

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

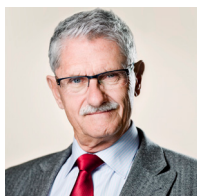
HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS



H.E. Mr. Kaha Imnadze, Acting President of the 69th United Nations General Assembly

H.E. Mr. Kaha Imnadze has been the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations since July 23 2013. Until his appointment, Mr. Imnadze was a Board Member of the Georgian Political Science Association from 2012, and Programme Director of the Georgian Institute for Russian Studies since 2009. Between 2005 and 2007, he was a Research Associate with the Conflict Studies Research Centre at Camberley, in the United Kingdom. Mr. Imnadze worked as an Assistant, as well as Spokesman/Press Secretary, to the President of Georgia between 2000 and 2003, before which he served as Deputy Secretary of the National Security Council between 1998 and 2000. Between 1994 and 1998, he was Deputy Chief of Mission to the

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Brussels, from where he was accredited simultaneously to Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg. From 1993 to 1994, Mr. Imnadze headed the Western Europe Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and was Deputy Head of the South-East Asia Department between 1992 and 1993, having started his foreign service career as an intern in 1989. Mr. Imnadze holds a master's degree in English language and literature from Tbilisi State University. Born in Tbilisi, Georgia, on 4 February 1969, he is married and has a daughter.



H.E. Mr. Mogens Lykketoft, Incoming President of the 70th Session of UN General Assembly

On 15 June 2015, the United Nations General Assembly elected Mogens Lykketoft of Denmark to serve as the President of its seventieth session, which runs from September 2015 to September 2016. At the time of his election, Mr. Lykketoft was the Speaker (President) of the Danish Parliament, a position he had held since 2011. Mr. Lykketoft is an economist by training and a veteran parliamentarian and government minister. As chairman of the Social Democratic Party from 2002 to 2005, he was also opposition leader in Parliament. Mr. Lykketoft served as Cabinet Minister for nearly eleven years – most recently as Foreign Minister, from 2000 to 2001. He was Minister for Taxation as early as 1981-82 and for nearly eight years he was Finance Minister

from 1993 to 2000, when he spearheaded economic reforms that led to a rise in employment rates and a strengthened economy. During the same period, Denmark, which has traditionally been an active supporter of international development efforts, dramatically exceeded its development assistance targets. Mr. Lykketoft has been a Member of Parliament since 1981 – during twelve consecutive general elections – the most recent on 18 June 2015. He is on leave from Parliament while serving as the President of the seventieth session of the United Nations General Assembly. Mr. Lykketoft was Vice-President of the Danish Parliament from 2009 to 2011. He also served on the Parliament's Public Accounts Committee, from 2006 to 2011, and was the foreign policy spokesman of his party, from 2005 to 2011. Over the period 1982 to 1993, when his party was in opposition, Mr. Lykketoft chaired several parliamentary committees, was the key negotiator with the centre-right government on economic policy and budgets. He was the parliament spokesperson for his party from 1991 to 1993, and again, from 2001 to 2002. Previously, from 1975 to 1981, Mr. Lykketoft headed a department of the Danish Labour Movement's Economic Council – an economic think-tank established by the Danish Confederation of Trade Unions and the Social Democratic Party. Mr. Lykketoft has – together with a Liberal former foreign minister - been a regular foreign affairs analyst and commentator with Danish TV2 News since 2010, appearing on the weekly news magazine Ellemann & Lykketoft.

1 “Honoring the Past, Recognizing the Present, Imagining the Future”
On the Occasion of the 70th anniversary of the UN Charter • A Report and Celebration: Five Continents, 70 Years, Changing the Planet

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS



H. E. Mr. Yuriy Sergeyev, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations

“The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations is proud to be one of the Lead Endorsers for the 2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations. In support of developing the role of NGOs and universal organizations, this Conference will develop unique collaboration that has helped to establish a broad and profound platform for exchange of experiences in different regions of the world. Let us celebrate the 70th anniversary of the United Nations and its very special relationship with civil society throughout the world.”

H.E. Mr. Yuriy A. Sergeyev is Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations since May 2007 and was elected Chair of the Sixth Committee (Legal and Administrative) on 4 September. Prior to that appointment, he was Ambassador to France since 2003, during which time he was also Permanent Representative to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Between 2001 and 2003, he was Secretary of State at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, a position he held after having served five months in 2001 as First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. From 2000 to 2001, he was Director-General for Foreign Policy in the Administration of the President of Ukraine. Between 1997 and 2000, Mr. Sergeyev was Ambassador to Greece and Albania, prior to which he had served as Minister Counsellor at his country’s Embassy in the United Kingdom for 11 months in 1997. He twice headed the Foreign Ministry’s Directorate for Information, first from late 1993 to mid 1994, and again from late 1994 to early 1997. He was Director of the Secretariat of the Minister for Foreign Affairs from August to December 1994, and Director of the Foreign Ministry’s Press Service from 1992 to 1993. Mr. Sergeyev earned a doctorate at T. Shevchenko Kyiv State University in 1981. Born on 5 February 1956 in Leninakan, Armenia, Mr. Sergeyev is married.



H. E. Mr. Guillermo Rishchynski, Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations

“The Permanent Mission of Canada is proud to be one of the Lead Endorsers of the 2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations. Along with The Permanent Missions of Suriname, Sao Tome and Principe, Ukraine, and others, we are happy to support a conference recognizing the special place that civil society has at the UN. We hope you will register and join this conference: Honoring the Past. Respecting the Present, imagining the Future at UNHQ on 25, 26, and 27 August 2015.”

H.E. Mr. Guillermo E. Rishchynski is the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations since September 14, 2011. From 2007 until his appointment, Mr. Rishchynski was the Canadian Ambassador to Mexico. He has held a number of positions in the Canadian foreign service. From 2005 to 2007, he served as Canadian Ambassador to Brazil. Prior to that assignment, from 2003 to 2005, he served as Vice-President for the Americas at the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in Canada. In 1999, he was appointed Ambassador to Colombia, serving for three years in Bogota. From 1997 to 1999, he served at the Canadian Consulate General in Chicago, Illinois, United States. He was stationed from 1993 to 1996 at the Canadian Embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia, and from 1992 to 1993, he served at the Canadian Consulate in Melbourne, Australia. From 1985 to 1989, he was posted at the Canadian Embassy in Amman, Jordan. Prior to those assignments, from 1983 to 1986, he served at the Canadian Consulates General in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, Brazil. At headquarters in Ottawa, he held several senior positions, including as Deputy Director of Mexico, Latin America and Caribbean, from 1989 to 1992, and Director of the Team Canada Task Force, from 1997 to 1998. From 2002 to 2003, he was the Inspector General of the Department of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Rishchynski joined the foreign service in 1982, after a career in the private sector in marketing and project management in Africa and Latin America. The new Ambassador obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree, with honours, in political science from McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, in 1975. He also pursued graduate studies at the Norman Patterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University in Ottawa. He is fluent in English, Spanish, French and Portuguese. Born in Toronto, Ontario, in 1953, Mr. Rishchynski is married with two children.

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

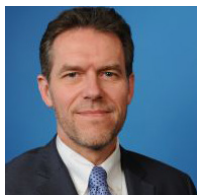
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H. E. Ambassador Oh Joon, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations

“The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea is proud to join the Lead Endorsers of the 2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations. We believe this conference will be a meaningful opportunity to strengthen the UN’s relations with civil society as we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the United Nations. The Republic of Korea will continue to support NGO development and participation.”

H.E. Mr. Oh Joon is a career diplomat who has served the Republic of Korea in various posts. He was appointed as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Korea to the United Nations in New York on September 20, 2013. He currently serves as the President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and as the President-Elect of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) for the 2015-2016 term. He also served as President of the Security Council for May 2014 during the 2013-2014 term. Prior to this position, he was Ambassador of the Republic of Korea in Singapore from 2010-13 and Deputy Minister for Multilateral and Global Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Seoul from 2008-2010.



H. E. Mr. Ib Petersen, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations

“Choosing to be a Lead Endorser of the 2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations is a natural choice for the Permanent Mission of Denmark to the United Nations. Denmark has a strong track record in supporting civil society engagement with the UN and decision makers in general. In recognizing the benefits of civil society participation, the NGO Conference will be a unique opportunity to exchange experiences and celebrate the active involvement of NGO’s in the 70 year history of the UN. I look forward to seeing you in New York in August!”

H.E. Mr. Ib Petersen is the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations in New York as of 1 August 2013. Before taking up this position, he served as State Secretary for Development Policy of the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 2009. Prior to this he was State Secretary for Development Cooperation, Middle East, Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the United Nations. Ambassador Petersen has held a number of senior management positions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including Under-Secretary for Bilateral Development Cooperation, (2004-07), Head of Department, Policy and Planning (2001-04), and Deputy Head of Department, Development Policy and Planning (1998-2001). He served as Deputy Head of the Danish Embassy in Zimbabwe (1995-98) and as Advisor to the Nordic Executive Director on the Board of the World Bank in Washington D.C. (1988-91).



