

UNITED NATIONS ROUNDTABLE CONVERSATIONS

Networking Event & Reception

Monday, February 24

UN Expert Biographies

 COLUMBIA | SIPA
International Organizations and United Nations Studies

 COLUMBIA | SIPA
MPA in Development Practice

 COLUMBIA | SIPA
School of International and Public Affairs
Office of Career Services



 COLUMBIA | SIPA
Economic and Political Development

 COLUMBIA | SIPA
Gender and Public Policy

 COLUMBIA | SIPA
Human Rights and Humanitarian Policy

Table of Contents

International Labour Organization	3
Matthieu Cognac	3
International Organization for Migration	4
Christopher Richter	4
Xin Guo	5
UN Women	6
Yata Kande	6
UNICEF	7
Claudia Cappa	7
United Nations Capital Development Fund	8
Abhisheik Dhawan	8
UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs	9
Clare Menozzi	9
Astra Bonini	9
UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs	10
Martin Waehlich	10
United Nations Development Programme	11
Gülden Türköz-Cosslett	11
Melissa Hernandez	12
Carl Mercer	12
United Nations Global Compact	13
Felipe Morgado	13
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	14
Firas Kayal	14
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights	15
Chloé Marnay-Baszanger	15
United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation	16
Sumeeta Banjeri	16
United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa	17
Beatrice K. Pacunega Manano	17
Jainaba Jobarteh	18
François Charlier	19

International Labour Organization

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is devoted to promoting social justice and internationally recognized human and labour rights, pursuing its founding mission that social justice is essential to universal and lasting peace. As the only tripartite U.N. agency, the ILO brings together governments, employers and workers representatives of 187 member States to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men. Today, the ILO's Decent Work agenda helps advance the economic and working conditions that give all workers, employers and governments a stake in lasting peace, prosperity and progress.

Matthieu Cognac

**Senior Multilateral Cooperation Specialist
International Labour Organization**

After his MBA and a first career in international banking, Matthieu joined international development organizations, first in microfinance in Asia and in Latin America. In 2004, the Indian Ocean tsunami brought him to the ILO in Indonesia where he managed several youth employment projects; partnering with Government officials and working with local communities to enhance economic growth and provide young people with the education and skills training they needed to enter the labour market. His work led to job creation for farmers and traders with the inauguration of the first international flights to Banda Aceh; the expansion of financial cooperative networks and the launch of green jobs initiatives. He then joined the ILO regional office for Asia and the Pacific in capacity of regional Youth Employment Specialist, where he advised Governments, employers and workers organizations on opportunities to create decent jobs. He helped design UN joint programmes, implement National Action Plans and launch awareness raising campaigns. In January 2019, Matthieu joined the ILO office in New York. While youth remains an important part of his portfolio, his main role is to liaise with the UN and to collaborate on decent work initiatives.



International Organization for Migration

IOM is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. IOM is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all. It does so by providing services and advice to governments and migrants. IOM works to help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration, to promote international cooperation on migration issues, to assist in the search for practical solutions to migration problems and to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced people. The IOM Constitution recognizes the link between migration and economic, social and cultural development, as well as to the right of freedom of movement.

IOM works in the four broad areas of migration management:

- Migration and development,
- Facilitating migration,
- Regulating migration,
- Forced migration.

IOM activities that cut across these areas include the promotion of international migration law, policy debate and guidance, protection of migrants' rights, migration health and the gender dimension of migration.

Christopher Richter

Migration Policy Officer

International Organization for Migration



Chris Richter is a Migration Policy Officer at the International Organization for Migration's New York Office. During his time with IOM, Mr. Richter led IOM New York's contributions to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other multilateral negotiations. Prior to joining IOM, he held several positions with the Australian Government, including at the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), the Attorney-General's Department and the Department of Immigration and Citizenship. He has over thirteen years of experience in the public policy field, during which time his work has focused on diverse policy issues including poverty, social and economic inequality, terrorism and violent extremism, migration and urbanisation. He holds bachelor degrees in international law and

international relations from the University of Queensland in Brisbane, and a Master's Degree in international and community development from Deakin University in Melbourne.

