



DESA



**Global Policy
Dialogue Series**

Global Policy Dialogue Series

**“Progress towards gender equality from the Beijing Declaration to COVID-19
and beyond: a data and policy dialogue”**

24 November 2020, 8:00-9:30 a.m. EST

Speaker Biographies

Introductory remarks



Sarah Hendricks, Director of the Policy, Programme and Intergovernmental Division, UN Women

Sarah Hendricks is a visionary leader in global development with more than 20 years in programme and policy work on gender equality. Ms. Hendricks leads the Programme, Policy and Intergovernmental Division at UN Women—the United Nations entity dedicated to advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women. Prior to this role, Ms. Hendricks led the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's efforts to advance gender equality and unlock the empowerment of women and girls. Ms.

Hendricks led a team of experts to develop the Gates Foundation's first-ever strategy on gender equality, driving new investment to women's economic empowerment.

Previously, Ms. Hendricks was the Director of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion for Plan International, where she led the strategic direction that drove more than 500 million euros in new resources towards innovative work on gender equality and adolescent girls' development. Part of the core leadership team that developed the “Because I am a Girl Campaign,” Ms. Hendricks also served for 9 years as Chair of the Advisory Board on the “State of the World's Girls,” a global research report that reached audiences across more than 72 countries.

Ms. Hendricks' career has spanned work across development organizations, including Women and the Law in Southern Africa (Malawi), World Vision International (Zimbabwe) and as a gender equality consultant with Global Affairs Canada (on Gender-Based Violence), GIZ (on women's access to justice) and the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (on gender mainstreaming in public sector delivery). She was recently named as one of Apolitical's “Top 100 Most Influential People in Gender Policy.”



Nahla Valji, Senior Gender Adviser, Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General

Nahla Valji is the Senior Gender Adviser in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG) where she heads the Secretariat for the UN-EU Spotlight Initiative to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls and supports the implementation of the Secretary-General’s Gender Parity Strategy among other efforts. She joined the Transition Team of then Secretary-General-designate Guterres in November 2016 and the EOSG in January 2017. Prior to this she was the Acting Chief/ Deputy Chief of the Peace and Security section in UN Women’s headquarters in

New York, where she led for some years the entity’s work on peacekeeping, peace negotiations, transitional justice, and rule of law, involving both global programming and policy work, particularly with regards to the Security Council. In 2015, she headed the Secretariat for the Global Study on implementation of resolution 1325, a comprehensive study requested by the Security Council for the 15-year review of women, peace and security. She founded and managed the International Journal of Transitional Justice and is the co-editor of the Oxford Handbook on Gender and Conflict. Prior to joining the UN, Ms. Valji worked in South Africa, where she led the regional transitional justice work of the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation and managed the African Transitional Justice Research Network.

[Panel 1: Women’s health and economic empowerment in the “new normal”](#)



Yingqian (Lily) Chen, Phoenix TV (Moderator)

Yingqian Chen has served as the on-camera UN Correspondent at Phoenix Satellite Television since 2016, covering international affairs and foreign relations. She has interviewed the UN Secretary-General António Guterres, the 74th President of the UN General Assembly Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, UN Under Secretary-General Zhenmin Liu, UN Under Secretary-General Fabrizio Hochschild, UN Under Secretary-General Jean-Pierre Lacroix, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Lan Chao and others.

Ms. Chen is the first Chinese journalist to host the one-week SDG high-level interviews during the 74th UN General Assembly. She also hosted a climate change TV program for former U.S. Vice President Al Gore’s show 24 Hours of Reality. Ms. Chen’s exclusive interview

with Tijjani Muhammad-Bande won the Best Reporting Award in 2019. Her documentary film “Waack 4 Me” has won the Best Short Documentary Award and Best Cultural Documentary Award for the 2016 Hollywood International Independent Documentary Film Festival, and the 2015 New York Emmy Awards Documentary Filmmaking Grants.