H. E. Mr. Henry MacDonald, Permanent Representative of Suriname to the United Nations

“The Permanent Mission of Suriname to the United Nations is proud to be the Lead Endorser for the 2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations. We look forward to active NGO engagement and attendance at the Conference on 25, 26, and 27 August. We also encourage civil society to show up and show off with exhibits, workshops, panels, and other public events during the conference.

Henry Leonard Mac-Donald, the Permanent Representative of Suriname to the United Nations, was elected Chair of the Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) on 4 September. Mr. MacDonald has served as Permanent Representative since August 2007. Prior to that, for six years, he served as the Deputy Chief of Mission at Suriname’s Embassy to the United States in Washington, D.C., as well as Alternate Representative to the Organization of American States (OAS). In 2000, he served as Chargé d’ Affairs ad Interim at the Embassy in Washington and as his country’s Interim Representative to OAS. From 2004, he was also the Coordinator of Suriname to the Summit of the Americas Implementation Process. A legal scholar and academic with more than a decade of Government service, Mr. Mac-Donald served as the Coordinator of the Unit for International Affairs and Human Rights in

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

Suriname's Ministry of Justice and Police from 1989 to 1998. He followed that with a three-year stint in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the Deputy Chief of Mission at Suriname's Permanent Mission to OAS. Mr. Mac-Donald has received numerous academic honours, including a human rights and environmental law fellowship at the University of Amsterdam, Netherlands (1998), and a UN-UNITAR (United Nations Institute for Training and Research) fellowship at the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands (1994). Mr. Mac-Donald, who speaks three languages, received a Master of Laws in law and government from the American University in Washington, D.C., in 2004. He also received a legal master's degree from Anton de Kon University of Suriname in 1994. His foundation course certificate is also from Anton de Kon University (1986-1988). Born on 3 August 1963 in North-West Nickerie, Suriname, Mr. Mac-Donald is married with five children.



H. E. Mr. Angelo Antonio Toriello, Deputy Permanent Representative of São Tomé and Príncipe to the United Nations

"The Permanent Mission of São Tomé and Príncipe to the United Nations is proud to have inspired and will produce the 2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations with our programming partner, the Friendship Ambassadors Foundation. Together we will work with Permanent Missions, UN offices, and NGOs around the world to create a major celebration honoring the special relationship between the United Nations and civil society throughout the world. We hope you will register and join us for all the events in and around the UN from 25-27 August!"

H.E. Ambassador Angelo Antonio Toriello, PhD is a diplomat and social activist, with media and scientific background as well as a PhD in philosophy of criminology, LL.M and a Master degree in Sociology (with specialization in behavioral observation related to the science of consciousness and integrated into quantum physics paradigms). Beyond his social and humanitarian efforts, and since 1985, His Excellency has been a member of a scientific group involved in "after life" studies, related to experiments of consciousness in comatose states. In the 1980s H.E. founded a business structure called Project Mystic Connection, through which promote a model of business relating one's wealth to "Humanizing Business" by embracing a concept of what is essential rather than a politic of self-interest, alone. Much more is available about the Lead Endorser and Visionary of Humanity upon request. "Peace is not something to compete for, while longing for a Novel Price; it is not an intellectual subject on which to dogmatize or a cultural contest. Peace is a way to be and live. It is an essential part of the true nature within us harbouring that which has just to be revealed...not achieved. Like Art. Art is Peace. Peace is not something to talk about, it is a value to enliven by practicing it. Like Art." It is by this that "Humanity" has been coined and shaped by His Excellency; a word that he says is "hurling and urging to call back out that humanity often forgotten in the name of diplomacy."



H. E. Mr. Hahn Choonghee, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations

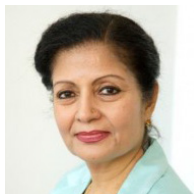
"Republic of Korea, currently assuming the UN Economic and Social Council presidency, will work for a robust review mechanism of the 2030 development agenda together with all stakeholders including government, private sector and civil society organizations. CSOs full engagement throughout the implementation and follow-up and review is crucial for a successful 2030 global agenda."

Hahn Choong-hee is currently Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations in New York (2014-). He was elected as Chairperson of the 47th Session of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) for a 1-year term from July 2014 to July 2015. Ambassador HAHN's major positions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs include Director-General for Cultural Affairs (2012-2014), Sous-sherpa and Spokesman for the 2012 Seoul Nuclear Security Summit (2011-2012), Director-General for Human Resources (2010), and Deputy Director-General for North Korean Nuclear Affairs (2007-2008). Ambassador Hahn also served in the Ministry as Director for North American Affairs (2005-2007) and was Director for Policy and DPRK at the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) in New York (2002-2005). As a career diplomat, his areas of expertise include North Korean nuclear affairs, nuclear non-proliferation, regional architecture surrounding the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia, North

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

American, European and African affairs, as well as public diplomacy. He also served at the Korean Embassy in Washington, D.C. (1991-1994), Lagos (1994-1996), Vienna (1999-2002), and Paris (2008-2010). Ambassador Hahn received an M.A. in international relations from the University of Pennsylvania, a B.A. in French from Seoul National University and studied at the University of Paris I (Pantheon-Sorbonne) in its training program.



Lakshmi Puri, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations & Deputy Executive Director of UN Women

Ms. Lakshmi Puri is Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Deputy Executive Director of UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. She is directly responsible for the leadership and management of the Bureau for Intergovernmental Support, United Nations Coordination, and Strategic Partnerships. She is currently Acting Head of UN Women. Ms. Puri joined UN Women in March 2011, shortly after its creation. As a member of the senior leadership team, she actively

contributed to the institutional development and consolidation of the entity, shaping its first Strategic Plan and positioning it as the leading organization for the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment globally. She steered UN Women's engagement in major intergovernmental processes, such as the Rio+20 conference and the Commission on the Status of Women. She also led efforts to build strategic partnerships, particularly with civil society and women's organizations, and oversaw the adoption and implementation of UN system-wide accountability and coherence systems for gender equality and women's empowerment. Throughout her career, Ms. Puri has promoted the gender equality and women's empowerment agenda in various capacities in the context of peace and security, human rights and sustainable development. She has extensive experience in economic and development policy-making covering trade, investment, migration and labour mobility, financial flows, environment and climate change, energy, agriculture and food security, universal access to essential services, intellectual property rights, and traditional knowledge, among other issues. Ms. Puri's work with the UN dates back to 1981, when she was a delegate to the Commission on Human Rights where she was involved in the negotiation of some key human rights conventions, notably during her postings in Geneva including as Deputy Permanent Representative. She dealt with a range of UN specialized agencies, as well as the World Trade Organization (GATT/WTO). She has a Bachelor of Arts (honours) from Delhi University and a postgraduate degree from Punjab University, as well as professional diplomas. She studied history, public policy and administration, international relations and law, and economic development. Ms. Puri has contributed to policy-related research at think tanks and academic institutions and has been on the board of public policy institutions and companies. Ms. Puri is married and has two daughters.



Thomas Gass, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs in UN DESA

Thomas Gass of Switzerland was appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon as Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and sworn into office on 3 September 2013. Mr. Gass, brings with him wide-ranging experience in bilateral and multilateral development cooperation. From August 2009 to July 2013, he has served as Head of the Mission of Switzerland to Nepal (Ambassador and Country Director of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation). Before his posting to Nepal, Mr. Gass was Head of the Economic and Development Section at the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations in New York. During this time, He was the Chair of the Donor Group of the UN Global Compact, in 2006 he was the Vice-President (WEOG) of the Commission on Population and Development and in 2008, he was the Vice-President (WEOG) of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA. Mr Gass also served as Policy and Programme Officer for the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, as Deputy Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Guyana, and as Regional Director for Europe with the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute in Rome. Mr. Gass holds a PhD in natural sciences from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich and an MSc and engineering diploma in agricultural sciences from the same Institute.

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS



H.E. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's Special Adviser on Post-2015 Development Planning

Ms. Mohammed was born in 1961, in Nigeria. She was appointed in July 2012 by the UN Secretary General as Special Adviser on Post-2015 Development Planning. Ms. Mohammed has more than 30 years experience as a development practitioner in the public and private sectors, as well as civil society. Prior to her UN role, she served as Senior Special Assistant to the President of Nigeria on the MDGs, serving three Presidents over a period of six years. Ms. Mohammed has served on numerous international advisory panels and boards. She is

a recipient of the Nigerian 'National Honours Award of the Order of the Federal Republic' and was inducted in the Nigerian Women's Hall of Fame in 2007. Ms. Mohammed has four children.