Xin Guo

**Associate Migration Policy Officer
International Organization for Migration**



Xin Guo is an associate migration policy officer focusing on migration and development at the IOM Office to the United Nations. She covers thematic work and discussions on migrant protection and assistance at the UN Headquarters, including issues on migration health, counter trafficking and border management. Prior to joining IOM in 2017, she held various responsibilities such as serving the World Humanitarian Summit secretariat in Istanbul and coordinating civil society engagement at the UN Summit for Refugee and Migrants.

Xin received her Master of Public Administration with a specialization in UN studies from Columbia SIPA in 2016 and holds a Master in Arts & NGOs Management from EDHEC Business School in France.

UN Women

UN Women is the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide.

UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to ensure that the standards are effectively implemented and truly benefit women and girls worldwide. It works globally to make the vision of the Sustainable Development Goals a reality for women and girls and stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on four strategic priorities:

- Women lead, participate in and benefit equally from governance systems
- Women have income security, decent work and economic autonomy
- All women and girls live a life free from all forms of violence
- Women and girls contribute to and have greater influence in building sustainable peace and resilience, and benefit equally from the prevention of natural disasters and conflicts and humanitarian action

UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work in advancing gender equality, and in all deliberations and agreements linked to the 2030 Agenda. The entity works to position gender equality as fundamental to the Sustainable Development Goals, and a more inclusive world.

Yata Kande

Advisor, Policy and Programme

UN Women

Yata Kande currently serves as an Advisor on Policy and Programme to the Assistant-Secretary-General (ASG) and Deputy Executive Director (DED) for Normative Support, Coordination and Programme Results at UN Women. Prior to this, she served for 5 years as a Special Assistant to 2 consecutive Deputy Executive Directors for Policy and Programme at UN Women as well as interim Head of the Innovation Unit. In this capacity, she oversaw multiple workstreams within the DED's Directorate with an emphasis on strategic planning, management, funding streams and innovative financing.

Yata has held several positions within UN Women, including Programme Specialist for Africa and Grantmaking specialist with UN Women's Fund for Gender Equality. Before joining UN Women, she worked for several years within the UN System including with UNFPA, the Department of Political Affairs, and the Department of Public Information. Yata began her career working in the private sector as a management consultant.

Yata obtained her M.A. from the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University and holds a B.A. from Harvard University.

UNICEF

UNICEF works in over 190 countries and territories to save children's lives, to defend their rights, and to help them fulfil their potential, from early childhood through adolescence. And we never give up. Every child has the right to grow up in a safe and inclusive environment. UNICEF works with partners around the world to promote policies and expand access to services that protect all children.

Claudia Cappa

Senior Adviser, Statistics

Child Protection and Development, Data and Analytics Section

United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF)



Claudia Cappa, PhD, is a Senior Adviser for Statistics in the Data and Analytics Section, at the UNICEF headquarters. She is the focal point for data collection, data analysis and methodological work on Early Childhood Development, Child Disability and Child Protection from Violence, Exploitation and Abuse. The support for these activities includes elaboration of survey questionnaires and data collection tools, estimations, development of methodologies, indicators, tools and normative guidelines, capacity building, data analysis, production of reports, as well as delivery and dissemination of final results. In this capacity, she has been responsible for the development of the new ECD Index as well as the preparation of a number of UNICEF data-driven publications. Prior to joining UNICEF, she was working at the University of Geneva and at the Institute for Social Studies of the International Labour. Dr. Cappa holds an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Development Studies from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland.

United Nations Capital Development Fund

The UN Capital Development Fund makes public and private finance work for the poor in the world's 47 least developed countries (LDCs). UNCDF offers “last mile” finance models that unlock public and private resources, especially at the domestic level, to reduce poverty and support local economic development.

