

Speaker Biographies  
High-Level Policy Dialogue on Municipal Finance  
Transforming Municipal Finance: Towards a Financial Ecosystem for  
Municipalities to Achieve the SDGs

Gran Hotel Miramar, Salon Real  
Málaga (Spain), 9 April 2018

I. Opening Remark and keynote Speech



**Ms. Judith Karl**

Executive Secretary

United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

Ms. Judith Karl is the Executive Secretary of the UN Capital Development Fund. She started her career in the private sector as a Management Consultant with a focus on optimizing business operations in the US private banking and real estate sectors. Ms. Karl moved to UNDP in 1988, starting as a Management Support Officer in the Personnel Division in New York. She has occupied management positions in UNDP Mali and Cambodia where she led programmes in local development finance, decentralization, small and medium enterprise development, demining, and crisis response.

Ms. Karl served for six years as the head of strategy and policy for UNDP's Crisis Prevention and Recovery, was the Deputy Director in UNDP's Washington Liaison Office, and served five years as head of UNDP's operational performance group. Ms. Karl joined UNCDF as Executive Secretary in August 2014.



**Mr. Francisco de la Torre Prados**

Mayor of the City of Málaga

Mr. Francisco de la Torre Prados has a PhD in Agronomy from the University of Madrid, specialized in Regional Development at the University of Rennes, France and a BA in Sociology from the University of Málaga.

He played an important role in the transition to democracy in Spain, as he was a National Deputy and Advisor in the first pre-autonomous government of Andalusia between the years of 1978 and 1979.

He has been the Mayor of the City of Málaga since 2002, and a Senator from 2011 to 2014.

In addition, since 2010 he is the Vice Chairman of the Committee for the Euro Mediterranean Partnership of Local and Regional Authorities (COPPEM), and a Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM) Bureau member.

He has noteworthy involvement in the development of Málaga as a “Smart City” and Sustainable Development; as well as in a wide range of topics related with the development of Mediterranean EU policies.



## **Mr. Mpho Parks Tau**

President

United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

Mr. Mpho Franklyn Parks Tau is the former Mayor of Johannesburg and President of the global network, the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), and the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), respectively. Prior to becoming an Executive Mayor, he had headed various portfolios in the City of Johannesburg that included Development Planning, Transport and Environment, as well as Economic Development and Finance. During his mayoral tenure, Mr. Tau also led Johannesburg into strategic local and international partnerships. By the end of his term of office, the city was a leader in developmental local government and on par with some

progressive global cities on sustainability.



## **Mr. David Jackson**

Director, Local Development Finance Practice,  
United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

Mr. David Jackson, a British national, has over 30 years of experience in Local Development. He started his career as an urban planner in London in 1980s and later on ran a consulting company supporting local development in over 10 African and Asian countries. The beginning of his career at UNCDF was in the 1990s in Mozambique, where he designed and piloted a national system of local government finance for capital investment that was taken to scale by government. Since 2006, he worked as Decentralization Advisor to the Government of Indonesia and UNDP. In 2009, he became Head of UNCDF Asia and Pacific Regional Office where he designed

the Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility, a global mechanism that enables local governments in the least developed countries (LDC's) to access climate finance for resilient investments. In May 2013, he was appointed Director of UNCDF's Local Development Finance Practice in New York. In this position he manages a portfolio of local development finance programmes with a focus on fiscal decentralization, infrastructure development, climate resilience grants, municipal finance and private sector investments.

## **II. Roundtable No 1**

### **Municipal Finance: The Local Government Perspective**



### **Ms. Emilia Saiz**

Secretary General

United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

Ms. Emilia Sáiz has worked in the founding organization of UCLG, IULA, since 1997. She has led programmes dedicated to institutional capacity building, women empowerment and decentralized cooperation. She is currently Secretary General of UCLG and Co-Chair of the Gender Programme of Cities Alliance. She also facilitates the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments for Post-2015 Development Agenda towards Habitat III and inputs of the constituency to the UN process. Ms. Saiz, studied European Studies and Law specializing in international law with a Master's Degree in Local Governance in Information Society.