Cristina Gallach, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information

In December 2014, Ms. Cristina Gallach of Spain was appointed as Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information. Ms. Gallach has a wealth of experience in communications, information, public diplomacy, international affairs and security policy, combined with transformational leadership and hands-on management expertise. She is also an experienced newspaper, radio and television journalist. Before joining the UN, Ms. Gallach had served as Head of the Public Relations Unit in the Council

of the European Union, Directorate General for Information and Communication, Brussels, since 2010. In that role she was responsible for designing and implementing the EU Council's communication strategies and for its public relations and outreach to key partners, including opinion-makers, civil society and academia. Prior to that, Ms. Gallach was Spokesperson of the Spanish Government for the European Union rotating Presidency (2010); Spokesperson and Chief Media Advisor of the European Union High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (1999-2009); and Deputy Spokesperson of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Chief Media Adviser for the Secretary-General (1996-1999). Ms. Gallach spent more than 15 years as a journalist, during which time she held the positions of senior correspondent for EFE, the Spanish news agency, in Brussels (1993-1996) and in Moscow (1990-1992). She was also a correspondent with El Periodico newspaper in Barcelona (1986-1990), a United States correspondent for Avui newspaper (1984-1986) and a reporter with TVE Barcelona (1983-1984). Ms. Gallach holds a master's degree in international affairs from Columbia University, New York, and a degree in communication and journalism from the Universidad Autonoma, Barcelona. She has been a frequent lecturer on communications and public relations in universities and at conferences.

DAY 1 – MODERATORS AND SPEAKERS

OPENING PANEL



Moderator: Ravi Karkara, Strategic Adviser Partnerships to the Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Executive Director, UN-Women

Ravi Karkara is an acknowledged expert in international development currently serving as a Strategic Adviser Partnership to the Assistant Secretary-General & Deputy Executive Director of UN-Women. Mr. Karkara has been driving innovation and international advocacy in the areas of human rights, participation, inclusion and gender equality, accountability, and social justice. He developed and led the outreach of the UN MyWorld Survey to deliver votes from more than 6 million youth from 193 nations. The MyWorld Survey is a first of its

kind UN effort to engage global populations on sustainable development goals. Mr. Karkara has been the recipient of the prestigious NOVUS Award – that unites global shapers from around the world to tackle today's grand challenges via actionable change. He has also been appointed as the honorary Global Ambassador to the prestigious Junior Chamber International - a 100 year old network of

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

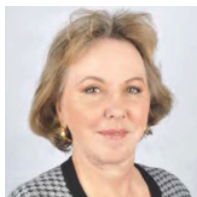
young active citizens working on civic engagement and skills development worldwide. Mr. Karkara's publications have been fundamental in forming policy at the United Nations in numerous areas. Representative publications include: Youth 21: Building the Architecture of Youth Engagement in the UN System," (as lead author), which contributed to the creation of United Nations Secretary General's Envoy on Youth. Mr. Karkara has been at the forefront of utilizing technology at the UN to engage youth populations globally. In addition to his ground-breaking work with the MyWorld Survey, he is now the co-chair of World We Want 2015— the largest UN & civil society post-2015 data-curation-visualization Big Data platform to further engage global populations on sustainable development goals. World We Want has curated over 1,000,000 perspectives on sustainable development goals. Additionally, Mr. Karkara has appointments with numerous UN agencies and governments. He serves as Global Advisor on Youth with UN-HABITAT and has represented UN-HABITAT as the co-chair of the UN Interagency Network on Youth Development. The Government of Sri Lanka appointed him as the Global Advisor to the World Conference on Youth in 2014. Ravi also served as the Global Strategic Advisor on Partnership with the UN Millennium Campaign. He has extensive experience in facilitating and managing strategy development processes with a diverse spectrum of audiences ranging from policy makers and development workers to local communities. He has extensive experience in knowledge creation and management. He has written more than 80 publications and has given keynote and panel addresses across the world. Mr. Karkara also serves on numerous advisory panels and boards, including Partnership for Change - Norway, Verdentum - a non-profit social network, SAATHI, and Executive Board of Advisors of NEXUS India.



Bruce Knotts, Chair of the NGO / DPI Executive Committee & Executive Director of Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office (UU-UNO)

"For 70 years the United Nations has worked closely with civil society, including human rights defenders, humanitarians, peace makers and peace keepers, disarmament experts, and climate scientists and more to ensure that every one everywhere will enjoy a safe and dignified life. There can be no better work than this."

Bruce Knotts was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ethiopia, worked for Raytheon in Saudi Arabia (1976-80) and on a World Bank contract in Somalia (1982-4), before he joined the Department of State as a U.S. diplomat in 1984. Bruce had diplomatic assignments in Greece, Zambia, India, Pakistan, Kenya, Sudan, Cote d'Ivoire and The Gambia, where he was Deputy Chief of Mission. While in Cote d'Ivoire, Bruce served as the Regional Refugee Coordinator for West Africa covering 16 African nations from Mauritania to Nigeria, but focusing on the refugees from the conflicts in Sierra Leone, Liberia and later in Cote d'Ivoire itself. Bruce worked closely with several UN Special Representatives and observed UN peacekeeping operations in Sierra Leone from 2000-2003. In 2004, Bruce was elected to the Board of GLIFAA (Gays and Lesbians in Foreign Affairs Agencies). Bruce retired from the Foreign Service in 2007 and joined the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office (UU-UNO) as its Executive Director at the beginning of 2008. Bruce founded faith-based advocacy for sexual orientation/gender identity human rights at the United Nations and he continues to advocate for the rights of women, indigenous peoples and for sustainable development in moral terms of faith and values. Bruce is co-chair of the UN NGO Committee on Human Rights, the NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace and Security, member of the NGO UN Security Council Working Group, on the Board of the NGO UN Committee on Sustainable Development and chair of the NGO/DPI Executive Committee. Bruce married Isaac Humphrie 2006.



Dr. Christine Durbak, Founder & Chair, World Information Transfer

The ideals of the UN Charter are embraced by NGOs around the world. While we celebrate the Charter's fundamental ideals of peace and human rights, we should also remember the wise advice offered by American President and environmentalist, Theodore Roosevelt: "In your ideals, keep your eyes on the stars and your feet on the ground." Dr. Christine K. Durbak has a clinical practice in psychoanalysis, specializing in narcissistic disorders and is the President of Executive Stress Management dealing with issues of executive management and conflict resolutions in companies throughout US, Europe and Asia. Previously she was the

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

CEO of Physicians Weekly, LLC, a company dedicated to the dissemination of up to date medical information to hospitals, physicians. She was also a President of the National and World Association for the Advancement of Psychoanalysis. In 1987, following the Chernobyl catastrophe, Dr. Durbak began World Information Transfer, Inc. (WIT) a 501(c)3, non-for-profit organization in general consultative status with UN/ECOSOC, dedicated to disseminating information on safeguarding human health from the ravaging effects of environmental catastrophes and degradation. Dr. Durbak was a member of the Advisory Board of the National Cancer Institute Chernobyl Study. She is the Editor in Chief of the World Ecology Report, which disseminates information on the issues of health and environment internationally, Chair of WIT's annual international Conference held at the United Nations Secretariat since 1992 on the topic of Health and Environment: Global Partners for Global Solutions and supervisor of WIT's Summer UN Internship program. Dr. Durbak is also the President of the K.Kovshevych Foundation assisting gifted young students with grants for their university studies.



Roberto Borrero, Indigenous Leader; UN Programs Coordinator, International Indian Treaty Council

Roberto Múkaro Borrero is an internationally renowned and respected member of the indigenous Taíno community of the Caribbean. He has a long history in cultural, environmental, and human rights advocacy working at the local, national, and international level. Roberto is currently the chair of the NGO Committee on the United Nations International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples and a global organizing partner focal point representing the International Indian Treaty Council for the Indigenous Peoples Major Group. Roberto also has extensive experience working with non-profit and for-profit entities such as PBS;

BBC; the American Museum of Natural History; the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian; El Museo de Barrio; the Institute for American Indian Studies; Aveda Corporation; Natural Resources Stewardship Circle; Este Lauder; and Tribal Link Foundation. Roberto continues to be called upon to share his expertise in various capacities within the United Nations system, working in collaboration with numerous agencies and specialized programs, such as the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; United Nations Development Program; United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development; UNICEF; UN Convention on Biological Diversity; UN Environmental Programme; the UN Global Compact; and UNESCO. He has a degree in Communications from American Public University, a Certificate for "Working in Contemporary Native Nations" from UCLA, and in 2013 he received an honorary Doctorate of Philosophy in Humanities from Kayiwa University in Kampala, Uganda.



