI</b> <b>President of the Republic of Mozambique</b> <b>(on behalf of the Southern African Development Community)</b>
<b>2. His Excellency Charles MICHEL</b> <b>President of the European Council of the European Union</b>
<b>3. His Excellency Lazarus McCarthy CHAKWERA</b> <b>President of the Republic of Malawi</b> <b>(on behalf of the Least Developed Countries)</b>
<b>4. His Excellency Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN</b> <b>President of the Republic of Turkey</b>
<b>5. Her Excellency Simonetta SOMMARUGA</b> <b>President of the Swiss Confederation</b>
<b>6. His Excellency Juan Orlando HERNÁNDEZ ALVARADO</b> <b>President of the Republic of Honduras</b>
<b>7. His Excellency İlham Heydar oğlu ALİYEV</b> <b>President of the Republic of Azerbaijan</b>
<b>8. His Excellency Kais SAIED</b> <b>President of the Republic of Tunisia</b>
<b>9. His Excellency Miguel Díaz-Canel BERMÚDEZ</b> <b>President of the Republic of Cuba</b>
<b>10. His Excellency Francisco Rafael SAGASTI HOCHHAUSLER</b> <b>President of the Republic of Peru</b>



## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>11. His Excellency Luis Alberto ARCE CATACORA</b> <b>Constituional President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia</b>
<b>12. His Excellency Lenin MORENO GARCÉS</b> <b>Constitutional President of the Republic of Ecuador</b>
<b>13. His Excellency Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe MASISI</b> <b>President of the Republic of Botswana</b>
<b>14. His Serene Highness Prince ALBERT Two of Monaco</b> <b>Sovereign Prince of Monaco</b>
<b>15. His Excellency Barham SALIH</b> <b>President of the Republic of Iraq</b>
<b>16. His Excellency David KABUA</b> <b>President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands</b>
<b>17. His Excellency Uhuru KENYATTA</b> <b>President and Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces of the Republic of Kenya</b>
<b>18. His Excellency Milorad DODIK</b> <b>Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>
<b>19. His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves LOURENÇO</b> <b>President of the Republic of Angola</b>
<b>20. His Excellency Milo ĐUKANOVIĆ</b> <b>President of Montenegro</b>

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>21. His Excellency Mohammad Ashraf GHANI President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan</b>
<b>22. His Excellency Felix Antonine TSHILOMBO TSHISEKEDI President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo</b>
<b>23. His Excellency Mohamed Irfaan ALI President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana</b>
<b>24. His Excellency Emmerson Dambudzo MNANGAGWA President of the Republic of Zimbabwe</b>
<b>25. His Excellency Matamela Cyril RAMAPHOSA President of the Republic of South Africa</b>
<b>26. His Excellency Chandrikapersad SANTOKHI President of the Republic of Suriname</b>
<b>27. His Excellency Iván DUQUE MÁRQUEZ President of the Republic of Colombia</b>
<b>28. His Excellency Ismaël Omar GUELLEH President and Head of Government of the Republic of Djibouti</b>
<b>29. His Excellency Stevo PENDAROVSKI President of the Republic of North Macedonia</b>
<b>30. His Excellency Egils LEVITS President of the Republic of Latvia</b>

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>31. Her Excellency Kersti KALJULAI</b> <b>President of the Republic of Estonia</b>
<b>32. His Excellency Mohamed Ould Cheikh EL GHAZOUANI</b> <b>President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania</b>
<b>33. His Excellency Aleksandar VUČIĆ</b> <b>President of the Republic of Serbia</b>
<b>34. His Excellency Emmanuel MACRON</b> <b>President of the French Republic</b>
<b>35. His Excellency Nicolás MADURO MOROS</b> <b>President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela</b>
<b>36. His Excellency Rodrigo Roa DUTERTE</b> <b>President of the Republic of the Philippines</b>
<b>37. His Excellency Lionel Rouwen AINGIMEA</b> <b>President of the Republic of Nauru</b>
<b>38. Her Excellency Raquel PEÑA</b> <b>Vice-President of the Dominican Republic</b>
<b>39. His Excellency Xavier BETTEL</b> <b>Prime Minister, Minister of State, Minister for Communications and Media and Minister for Religious Affairs of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (on behalf of the Group of Friends on Children and Sustainable Development Goals)</b>

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>40. His Excellency Kausea NATANO</b> <b>Prime Minister of Tuvalu</b> <b>(on behalf of the Pacific Islands Forum)</b>
<b>41. His Excellency John BRICEÑO</b> <b>Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, Economic Development</b> <b>and Investment of Belize</b> <b>(on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States)</b>
<b>42. His Excellency Justin TRUDEAU</b> <b>Prime Minister of Canada</b>
<b>43. His Excellency Giuseppe Conte</b> <b>President of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Italy</b>
<b>44. His Excellency CHUNG Sye-kyun</b> <b>Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea</b>
<b>45. His Excellency XAVIER ESPOT ZAMORA</b> <b>Head of Government of the Principality of Andorra</b>
<b>46. His Excellency Andrej PLENKOVIĆ</b> <b>Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia</b>
<b>47. His Excellency Sharma OLI</b> <b>Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal</b>
<b>48. Her Excellency Katrin JAKOBSDOTTIR</b> <b>Prime Minister of the Republic of Iceland</b>