UNCDF pursues innovative financing solutions through: (1) **financial inclusion**, which expands the opportunities for individuals, households, and small and medium-sized enterprises to participate in the local economy, while also providing differentiated products for women and men so they can climb out of poverty and manage their financial lives; (2) **local development finance**, which shows how fiscal decentralization, innovative municipal finance, and structured project finance can drive public and private funding that underpins local economic expansion, women's economic empowerment, climate adaptation, and sustainable development; and (3) a **least developed countries investment platform** that deploys a tailored set of financial instruments to a growing pipeline of impactful projects in the “missing middle.”

Abhisheik Dhawan

Partnerships Specialist

United Nations Capital Development Fund



Prior to joining UNCDF, Abhisheik was Director, Cleantech Practice at Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) investing in Canadian Cleantech companies as part of the \$600M fund of the Canadian government. With over 17 years of experience in international markets and financial services, he has worked with banks and technology companies, including startups, in India and the United States, engaging with clients across continents. Over the last seven years, he has shifted focus to sustainable development.

Before joining BDC in 2018, Abhisheik worked with Juntos, a startup that helps plan for a secure financial future for its clients through trust-based relationships, and Enerknol, an energy startup. Prior to that, he was Head of Partnerships and Fundraising at Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation, an entity facilitating India's transition to a cleaner energy future, where he led fundraising efforts to support Indian governments efforts on climate change. Abhisheik started his banking career with IDBI Bank at Bangalore, India's tech capital, with a focus on the IT industry. Subsequently, he worked as Director, Financial Market Sales at Standard Chartered, the British multinational bank heading the Money Market Sales business for South Asia.

Abhisheik has completed an MPA with a concentration on Economic and Energy Policy Management from Columbia University in New York. He also holds an MBA in Finance from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM Kozhikode) and a B.Tech in Mining Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (ISM- Dhanbad)

UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

UN DESA is a vital interface between global policies and national action in the economic, social and environmental spheres. Rooted in the United Nations Charter and guided by the universal and transformative 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other global agreements, UN DESA responds to the needs and priorities of the global community.

Clare Menozzi

**Population Affairs Officer, Migration and Urbanization Section, Population Division
Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)**

Ms. Clare Menozzi is a Population Affairs Officer in the International Migration and Urbanization Section of the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), United Nations. She joined the Population Division in 2004 and has been involved in the preparations of numerous reports and data sets related to intentional migration stocks for all countries of the world. Ms. Menozzi has also worked extensively on documenting international migration policies, and recently participated in the development of SDG indicator 10.7.2. on the number of countries with migration policies that facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people.

Astra Bonini

**Senior Sustainable Development Officer, Division for Sustainable Development Goals
Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)**



Astra Bonini is a social scientist with over 15 years of experience in international development research and policy. She is currently a Senior Sustainable Development Officer with the United Nations in the Division for Sustainable Development Goals. In this role she leads research and analysis to identify new and emerging issues relevant to sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda with an emphasis on strengthening the interface between science and policy. Previously, she was a senior researcher with the UN Development Programme's flagship Human Development Report. She co-authored six Reports and led analysis on globalization and the digital frontier, sustainability and inequality, poverty, gender gaps, and social exclusion

among others. She also calculated composite indices like the Human Development Index.

Dr. Bonini holds a Ph.D. in sociology and a degree in engineering. Her development knowledge is linked to hands on experience advancing sustainable development policies in Mongolia; and ethnographic research on natural resource industries in Indonesia and Sudan. She has also been an advisor for human development research and policy projects in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

Her research and policy work involves consultation with governments, academics, NGOs and community groups. She has organized high-level events and developed partnerships with external experts and stakeholders. She has taught sociology, statistics and international development courses at Johns Hopkins University and Columbia University.

UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

The Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) plays a central role in United Nations efforts to prevent and resolve deadly conflict around the world. DPPA focuses primarily on five areas in international peace and security:

- Ensuring sound analysis and early warning
- Preventing conflict and engaging in peacemaking
- Managing political crises and violent conflicts
- Sustaining peace
- Enhancing partnerships

DPPA monitors and assesses global political developments with an eye to detecting potential crises before they erupt and devising effective responses. The Department provides support to the Secretary-General and his envoys, as well as to UN political missions deployed around the world to help defuse crises or promote lasting solutions to conflict. The Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) within DPPA fosters international support for nationally-owned and led peacebuilding efforts.

The Department also coordinates UN electoral assistance activities and provides staff support to the UN Security Council and two standing committees established by the General Assembly: on the rights of the Palestinian people and decolonization. In many ways, the United Nations and regional organizations have unique and complementary capacities that, when properly coordinated, can contribute decisively to the prevention and management of armed conflict. In its core work in conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy and mediation, DPPA is in regular contact with its counterparts in regional organizations to ensure information-sharing and cooperation on regional or country-specific issues of mutual concern.

Martin Waehlich

Political Affairs Officer

Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

Twitter: @MWaehlich



Dr. Martin Waehlich works at the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs in the United Nations Secretariat in New York. He is specialized in the design of peace processes, national dialogues and conflict prevention initiatives, including related human rights issues. While at Columbia, he will focus on the right to peace and its conceptual framework in the context of the sustaining peace debate. His research will build on his recent monograph on the "Imperfect Peace" (Hart/Bloomsbury 2019) and his work on system theory aspects of peacemaking.

United Nations Development Programme

On the ground in about 170 countries and territories, UNDP works to eradicate poverty while protecting the planet. We help countries develop strong policies, skills, partnerships and institutions so they can sustain their progress.

Gülden Türköz-Cosslett

UNDP Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Director

Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy (BERA)

Twitter: @GuldenTC

Ms. Gülden Türköz-Cosslett, a national of Turkey, is the Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Director, Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy, UNDP since February 2015.

Prior to this, Gülden was the Director of Programmes with UN Women. She has also served in the Office of the UN Deputy Secretary-General as Senior Advisor on System-Wide Coherence, where she led the Transition Team supporting the establishment of UN Women. Prior to that, Gülden served as the UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative in Albania where she led the delivering as One UN initiative. Before that she was Team Leader for the Central Asia Cluster in UNDP's Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States. Earlier in her career, Gülden worked with the Executive Office of the Administrator as Programme Specialist, Portfolio Manager in UNOPS Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia, and UNCDF.

Gülden holds a Master's of International Affairs degree from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. She is married and has a daughter.



Melissa Hernandez

Programme Associate

Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, Global Environmental Finance Unit

United Nations Development Programme



Melissa Hernandez is the Global Programme Associate for the Energy, Infrastructure, Transport and Technology team within the United Nations Development Programme – Global Environmental Finance Unit, based in New York (UNDP-GEF). She is a programme specialist with over 18 years of professional experience within UNDP, five of them directly related to the outreach, advocacy and communications for the global UNDP Human Development Report office. Her professional portfolio also includes working with the Human Rights and Trust Fund units at UN Women. For the past 10 years, she has been part of the energy and environment group at UNDP-GEF, where she oversees the team’s operations and work with vertical funds to endorse climate change mitigation and energy projects from development and implementation to closing cycle

Melissa is bilingual, Spanish and English, she holds a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Hunter College - CUNY, and a master’s degree in Public Administration from the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) from Columbia University.

Melissa can be reached at melissa.hernandez@undp.org and on skype: melissa.e.hernandez

Carl Mercer

Media Relations Consultant

United Nations Development Programme



Carl currently supports UNDP’s Media and Advocacy Team, with particular emphasis on the UN’s Decade of Action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Prior to this, Carl supported communications in the Office of the President of the UN General Assembly. This included overseeing special campaigns, such as the President’s ‘Play it Out’ campaign against plastic pollution.