Jeffery Huffines, Chief UN Representative, CIVICUS

Jeffery Huffines joined CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation in April 2009 as Main Representative at United Nations Headquarters in New York. He has been one of the UN DESA NGO Major Group Organizing Partners since 2011 responsible for guiding multi-stakeholder engagement of NGOs in sustainable development activities at the UN. Mr. Huffines was Chair of the 65th Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference on the theme "2015 and Beyond: Our Action Agenda", that took place at UN HQ, 27-29 August 2014, and was elected Chair of the NGO/DPI Executive Committee (2007-2011). He had previously served as Main UN Representative

for the U.S. Baha'i Community where he led a number of NGO initiatives as Co-Chair of the Faith and Ethics Network for the International Criminal Court (FENICC); Chair of the UN Association/USA's New York Council of Organizations; President of the Committee of Religious NGOs; and co-founder of the Tripartite Forum on International Cooperation for Peace.



Rosa Lizarde, Global Director, Feminist Task Force

Rosa G. Lizarde is the Global Director of the Feminist Task Force (FTF), a coalition of women's rights organizations and gender advocates calling for gender equality as central to poverty eradication, launched under the auspices of the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) in 2005. Rosa has spearheaded various initiatives expanding the role of women's participation and civil society at the UN and international fora. Under Rosa's leadership, the FTF conducted over twenty women's tribunals highlighting the interlinkages among

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

gender, poverty and climate justice. She is a founding member and a current co-coordinator of the Women's Working Group on Financing for Development (FfD) and a lead organizer of the Women's Forum on FfD in Addis Ababa ahead of the Third International Conference on FfD (July, 2015). Rosa was a founder of the Post 2015 Women's Coalition and is a member of the Women's Major Group. She currently serves as the Co-Chair of the Policy and Strategy Group of the World We Want 2015.org, a global web platform where she calls for bridging the gender digital divide and an inclusive data revolution. As a member of the Post 2015 Addressing Inequalities Consultation convened by UNICEF and UN Women, she has highlighted the increasing feminization of poverty and growing gender-based violence. Rosa is a Latina of Mexican descent based in New York and a graduate of Columbia University's School for International and Public Affairs.

ROUNDTABLE 1



Moderator: **Jonathan Granoff, President, Global Security Institute**

“The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are an expression of the global common good addressing real family values for the entire human family -- transcending national, religious, and gender boundaries. Diplomats are bound by their nation’s interests. Civil Society over decades has proven the value of its capacity to advocate without such boundaries, forcefully advancing the global common good.”

Jonathan Granoff is an attorney, author and international advocate emphasizing the legal, ethical and spiritual dimensions of human development and security, with a specific focus on advancing the rule of law to address the threats posed by nuclear weapons. He is president of the Global Security Institute, Chair of the Task Force on Nuclear Non-Proliferation of the International Law Section of the American Bar Association, and Adjunct Professor of International Law at Widener University School of Law. He is Senior Advisor to the Nobel Peace Laureate Summit and has served as Vice President and UN Representative of the Lawyer's Alliance for World Security. He serves on numerous governing and advisory boards including: the ABA International Law Section, Lawyers Committee on Nuclear Policy, Fortune Forum, Jane Goodall Institute, the NGO Committee on Disarmament, Peace and Security and Middle Powers Initiative.

Mr. Granoff is the award-winning screenwriter of *The Constitution: The Document that Created a Nation*, and has articles in more than 50 publications and books including: *The Sovereignty Revolution, Toward a Nuclear Weapons Free World, Imagining Tomorrow, Analyzing Moral Issues, Perspectives on 9/11, Toward a World In Balance, Reverence for Life Revisited, and Hold Hope, Wage Peace*. He has been a featured guest and expert commentator on hundreds of radio and television pro-grams, testified in Congress and at the UN numerous times and has, since 2003, addressed the annual Nobel Peace Laureate Summit in Paris and Rome.



Dr. Margaret (Peg) Snyder, Founding Director of UNIFEM & Co-Founder of the African Centre for Women

“It is a joy to join this celebration of NGO’s and their 70 year cooperation with and contributions to the work of the United Nations. NGOs have brought the UN closer to the world’s people, for example through pressing UNIFEM - and UNDP through UNIFEM - to finance revolving loan funds to be managed by local community organizations, and to support NGO’s directly, in addition to supporting Government activities as had been the sole procedure of UN development funds until the 1980s.”

Dr. Margaret (Peg) Snyder is the founding Director of UNIFEM, now called UN Women. She worked with UNIFEM's intergovernmental committee, members of the Secretariat and NGO's to establish and develop the fund, which was proposed at the 1975 Mexico City first global women's Conference and originally called the Voluntary Fund for the UN Decade for Women. Before that, she had co-founded the African Centre for Women at the UN Economic Commission for Africa, that was the first regional centre and produced the first Data Base on the situation of women in African Countries. She earned her PhD at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania - the first PhD ever given there.

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

A long-time NGO member herself, since retiring from the UN, Peg joined colleagues in creating two new NGOs: the Sirleaf Market Women's Fund that honors Africa's first elected woman President, and the Green Belt Movement International, founded by Professor Wangari Maathai, who would later be the first African woman to win the coveted Nobel Peace Prize. Peg takes pride in UNIFEM's having given the Green Belt Movement its initial major grant, that attracted many other grants and helped make the GBM known worldwide.

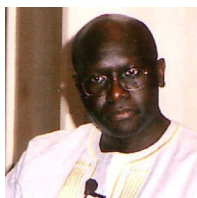
Her publications include: *Transforming Development: Women, Poverty and Politics* - the history of UNIFEM's first 15 years; *African Women and Development: A History* written with Mary Tadesse; and *Above the Odds: A Decade of Change for Ugandan Women Entrepreneurs*, co-authored with Sarah Kitakule. Her papers are in the Seeley Mudd Archives at Princeton University.



Daniela Bas, Director, Division for Social Policy and Development, UN DESA

Ms. Bas is of Italian nationality and was appointed Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DSPD/UNDESA) on 9 May 2011. A political scientist specialized in international politics, and social development, Ms. Bas has most recently served as Secretary General of the Interministerial Committee for Human Rights within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and as Senior Consultant designated by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs as expert on social development and human rights to Institutes that operate internationally. She has also provided her expertise on anti-discrimination

issues at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers in Italy. Ms. Bas has worked for close to 10 years for the UN as a Professional Officer in social development and human rights, traveling around the world on behalf of the UN and also as a speaker at international conventions. In the past she has also held a number of other significant assignments including as Special Adviser on fundamental rights and social policies for the Vice President of the European Commission (Belgium); as the Italian representative designated by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on the topic "Tourism for All" to the European Commission (Belgium); and as journalist and broadcaster for Radio and TV both in Italy and abroad. In 2008 she also got her Master as Business and Life Coach. Ms. Bas until recently was a Board Member of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (Austria) and of the Committee to Promote non-Armed and non-Violent Civil Defense within the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (Italy). She graduated in Political Science in 1985, with a major in International Politics and wrote a dissertation on "The elimination of architectural barriers and the employment of people with physical disabilities". For more information, please visit: social.un.org and unsdn.org



Ochoro E. Otunnu, J.D., President of NexAfrica LLC

Ochoro E. Otunnu is president of NexAfrica LLC, a financial firm that specializes in building financial infrastructure in Africa and is leveraging data analytics to provide affordable debt financing for small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Africa. He is a corporate finance and constitutional lawyer with extensive experience in negotiating, designing, and structuring complex, innovative transactions. He is also a human rights activist with a long experience in human rights work in Africa. His corporate work focuses on corporate finance, corporate governance, securities law, capital markets, funds formation and structuring, and venture

capital and private equity. His human rights work includes environmental conservation and sustainable resource development, access to HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention, free and fair elections, and democratic governance. Mr. Otunnu was the executive director of Africa AIDS Initiative (AAI), a group that mobilized international support for HIV/AIDS funding in Africa. He was also the program coordinator for Oxfam America's international relief and development program in Southern Africa. He has consulted for many international organizations, including the United Nations Development Programme and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies in Switzerland. He sits on the board of several philanthropic organizations, including The Green Belt Movement International (USA) and the Citizens Rights Bureau (Uganda). Mr. Otunnu is a frequent public speaker and has appeared on the National Public Radio, spoken at the Council on Foreign Relations, the Brookings Institution, the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, Yale Law School, the Global Citizens Circle, and many other public fora. He holds an AB in Government from Dartmouth College, an MA in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics (PPE) from Oxford University, and a Juris Doctor from Columbia University School of Law School.

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

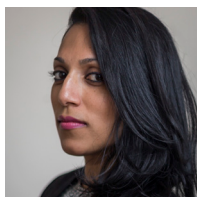


Emilie McGlone, Director, Peace Boat US

"We seek to educate, raise awareness and inspire positive action through our peace education programs onboard the Peace Boat held in collaboration with United Nations representatives, local NGOs and civil society movements around the world. We believe that this conference will provide an opportunity for open exchange and dialogue with various sectors to work towards peace and sustainability. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and we hope that along with our celebrations at the United Nations, we may also work towards a nuclear free world together".