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>49. Her Excellency Jacinda ARDERN Prime Minister and Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage, and National Security and Intelligence of New Zealand</b>
<b>50. His Excellency Prayut CHAN-O-CHA Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand</b>
<b>51. His Excellency Imran KHAN Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan</b>
<b>52. Her Excellency Erna SOLBERG Prime Minister of Norway</b>
<b>53. Her Excellency Sheikh HASINA Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh</b>
<b>54. His Excellency Alexander DE CROO Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Belgium</b>
<b>55. His Excellency Allen Michael CHASTANET Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Economic Growth, Job Creation, External Affairs and the Public Service of Saint Lucia</b>
<b>56. His Excellency Pravind Kumar JUGNAUTH Prime Minister, Minister for Home Affairs, External Communications and National Development Unit, Minister for Finance and Economic Development of the Republic of Mauritius</b>
<b>57. His Excellency José Ulisses Correia e SILVA Prime Minister and Minister of Reform of the Republic of Cabo Verde</b>

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>58. Her Excellency Mette FREDERIKSEN Prime Minister of Denmark</b>
<b>59. Her Excellency Sanna MARIN Prime Minister of the Republic of Finland</b>
<b>60. Her Excellency Angela MERKEL Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany</b>
<b>61. His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia</b>
<b>62. His Excellency Taur Matan RUAK Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste</b>
<b>63. His Excellency NGUYEN XUAN PHUC Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam</b>
<b>64. His Excellency Stefan LÖFVEN Prime Minister of Sweden</b>
<b>65. His Excellency Thongloun SISOULITH Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic</b>
<b>66. His Excellency Pedro SANCHEZ PEREZ-CASTEJON President of the Government of Spain</b>
<b>67. His Excellency SUGA Yoshihide Prime Minister of Japan</b>
<b>68. His Highness Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad AL-SABAH Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait</b>

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>69. His Excellency Keith ROWLEY</b> <b>Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago</b>
<b>70. His Excellency Ion CHICU</b> <b>Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova</b>
<b>71. His Excellency Hassan DIAB</b> <b>President of the Council of Ministers of the Lebanese Republic</b>
<b>72. His Excellency Ralph GONSALVES</b> <b>Prime Minister, Minister for Finance, the Public Service, National Security, Legal Affairs and Grenadines Affairs of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines</b>
<b>73. His Excellency Josaia Voreque BAINIMARAMA</b> <b>Prime Minister and Minister for iTaukei Affairs, Sugar Industry, and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Fiji</b>
<b>74. His Excellency Edi RAMA</b> <b>Prime Minister and Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania</b>
<b>75. His Excellency Clément MOUAMBA</b> <b>Prime Minister of the Republic of the Congo</b>
<b>76. His excellency Abdelaziz DJERAD</b> <b>Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria</b>
<b>77. Her Excellency Sidémého TOMEKAH-DOGBE</b> <b>Prime Minister, Head of Government of the Togolese Republic</b>

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>78. His Excellency WANG Yi</b> <b>State Councilor and Minister for Foreign Affairs of China</b>
<b>79. His Excellency Ayman SAFADI</b> <b>Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and</b> <b>Expatriates of Jordan</b>
<b>80. His Excellency Chris FEARNE</b> <b>Deputy Prime Minister of Malta</b>
<b>81. Her Excellency Ekaterina ZAHARIEVA</b> <b>Deputy Prime Minister for Judicial Reform and</b> <b>Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria</b>
<b>82. His Excellency Themba MASUKU</b> <b>Deputy Prime Minister of Eswatini</b>
<b>83. His Excellency Demeke MEKONNEN</b> <b>Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for</b> <b>Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia</b>
<b>84. His Excellency Marcelo Ebrard CASAUBÓN</b> <b>Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mexico</b> <b>(on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States)</b>
<b>85. His Excellency Péter SZIJJÁRTÓ</b> <b>Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary</b>
<b>86. His Excellency Alexey TSOY</b> <b>Minister of Healthcare of Kazakhstan</b>



## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>87. His Excellency Ivan KORČOK Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia</b>
<b>88. His Excellency Hishammuddin Tun Hussein Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malaysia</b>
<b>89. Her Excellency Retno Lestari Priansari MARSUDI Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia</b>
<b>90. Her Excellency Marise PAYNE Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia</b>
<b>91. His Excellency Vivian BALAKRISHNAN Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore</b>
<b>92. His Excellency Myint HTWE Union Minister, Ministry of Health and Sports of Myanmar</b>
<b>93. His Excellency Nikolaos-Georgios DENDIAS Minister for Foreign Affairs of Greece</b>
<b>94. His Excellency Jan BLATNÝ Minister of Health of the Czech Republic</b>
<b>95. His Excellency Saeed NAMAKI Minister of Health and Medical Education of the Islamic Republic of Iran</b>
<b>96. His Excellency Abdulla SHAHID Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Maldives</b>

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>97. His Excellency Nurmuhamet AMANNEPESOV Minister of Health Care and Medical Industry of Turkmenistan</b>
<b>98. His Excellency Luca BECCARI Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Economic Cooperation and Telecommunications of San Marino</b>
<b>99. His Excellency Ahmed AL Saidi Minister of Health of Oman</b>
<b>100. His Excellency Aouélé Eugène AKA Minister of Health and Public Hygiene of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire</b>
<b>101. His Excellency Ernesto Henrique Fraga ARAÚJO Minister for External Relations of Brazil</b>
<b>102. Her Excellency Aïssata TALL SALL Minister for Foreign Affairs and Senegalese abroad of Senegal</b>
<b>103. Her Excellency Katrin EGGENBERGER Minister for Foreign Affairs, Justice and Culture of Liechtenstein</b>
<b>104. His Excellency Sameh Hassan Shokry SELIM Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt</b>
<b>105. His Excellency Daniel NGAMIJE Minister of Health of Rwanda</b>
<b>106. His Excellency Linas Antanas LINKEVIČIUS Minister for Foreign Affairs of Lithuania</b>

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>107. His Highness Prince Faisal bin Farhan AL-SAUD Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia</b>
<b>108. His Excellency Mikhail MURASHKO Minister of Health of the Russian Federation</b>
<b>109. His Excellency Anže LOGAR Minister for Foreign Affairs of Slovenia</b>
<b>110. His Excellency Dato Erywan Pehin Yusof Minister for Foreign Affairs II of Brunei Darussalam</b>
<b>111. His Excellency Alexander SCHALLENBERG Federal Minister for European and International Affairs of Austria</b>
<b>112. His Excellency Alex AZAR Secretary of Health and Human Services of the United States</b>
<b>113. His Excellency Nasser BOURITA Minister for Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of Morocco</b>
<b>114. His Excellency Christopher TUFTON Minister of Health and Wellness of Jamaica</b>
<b>115. His Excellency Tandi DORJI Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bhutan</b>
<b>116. His Excellency Simon COENEY Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Defense of Ireland</b>

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>117. His Excellency Zbigniew RAU Minister for Foreign Affairs of Poland</b>
<b>118. His Excellency Dmytro KULEBA Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine</b>
<b>119. His Excellency Paul OQUIST KELLEY Private Secretary for National Policies of the President of Nicaragua</b>
<b>120. Her Excellency Marta TEMIDO Minister of Health of Portugal</b>
<b>121. His Excellency Bogdan Lucian AURESCU Minister for Foreign Affairs of Romania</b>
<b>122. His Excellency Mohamed SIALA Minister for Foreign Affairs of Libya</b>
<b>123. His Excellency Djacoba Oliva TEHINDRAZANARIVELO Minister for Foreign Affairs of Madagascar</b>
<b>124. His Excellency Dinesh GUNAWARDENA Minister for Foreign Relations, Skills Development, Employment and Labour Relations of Sri Lanka</b>
<b>125. His Excellency Federico Alberto GONZALEZ FRANCO Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Paraguay</b>

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>126. His Excellency Matthew John DAVID HANCOCK Secretary of State for Health and Social Care of the United Kingdom</b>
<b>127. His Excellency Ginés GONZÁLEZ GARCÍA Minister of Health of Argentina</b>
<b>128. Her Excellency Sigrid KAAG Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation for the Netherlands</b>
<b>129. His Excellency David ZALKALIANI Minister for Foreign Affairs of Georgia</b>
<b>130. Her Excellency Shirley Ayorkor BOTCHWEY Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of Ghana</b>
<b>131. Her Excellency Wilhelmina JALLAH Minister of Health of Liberia</b>
<b>132. Her Excellency Amine ABBA-SIDICK Minister for Foreign Affairs, African Integration and Chadians abroad Chad</b>
<b>133. His Excellency Geoffrey ONYEAMA Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nigeria</b>
<b>134. His Excellency Osama Ahmed ABDELRAHIM ELKHIDIR Acting Minister of Health of the Sudan</b>