A Canadian, Carl spent nearly six years managing advocacy and communications on climate change, disaster risk reduction and sustainable energy in UNDP. Prior to his time at UNDP, Carl worked for non-governmental organizations in Chad, Ethiopia, France, Indonesia, and the United States. During this time he served in various roles, covering both programme support as well as

advocacy and communications.

Carl received a Bachelors in Political Science from Memorial University of Newfoundland, as well as a Masters in International Relations, Conflict and Human Rights from Utrecht University in the Netherlands.

United Nations Global Compact

The United Nations Global Compact is a voluntary initiative based on CEO commitments to implement universal sustainability principles and to take steps to support UN goals.

Felipe Morgado

Senior Manager, Government Relations

United Nations Global Compact

Twitter: lfgmorgado

Felipe Morgado is a Programme Officer at the United Nations Global Compact, the world's largest sustainable business initiative. In this capacity, he leads in mobilizing Member States in support of the Global Compact, encompassing political affairs, programmatic cooperation, and financial engagement. His areas of expertise include corporate sustainability and Sustainable Development Goals, multi-stakeholder partnerships, and financing for development.



Before joining the United Nations, Felipe Morgado built his career in the private sector, focusing on corporate governance and investment banking in developing countries. He holds a B.A. in Economics-Mathematics from Columbia University and an M.A. from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is a global organization dedicated to saving lives, protecting rights and building a better future for refugees, forcibly displaced communities and stateless people. UNHCR works to ensure that everybody has the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge, having fled violence, persecution, war or disaster at home. Since 1950, UNHCR has faced multiple crises on multiple continents, and provided vital assistance to refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced and stateless people, many of whom have nobody left to turn to. UNHCR helps to save lives and build better futures for millions forced from home.

Firas Kayal

Senior Policy Advisor

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



Mr. Firas Kayal is currently the Senior Policy Advisor at the New York Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

His service with the agency spans almost 16 years and includes working as a Legal Protection Officer in many countries including Iraq, Yemen, the Gulf Region, Sri Lanka, Sudan, and Switzerland. His last position was in UNHCR's headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, where he headed the External Relations Unit at Middle East and North Africa Bureau for almost five years, during which UNHCR was responding to multiple displacement emergencies. Mr. Kayal works closely with diplomatic missions, donor countries, other UN agencies and international organizations on matters related to public and government relations, public and private fundraising as well as media relations.

Mr. Kayal holds a B.A. in Law from Damascus University and a Masters in International Law (LLM) from the School of Law at Washington University in St. Louis, USA. He is also a Fulbright Scholar.

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UN Human Rights) is the leading UN entity on human rights. The General Assembly entrusted both the High Commissioner and her Office with a unique mandate to promote and protect all human rights for all people. The United Nations human rights programme aims to ensure that the protection and enjoyment of human rights is a reality in the lives of all people. UN Human Rights also plays a crucial role in safeguarding the integrity of the three interconnected pillars of the United Nations – peace and security, human rights and development.

UN Human Rights provides assistance in the form of technical expertise and capacity-development in order to support the implementation of international human rights standards on the ground. It assists governments, which bear the primary responsibility for the protection of human rights, to fulfil their obligations and supports individuals to claim their rights. Moreover, it speaks out objectively on human rights violations.

Chloé Marnay-Baszanger

Chief of the Peace Mission Section (PMSS)

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Chloé Marnay-Baszanger is the Chief of the Peace Mission Section (PMSS), Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Her research and recent work focus on the integration of human rights in UN Peace Operations and the response to complex conflict and asymmetric threat environment. Marnay-Baszanger served as a political affairs officer in several UN Peacekeeping Missions in Kosovo and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), where she focused on rule of law, protection of civilians (POC), human rights, children and women, and drafted a policy that became the UN-wide Human Right Due Diligence Policy. As the Chief of PMSS, she led the planning and start-up deployment for UN missions in Sudan, Mali, and the Central African Republic, and human rights components and reconfiguration exercises in the DRC and Somalia, and her team led G5 negotiations to integrate protection into counter-terrorism operations, and negotiated the Joint Commitment between UN and African Union on peace operations partnerships. Prior that, Marnay-Baszanger held various positions working with human rights defenders and participated in various fact-finding missions and investigations, including in South Africa and Cambodia. She holds Master's Degrees in International Affairs from Columbia University and Sciences PO Paris, a JD in International and Human Rights Law from Paris X, and an MPhil in Comparative History.

