



NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY

Supporting the United Nations & Communities Globally

"Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change"

<http://www.ngocsd-ny.org>

"In Celebration of World Cities Day: Partnerships for Resilient Cities"
October 31, 2018 at the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations



H.E. Ambassador Dr. Christoph Heusgen, Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations. Ambassador Heusgen was appointed Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations on July 26, 2017. Prior to this appointment and since 2005, Ambassador Heusgen was the Foreign Policy and Security Adviser to his country's Federal Chancellor, Angela Merkel. He served as Director and Head of the Policy Unit for High Representative Javier Solana in the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union from 1999 to 2005. Between 1988 and 1999, he served in various capacities at the Foreign Office in Bonn, including Deputy Director-General for European Affairs from 1997 to 1999; Head of Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel's Private Office in charge of European Affairs from 1993 to 1997, serving as Deputy Head since 1994. From 1990 and 1992, he was Deputy Head of the special section in charge of negotiations on the Treaty of Maastricht. He held the position of Private Secretary to the Coordinator for German-French Relations from 1988 to 1990. From 1986 to 1988, Ambassador Heusgen worked in Germany's Paris Embassy, having begun his foreign

service career in the Press and Economic Affairs Office of his country's Consulate in Chicago, where he worked from 1983 to 1986. He joined the foreign service in 1980. Ambassador Heusgen is a graduate of the University of Saint Gallen in Switzerland, and Georgia South College in the United States. He earned a post-graduate degree from the University of Saint Gallen in 1980.



H.E. Ambassador Dr. Michal Mlynar, Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Slovakia to the United Nations. Dr. Mlynár, presented his credentials to UN Secretary-General António Guterres on August 17, 2017. Prior to his appointment, Dr. Mlynár was Slovakia's Director-General for International Organizations, Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid between 2015 and 2017. From 2012 to 2015, he was Ambassador to Kenya and to the United Nations agencies in Nairobi. Dr. Mlynár held several positions from 2010 until 2011, including Head of the Project Team for Security Sector Reform, Deputy Chef de Cabinet in the Office of the Minister, and Head of the Unit for Coordination of Candidatures and Cross-Cutting United Nations activities. Between 2004 and 2009, Dr. Mlynár was Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, and his delegation's political coordinator on the Security Council from 2006 to 2007. He was also Deputy Chef de Cabinet and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister between 2002 and 2004. Dr. Mlynár holds a master's degree

in teaching and a Ph.D in the theory of teaching foreign languages from Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia. (UN Photo: Mr. Evan Schneider)



Mr. Christopher W. Williams, Ph.D. is the Director of the UN-Habitat New York Liaison Office. Mr. Williams is a development practitioner with over twenty-five years of experience in international organizations in Africa, Asia and the Americas and with training in economics and sociology. Prior to UN-Habitat, Mr. Williams served as Executive Director of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) in Geneva for five years. He also held senior posts in global fund management, advocacy, fund raising and policy research, and worked on programmes to upgrade water, sanitation and shelter in settlements. He worked in Africa and the United States promoting community economic development. His work with homeless shelters, community organizations, financial intermediaries, and community lending institutions gave him exposure to private, civil and public sectors. He has studied economics, public policy and sociology, and holds a Ph.D. from the Graduate Faculty of the New School for Social Research.



Ms. Margo LaZaro, is the President and Chair of the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY. Ms. LaZaro represents the Huairou Commission, Global Family and Youth for a Better World: MMUN at the United Nations. She has thirty years of experience at the United Nations working in the UN NGO Community as a Chief Developer of meetings, conferences and Special Events with impactful messages that including the SDGs. She is a member of the Habitat Civil Society Work Group, the General Assembly of Partners, the NGO Major Group and the Women's Major Group for the High Level Political Forum. She served as a member of the multi-stakeholder Steering Committee for the 2017 UN Ocean Conference at UN Headquarters with the UN Foundation and the Office of the President of the 71st session of UN General Assembly. She has taken on leadership positions in the planning process for key UN meetings. She is an expert in highlighting the outstanding contributions made by leading global change makers and bringing the initiatives undertaken by them to the United Nations and the global community. Ms. LaZaro's work is mainly focused on all areas of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals that are

related to grassroots outreach for women and girls, climate change, gender equality, ending violence against women and children, women's economic empowerment and entrepreneurship, ending hunger, ocean clean up and renewable energy resources, human rights, education, clean water, health and well-being for all, disarmament, peace and security, youth leadership, the New Urban Agenda and engagement with media, technology and communication outlets. She studied Art & Design in New York. Her career as a Designer gave her a solid foundation for taking on issues and developing creative impactful solutions. She passionately champions SDG 17 on Building Partnerships and believes in the NGOCSD-NY motto: *"Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change."* She has most recently focused on bringing entrepreneurs and the private sector into United Nations discourse to foster support for the success of the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, so we "Leave No One Behind."