Martha Chen, Lecturer in Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School and Co-founder, Emeritus International Coordinator and Senior Advisor of the global network Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing

Martha (Marty) Chen is a Lecturer in Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School and Co-Founder, Emeritus International Coordinator and Senior Advisor of the global network Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing ([WEIGO](#)). An experienced development practitioner and scholar, her areas of specialization are employment, gender and poverty with a focus on the working poor in the informal economy. Before joining Harvard in 1987, she had two decades of resident work experience in Bangladesh and in India. Dr. Chen co-founded and, for twenty years, led the WIEGO network which is well known worldwide for its work to improve the status of the working poor in the informal economy through stronger organizations, improved statistics and research and a more favorable policy environment. Dr. Chen received a Ph.D. in South Asia Regional Studies from the University of Pennsylvania. She was awarded a high civilian award, the Padma Shri, by the Government of India in April 2011; and a Friends of Bangladesh Liberation War award by the Government of Bangladesh in December 2012.



Jayati Ghosh, Professor of Economics at the Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and member of the UN High-level Advisory Board on Economic and Social Affairs

Jayati Ghosh is Professor of Economics at the Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. She was educated at Delhi University, Jawaharlal Nehru University and the University of Cambridge, England, where she obtained her Ph.D. in 1983. Since 2002 she has been the Executive Secretary of International Development Economics Associates ([IDEAS](#)), an international network of heterodox development economists. She is Founding Trustee of the [Economic Research Foundation](#). She has some experience in advising on policy-related issues for state and central

governments in India as well as other countries. She was the Chairperson of the Commission on Farmers' Welfare in 2004 constituted by the state government of Andhra Pradesh in India, and Member of the National Knowledge Commission reporting to the Prime Minister of India (2005-09). She has been on several Working Groups and Advisory Committees of the Government of India relating to various developmental issues. She has consulted for a large number of international organizations, including ILO, UNDP, UNCTAD, UN DESA, UNRISD and UN Women. She is a member of a large number of advisory boards of institutions and academic journals, including the UN High-level Advisory Board on Economic and Social Affairs. Additionally, she has collaborated with several newspapers, journals and blogs in India and the UK. Her blog can be found on <http://www.networkideas.org/jayati-blog/>. She has been closely involved in working with progressive organizations and social movements. She is married with one daughter.



Francesca Grum, Chief of the Social and Gender Statistics Section, UN DESA Statistics Division and lead author of “The World’s Women 2020: Trends and Statistics”

Francesca Grum is the Chief of the Social and Gender Statistics Section of the UN DESA Statistics Division. She is leading the work of two UN Expert Groups established by the UN Statistical Commission to develop methodological standards and advance statistics on International Migration and on time-use and unpaid domestic and care work. She oversees the UN Global Gender Statistics Programme, including the preparation of the UN’s “The World’s Women: Trends and Statistics” report and the implementation of the Evidence and Data for Gender Equality (EDGE) project.

Ms. Grum has been working on methodological, analytical and capacity development activities related to demographic and social statistics since 2000 when she joined the UN Statistics Division in New York. Prior to the UN, Ms. Grum worked for several years in Spain, France and Italy as a data miner and statistical advisor on big data projects including on mobile phone data. Francesca holds a Master’s degree in Economic and Actuarial Statistics from the University of Padua, Italy.



Manuela Tomei, Director of the Conditions of Work and Equality (WorkQuality) Department, International Labour Organization

Manuela Tomei is Director of the Conditions of Work and Equality Department, International Labour Office (ILO). She was lead coordinator of the preparatory work that culminated in the adoption of the last two ILO Conventions, namely, C.190 on violence and harassment in the world of work in 2019, and C.189 on decent work for domestic workers in 2011. Together with UN Women and OECD, the ILO established and launched at the UN

General Assembly in September 2017 the Equal Pay International Coalition (EPIC) to contribute to the realization of SDG 8.5, in which Ms. Tomei played a key role. She is presently leading preparatory work on inequalities and the world of work for discussion at the next session of the International Labour Conference. She has written and provided policy advice on a range of subjects, including gender, poverty and work, informal and non-standard forms of employment, wages and the gender pay gap.