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>135. Her Excellency Patricia Leonor COMANDARI ZANOTTI Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs, Integration and Economic Promotion of El Salvador</b>
<b>136. His Excellency Vikas SWARUP Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs of India</b>
<b>137. Her Excellency Carolina VALDIVIA TORRES Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Chile</b>
<b>138. SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC</b>
<b>139. BELARUS</b>
<b>140. TAJIKISTAN</b>
<b>141. MONGOLIA</b>
<b>142. KYRGYZSTAN</b>
<b>143. UNITED ARAB EMIRATES</b>
<b>144. YEMEN</b>
<b>145. PANAMA</b>
<b>146. NAMIBIA</b>
<b>147. BAHRAIN</b>
<b>148. EQUATORIAL GUINEA</b>

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Special session of the General Assembly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (resolution 75/4)**

#### **LIST OF SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, 03 December 2020, 9:00 AM**

<b>149. URUGUAY</b>
<b>150. COSTA RICA</b>
<b>151. GAMBIA</b>
<b>152. UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA</b>
<b>153. GUATEMALA</b>
<b>154. His Eminence Cardinal Pietro PAROLIN</b> <b>Secretary of State of the Holy See</b>
<b>155. His Excellency Mohammad SHTAYEH</b> <b>Prime Minister, Minister for the Interior and Minister</b> <b>for Waqf of the State of Palestine</b>

## Panel I: The UN System Response to COVID-19

### Melissa Fleming, Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications



Melissa Fleming, taken up her functions as Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications from 1 September 2019.

From 2009 until August 2019, Ms. Fleming served UNHCR as Head of Global Communications and Spokesperson for the High Commissioner. Ms. Fleming joined UNHCR from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), where she served for eight years as Spokesperson and Head of the Media and Outreach. Prior to IAEA, she headed the Press and Public Information team at the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

Earlier still, she was Public Affairs Specialist at Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Munich, having started her career as a journalist. From 2016 to 2017, she also served as Senior Adviser and Spokesperson on the incoming United Nations Secretary General's Transition Team.

Ms. Fleming is a frequent interview guest on international media platforms, and her talks are featured on TED.com. She is author of the book, *A Hope More Powerful than the Sea*, and host of the award-winning podcast, *Awake at Night*.

### Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General, World Health Organization



Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus was elected as WHO Director-General for a five-year term in May 2017. He is the first person from the WHO African Region to serve as WHO's chief technical and administrative officer.

Prior to his election as WHO Director-General, Dr Tedros served as Ethiopia's Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2012–2016 and as Ethiopia's Minister of Health from 2005–2012. He was elected as Chair of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Board in 2009, and previously served as Chair of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership Board, and Co-chair of the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Board.

Dr. Tedros is globally recognised as a health scholar, researcher, and diplomat with first-hand experience in research, operations, and leadership in emergency responses to epidemics. Throughout his career Dr. Tedros has published numerous articles in prominent scientific journals and received awards and recognition from across the globe. He received the Decoration of the Order of Serbian Flag in 2016 and was awarded the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award in recognition of his contributions to the field of public health in 2011.

### Dr Michael Ryan, Executive Director, WHO Emergencies Programme & Chair of the UN Crises Management Team



Dr Mike Ryan has been at the forefront of managing acute risks to global health for nearly 25 years. He served as Assistant Director-General for Emergency Preparedness and Response in WHO's Health Emergencies Programme from 2017 to 2019.

Dr Ryan first joined WHO in 1996, with the newly established unit to respond to emerging and epidemic disease threats. He has worked in conflict affected countries and led many responses to high impact epidemics. He is a founding member of the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN), which has aided the response to hundreds of disease outbreaks around the world. He served as Coordinator of Epidemic Response (2000-2003), Operational Coordinator of WHO's response to the SARS outbreak (2003), and as WHO's Director of Global Alert and Response (2005-2011).

He was a Senior Advisor on Polio Eradication for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative from 2013 to 2017, deploying to countries in the Middle East. He completed medical training at the National University of Ireland, Galway, a Master's in Public Health at University College Dublin, and specialist training in communicable disease control at the Health Protection Agency in London and the European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training.



## Panel I: The UN System Response to COVID-19

### Mark Lowcock, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator



Mark Lowcock assumed office as the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and Emergency Relief Coordinator in September 2017.

As chief coordinator of the world's humanitarian response to urgent crises, Mr. Lowcock holds oversight for all emergencies requiring United Nations humanitarian assistance. He advocates in the United Nations Security Council for people affected by conflicts and disasters, and through discussions with Member States, donors and the media. He also mobilizes resources for global humanitarian action, pooled funds and OCHA, and leads the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), a forum of United Nations and non-United Nations humanitarian organizations focused on strengthening humanitarian assistance. Mr. Lowcock has more than 30 years of experience leading and managing responses to humanitarian crises across the globe, as well as wider strategic leadership in international development. Prior to taking up his role at OCHA, he was the Permanent Secretary of the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID).

Mr. Lowcock began his career at DFID (formerly the Overseas Development Administration) in 1985, and served in a range of roles, including postings in Kenya, Malawi and Zimbabwe.