### **Mr. Oscar Angulo**

Delegate of the Municipal Agency of Cooperation

La Paz, Bolivia

Mr. Oscar Angulo has a Business Administrator degree from the ITESM-Mexico, with a Postgraduate Degree in Project Evaluation and Risk Analysis from Harvard University and a Master's Degree in International Cooperation from the Complutense University of Madrid. He is expert in International Cooperation and Institutional Reform and Public Finance Management projects. Mr. Angulo held technical positions in the Government of Bolivia related to the management and execution of projects with international cooperation and was a consultant to the World Bank, IADB and the UN. He is also a Professor in Master's courses in Bolivia and other Latin American

countries. He was the Director of the Municipal Agency of Cooperation of La Paz and a Coordinator of the Co-Chair of the Union of Capital Cities of Ibero-America, Vice President of MercoCities, UCLG and Metropolis. He is currently an International Cooperation Consultant at the Autonomous Municipal Government of La Paz.



### **Mr. Kiomoni Kiburwa Kimbamba**

City Director

Mwanza, Tanzania

Mr. Kiomoni Kiburwa was born in Kigoma, Tanzania in 1976. He is the current City Director of Mwanza City Council. Before his current position, he worked as Executive Director of Shinyanga District Council (2014-2016); Head of the Legal Unit / Acting City Director of the Arusha City Council (2013-2014); Head of the Legal Department and Member of the Council Management Team of Kibaha Town Council (2008-2013); Secretary to the Council Audit Committee at Kibaha Town Council (2009-2013), among other positions. Mr. Kiburwa is also a member of the Tanganyika Law Society.



## **Dr. Nkosindiphile Xhakaza**

Acting Executive Mayor  
Ekurhuleni, South Africa

Dr. Nkosindiphile Xhakaza is a member of the ANC in good standing from Ward 15 in Kempton Park and is currently serving in the ANC Regional Executive Committee and he is a former ANCYL Regional Chairperson. He started his career with Standard Bank in Midrand in Front-Line Customer Services in 2003. Trained in Business Administration functions in 2004 at Siemens, where he grew to take up various financial and accounting functions including Financial Controlling, IT Contracts Financial Manager, as well as Business Unit Controller.

Dr. Nkosindiphile Xhakaza, became a PR Councilor (2011-2015) and served as a Deputy Chief Whip. In 2013 to 2015 he became a Chairperson of the Oversight Committee on

Mayor's Office and legislature where he was Overseeing the institutional performance with regards to the Overall Service Delivery, Financial Performance, Governance and Compliance.

From 2015-2016 he was appointed as a member of the Mayoral Committee of Water and Energy and recently appointed as a member of the Mayoral committee in Finance and Economic Development after the democratic election for the fourth Local Government Administration.



## **Mr. Majid Batambuze**

Mayor of Jinja  
Jinja - Uganda

Mr. Majid Batambuze is the Mayor of Jinja; Uganda's second largest city. He is also the Chairman of Urban Authorities Association of Uganda (UAAU). UAAU is union of all cities, municipalities and towns of Uganda. It advocates for equitable and sustainable urban development.

Batambuze studied Business Administration in London, UK and he is the Managing Director of Farland Assets Uganda Limited - a business consultancy company in Kampala, Uganda.

Batambuze previously worked at the Office of the President of Uganda as a Resident District Commissioner (RDC). As RDC he was the President's Representative in the District and was head of the District Security Committee and was also responsible for monitoring the implementation of all government programmes.

Batambuze is an avid advocate for the promotion of secondary cities and their role in the social-economic development of a country. He strongly believes that to solve the ubiquitous urban challenges of congestion, pollution, overpopulation and proliferation of informal settlements in Africa's capital cities, the solution lies in developing secondary cities.





### **Mr. Emmanuel Grégoire**

Deputy Mayor of Paris in charge of Budget, Financing and Transformation of Public Policies

Paris

Mr. Grégoire graduated from the Institute of Political Studies of Bordeaux and has a degree in Philosophy. He specialized in organizational sociology and communications systems and began his career as a consultant. He worked for 10 years in NICT and the health sector. In 2009, he became the head of staff of Bertrand Delanoë, former Mayor of Paris. A position he held until his departure for the Prime Minister's cabinet where he worked as Head of Staff until April 2014. In April 2014, Mr. Grégoire was elected Deputy Mayor of Paris in charge of human resources, public utilities and

modernization of public administration, alongside Mrs. Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris.

Since October 2017, Mr. Grégoire is Deputy Mayor of Paris, in charge of budget, financing and transformation of public policies.