[Discussion 2: Regional analyses and perspectives on progress towards gender equality since 1995](#)



Ana Güzmes García, Director, Division for Gender Affairs, UN Regional Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN ECLAC)

Ana Güzmes García, Director of the Division of Gender Affairs of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC. Defender of women's human rights and gender equality, with 30 years of experience in Latin America and the Caribbean, she has been the representative of UN Women in Colombia, and previously in Mexico and sub-regional director of UN Women for Mexico, Central America, Cuba and the

Dominican Republic, as well as a regional advisor to the United Nations Population Fund, UNFPA. Previously, she has worked with the World Health Organization (WHO), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the British Government Department for International Development (DFID), the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), the Federation International Family Planning (IPPF) and the Flora Tristán Peruvian Women's Center.

Dr. Güzmes is a public health doctor, specialist in community health and international management and cooperation. Within her academic experience, her role as co-founder of the

Gender Studies Program of the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos in Peru and the Observatory of the Right to Health in the Consortium for Economic and Social Research (CIES) stands out.



Tomoko Hayashi, Director-General, Gender Equality Bureau Cabinet Office, Japan

Tomoko Hayashi is Director-General of Gender Equality Bureau in the Cabinet Office. She reports to the Prime Minister and the Minister for Gender Equality as the head of the national machinery for promoting gender equality in Japan. Before that appointment in August 2020, Ms. Hayashi was Director-General for Economic and Fiscal Affairs, serving as Vice Chair of the OECD Economic Policy Committee and supporting the Prime Minister at the

G7/G20 Summit meetings as the chief representative of the Cabinet Office.

She joined the government as an economist in 1987. She has held various positions of economic research, forecasting and macroeconomic policymaking, including Director for Macroeconomic Policy Coordination with the Bank of Japan, and Director for Economic Policy Framework in charge of medium- and long-term fiscal consolidation issues. In the academic field, she has taught the Japanese economy at the Graduate School on Public Policy of the University of Tokyo since 2010. Her major publications include Macroeconomic Policy Frameworks (2003), Inflation Target and Monetary Policy (2006) (with Takatoshi Ito), and Global Financial and Economic Crisis (2010) (with Kazuo Ueda et al). She is a board member of the Japan Association of Business Cycle Studies and a member of the Japanese Economic Association. She holds an MSc in Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science and graduated from the University of Tokyo.



Aurelia Spataru, Deputy Director General of the National Bureau of Statistics, Moldova

Aurelia Spataru, after 12 years of work at UNDP Moldova providing development support to the strengthening of the National Statistical System, is at present acting as Deputy General Director at the National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova since June 2019. She is responsible for the management of the departments responsible for production of social and population statistics, including vital statistics, migration and censuses, and gender statistics. She is

leading the work of data dissemination, statistical methods, implementation of GIS

methodologies and data collection within the statistical household surveys. At UN Moldova, she led the work on the SDG nationalization and currently, on behalf of the National Bureau of Statistics, is the national focal point for the SDG data production.

Closing remarks



Jeffrey D. Sachs, Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University, member of the UN High-level Advisory Board on Economic and Social Affairs, and SDG Advocate

Jeffrey D. Sachs is a University Professor and Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University, where he directed the Earth Institute from 2002 until 2016. He is also President of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network and a commissioner of the UN Broadband Commission for Development. He has been advisor to three United Nations Secretaries-General, and currently serves as an SDG Advocate under Secretary General António Guterres. He spent over twenty years as a professor at Harvard University, where he received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees. He has authored numerous bestseller books. His most recent book is *The Ages of Globalization: Geography, Technology, and Institutions* (2020). Sachs was twice named as one of Time magazine's 100 most influential world leaders and was ranked by The Economist among the top three most influential living economists.