Dr. Edward A. Toran, C.Sc., Former Scientific Research Member of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava, Slovakia, in the Theory and History of Art Department, heading the Architectural Research section. In New York, amongst other positions, he was the Director of the interior architectural department (Space Administration) of the Metropolitan Life Company. Dr. Toran studied and worked in architecture, design and history on art. Initially from Bratislava (formerly Czechoslovakia, now Slovakia), he emigrated to the USA and lives in New York since half a century. Last year he received the National Prize for Design 2017 for his lifelong contributions to the development of the theory of design in Slovakia, by the Minister of Culture Michael Madaric. In New York he worked as an architect of interiors and designer, became the Director of the Space Administration Department of the Metropolitan Life Company, and now still functions in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. He has conducted research in work space development, applied arts and industrial design. In addition, his other projects cover a wide range of professional activities, such as writing specialized articles for journals, authoring books and translations, editing, teaching and lecturing, organizing of exhibitions of art, and architectural photography for several published books in Czechoslovakia and the USA, for example for the Slovak Academy of Sciences or the Municipal Art Society of New York. In the early 1980s he pioneered the introduction of small computers into the architectural practice, commented by professional magazines and the daily press. Gradually his interest started to focus on interrelations how design and architecture are historically related to wider trends in the social life since the end of the 18th century, namely technical innovations, economy, social needs, cultural politics, esthetics, wars, psychology, and other impacts of human influences.



Dr. Jo Ivey Boufford, President of the International Society for Urban Health and Clinical Professor of Global Public Health at the College of Global Public Health at New York University. Dr. Boufford is also an Emeritus Professor of Public Service, Health Policy and Management at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at the NYU School of Medicine. Dr. Boufford served as President of The New York Academy of Medicine (2007-2017) and Dean of the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University (1997-2002). Prior to that, she served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) from November 1993 to January 1997, and as Acting Assistant Secretary from January 1997 to May 1997. While at HHS, she was the U.S. representative on the Executive Board of the World Health Organization (WHO) from 1994–1997. She served in a variety of senior positions in and as President of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC), the largest, municipal system in the United States, from December 1985 until October 1989. Locally, she serves on the boards of the United Hospital Fund, Emblem Health, and the Regional Plan Association. She is Vice Chair of the NYS Public Health and Health Planning Council (PHHPC) and Chair of its Public Health Committee. Nationally, she is on the Boards of the National Hispanic Health Foundation and the Health Effects Institute. She is also a member of the Board of the Novartis Foundation and ABInNBev Foundations, both global. She was elected to membership in the US National Academy of Medicine (formerly IOM) in 1992, served on its Board on Global Health and as its Foreign Secretary from 2003 to 2011, She was elected to membership of the National Academy of Public Administration in 2015. She is a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine.. Dr. Boufford attended Wellesley College for two years and received her BA (Psychology) magna cum laude from the University of Michigan, and her MD, with distinction, from the University of Michigan Medical School. She is Board Certified in pediatrics.



Dr. Katherine Kline, Co-Chair of the General Assembly of Partners (GAP), Older Persons Partner Constituent Group & the GAP Recording Secretary, UN Representative of International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA). Dr. Kline is a former diplomat, arts administrator, adult ESL teacher and documentary producer and distributor, has worked for over 40 years with and for international organizations. She has been on numerous non-profit boards including UNA-NY and as part of the Executive Committee of the NGO Committee on Ageing, New York. She is the co-chair of the General Assembly of Partners (GAP) Older Persons Partner Constituent Group and is its Recording Secretary. As one of UN representatives for INPEA (International Network for the Protection of Elder Abuse), She advocates on behalf of older persons in all aspects of their lives. Dr. Kline holds a Ph.D. in Organizational Change from Union Institute and a B.A. in international studies at American University's School of International Service.



Ms. Alexandra Hiniker is Program Director for Global Vision | Urban Action at the NYC Mayor's Office for International Affairs. Ms. Hiniker is responsible for highlighting the connections between local and global sustainability using the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including the development and implementation of the Voluntary Local Review, making NYC the first city in the world to report directly to the United Nations on its local progress in achieving the SDGs. She has more than a decade of international development, policy, and advocacy experience working in 18 countries around the world. Before joining the Mayor's Office, she was the PAX Representative to the United Nations, focusing on the protection of civilians in Syria, Iraq, and South Sudan. Previously, she worked on humanitarian disarmament in some of the world's most bombed and mined countries, first with the United Nations in Cambodia, and then with the Cluster Munition Coalition in Laos, followed by Lebanon. She began her international development career implementing pandemic preparedness projects in Africa, Asia, and Eastern Europe. Prior to that, she served as a Princeton Project 55 Fellow with the Center for Neighborhood Technology in Chicago. Ms. Hiniker has a B.A. from the University of Chicago and an M.A. from Uniwersytet Jagiellonski in Krakow, Poland, and also studied at Sciences Po-Paris. She is currently pursuing an M.S. in Urban Policy and Leadership at Hunter College.

"Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change"

<http://www.ngocsd-ny.org>