## **III. Roundtable No 2**

### **Municipal Finance: The Central Government Viewpoint**



### **Dr. Rathin Roy**

Director and CEO of the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP)

India

Dr. Rathin Roy is a member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India. With postings in London, New York, Kathmandu, Brasilia and Bangkok, he has worked as an Economic Diplomat and Policy Advisor with UNDP, focusing on emerging economies. He has taught at the Universities of Manchester and London and served as Economic Advisor with the Thirteenth Finance Commission and as a member of the Seventh Central Pay Commission, Government of India. Dr. Roy is a member of the India Advisory Committee, UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Inquiry into a

Sustainable Financial System, a member on the Meta Council on Inclusive Growth, World Economic Forum, Geneva, and a member of the FRBM Review Committee, Government of India.

Dr. Roy's policy interests and publications have mainly focused on fiscal and macroeconomic issues pertinent to human development in developing and emerging economies. Dr. Roy has written extensively on fiscal space for human development, inter-government fiscal issues, fiscal marksmanship, macro-economic conditionality and IMF Article-IV policy analyses.



### **Mr. Benjamin Kumumanya**

Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Local Government  
Kampala -Uganda

Mr. Benjamin Kumumanya is BA in Political Science and Public Administration (upper division) of Makerere University, Kampala (muk), has an MA in Development Studies (politics of alternative development strategies) and has a post graduate diploma in Governance, Democratization and Public Policy.

Before his function as a Permanent Secretary, Mr. Kumumanya worked as Undersecretary, Office of the Prime Minister, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2009-2016). Also, he worked as Assistant Commissioner, District Administration, Ministry of Local Government (2008); Principal Assistant Secretary (District and Urban Administration Department) – Ministry of Local Government (1999-2008) and senior assistant secretary. (Local Council's Development Department) Ministry of Local Government (1997), among other positions.



### **Mr. Barnabe Dassigli**

Minister of Decentralization and Local Governance  
Benin

Mr. Dassigli is the Benin Minister of Decentralization and Local Governance since April 2016. Before this function, he worked towards strengthening the decentralization process in Benin after several years of single-party rule, ensuring the supervision of Local Government of the Atlantic Division as the Senior Divisional Officer (representative of the central government) for a decade. With the advent of multi-party system in his country, he has created his own party, in which he is still the Chairperson.

As Benin is chairing the African Union (AU) Decentralization and Local Governance (DLG) Subcommittee, he is, at the same time, the Chairperson of AU DLG Subcommittee.



### **Mr. Muhammad Abdul Mannan MP**

Honorable State Minister  
Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Planning,  
Bangladesh

Mr. Muhammad Abdul Mannan joined civil service in 1974 and served in the Government of Bangladesh in the Ministry of Home Affairs; Director General in the Prime Minister's Office. He also served in the Bangladesh Permanent Mission in Geneva as Economic Minister.

In the 9th Parliament (2009-14) he served as Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Accounts. Concurrently he was a member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee of Ministry of Public Administration, Ministry of Finance and

Ministry of Defense. He was elected to the Central Executive Committee of Bangladesh Awami League (BAL) as a member in 2010 and 2013.

Mr. Mannan is interested in development literature and spends time working for the welfare of the rural people of Bangladesh.

## IV. Roundtable No 3

### Municipal Finance: The Financial Institution's Outlook



#### Mr. William (Billy) Cobbett

Director Cities Alliance

William (Billy) Cobbett is Director of Cities Alliance. He initiated a series of corporate and strategic reforms for the Cities Alliance, including relocating the Secretariat from Washington DC to Brussels, and which will culminate with the inaugural meeting of the Cities Alliance Assembly in April 2016. Born in South Africa, Billy was overall Coordinator of Planact, an urban NGO providing policy and technical support to civic organizations and trade unions. He moved to African National Congress (ANC) headquarters in 1992, serving on the National Housing Forum and, prior to the historic 1994 election, the Transitional Executive Council (TEC). In the Government of National Unity under President Mandela, Mr. Cobbett was appointed Director General of the

National Department of Housing under Minister Joe Slovo. He has a Degree in History from Middlesex University, London.



#### Mr. Anthony Nyong

Director for Climate Change and Green Growth Division  
The African Development Bank Group

Mr. Nyong joined The African Development Bank in 2008 as the pioneer Climate Change Expert and built up the Bank's first climate change initiatives. He was promoted to the Head the Climate Change, Gender and Sustainable Development Unit. He initiated the Bank's Green Growth Agenda and worked on developmental issues to unlock the continent's renewable energy potential. Prior to joining the Bank, he worked as a Senior Program Specialist for the International Development Research Centre, based in the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office in Nairobi as a Senior Program Specialist in climate change from 2006. In this role, Mr. Nyong successfully

mobilized substantial resources to set up the Climate Change Adaptation in Africa programme that has significantly built adaptation capacity in Africa.