Emilie McGlone is the current Director of the New York-based office of Peace Boat US, a non-profit organization working to promote peace, sustainable development and respect for the environment through educational programs organized onboard the Peace Boat, a chartered passenger ship that travels the world on peace voyages. Peace Boat holds Special Consultative Status with the Social and Economic Council of the United Nations and works in partnership with UN delegates, Nobel Peace Laureates and community leaders from around the world to create opportunities for international cooperation focused on conflict resolution, environmental sustainability, indigenous issues, cultural awareness and peace education. Founded in 1983 and nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2009, Peace Boat has sailed on over 83 global voyages, carrying more than 50,000 people to more than 100 countries. Currently, Peace Boat is launching a new initiative to build an ECO SHIP, which will showcase green technology and design, while inspiring positive change to radically reduce our carbon footprint. For more information about the Peace Boat, please visit www.peaceboat.org

GUEST SPEAKERS



Penny Abeywardena, Commissioner, New York City Mayor's Office for International Affairs

"On behalf of New York City, Mayor de Blasio is very proud to welcome civil society leaders from around the world to the 2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations. As we commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the UN, recognition of the integral role that civil society has played in shaping and informing the UN's world-changing work is necessary and appropriate. We applaud the work that your organizations are doing to ensure a more just and accessible world, and look forward to your contributions to the achievement of the post-2015 Development Agenda during your time with us here in New York City, and in the years to come."

Penny Abeywardena is New York City's Commissioner for International Affairs. As the head of the Mayor's Office for International Affairs, she leads the office's mission to serve as the primary liaison between the City of New York and the diplomatic community, foreign governments, the United Nations, and the U.S. Department of State. In addition to the important formal function of the office, she is working to build a global platform through which the City can promote its equity agenda and share policies and best practices globally. Prior to joining Mayor Bill de Blasio's administration, Penny was the Director of Girls and Women Integration at the Clinton Global Initiative. During her time in this role, she advised multinational corporations, philanthropists, NGOs, and multilateral institutions to increase investments in gender-focused development initiatives; and expanded the community of CGI members who incorporate the gender lens in their work. Before joining the Clinton Global Initiative, Penny worked in both development and programmatic areas for Human Rights Watch, the Funding Exchange and the Drum Major Institute for Public Policy. Penny is a member of the World Bank's Advisory Council on Gender and Development, a Term Member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and a contributing author in the book "Women in the Global Economy: Leading Social Change." Penny is a graduate of the University of Southern California and completed her Master of International Affairs at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS



Hadia Sheerazi, Girl Rising Ambassador; Half the Sky Ambassador; Youth Expert, Commonwealth Youth Climate Change Network

“Civil society continues to be one the most powerful forces for change in our communities, and the NGO Conference at the UN is a celebration of the legacies and contributions of all those who have partnered with the United Nations for the past 70 years. This is also a significant moment to acknowledge the importance of encouraging and cultivating tomorrow’s advocates, changemakers and leaders.”

Hadia was a Presidential Scholar in the Honors Program at St. John’s University. As an undergraduate she was inducted into six national honor societies as well as the President’s Society and Skull & Circle Honor Society. She was awarded the Gold Key (Economics), John J. Coffey Award, Martin Luther King Jr. & St. Vincent de Paul Leadership Award, and was named to Who’s Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities. Hadia graduated summa cum laude as the Commencement Speaker and Student Marshall in 2010. She went on to serve as Pro Bono Coordinator at the international law firm, Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP, managing pro bono partnerships, legal clinics and matters across five cities. In 2011, the firm exceeded 45,000 hours of pro bono work and was ranked #1 on The American Lawyer’s A-List. She returned to St. John’s to serve as Graduate Assistant to the Executive Vice President and obtained an MA in International Relations and Public Administration. In 2014, she participated as a consultant in Accion East’s MicroConsulting Program and was the youngest participant selected by the Aspen Institute to attend the New York Socrates Salon. Currently, Hadia is studying Sustainability at Columbia University. Her research and writings are focused on human rights, diplomacy, climate change, disaster risk reduction, gender equality, international development, and womenomics. She is an Advisor on Youth and Enterprise to the Commonwealth Businesswomen’s Network, Peace Wall Ambassador for CITYarts, Girl Rising Ambassador, Half the Sky Campus Ambassador, ONE Campaign Campus Ambassador, Amplifier for Girl Be Heard, Advisory Board Member of Cristo Rey High School, Global Youth Ambassador for A World At School and was selected as a Global Champion for Women’s Economic Empowerment by Empower Women. She was one of the youngest Team Leaders of the Grants Advisory Committee of The New York Women’s Foundation, and was involved in recommending over \$400,000 in grant awards for six non-profits. She was a Board Member of the Young Women’s Council of High Water Women’s Foundation and member of Women’s World Banking Young Professionals Network. Most recently she delivered the youth reflection at UN Global Compact’s 2015 Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEPs) event, and presented her research on gender gaps in national disaster risk reduction plans at the 2015 Commonwealth Youth Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Climate Change. Hadia’s memoir-based writing has been published in two anthologies and a book on writing center pedagogy, and she has served as a speaker and panelist at several conferences and events.

Dr. Xiangang Guo, President, World Academy of Development Sciences; Chairman, World Development Foundation

(Please check back later for bio.)

Guo Yuntao, Deputy President of Global National Competitiveness Cooperation Organization for the UN

(Please check back later for bio.)



Laura Turner Seydel, Chairperson, Captain Planet Foundation

Laura Turner Seydel is an international environmental advocate and eco-living expert dedicated to creating a healthy and sustainable future for our children. Laura is chairperson of the Captain Planet Foundation, which promotes hands-on environmental education projects worldwide. She is a director of and works with the Environmental Working Group to limit the toxic chemicals in food, air, water and consumer products. In 2004, she co-founded and is Board Chair of Mothers and Others for Clean Air, an official program of the American Lung Association Southeastern Region. In 1994, she and her husband co-founded Chattahoochee Riverkeeper.

Laura serves on the boards of her family’s foundations: the Turner Foundation, Jane Smith Turner Foundation, the Turner Endangered Species Fund, and Ted’s Montana Grill. She is vice chair of the League of Conservation Voters Education Fund and sits on the national

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

boards of the League of Conservation Voters, Defenders of Wildlife, Waterkeeper Alliance and the Carter Center Board of Councilors; she also serves on the advisory board for the Ray C. Anderson Foundation and board of directors of the Rotary Club of Downtown Atlanta. Laura lives with her husband and her three children in Atlanta. Their home, EcoManor, is the first LEED-certified Gold residence in the southeastern United States.



John Rutherford Seydel III

John Rutherford Seydel III is receiving his education at the University of Denver, majoring in Political Science and having minors in business and communications. As the eldest of Ted Turner's grandchildren, he currently sits as an honorary board member for the Turner Foundation, which is committed to preventing damage to the natural systems - water, air, and land - on which all life depends. John R. worked in the office and on the campaign trails for Gov. Hickenlooper and former Sen. Udall of Colorado. While at "DU" John R. has helped spearhead Divest DU, urging to divest/reinvest the university's endowment from fossil fuel investments, while

also taking a leadership role in DU Solar, which is currently working with the University to implement a 500Kw Solar installation on DU's Basketball/Hockey arena. John R. is also an entrepreneur, as the 22-year old has started his own company Show Your Power LLC, which is developing a political platform and mobile application that simplifies, customizes, and helps American citizens to realize their political power and hold their appropriate representatives accountable to the issues that the user is passionate about.

HONOREES



Dr. DeLois Blakely (Queen Mother of Harlem) – Honored by H. E. Mr. Koki Muli Grignon of the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations

As Queen Mother Dr. Delois Blakely Community Mayor of Harlem and Goodwill Ambassador to Africa said at the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment for Sustainable Development meeting, relating to Goal 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls "we must take the water of their heads and take the wood of their backs so that they can be empowered".

Queen Mother Dr. Delois Blakely carries the legacy of Queen Mother Audley Moore as The Queen Mother of All African Descendants representing the 55 million displaced Africans of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade and calls for reparations, enstooled in Ampondo, Volta Region in Ghana and received by the king of the Ashanti Kingdom and sent to his mother. Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, Former President of Tanzania and Dr. Angie Elizabeth Brooks, First Woman President of the General Assembly at the United Nations mentored her in the ways of diplomacy over the last 46 years. In 1958, Queen Mother Blakely entered the Franciscan Handmaids of the Most Pure Heart of Mary Convent. For ten years, as Sister Noelita Marie, she was dedicated in servicing the community. Queen Mother Blakely has received numerous degrees, fellowships and honourable mentions from MIT, Harvard, Columbia University, graduating from the Franciscan Handmaids of Mary College in 1965. She has published scholarly, popular books and articles on self-reliance, education, recreation and culture. In 1969, Queen Mother Dr. Blakely founded New Future Foundation Inc., a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural NGO with United Nations ECOSOC status. In 1995, Queen Mother Blakely was appointed "The Community Mayor of Harlem" and the Ambassador of Goodwill to Africa. She has travelled extensively around the world attending several United Nations Conferences since 1985 to the present. Queen Mother Dr. Delois Blakely a noble woman of compassion champions the aspirations of women, children and youth. She criticizes mankind for the economic injustice that has degraded billions of lives worldwide and champions' education, basic business training, microcredit, science and technology entrepreneurship, and "heart" as potential solutions for economic and sustainable development.