### Michelle Bachelet Jeria, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights



Michelle Bachelet assumed her functions as the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on 1 September 2018.

Ms. Bachelet was elected President of Chile on two occasions (2006 – 2010 and 2014 – 2018) and was the first female president of Chile. She also served as Health Minister (2000-2002), as well as Chile's and Latin America's first female Defense Minister (2002 – 2004).

Since the early 1990s, Ms. Bachelet has worked closely with many international organizations. In 2010 she chaired the Social Protection Floor Advisory Group, a joint International Labor Organization (ILO) and World Health Organization (WHO) initiative, which sought to promote social policies to stimulate economic growth and social cohesion.

In 2011, she was named the first Director of UN Women, an organization dedicated to fighting for the rights of women and girls internationally. She has recently pledged to be a Gender Champion, committing to advance gender equality in OHCHR and in international fora. She was also named Chair of the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, an alliance of more than 1000 organizations in 192 countries from the sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health communities.

### Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Program



Achim Steiner became UNDP Administrator on 19 June 2017. Mr. Steiner is also the Vice-Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group, which unites 40 entities of the UN system that work to support sustainable development.

Over nearly three decades, Mr. Steiner has been a global leader on sustainable development, climate resilience and international cooperation. He has worked tirelessly to champion sustainability, economic growth and equality for the vulnerable, and has been a vocal advocate for the Sustainable Development Goals.

Prior to joining UNDP, he was Director of the Oxford Martin School and Professorial Fellow of Balliol College, University of Oxford. Mr Steiner has served across the United Nations system, looking at global challenges from both a humanitarian and a development perspective. He led the United Nations

## Panel I: The UN System Response to COVID-19

Environment Programme (2006-2016), helping governments invest in clean technologies and renewable energy. He was also Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi.

Achim Steiner previously held other notable positions including Director General of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and Secretary General of the World Commission on Dams.

### Filippo Grandi, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



Filippo Grandi became the 11th United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on 1 January 2016.

As High Commissioner, he heads one of the world's largest humanitarian organizations. UNHCR has twice won the Nobel Peace Prize. Its 17,000-strong workforce spans 135 countries providing protection and assistance to nearly 80 million refugees, returnees, internally displaced people and stateless persons.

Before being elected High Commissioner, Grandi had been engaged in international cooperation for over 30 years, focusing on refugee and humanitarian work. He served as Commissioner-General of the UN Agency for Palestine refugees, UNRWA, from 2010 to 2014, after having been the organization's Deputy Commissioner-General since 2005. Prior to that, Grandi served as Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General in Afghanistan, following a long career first with NGOs and later with UNHCR in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and at the organization's Geneva headquarters.

### David Muldrow Beasley, Executive Director, World Food Programme



At WFP, Mr. Beasley is putting to use four decades of leadership and communications skills to mobilize more financial support and public awareness for the global fight against hunger. These efforts were recognised as the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded WFP the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize.

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.

### Inger Ashing, Chief Executive Officer, Save the Children International



Inger Ashing is CEO of Save the Children International. A respected child rights activist, Inger has been associated with Save the Children for more than 25 years. Prior to her appointment in September 2019, Inger held various national and international roles focused on children's right, most recently as the Director General at the Swedish Agency against Segregation.

She is a member of the Ethics Council at The Swedish Migration Agency and has been an expert to and board member of several authorities and committees such as the Delegation for Human Rights, the Swedish National Knowledge Centre on Violence against Children and the Delegation for the Employment of Young People and Newly Arrived Migrants.

## Panel I: The UN System Response to COVID-19

### Dr. Asha Mohammed, Secretary General, Kenya Red Cross Society



Dr Asha Mohammed is the Secretary General of Kenya Red Cross Society. She has over 25 years diverse experience working within Humanitarian and Government institutions. She has served in different capacities within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement including; Movement Partnerships Advisor for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Geneva, Head of Operations for International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Africa Zone office in Johannesburg, Head of Eastern Africa zone office in Nairobi and Deputy Secretary General and Head of Programmes in Kenya Red Cross, among others.

Dr. Asha also served as Chair of the IFRC Health Commission at global level and a chair of the RCRC Pan African Coordination Team that is responsible for monitoring of commitments made by African National Societies. Before her role in the Red Cross she served in various capacities in the Ministry of Health and National AIDS Control Council in Kenya.

## Panel II: The Road to a COVID-19 Vaccine – a Global Public Good

### Lyse Doucet, BBC Presenter and Chief International Correspondent



Lyse Doucet is an award winning Chief International Correspondent and Senior Presenter for BBC World News television and BBC World Service Radio.

She played a key role in the BBC's coverage of the "Arab Spring" across the Middle East and North Africa and has covered all the major stories in the region for the past 20 years. She is a regular visitor to Afghanistan and Pakistan from where she has been reporting since 1988.