### Mr. Yohann Chaigneau

Senior Mandate Management Officer for Development and Impact Finance

European Investment Bank

Mr. Yohann Chaigneau is currently Senior Mandate Manager in EIB, in charge of International Development Finance Portfolio (Africa and the Neighbourhood), particularly in charge of private sector development and impact finance operations. He has previously worked for the European Commission in Europe, Africa and Latin America.



### Ms. Kirsten Offermanns

Senior Sector Economist Urban Development,  
KfW Development Bank

Ms. Kirsten Offermanns is, in her current position, working as Principal Sector Economist in KfW Development Bank in the area of Urban Development. Originally, Ms. Offermanns is a lawyer by education. After several years in the private sector as a lawyer, she joined KfW ten years ago and since then covered different positions as Project Manager for projects in Europe and Africa, before joining the Competence Center for Urban Development and Natural Resources as a Sector Economist.



### Ms. Lada Strelnikova

Lead Investment Manager of the European Energy Efficiency Fund  
Deutsche Bank

Ms. Lada Strelnikova is responsible for managing the Investment Advisor mandate for European Energy Efficiency Fund within Deutsche Bank's Asset Management Unit focused on investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy projects of the municipal infrastructure. Prior to taking this role Ms. Strelnikova was involved in establishing and managing the Global Climate Partnership Fund focused on energy efficiency investments in emerging markets and was holding various strategic business development positions across Deutsche Bank units. She is bringing 18 years of the professional experience, is a MBA graduate from Australian National University with focus on managing business in Asia and holds a degree in finance and accounting from the Finance Academy under the Government of the Russian Federation in Moscow.





### Mr. Alex Chirmiciu

Associate Director, Lead Infrastructure Economist, Policy and Governance  
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Mr. Chirmiciu is the lead Infrastructure Economist at the Economics, Policy and Governance department at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. He is responsible for project and policy assessments for infrastructure – transport, municipal and environmental sectors. He has more than ten years of experience in policy analysis and project design and implementation across the entire range of infrastructure sectors.

His research interests include infrastructure, energy and climate change as well as development and transition economics.



### Mr. Lars Gronvald

Head of Section - Cities

DEVCO/C5 –Cities, Local Authorities, Digitalization, Infrastructures  
European Commission

Mr. Lars Gronvald, is heading the Cities Section in the Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development. Previously within in the EU Commission, he has served in number of delegations, most recently as Head of Cooperation covering China and Mongolia, overseeing programmes inter alia on urban development, low-carbon development and employment creation. Prior to this, he has worked as an International Consultant on issues on municipal services, environmental regulation and financing across a range of countries, as well as having worked as

Energy Economist.

### Mr. Vicente Ruiz

Economist

OECD Development Centre

## V. Roundtable No 4

### Pulling the Coalition Together: City, National and Financial Sector Actors



#### Mr. Jean-Francois Habeau

Executive Director

Global Fund for Cities Development - FMDV

Mr. Jean-François Habeau is the Executive Director of FMDV. He is based in the FMDV headquarters in Paris, France and has extensive expertise in local finance and local investment and also in PPPs, climate finance and a strong experience with working for public entities and financial and technical partners. Mr. Habeau is in charge of general coordination, supervision of the organization and its activities, and institutional relations.



#### Mr. Octavi de la Varga Mas

Secretary General

Metropolis

has a degree in law, as well as a Master's Degree in European Studies, a Post-degree in International Humanitarian Aid and a Post-degree in International Relations.

During the last Metropolis World Congress (Montreal, June 2017) he was appointed Secretary General of Metropolis. Previously, he was the Executive Director of Metropolis, the head of Europe and International Strategy Office of the Barcelona Provincial Council, the head of the Development Cooperation Office of the Barcelona Provincial Council, Executive Director of the Orientation and Coordination Office of the URB-AL III Programme. He has also been the Head of the European Cooperation Office of the Barcelona Provincial Council, Coordinator of the Permanent Secretariat of the

network Arco Latino, the Head of the European Union Unit of Intermón-Oxfam, Programme Information and Communications Coordinator of Oxfam International and Deputy to the European Coordinator of Frères des Hommes Europe. He is as well certified by the Observatory of the Decentralised Cooperation between the EU and Latin America as a trainer of trainers.

During the last five years he has been collaborating as a Professor of the Post-degree for Management of Non-Lucrative Entities and currently at the Master in Cooperation, Development and Community Action both at U. Ramon Llull.