United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation

The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) is a knowledge hub providing advisory and consulting services to all stakeholders on South-South and triangular cooperation. It enables developing countries to effectively face their development challenges and harness opportunities to address them.

UNOSSC engages with Member States globally and regionally, as well as within the UN system to facilitate practical expressions of Southern solidarity towards the achievement of internationally agreed development goals. It works with a wide range of partners to harness emerging innovative financing mechanisms through South-South and triangular cooperation. UNOSSC also ensures that our Southern constituencies have timely access to high-quality analytical planning, and reporting on data, trends and opportunities that will propel South-South and triangular cooperation in ways that ensure success.

Sumeeta Banjeri

Policy Specialist

United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation



Ms. Sumeeta Banerji is a Policy Specialist, with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation. She provides analyses and supports intergovernmental negotiations on South-South Cooperation and policy advice for UN Coordination. She is currently managing a \$ 150 M South-South financing mechanism, the India UN Development Partnership Fund established in 2017 to support Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States to achieve Sustainable Development Goals. Her development cooperation experience covers bilateral, multilateral, South-South and Triangular Cooperation. She has over 20 years of experience working in the development field, advising national administrations on poverty reduction, governance issues and digital solutions to achieve development goals. In 2018, she spent a few months in Bangladesh, designing interventions as part of the UN's response to the Rohingya refugee crisis and developing UNDP's Democratic Governance Strategy for Bangladesh.

Prior to this, Sumeeta was leading the Democratic Governance portfolio for UNDP in India from 2007-2017, designing and managing complementary policy and technical initiatives for the Government of India, to reduce poverty and improve local service delivery across several states. She handled a portfolio of programs advising national administrations on how to leverage technology and good practice to achieve development goals and deliver social value on a wide range of themes including sustainable development goals (SDGs), public administration, digital governance, access to justice, election management, capacity development for local governance and decentralization, human development, and rights based social security interventions. Sumeeta also advised sub-national governments in mainstreaming SDGs in plans and designed tools for monitoring and implementation, including innovation labs. From 2005-2007, she was leading a 'Community of Practice' (CoP) on Poverty Reduction for the United Nations in India, part of

the UN's Knowledge Management Partnership Initiative 'Solution Exchange'. Prior to joining the UN in India, Sumeeta spent several years, 1994-2005, with the Canadian International Development Agency leading projects in the areas of democratic governance, human rights, child rights, inclusive education, livelihoods and, HIV/AIDS. Sumeeta is a Fellow of the Aspen Institute's India Leadership Initiative and BMW Foundation's Global Responsible Fellow. She did her Undergraduate Degree in History from the Lady Shri Ram College in New Delhi and a Masters in International Relations from the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna. She is also a linguist and has a Masters degree in German from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and Diploma in French and Spanish.

United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa

The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) strives for coordinated, effective and sustained UN and international support for Africa's transformative efforts for inclusive sustainable peace, security, socioeconomic development and justice for all in the continent.

Beatrice K. Pacunega Manano

Chief, Policy Analysis and Monitoring Branch

United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa

Twitter: @bpacu70



Ambassador Beatrice K. Pacunega Manano is the Chief of the Policy Analysis and Monitoring Branch in the Office of the UN Secretary General's Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA), at United Nations Headquarters in New York since 2014. She is a Career Diplomat, who started her career in the Ugandan Foreign Service 26 years ago. Prior to that, she served for five years at the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations in New York and was Head of Uganda's delegation to the 5th Committee of the UN General Assembly and Chair of the African Group. She also served at the Ugandan High Commission in London; Head of the Diplomatic Department State House/ President's Office in Kampala;

Head of the Diaspora Department, Deputy Head of the African Union Department and as Foreign Service Officer in various other departments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Kampala since 1994.