Sister Joan Kirby – Honored by Bruce Knotts
(Please check back later for bio.)

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

Amir Dossal – Honored by Laura Turner
(Please check Roundtable III for bio.)



Peggy Kerry – Honored by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry

Peggy Kerry is the NGO Liaison at the U.S. Mission to the UN, a position she has held since 1997. She is responsible for US mission's relations with NGOs, media and general public, and advises and assists Ambassadors, delegations and mission staff on all matters related to NGOs and press, and other segments of the civil society. She organizes and conducts briefings of NGOs on substantive issues and agenda items of the Security Council, UN Conferences and General Assembly, in particular, its 2nd and 3rd Committees. She also advises NGOs on UN functioning and working procedures, including ECOSOC accreditation process, and modalities of NGOs' attendance at UN meetings and conferences. Prior to her current position, Ms. Kerry an international advocacy consultant to Planned Parenthood of New York City, and attended a number of UN Conferences as part of their delegation. These included the 1994 Cairo Population Conference, the 1995 Copenhagen Social Summit and the 1995 Beijing Womens Conference. She was also a member of the U.S. delegation to the 1996 UUN Habitat II Conference in Istanbul. From 1979 to 1992 Ms. Kerry was Director of Government Relations for the Community Service Society of New York City, advocating for policies at the City, State and Federal level. Ms. Kerry is a graduate of Smith College, and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

PERFORMER



Cheng Lin, Internationally-recognized Chinese Pop Singer

Cheng Lin is one of China's best-selling artists who has influenced generations with her music. She is one of the country's most renowned vocalists and a master of the Erhu (Chinese violin) which she was taught to play by her father at the age of 6. At the age of 13, Cheng Lin released her debut album which was an overnight sensation and pioneered a distinctly Chinese style of pop. She went on to become the most successful vocalist of her generation with sales of over 25 million albums. She now works both in China, where she continues to perform to huge audiences and critical acclaim across the country, and in the US where she collaborates with some of the world's top producers and artists, making music that fuses East and West and touches hearts around the world.

DAY 2 – MODERATORS AND SPEAKERS

ROUNDTABLE II



Jan Peterson, Chair of the Coordinating Council of the Huairou Commission

Jan Peterson, Chair of the Huairou Commission, was awarded the UN-HABITAT Scroll of Honor in 2009 for four decades of activism championing the rights of grassroots women and their movements for better human settlements. She is a founder of three organizations – the National Congress of Neighbourhood Women, GROOTS International, and the Huairou Commission. Under her leadership, Huairou Commission's membership has expanded to include organizations in more than 50 countries across the globe. Through her strong advocacy, Jan has ensured that the global women's movement incorporates grassroots women's groups and community development priorities for sustainable human settlements. In addition to raising more than USD 4 million for work with grassroots women, Jan has supported pioneering initiatives that include the Local-to-Local Dialogue methodology and the Grassroots Women's Academy held at each World Urban Forum. In her coalition-building work, Ms. Peterson draws on decades of experience

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

in education, policy making, and community organizing. At the global level, Jan Peterson has led sustained advocacy to ensure that grassroots women are recognized as experts in development, who have innovative solutions to problems affecting their lives. As a result of these pioneering efforts, global agencies such as UN-Habitat, UN Women and UN ISDR have included women from poor communities in advisory and planning groups. In the Carter White House, she worked as the Associate Director of the Office of Public Liaison, as well as in the Office of Policy and Planning in Action (Peace Corps/VISTA). She has most recently taught at the New School Graduate Program in International Affairs and was a member of the Commission on the Legal Empowerment of the Poor, chaired by Madeline Albright. She continues to work as a leading organizer on housing and neighborhood development issues her own community in Brooklyn, New York.

Atama Katama, Coordinator, Local International Relations, PACOS Trust

(Please check back later for bio.)



Naiara Costa Chaves, Advocacy Director, Beyond 2015

Naiara Costa Chaves is an International Relations Analyst who currently serves as the Advocacy Director of Beyond 2015, a global civil society campaign. Prior to that, she worked as an Advisor on Gender, Social and Economic Rights at the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom in New York as well as a development advisor at the UK Department for International Development (DFID) in Brazil. Naiara has served the UN for more than a decade, working as a National Programme Officer at UNAIDS. She has also served the government of Brazil as an advisor at the Presidency of the Republic (National Anti-Drugs Secretariat) and the Ministry of Finance). Naiara worked as UN Public Affairs and Policy Advisor for the World Animal Protection. She holds a master on International Relations at the University of Brasilia (Brazil) and a MBA on Projects from Getulio Vargas Foundation.



Chris Dekki, Coordinator, Pax Romana

“All sectors of society and stakeholders had a role to play in the formulation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, and all sectors of society, namely the Major Groups and other Stakeholders, must continue to play a role in the implementation, follow-up, and review of the agenda. Without these stakeholders, the agenda will certainly fall short of its goals.”

Christopher Dekki is the Coordinator of the International Movement of Catholic Students - Pax Romana UN Advocacy Team. Chris also plays an active role in the UN Major Group for Children and Youth (UNMGCY) and is the UN Liaison for the International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organizations (ICMYO), the network of the world's largest youth-led and youth-serving organizations. Finally, Chris is a part time professor of Political Science at St. Joseph's College in Brooklyn.

ROUNDTABLE III



Moderator: Amir Dossal, Founder & Chairman, Global Partnerships Forum

“The NGO Conference at the United Nations is very timely, as we get ready to launch a new global development agenda. It is clear that NGOs play a critical role in implementing much needed programs and projects around the world. We applaud FAF for its leadership role in engaging civil society in nontraditional ways.”

Amir Dossal is Founder and Chairman of the Global Partnerships Forum, a non-profit addressing economic and social challenges through partnerships, established in 2010. The GPF serves as a platform, providing changemakers with tools to build partnerships. Amir is Co-Founder of the Pearl Initiative, which promotes transparency in the Middle East, and Co-Founder of the

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

Ocean Sanctuary Alliance. Amir is Commissioner of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development. In December 2010, His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco appointed Amir as Ambassador for Peace and Sport. In 2014, President Tommy Remengesau, Jr. appointed Amir Special Representative of Palau for Global Partnerships. The UN Global Compact appointed Amir as Special Adviser for Strategic Relationships in 2015. He is a 25-year veteran of the United Nations, and was the UN's Chief Liaison for Partnerships. As Executive Director of the UN Office for Partnerships, Amir managed Ted Turner's \$1 billion gift; and forged alliances addressing the Millennium Development Goals. He regularly undertakes speaking engagements globally, and also serves on the boards of several non-profits. Amir is married to Tas; they have one son, Zecki.



Peter Gorgievski, CEO & Director-General, Global Dialogue Foundation

"The SDG's require civil society to be effective and its partnerships with nation states must be meaningful. The 2015 NGO Conference is a unique opportunity to share, explore and unite in our efforts."

Pece is a staunch supporter of building a strong civil society around the world to work within the framework of the United Nations. He leads the Unity in Diversity-World Civil Society initiative, which is a global network engaged in building intercultural, inter-ethnic, inclusive and sustainable societies. Over the years, Pece has

worked closely with the UN Alliance of Civilizations, various government agencies and international organisations, the private sector and individuals in support of civil society organisations at the grassroots level. In the Australian community, Pece is one of the founders of the Community Leadership Network (Victoria), which focuses on building leadership capacity among community leaders from different cultural and ethnic backgrounds. The network provides a platform for ongoing community meetings and the creation of projects that help people integrate with mainstream society, while preserving their cultural identity and heritage. Pece is also a Director of an Australian private company involved in the importing and distribution business. He and his wife have 3 children, ages 17, 15 and 11.



Samira Salman, Managing Director, Global Access Partner LLC

"Connection and collaboration provides the most direct path to solutions and actions. The energy, camaraderie, and engagement facilitated by conferences like these are essential keys to success, and I'm honored to be a participant."

Samira Salman has advised executives, built companies, and facilitated capital, for multiple businesses.

Currently, she holds equity in several business and entrepreneurial ventures in the US and abroad including real estate; business & advisory firms; and lifestyle, luxury, and health & wellness brands. Miss Salman serves as a consultant and special advisor on multiple projects and is the CEO and founder of Salman Solutions, LLC, a strategic planning and business development company. She is the co-founder of Global Access Partner, LLC, an international business development firm, and is a senior advisor to Think Global Institute, a global business institute for female entrepreneurs. Additionally, she is an honorary advisor & program project director, social impact projects for the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development. Prior to Salman Solutions, Samira held positions at Arthur Andersen, Deloitte & Touche, KPMG, and was in-house tax counsel at Shell Oil Company. She has an LL.M. in Taxation from the University of Houston and a JD and BS in International Trade and Finance with a minor in Economics, from Louisiana State University. She is licensed to practice law in Texas, Louisiana, and before the US Tax Court.