## VI. Participants



### Mr. Julio Andrade Ruiz

Director of CIFAL Málaga-UNITAR and Technical Director for Relations with International Organizations  
City of Malaga

Mr. Julio Andrade Ruiz holds a Degree in Law from the Camilo José Cela University, a Master's Degree in Counseling and Intervention in Urgencies, Emergencies and Catastrophes by the University of Malaga and an MBA from the EOI Business School (Public Institution). He is also an Expert in Senior Management and Managerial Skills, San Telmo Institute.

He is also Co-Director for the first Cross-cutting Plan for the Conviviality and the Prevention of Violent Radicalization in the Municipality of Málaga, under the coordination of the Intelligence Center Against Terrorism and Organized Crime, attached to the Secretariat of State for Security of the Spanish Government. He is the

President of the Executive Commission of the Forum for the Peace in the Mediterranean.

He has been the Vice President of the Gender Equality Commission of the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP) and previously was the Vice President of the Commission on Security and Citizen Conviviality of FEMP during the period he was the Deputy Mayor for Security in the Municipality of Málaga (2011-2015).



### Dr. Rene Peter Hohmann

Senior Urban Specialist  
Cities Alliance

Dr. Rene Peter Hohmann works at the Cities Alliance (CA) Secretariat and is responsible for managing a global programme on Fostering Equitable Economic Growth in Cities with operations in Bangladesh, Ghana, Uganda and Kenya, chaired by the UK Department for International Development (DFID). From 2004 to 2013, he worked for the Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Technische Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and advised various urban governance projects funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). He taught urban planning courses at the London School of Economic and Political Science (LSE) and holds a PhD

in Geography from King's College London.



### Mr. Rajivan Krishnaswamy

Sr. Urban Finance Specialist

Cities Alliance

Rajivan Krishnaswamy (born 1955) holds a Masters and PhD in Economics from University of Southern California, Los Angeles. He has worked for 18 years (1979-1996) in the Indian civil service in the housing and urban development sectors at various levels, starting from city level administration to the prime minister's office. He was the CEO of the Tamilnadu Urban Development Fund (1996-2003), a public-private partnership to finance civic infrastructure, that had issued pooled bonds. He worked as Senior Urban Finance Specialist at the Cities Alliance, World Bank Washington (2003-08). From 2008-09 he was President, Institute of Financial Management and Research (IFMR) which researches finance issues in developing economies. Currently he is an

independent consultant.



### Mr. Alberto Barragán

Head of Office in Madrid, Spain

European Investment Bank

Mr. Alberto Barragán graduated (Cum Laude) in Economics from the University of Atlanta (USA) and has an MBA from INSEAD (Fontainebleau, France). His professional experience began in private equity and investment banking in Portugal and Spain, and in 1993 he joined the European Investment Bank (EIB) in Luxembourg. In the EIB, he has worked in Operations during the peace process in the Middle East and North Africa and in private and public-sector operations in Spain. Since 2004, he has been Head of the Operations Division in Latin America and the Caribbean, and since August 2015 he has been the Head of the EIB Group Office in Spain.



### Mr. Jaffer Machano

Head, Global Banking Tanzania

Standard Chartered Bank

Before joining Standard Chartered Bank Mr. Jaffer Machano worked for a local investment bank, Tanzania Investment Bank. He worked for the United Nations in different roles in UNDP and the Peacekeeping Division. He has also worked for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Citibank and Barclays Bank. Jaffer has worked in Canada, the United States, East Timor and Indonesia.

Mr. Machano holds a Master Degree in International Economic Policy from Colombia University, of New York USA, focusing on Trade and Finance. He graduated from Bishops University of Quebec, Canada with the Bachelor of Business Administration

with double majors in Finance and Accounting. He is a current member of Global Association of Risk Professionals, with FRM certification.





## Mr. Zacharie Gbodjeydo

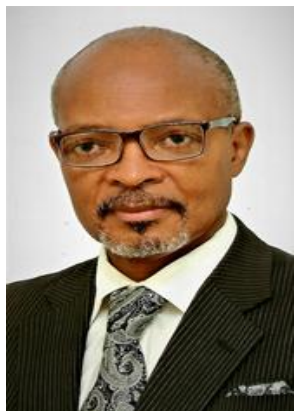
Permanent Secretary

Ministry of Decentralization, Local Government, Administration and Planning

Benin

Mr. Gbodjeydo holds two Master's Degrees in Local Development and in Public Finance Administration. He is the Permanent Secretary of the National Commission for Local Finance (CONAFIL) in Benin. CONAFIL is the steering body of the intercommunal transfers national mechanism named Fonds d'Appui au Développement des Communes (FADeC). He is also a lecturer at the National School of Administration and Magistrates. Before taking over this position, Mr. Gbodjeydo held important positions

including Director of Financial Affairs in various ministries. He has also been the Financial Services Director of Abomey Calavi Town, the 2nd largest city in Benin in terms of demography and budget.