Ambassador Pacunega Manano holds a Master of Arts degree in Human Rights Law from the University of Oslo, Norway (2003); Master of Arts in Diplomatic Studies from the University of Westminster, London, UK (2006); Bachelors (Hons.) Degree in Political Science from Makerere University, Kampala (1992) and a Post Graduate Diploma in Development Studies from the Institute of Social Studies, the Hague, Netherlands (1997). She holds various Post Graduate Diplomas and Certificates in the field of development

studies from around the world and UN Leadership Training Programs. Ambassador Pacunega recently participated as a Panelist at the African Growth Initiative at the Brookings Institution, Washington DC in January 2020, at the launch and discussion of their special edition flagship report, “Foresight Africa: Top Priorities for the continent 2020-2030”.

Jainaba Jobarteh

Economic Affairs Officer

United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa



Ms. Jainaba Jobarteh is an Economic Affairs Officer at the United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (UN OSAA) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. She works in the Policy Analysis and Monitoring Branch (PAMB) of UN OSAA. UN OSAA is mandated to advise the United Nations Secretary General on the socio-economic development of Africa as it pertains to the Peace and Security, Development, Human Rights and Humanitarian nexus and propose policy directives. UN OSAA conducts policy analysis and prepares policy papers and briefs on current, new and critical emerging inter-related issues of peace, economic and social development in Africa. UN OSAA provides analytical policy and programme advice on Africa on a wide range of issues pertaining to Africa's development and particularly as they relate to the implementation of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (SDGs), sectoral priorities and the African Union Agenda 2063. To that effect, UN OSAA conducts research and studies on enhanced international and United Nations support

for Africa's development and NEPAD and prepares various Secretary-General's reports including on the United Nations Monitoring Mechanism (UNMM). UN OSAA also provides substantive and technical support to United Nations Member States and participates, as required, in the deliberation of intergovernmental bodies, such as the United Nations General Assembly, the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) and other ad-hoc mechanisms on Agenda 2063 and NEPAD. UN OSAA works for a coordinated, effective and sustained United Nations and international support for Africa's transformative efforts for inclusive sustainable peace, security, socioeconomic development and justice for all in the continent.

François Charlier

Public Information Officer

United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa



Before joining the United Nations some 20 years ago, François Charlier has been a journalist in his home country Belgium. During his journalistic career, he roamed the globe in almost 100 countries and covered the conflicts in former Yugoslavia. At the service of the United Nations since 1999, his first UN assignment was with the UN peacekeeping operation in Kosovo (1999-2001) where he operated as a Public Information Officer and Regional Spokesperson. In the

Democratic Republic of Congo (2006-2008), he served as Head of the United Nations Development Programme Communications Department and witnessed first-hand the armed conflict between the two contenders in the 2006 elections. François Charlier also worked for UNICEF in Pakistan and Niger, where he was in charge of social mobilization for polio and measles immunization campaigns. From these experiences, his takeaway is a passion for mankind, peace and harmony. In most of his UN missions, his investigative and economist skills deemed very useful. In Kosovo, he unveiled an illegal parallel taxation system and in Pakistan, he set up communication and monitoring tools to ensure an efficient use of the funds towards the immunization campaigns.

Since 2009, Mr. Charlier has been in charge of public information at the UN Office of the Special Adviser on Africa in New York, where he advocates relentlessly for Africa's Development.

Mr. Charlier holds a Masters Degree in Journalism, a bachelor degree in Economy and Masters Degree in "Affaires publiques et internationales" from the Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL) in Belgium.