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS



Danielle Kayembe, Founder, GreyFire Holding; Partner, Tour of Tech

Danielle works on projects focused on women, social impact, tech and Africa, developing initiatives that empower entrepreneurs in the US and emerging markets in Africa. Drawing on her background in finance and strategy, she bridges international companies and investors seeking to make a greater impact in the world. Danielle also provides consulting and advisory services to companies seeking opportunities for investment in Africa. She is currently a partner in the Tour of Tech, a new initiative that brings investors from Silicon Valley to tour tech hubs in Africa, curated to highlight local culture, women entrepreneurs and social impact startups.

Ms. Kayembe has over 10 years of experience in international consulting and finance in New York and sub-Saharan Africa. Ms. Kayembe worked as an investment banker in New York; working on over \$3.2 billion of deals as part of Banc of America's High Yield and Leveraged Finance Team, and \$25 billion of deals as part of the Leveraged Acquisition Finance team at HSBC Securities. In Africa, she has advised firms such as Helios Towers, Kingdom Zephyr and Vodacom, and consulted on both the business and community development factors involved in creating successful transactions. @kkayembe



Zainab Zeb Khan, President of Muslim American Leadership Alliance

"Never has the time been more crucial in the need for dedication to improve the well being of present and future generations through the promotion of sustainable development. We are determined to take bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world onto a collaborative, secure, and resilient path."

Zainab Zeb Khan is an award winning artist, activist, TED speaker, and international human rights professional. Zainab's articles and pieces have appeared in major news outlets, including the Huffington Post, CNN, ABC News, Fox, The Guardian, Daily Beast, World Pulse, The Economist, and the United Nations Association. She is the President of MALA: Muslim American Leadership Alliance. She is also in the groundbreaking film, Honor Diaries, the first film to break the silence about honor based violence against women. She has been a speaker at prestigious venues and conferences including Seneca Falls Women's Rights Conference, Museum of Tolerance, Capitol Hill, Women's Funding Network, and United Nations Foundation.

Zainab was awarded the prestigious Racial and Social Justice Award from YWCA Chicago 2014. Her art has been used by various organizations to help facilitate progressive change, including UNICEF, Afghan Women's Writing Project, Holiday Heroes Foundation, and Malala Fund. Zainab's works address the historical and current complexities of social justice; women's rights; and gender equality. She serves as a Board of Director for UNA-USA Chicago Chapter. She was an appointed delegate for the United Nations Association for the 59th Commission on the Status of Women.



H.E. Mr. Carlos Garcia, Former Ambassador of El Salvador to the UN; Founder & CEO of CG Consulting

"If the Post-2015 Development Agenda has been conceived to be a breakthrough in the development world, then the role of the civil society, including private sector, should be to shift the current paradigm and contribute to the empowerment of people, so through integration and collaboration, a new paradigm might be established in the upcoming 15 years."

H.E. Amb. Carlos Garcia is a career diplomat from El Salvador that served his country in the United Nations from July 1996 to June 2014, in different positions and ranks, being his last one as Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations. He is also Founder & CEO of CG Global Consultant, as well as an active member of several other companies and Non Governmental Organizations. During his long post at the United Nations, Ambassador García was elected as President of the Fourth

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

Committee of the General Assembly (Special Political and Decolonization) 2013; Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) 2014; Vice-Chairman of the Commission for Social Development 2013-2014; and Vice-Chairman of the Commission on the Status of Women in the period 2014-2015 (He also served 2012-2013); Vice-President of the Executive Board of UNDP-UNFPA UNOPS in 2011; Vice-Chairman of the Second Committee during the 64^o session of the General Assembly; Vice-Chairman of the Third Committee during the 56th and 59th sessions of the General Assembly; Vice-Chairman of the former Executive Board of INSTRAW 2004-2006 and as Rapporteur of the Joint Executive Boards field visits to Azerbaijan (2005) and Guatemala (2004). Prior to work at the United Nation, he was Director of Multilateral Affairs (1996) and Chief of the Caribbean Affairs (1991-1995) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador. He holds a Special Course's degree in International Relations from the Diplomatic Academy of Madrid (Spain) and a bachelor's degree in International Relations from the University of El Salvador.

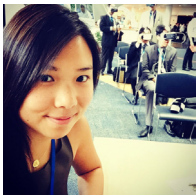
INTRODUCTIONS



Margo LaZaro, Co-Chair, NGO Committee on Sustainable Development & UN NGO Representative, International Council of Women & Global Family

“Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda For Sustainable Development is a seed we are planting to sustain future generations. The real work begins now with all stakeholders in partnership to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets leading to 2030 and beyond.”

Through her support, the NGOCD has a new foundation based on Partnership Building with key stakeholders across a wide spectrum of goals and targets related to Sustainable Development. Margo has organized events and roundtable discussions with leading experts in their fields and engages members of Civil Society, UN Ambassadors, UN agency representatives, elected officials, social entrepreneurs, and leading members of academia to develop action agendas. A number of these experts have become Honorary Advisers to the NGOCD. Margo is a UN Representative for the International Council of Women, which has UN ECOSOC Consultative Status. She has represented Global Family, the UN/DPI-associated organization, for 26 years. Margo has been involved with the UN Environment Programme, UN/DPI, UNDP, UN/DESA, UN-Habitat, The World We Want Platform working with other civil society organizations and NGOs to develop collaborative projects and activities at the UN and globally. Margo was the CEO of a Non-Profit Organization for several years and has served on the boards of numerous organizations. Her involvement with the sustainable development goals includes women's leadership and empowerment, climate change, youth leadership, gender equality, sustainable energy, clean water, human rights, indigenous leadership, social impact projects, disarmament, Peace Education to Build a Culture of Peace, innovations in infrastructure for sustainable communities, and raising awareness of human trafficking and ending violence against women and children. Margo's rewarding career with the entertainment industry included projects in Film, Theatre and Television.



Alice Chen, Project Consultant, Communication and Partnerships, United Nations Millennium Campaign

Alice serves as Project Consultant in the Communications and Partnerships team of the United Nations Millennium Campaign. She specializes in Communications Outreach and is the Asia Pacific Focal Point for Partnership Engagement. Recently, she was on Mission in Bangkok, Thailand and Guiyang, China, to support NGO and CSO partners in showcasing peoples' platform the campaign leads, including MY World, the World We Want, and the virtual reality series. Previously, Alice worked in Beijing as a consultant for the U.S. Embassy,

Account Executive at Edelman Public Relations, and Literary Agent with Peony Literary Agency. These experiences exposed Alice to a wide variety of corporate partners such as Pepsi Co. and BMW in addition to working with Actors such as Christian Bale. Alice grew up in the U.S. and China for equal part of her life. She graduated from New York University with a Bachelor in Political Science and a Master in International Affairs from Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs. @alicegui

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Dr. Georgette F. Bennett, Founder & President, Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding & Founder, Multifaith Alliance for Syrian Refugees

“As one who is engaged in conflict resolution and refugee work, I salute Transforming Our World’s recognition that the presence of 60 million displaced people in the world is a major issue to address in its laudable and ambitious SDG agenda. NGOs play a major role in ameliorating the plight of victims of war, sectarian conflicts and natural disasters. Traumatized, impoverished and vulnerable populations, along with generations of children who are deprived of education and a sense of security – these are among the greatest challenges we face in achieving a sustainable world community.”

Dr. Georgette F. Bennett is a sociologist by training who has spent the past 22 years advancing interreligious relations. She founded Tanenbaum in 1992 to combat religious prejudice and the Multifaith Alliance in 2013, to mobilize support for alleviating the suffering of Syria’s war victims. Today, there are forty-three member organizations in the Alliance. Among many other honors, Dr. Bennett has been recognized by the Syrian American Medical Society for her work on behalf of Syrian refugees. Also a founding Board member of Global Covenant Partners, she is a key participant in the Global Covenant of Religions, an international group of top interfaith leaders working to delegitimize the use of religion as a justification for violent extremism. In addition, Dr. Bennett served in the U.S. State Department Religion and Foreign Policy initiative’s working group, which developed recommendations for the Secretary of State on countering religion-based violence. Dr. Bennett is an active philanthropist, focusing her personal charitable activities on conflict resolution and intergroup relations. She serves on the boards of Third Way Institute; and the Jewish Funders Network, where she is currently the Vice Chair, was formerly the Chair of the Membership Committee, and co-chaired the 2015 Annual Conference. Additionally, she is an Overseer of the International Rescue Committee. In the U.K. she serves on the Advisory Board of the Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East.