## Ambassador Jean-Francis Regis Zinsou

Former Permanent Representative of Benin to the United Nations New York

Ambassador Zinsou is a Career Diplomat. He joined the public service in 1983. He was appointed Minister Counselor at the Permanent Mission of Benin to the UN in New York where he served thirteen years in various leading positions (2003). From 2004 to 2005, he was Political Coordinator of the UN Security Council. From 2006 to 2008, he was Chair of the UN Working Group on Nuclear Disarmament and Non- Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. In 2009, he was appointed Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Benin to the UN in New York. He chaired the Working Group on LDCs Migrants Remittances and later supervised the process of establishment of the

International Migrants Remittances Observatory headquartered in Benin. In 2010, Ambassador Zinsou was Chair of the UN Disarmament Commission and Vice Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission. In 2012, he was Representative of the President of the African Union, in New York. In 2013, Ambassador Zinsou chaired the Special Committee on the Charter of the UN and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization. From 2012 to 2015, he was the Chair of the Global Coordination Bureau of the LDCs, and the lead negotiator of this group of 49 countries for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Ambassador Zinsou also led many other critical negotiation processes of the General Assembly and ECOSOC on high-level meeting outcomes, including the First UN High Level Meeting on Youth, held in July 2011, the inaugural ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development Follow-up held in April 2016, and the High-Level Midterm Review of the Istanbul Programme of Action for LDCs held in Antalya (Turkey), in May 2016. Ambassador Zinsou retired in September 2016, and serve now as Lecturer at the African School of Economics and Resource Person at the National School of Administration and Training of Judges.



### **Mr. Iqbal Abdullah Harun**

Minister (Economic)

Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the United Nations  
New York

Mr. Iqbal Abdullah Harun, is leading the Economic wing which is mandated to deal with operational activities of UN including Funds and Programmes, Financing for Development, South-South and Triangular Cooperation, activities related to LDC's, Group of 77 and China. He contributed significantly in systemic, structural, institutional and individual capacity development and reform in Public Financial Management area of Bangladesh which resulted in the creation of two specialized units for Macroeconomic Management and Debt management in Ministry of Finance, Establishment of Institute of Public Finance, Development of Curriculum and deliver

PFM related trainings to over 14,000 officials. He played a critical role in setting up market infrastructure and process for government debt market in Bangladesh. Later, as the head of Debt Management Office, he led technical teams to prepare the first ever Debt Sustainability Analysis and Medium-Term Debt Strategy of the country. During his brief tenure with UN Capital Development Fund as Senior Advisor, he led the process of formulating a Non-grant municipal Investment Financing Strategy.

Mr. Harun served as one of the members of the global editorial board that updated the IMF-WB's Debt Management Guidelines in 2014. He also actively participated in DeMPA assessment by the WB, ECF and Article IV missions of the IMF in Bangladesh. Trained in macro-fiscal and financial management areas, he did his Master's Degree in Economics, Public Financial Management and Geography and Environment.



### **Mr. Md. Abul Kalam Azad**

Principle Coordinator (SDGs' Affairs), Prime Minister's Office  
Bangladesh

Mr. Md. Abul Kalam Azad is responsible for Country Coordination of Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) in Bangladesh. He leads the SDG planning and implementation from Prime Minister's Office of Bangladesh. Earlier to this, Mr. Azad coordinated all administrative, development and reform process from Prime Minister's Office as Principal Secretary to Honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh and as Secretary. For the last four years he supports and guides the implementation of 100 Economic Zones, dozens of hi-tech parks and Several Public-Private Partnership

initiatives, the supervision of coordination of NGO activities in Bangladesh. He also provides policy support for investment climate for the Board of Investment and Bangladesh Investment Development Authority. High-level intelligence and security monitoring was part of his responsibility.