She was nominated for two Emmy awards in the United States last year. Her most recent awards include, in 2012, an Edward R Murrow award for radio reports from Tunisia, a Peabody and David Bloom Award in 2010 for television films from Afghanistan, and Radio News journalist of the Year at the Sony Radio Academy Awards in the UK.

### Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General, World Health Organization



Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus was elected as WHO Director-General for a five-year term in May 2017.

Prior to his election as WHO Director-General, Dr Tedros served as Ethiopia's Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2012–2016 and as Ethiopia's Minister of Health from 2005–2012. He was elected as Chair of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Board in 2009, and previously served as Chair of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership Board, and Co-chair of the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Board.

Dr Tedros is globally recognized as a health scholar, researcher, and diplomat with first-hand experience in research, operations, and leadership in emergency responses to epidemics. Throughout his career Dr Tedros has published numerous articles in prominent scientific journals and received awards and recognition from across the globe. He received the Decoration of the Order of Serbian Flag in 2016 and was awarded the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award in recognition of his contributions to the field of public health in 2011.

### Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Executive Director & Chief Scientist, World Health Organization



Dr Soumya Swaminathan was most recently WHO's Deputy Director-General for Programmes. A paediatrician from India and a globally recognized researcher on tuberculosis and HIV, she brings with her 30 years of experience in clinical care and research and has worked throughout her career to translate research into impactful programmes.

Dr Swaminathan was Secretary to the Government of India for Health Research and Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research from 2015 to 2017. In that position, she focused on bringing science and evidence into health policy making, building research capacity in Indian medical schools and forging south-south partnerships in health sciences. From 2009 to 2011, she also served as Coordinator of the UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases in Geneva.



## Panel II: The Road to a COVID-19 Vaccine – a Global Public Good

### Professor Uğur Şahin, Chief Executive Officer, BioNTech



Prof. Ugur Sahin, M.D. co-founded BioNTech in 2008 and has served as its Chief Executive Officer since that time. Prof. Sahin also served as the head of the Scientific Advisory Board of Ganymed Pharmaceuticals AG from 2008 until the company was acquired by Astellas Pharma Inc., or Astellas, in 2016.

In 2010, Prof. Sahin co-founded TRON, and served as a Managing Director from 2010 until 2019. Prof. Sahin has also been a professor (W3) at the Mainz University Medical Center since 2014. Prof. Sahin co-founded the Ci3, the German Cluster Initiative of Individualized ImmunIntervention (Ci3), a non-profit organization.

### Dr. Özlem Türeci, Chief Medical Officer, BioNTech



Dr. Özlem Türeci is BioNTech Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Türeci joined BioNTech in 2008 as a clinical and scientific advisory board member, before becoming our Chief Medical Officer in 2018.

Dr. Türeci co-founded Ganymed Pharmaceuticals, now a subsidiary of Astellas, in 2001 as Chief Scientific Officer and became its Chief Executive Officer in 2008. Dr. Türeci is chairman and co-initiator of Ci3. Dr. Türeci is also President of the Association for Cancer Immunotherapy (CIMT).

### Professor Sarah Gilbert, Oxford University



Sarah Gilbert is Saïd Professor of Vaccinology, Jenner Institute & Nuffield Department of Medicine at the University of Oxford in England. She has been making and testing vaccines designed to induce T-cell responses for over a decade, chiefly using antigens from malaria and influenza. Several of the vaccines developed in her laboratory have progressed into clinical trials. In the wake of the 2014 Ebola outbreak, the WHO R&D Blueprint programme was established to review platform technologies for Diagnostics Vaccines and Therapeutics in order to be better prepared for future outbreaks or pandemics.

Oxford's ChAdOx1 vaccine platform technology was presented to this newly formed programme, and it was approved by the WHO. In January 2020, Professor Gilbert's laboratory at Oxford further developed the ChAdOx1 vaccine platform as a candidate COVID-19 vaccine based on the approach she had used for the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome. Recent results of the Phase III global clinical trials indicate that the vaccine is effective.

### Dr. Seth Berkley, Chief Executive Officer, GAVI



Dr. Seth Berkley has been the CEO of GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance, since August 2011, spearheading its mission to protect the world's poorest children by improving access to new and underused vaccines. He is currently co-leading the Vaccines Pillar of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, to help develop and distribute a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine globally.

Prior to Gavi, in 1996, he founded the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI), the first vaccine product development public-private sector partnership. He served as President and CEO of IAVI for 15 years. Under his leadership, IAVI created a virtual vaccine product development effort involving scientists from low-income countries, industry and academia – developing and testing HIV vaccines around the world. He also oversaw a global advocacy programme that ensured HIV vaccines

## Panel II: The Road to a COVID-19 Vaccine – a Global Public Good

received prominent attention in the media and in forums such as the G8, the European Union and the United Nations.