Camilla Barungi, Entrepreneur & Model

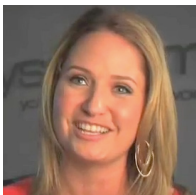
(Please check back later for bio.)

Jolly Amatya, Co-Chair, Youth Assembly at the United Nations

(Please check back later for bio.)

DAY 3 – MODERATORS AND SPEAKERS

ROUNDTABLE 4



Jen Kushell, Founder & CEO, Your Success Now

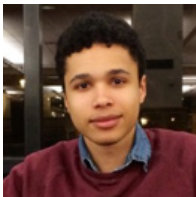
Jennifer Kushell is the CEO of Young & Successful Media and founder of YSN.com (“Your Success Now”), a leading destination for career exploration, and training and development for young people in over 100 countries. Specializing in youth empowerment, employment and entrepreneurship, Kushell has sculpted numerous programs, promotions and initiatives targeting students, young professionals and business owners while increasing the amount of information, resources and support available internationally.

Such collaborations with corporations, associations, industry associations and media organizations grant unparalleled access to young people around the globe, an intimate understanding of what motivates them, and paves the way for solutions to make campaigns more influential, emotionally charged and compelling. Author of the NY Times bestseller, *Secrets of the Young & Successful*, Kushell has been called the “Career Doctor” by *Cosmopolitan*, a “guru” of the entrepreneurial movement by *US News & World Report*, and appeared in front of over 300 million people via major media from CNN to BBC and Bloomberg. As a strategic consultant and thought leader, Kushell has worked with educators, governments and corporations including *Bloomberg Businessweek*, *Entrepreneur Magazine*, AOL, Visa, Education for Employment, Subway, Bank of America, American Express, Ernst & Young, MTV,

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS

ExxonMobil and Job Corps/Dept of Labor. Most recently her company produced the first 100 country youth engagement/entrepreneurship education contest with the Subway Global Challenge. Today she is running the Next Gen in Franchising Campaign for the International Franchise Association's 2,500 member companies to engage young leaders around the world in franchise industry's entrepreneurial opportunities available almost everywhere, but often unrecognized. A popular keynote speaker, Kushell has addressed hundreds of audiences around the world including Junior Chamber International's World Congress in Japan, Future Business Leaders of America, The Women's Entrepreneurship Conference in Bratislava (hosted by the US Ambassador and First Lady of Slovakia), Insead University in France, Harvard's International Business Conference, The Harvard Club in Belgium, University of Lima in Peru, ESEN (Escuela Superior de Economía y Negocios) in El Salvador, The White House Conference on Small Business, the National Science Center in Australia, GIST events in several countries, the American Express/OPEN Small Business Tour, Starwood Hotel's Global Sales Conference in San Francisco, Virtuoso's Global Travel Industry Symposium in Athens, numerous other corporate events and the Global Entrepreneurship Summits in Turkey and Malaysia. A relentless advocate for the emerging workforce, Kushell has traveled almost 2 million miles and visited 50 countries through her work, impacting the lives and futures of millions. Her personal mission and career are dedicated to ensuring no driven young person anywhere in the world lacks access to opportunity to achieve their full potential.



Skylen Monaco, Youth Leader, World Vision International

Skylen Cheickna Monaco is a student, advocate, and writer from Hamilton, New Jersey and attends Bowdoin College, a small liberal arts college in Brunswick, Maine. He is currently earning his undergraduate degree in Philosophy and International Relations and will graduate in 2016. His studies focus primarily on questions regarding ethics, governance, and security. On campus, he leads a number of student organizations, including the historic Peucinian Literary Society, and moderates weekly debates concerning statesmanship, culture, and political thought. Famous alumni of the Peucinian tradition include Henry Longfellow and Joshua Chamberlain.

Skylen is also a senior writer for Bowdoin's international relation's magazine – the Bowdoin Globalist – and focuses on issues relating to development and conflict. At World Vision, he works as an independent consultant, ensuring children's rights, including the centrality of the child in the United Nations Post 2015 development agenda in New York, particularly in its last defining timeline of intense meetings. He contributes to the implementation of World Vision's advocacy engagement plans, follow up, and development of action points. Being twenty-one years old, Skylen recognizes the importance of youth engagement in the new Goals, as its successful implementation is necessary for transforming the world by 2030. After he completes his studies at Bowdoin, Skylen hopes to work, attend law school, and pursue a career in international affairs. He is fluent in French and English and can be contacted at: skc.monaco@gmail.com.



Dr. Judy Kuriansky, UN Main Representative, International Association of Applied Psychology

"This historical year, as we celebrate the UN's 70th anniversary and adoption of the SDGs to guide us for the next 15 years to the "future we want" where we "leave no one behind," the NGOs will play a vital role in implementing these "aspirational" and "transformational" 17 goals and 169 targets, building on the valuable work they have already accomplished for the MDGs."

Dr. Judy Kuriansky is an internationally known psychologist, professor, humanitarian, award-winning journalist, author, media commentator, and philanthropist. At the United Nations, she is Chair of the Psychology Coalition of NGOs accredited at the UN and the main NGO representative of several NGOs, who partnered with Ambassador Otto of the Mission of Palau to the UN, in the successful campaign to include mental health and wellbeing in the Sustainable Development Goals. On the faculty of Columbia University Teachers College and honorary professor at Beijing Health Sciences Center in China, her many projects include a girls empowerment programme and resiliency trainings in Africa, Haiti and other countries. Her many books address psychosocial issues in the Middle East crisis, Ebola, trauma, and environmental protection. In all these roles, she mentors many youth.

2015 NGO Conference at the United Nations

SPEAKER BIOS



Ariel Rojas, Founder & CEO, Transdiaspora Network, Inc.

“Certainly, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will challenge the economic capabilities of each country to mobilize resources towards the fulfillment of all its targets; however, the most important challenge will be the development of the motivational aspect, which means develop willingness and leadership to overcome structural barriers and create a new paradigm of cooperation.”

As an interdisciplinary cultural entrepreneur with more than 15 years of experience in the fields of mental health, HIV/AIDS, counseling and youth development, Mr. Rojas has experience working in New York City’s multi-faceted social service and healthcare industry as well as in-depth knowledge of the Caribbean and Latino communities. In collaboration with other NGOs representatives, he played a decisive role in the intergovernmental negotiation process by engaging in various informal interactive hearings of the U.N. General Assembly in preparation for the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 Development Agenda where he advocated for the improvement of global policy issues related to youth engagement, cultural diversity, women inclusion, families rights and health promotion. At various U.N. forums, he has promoted more innovative and inclusive partnerships between national governments, non-governmental organizations and local initiatives. For his leadership, his innovative and entrepreneurial effort, and his social commitment to bring HIV prevention among young people to a new frontier, he is the recipient of the New York State Department of Health Commissioner’s Distinguished Service Award provided by the AIDS Institute. His organization, Transdiaspora Network, is an ECOSOC-accredited NGO. He emigrated from Havana, Cuba, as the first young Cuban researcher to be unanimously awarded Vassar College’s Latin American Culture Fellowship in the Hispanic Studies Department. Mr. Rojas holds a MA in Sociocultural Anthropology and Master-level credits in Social Enterprise Management from Columbia University. Back in Cuba, he graduated with a BA in Psychology and a Masters in Social Psychology from the University of Havana.



Juan Elias Chebly, Founder and CEO of voipebox.com

“Let us embody empathy, patience, focus, and humility. Empathy allows us to find our common ground, patience can help us build consensus, focus ensures effectiveness, and humility keeps us grounded” - Kate Otto

Juan Elias Chebly is founder and CEO of Voipebox.com. He is a PHD Candidate in Sustainable Development at Simon Bolivar University in Caracas, Venezuela and also works for the United Nations Environment Programme as Lead Advisor. He holds a BS in management, a minor in International Business, and a Finance MBA degree from St. John’s University in Queens NY. Juan Elias completed his studies with honors at St. John’s in 2009. At age 24, he became St. John’s Tobin College of Business youngest Adjunct Professor during Fall 2010. He taught Foundations of Finance and was among the top ranked professors by students. In 2009 he founded Voipebox.com, a telecom startup introducing innovative and pioneering VOIP telephony solutions in South America and the US. Currently he serves as the Lead Advisor to the UNEP Secretariat of Governing Bodies on citizen engagement and multi-stakeholder partnerships at UNEP New York.

QUESTION AND ANSWER ON “TRACE AMOUNTS”



Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Environmental Activist & Lawyer

Mr. Kennedy serves as Senior Attorney for the National Resources Defense Council, Chief Prosecuting Attorney for the Hudson Riverkeeper and President of Waterkeeper Alliance. He is also a Clinical Professor and Supervising Attorney at Pace University School of Law’s Environmental Litigation Clinic and is co-host of Ring of Fire on Air America Radio. Earlier in his career, he served as Assistant District Attorney in New York City.