### **Ms. Mabel Vargas Romano**

Municipal Secretary of Finance

La Paz, Bolivia

Ms. Mabel Vargas Romano graduated in Financial Audit with several refresher courses in Financial Management. She started her financial career at the Central Bank of Bolivia in 1997 where she worked in different areas of International Affairs as well as Financial Administration - demonstrating responsibility, commitment, and capacity for the development of the tasks that were assigned to her, occupying the sub-management of Administration. Later she became an External Consultant of the National Chamber of Deputies financed by PRELA-DANIDA I (Danish Cooperation). In 2001, she joined to the Autonomous Municipal Government of La Paz as a head of the

Accounting Unit. Now she is the Municipal Finance Secretary, the highest financial authority of the Municipality. Among its publications is the "Regulation of the System of Contracting of Goods and Services of the National Chamber of Deputies (2000)."



### **Mr. Javier Rivera Vía**

Director of Financing and Financial Analysis

La Paz, Bolivia

Mr. Javier Rivera Vía was a Commercial Engineer in the Military School of Engineering La Paz, Bolivia. He is a Postgraduate in Preparation and Evaluation of Social Projects: Public Investment Projects of the CEEDE - University of Chile, a Master's Degree in Management and Public Policies (Masters for Development) from the Universidad Católica Boliviana. He also worked in technical positions in the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance. He is currently is the Director of Financing and Financial Analysis of the Autonomous Municipal Government of La Paz



### **Ms. Manisha Gulati**

Programme Manager

C40 Cities Finance Facility

Ms. Manisha Gulati is an economist who specializes in the areas of energy, low carbon development, green economy and the food-energy-water nexus. She has 17 years of experience in policy advisory, research and capacity building in these areas. She brings a wealth of knowledge from Asia, Africa and Europe where she has advised governments, businesses, global policymakers, donors, and civil society and delivered high-impact advisory and research initiatives.

Manisha is currently the Programme Manager for the C40 Cities Finance Facility, a project implemented by the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group in partnership with GIZ, and funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the UK Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS), and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The C40 Cities Finance Facility supports C40 cities in developing and emerging economies to prepare and deliver finance-ready sustainable, low-carbon and climate action projects, whilst building financial capacity, and sharing lessons learned.



### **Mr. Martim O. Smolka**

Senior Fellow and Director, Program on Latin American and the Caribbean  
Lincoln Institute Of Land Policy

Mr. Martim O. Smolka, is an economist with an MA and PhD in Regional Science from the University of Pennsylvania. His areas of expertise include land markets and land policy, access to land by the urban poor, the structuring of property markets in Latin America and property tax systems, including the use of land value increment charges to finance urban development and infrastructure. Also Mr. Smolka, is the co-founder and former President of the Brazilian National Association for Research and Graduate Studies on Urban and Regional Planning.



### **Ms. Morgan Simon**

Managing Director  
Candide Group

Author of **REAL IMPACT: The New Economics of Social Change**

Ms. Morgan Simon is a widely-recognized leader in impact investment who builds bridges between finance and social justice. Over the past seventeen years, she has influenced over \$150 billion in capital. Simon currently co-leads Candide Group, which supports Pi Innovation and the Libra Foundation in executing their 100% impact agendas. She is also the co-founder and Chair of the non-profit Transform Finance. Previously, Ms. Simon served as the founding CEO of Toniic, a global network of impact investors, and as the Founding Executive Director of the Responsible Endowments Coalition. She has worked with the United Nations in Honduras, in corporate reform with ForestEthics, and in domestic microfinance with the Women's Initiative for Self-Employment. She currently serves on the boards of the Restaurant Opportunity Center, The Working World and CARE Enterprises.





### **Mr. Kadmiel Wekwete**

Senior Development Adviser

Independent Senior Advisor

Mr. Kadmiel Wekwete is a Senior Development professional with 30 years' experience in teaching, research and advisory work. As a Professor in Urban and Rural Planning, he taught at the University of Zimbabwe from 1984 and then joined and served the United Nations in different capacities since 1993. This included service to UN Habitat, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), particularly focusing on promoting local development and the role of local institutions in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Mr. Wekwete, retired from the United Nations after 20 years of service and

moved to Zimbabwe where he was appointed Deputy Vice Chancellor of the Midlands University responsible for Business Development and Administration.



### **Ms. Diana López Caramazana**

Head, Local Government and Decentralization Unit

UNACLA Liaison Officer

UN-Habitat

Ms. Diana López Caramazana leads the Local Government and Decentralization Unit at UN-Habitat headquarters in Nairobi, supporting local governments across the world in the fields of urban governance, transparency, accountability and innovation in municipal management and finance. She has been dedicated to issues related to local governance and the role of local governments in international development since 1997 when she entered the UN System to work in different local economic development projects at ILO. She moved to UN-Habitat in 2016 where she is

also supporting the work of the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities (UNACLA) and the Localizing SDG initiative.