### Henrietta H. Fore, Executive Director, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)



Henrietta H. Fore became UNICEF's seventh Executive Director on 1 January 2018. She has worked to champion economic development, education, health, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief in a public service, private sector and non-profit leadership career that spans more than four decades.

Prior to her appointment with UNICEF, Ms. Fore was Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Holsman International, a manufacturing and investment company. She also served on the boards of a number of domestic and international public corporations, including as Global Co-chair of the Asia Society, Chair of the Middle East Investment Initiative, and Co-Chair of WomenCorporateDirectors. She also served on the boards of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), the Aspen Institute, the Committee Encouraging Corporate Philanthropy (CECP) and the Center for Global Development (CGD).

### Dr. Richard Hatchett, Chief Executive Officer, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)



Richard J. Hatchett, MD, is Chief Executive Officer of the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), a partnership of public, private, philanthropic and civil organizations that supports the development of vaccines against high priority public health threats and technology platforms to allow the rapid development of vaccines against emerging infectious diseases such as COVID-19.

Dr. Hatchett was previously the acting Director of the U.S. Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) and served as Director of Medical Preparedness Policy on the Homeland and National Security Councils under Presidents Bush and Obama, respectively.

### Sir Andrew Witty, WHO Special Envoy for the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator



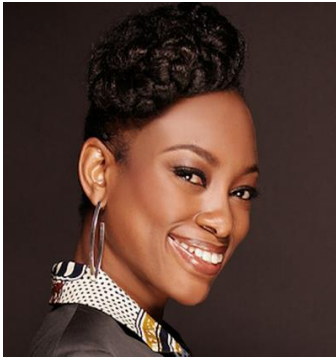
Sir Andrew Witty was named president, UnitedHealth Group, in November 2019, in addition to his role as chief executive officer of Optum. He was named executive vice president, UnitedHealth Group, and chief executive officer, Optum, in March 2018. He is also a member of the Office of the Chief Executive and previously served as a UnitedHealth Group company director.

From 2008 to 2017, Witty was chief executive officer and a director of the leading pharmaceutical manufacturer GlaxoSmithKline (GSK). He joined GSK in 1985, and prior to being named CEO, served as president of GSK Europe. Witty is former chancellor of the University of Nottingham, a British public research university, and serves on the Singapore Prime Minister's Research, Innovation and Enterprise Council. He is an advisor to 8VC as well as to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Witty became Chair, Imperial College Business School Advisory Board in November 2020.

In April 2020, Witty was asked by the World Health Organization to co-Lead the Accelerated Vaccine Development for COVID-19 and has taken a sabbatical from UnitedHealth Group/Optum returning December 2020.

## Panel III: Resilience and Recovering Better from COVID-19

### Femi Oke, International Journalist



Femi Oke is an award-winning international journalist, broadcaster, professional moderator and co-founder of the diverse moderators bureau "Moderate The Panel." Femi's reporting has been recognized by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Communications Agency and InterAction.

Since the 1980s, she has worked for BBC television and radio, Sky TV, all the U.K. terrestrial television networks, CNN and U.S. national public radio. As a professional moderator Femi has presided over world class events including European Development Days, NBA Africa Celebratory Luncheon for the U.S. National Basketball Association, and the historic Barbershop Conference at the United Nations Headquarters.

### Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General of the World Health Organization



Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus was elected as WHO Director-General for a five-year term in May 2017. He is the first person from the WHO African Region to serve as WHO's chief technical and administrative officer.

Prior to his election as WHO Director-General, Dr Tedros served as Ethiopia's Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2012–2016 and as Ethiopia's Minister of Health from 2005–2012. He was elected as Chair of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Board in 2009, and previously served as Chair of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership Board, and Co-chair of the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Board.

Dr. Tedros is globally recognised as a health scholar, researcher, and diplomat with first-hand experience in research, operations, and leadership in emergency responses to epidemics. Throughout his career Dr. Tedros has published numerous articles in prominent scientific journals and received awards and recognition from across the globe. He received the Decoration of the Order of Serbian Flag in 2016 and was awarded the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award in recognition of his contributions to the field of public health in 2011.

### Dr. Zsuzsanna Jakab, Deputy Director-General of the World Health Organization



A native of Hungary, Dr Jakab was appointed as Deputy Director-General in 2019 after serving as WHO Regional Director for Europe since 2010.

She has held a number of high-profile national and international public health policy positions in the last three decades, including as the founding Director of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) in Stockholm, Sweden.

Between 2005 and 2010, she built the ECDC into an internationally respected centre of excellence in the fight against infectious diseases.

## Panel III: Resilience and Recovering Better from COVID-19

### Dr. Natalia Kanem, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund



Dr. Natalia Kanem was appointed as Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund on 3 October 2017. Prior she was Deputy Executive Director (Programme), and earlier UNFPA Representative in the United Republic of Tanzania from 2014 to 2016. Dr. Kanem has more than 30 years of strategic leadership experience in the fields of preventive medicine, public and reproductive health, social justice and philanthropy. She started her research career with the Johns Hopkins and Columbia University schools of medicine and public health.