### **Mr. Marco Kamiya**

Coordinator, Urban Economy and Finance Branch

UN-HABITAT

HQ Kenya.

Mr. Marco Kamiya is coordinator of the Urban Economy and Finance Branch of UN-Habitat, headquartered in Nairobi. In addition to working on field projects with UN-Habitat, Kamiya conducts research on municipal finance, the economics of urban expansion and local infrastructure-investment policy. Prior to joining UN-Habitat, he worked at the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) and the Inter-American Development Bank, and was director of international development projects with

PADECO Co., Ltd. - a consulting firm based in Tokyo. He is also a member of the Habitat III advisory group on local finance and the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Finance for Development, and annual lecturer at the MIT Metropolitan Finance Lab in Cambridge, US.



### Mr. Serge Allou

Technical Advisor to the UCLG Committee on Local Finance and Development  
UCLG

Mr. Serge Allou has a Degree in Economics with a Postgraduate Certificate in Sociology and a PhD in Political Studies (University of Paris). He started working for French Development Research institutions (IRD and IFEA) as an Urban researcher in Ecuador and Peru, based in local NGOs (Ciudad in Ecuador and Cidap in Peru), where he stayed four years. Upon his return to France he joined Gret, a French international development NGO, where he launched and managed the Habitat Solidarity Programme, a Programme aimed at building operational partnerships and projects

between French cities and cities, professionals and NGOs in the South. He was elected and acted as Gret's Managing Director from 2001 to 2007. He has been an Associate Professor at IFU, the French Institute of Urbanism from 1997, in charge of a Postgraduate certificate called "International Expertise - Cities in Development."



### Nelson Fernández

Director of International Relations and Cooperation, General Coordinator of Metropolis for Latin America and Caribbean  
Intendency of Montevideo (Uruguay)

Mr. Nelson Fernandez, entered the Bank of the Republic O. del Uruguay in March 1979 and, in opposition and merit contests, obtained the position of Coordinating Manager of Businesses Abroad. In 2005, he was summoned to work in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Deputy Director General for Integration Affairs and Mercosur and then holding the posts of Deputy Director General for International Economic Affairs, General Director of the Secretariat and Vice Chancellor of the Republic (2009).

Mr. Fernandez, was a member of the International Affairs Secretariat of the PIT CNT, the Representative Bureau and the Executive Secretariat. He also joined the Economic

and Social Consultative Forum of Mercosur on behalf of the worker sector for several years.

Since July 2015, he joined the team of Intendente Daniel Martínez as Director of International Relations and Cooperation.



## **Cristiana V. Fragola**

Director of Partnerships & Government Relations  
Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy

Cristiana V. Fragola is the Director of Partnerships and Government Relations. She has been supporting Mayors and Cities in developing and implementing climate action and resilience strategies for the past decade. She started with the Mayor Bloomberg's administration in NYC and moving on to establish regional offices for The C40 Climate Leadership Group and the 100 Resilient Cities city networks. Prior to joining the urban practice, she served as legal advisor to the UNDP on MDGs financing and as corporate finance associate with Clifford Changes Rogers & Wells. She holds an LLM from the University of Pennsylvania and an MPA from the Harvard Kennedy School. She is fluent in English, Spanish and French and Italian, her native tongue.



## **Mr. Mohammad Navid Safiullah**

Commercial Counsellor  
Embassy of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Madrid, Spain

Mr. Safiullah is responsible for promoting bilateral trade and investment between Spain and Bangladesh. In addition, as Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) he is also tasked with the activities of promoting sustainable and universally accessible tourism. During his tenure, he has published several articles and given various interviews and talks to various Spanish business organizations and media on Bangladesh-Spain economic relations.

Mr. Navid has over 20 years of experience in the Civil Service of Bangladesh. Since 1995, he served in various capacities, most importantly as Senior Assistant Secretary in the Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance, Deputy Secretary in the Planning Division and Director of Innovation in the Prime Minister's Office.

Mohammad Navid Safiullah obtained Masters in English Linguistics from Dhaka University and Masters in Governance and Development from the BRAC University in partnership with the Harvard's Kennedy School of Government (KSG). He also pursued MBA on Digital Technologies Management (DTM) from Royal Roads, a top notch Public University in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.