Before joining the United Nations, she served as founding president of ELMA Philanthropies, Inc., and as senior associate of the Lloyd Best Institute of the West Indies.

At the Ford Foundation from 1992 to 2004, she funded pioneering work on women's reproductive health and human rights, serving first in West Africa and eventually as Deputy Vice-President for peace and social justice programmes in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and North America.

She holds a medical degree from Columbia University in New York, and a Master's degree in Public Health with specializations in epidemiology and preventive medicine from the University of Washington in Seattle. She is a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard College in history and science.

### Mari Elka Pangestu, Managing Director for Development Policy and Partnerships of the World Bank



Mari Pangestu is the World Bank Managing Director of Development Policy and Partnerships. In this role, which she assumed on March 1, 2020, Ms. Pangestu provides leadership and oversees the research and data group of the World Bank (DEC), the work program of the World Bank's Global Practice Groups, and the External and Corporate Relations function. Ms. Pangestu joins the Bank with exceptional policy and management expertise, having served as Indonesia's Minister of Trade from 2004 to 2011 and as Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy from 2011 to 2014.

She has had vast experience of over 30 years in academia, second track processes, international organizations and government working in areas related to international trade, investment and development in multilateral, regional and national settings. Most recently, Ms. Pangestu was a Senior Fellow at the Columbia School of International and Public Affairs, as well as Professor of International Economics at the University of Indonesia, adjunct professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy and Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University and a Board Member of Indonesia Bureau of Economic Research (IBER), as well as Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Jakarta.

### Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women



Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka is United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women. She was sworn into office on 19 August 2013.

Ms. Mlambo-Ngcuka has worked in government and civil society, and with the private sector, and was actively involved in the struggle to end apartheid in her home country of South Africa. From 2005 to 2008, she served as Deputy President of South Africa, overseeing programmes to combat poverty and bring the advantages of a growing economy to the poor, with a particular focus on women.

Prior to this, she served as Minister of Minerals and Energy from 1999 to 2005 and Deputy Minister in the Department of Trade and Industry from 1996 to 1999. She was a Member of Parliament from 1994 to 1996 as part of South Africa's first



### **Panel III: Resilience and Recovering Better from COVID-19**

democratic government. Ms. Mlambo-Ngcuka began her career as a teacher and gained international experience as a coordinator at the World YWCA in Geneva, where she established a global programme for young women.

She is the founder of the Umlambo Foundation, which supports leadership and education. A longtime champion of women's rights, she is affiliated with several organizations devoted to education, women's empowerment and gender equality.

#### **Guy Ryder, Director-General of the International Labour Organization**



Guy Ryder took office as ILO Director-General on 1 October 2012. 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. In 2002, he moved to Brussels where 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.

#### **Robert Andrew Piper, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Development Coordination**



Robert Piper has been leading the UN Development Coordination Office (DCO) since January 2019.

Mr. Piper brings to the position nearly 30 years of experience in international development and peacebuilding in leadership positions within the United Nations. Prior to leading DCO, Mr. Piper was the Head of the Transition Team for the Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the Executive Office of the Secretary General.

Mr. Piper has previously served the UN in senior field positions across four continents, most recently as the Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and RC/HC for the occupied Palestinian Territory (2015 – 2017); United Nations Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Sahel region (2013 – 2015); and United Nations Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative for Nepal (2008 – 2013). He played a similar role leading the United Nations development system in Kosovo from 2002 to 2004.

## Panel III: Resilience and Recovering Better from COVID-19

### Pavan Sukhdev, President, WWF International / UNEP Goodwill Ambassador



Pavan Sukhdev is a scientist by education, an international banker by training, and an environmental economist by passion. Years of work in sustainability and the invisible economics of nature led to his appointment to head the United Nations' "Green Economy Initiative" and to lead the G8+5 study TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity). In his book 'Corporation 2020', he describes four changes in micro-policy and regulation which can rapidly transform today's corporation to deliver tomorrow's green and equitable "economy of permanence".

As founder and CEO of GIST Advisory, his sustainability consulting firm, Pavan works with C-suite executives and senior government officials on transition techniques, with an emphasis on metrics. GIST launched two platforms for Corporate Sustainability at Davos 2020, for large corporations and a simpler version for SME's in partnership with the International Chamber of Commerce. Pavan is a Goodwill Ambassador for UN Environment, promoting TEEB implementation and Green Economy transitions. He has served on the boards of Conservation International (CI), the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), the Stockholm Resilience Centre (SRC), and on the TEEB Advisory Board. Mr. Sukhdev has received the following awards: Gothenburg Award for Sustainable Development 2013, Blue Planet Prize 2016 and Tyler Prize 2020.