



RIGHTS IN CRISIS

An expert meeting on promoting human rights in financial regulation and macroeconomic policies

New York, 24 – 25 April 2013

Short Bios of Moderators and Panellists

- **Mr. Bat-Erdene Ayush** – Chief, Right to Development Section, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. The Section is responsible for the implementation of the S-G and High Commissioner’s mandate on the right to development. Its responsibilities include providing Secretariat support to the Human Rights Council (HRC) Working Group on the Right to Development, the HRC’s Social Forum and the independent expert on international solidarity, producing thematic reports and expert panels on globalization, unilateral coercive measures, anti-corruption, and developing human rights indicators. In his previous work at OHCHR, Mr. Ayush worked on a variety of specific portfolios including, extrajudicial executions, IDPs, anti-corruption, Iran and Russia. He has also served as a Political Affairs and NGO Officer in the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs in NY and a member of his country’s Foreign Service.
- **Mr. Tseliso Thipanyane** – A South African human rights lawyer and former chief executive officer of the South African Human Rights Commission. Was responsible, as head of research of the Commission, for the monitoring of the realization of economic and social rights in South Africa. Currently based in New York as an independent consultant on human rights, democracy and good governance with a special focus on Africa and national human rights institutions and an adjunct law lecturer at Columbia University Law School offering a seminar course on African human rights systems in a comparative perspective.
- **Ms. Radhika Balakrishnan** – A professor at Rutgers University. Her work focuses on gender and development, gender and the global economy, human rights and economic and social rights. Her research and advocacy work has sought to change the lens through which macro-economic policy is interpreted and critiqued by applying international human rights norms to assess macro-economic policy.
- **Ms. Marina Durano** – An assistant professor at the University of the Philippines. She teaches macroeconomics and development economics. She has specific expertise in gender issues and is connected with the work of Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era in the areas of financial regulation and human rights.



- **Ms. Atieno Ndomo** – Regional Coordinator for the UN Millennium Campaign in Africa.
- **Mr. Jose Antonio Ocampo** – A professor at Columbia University and one of three candidates for the World Bank Presidency in 2012. He currently heads a Commission to review the activities of the International Monetary Fund’s Independent Evaluation Office. He has served in a number of positions in the United Nations and the Government of Colombia including as United Nations Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs; Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); Minister of Finance and Public Credit and Chairman of the Board of Banco del República (Central Bank of Colombia); Director of the National Planning Department (Minister of Planning); and Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development.
- **Mr. Aldo Caliari** – Aldo Caliari is the Director of the Rethinking Bretton Woods Project at the Washington DC-based Center of Concern. He has been at the Center of Concern since 2000, where he has focused on global economic governance, debt, international financial architecture, human rights in international economic policy and linkages between trade and finance policy. He edited four books on linkages between trade and finance and one on regional and global liquidity arrangements. He has published additional works in books, academic and specialized journals, and the media. Aldo has consulted for several intergovernmental organizations -- such as UNCTAD, UNDP, UN DESA, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights— in addition to governments, civil society networks and foundations. He holds a Masters of International Policy and Practice from George Washington University (2007), focus on economics and finance, and a Masters Degree from the Washington College of Law, American University (2000).
- **Ms. Smitha Francis** – The Principal Economist at Economic Research Foundation (ERF), New Delhi, which is also the Secretariat for International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs – www.networkideas.org). She received her Ph.D. in economics from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. She has written several research papers on international trade and financial policy issues such as FDI-led regional trade integration, sovereign debt restructuring, development implications of the Basel capital requirements, impacts of financial liberalisation on public finances, and more recently, implications of trade and investment agreements on financial regulation, industrial development strategies, etc. In addition to being involved with ERF’s work, she is presently a Guest Faculty at the South Asian University, New Delhi.
- **Mr. Barry Herman** – A visiting senior fellow at the Julian J. Studley Graduate Program in International Affairs of The New School. He also chairs the Advisory Board of Social Justice in Global Development, based in Germany (socdevjustice.org). He was a founding director of Global Integrity, a research NGO

based in Washington that works with independent scholars and investigative reporters on assessing laws, institutions and practices to improve governance and limit corruption in developed and developing countries. From 2004 to 2009, he co-chaired the Task Force on Debt Restructuring and Sovereign Bankruptcy at the Initiative for Policy Dialogue at Columbia University. He also previously worked as a Senior Advisor in the Financing for Development Office in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), capping a 29 year career at the UN.

- **Mr. Axel Bertuch-Samuels** – Special Representative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to the United Nations. Mr Bertuch-Samuels has served in several other capacities at the IMF including as: Deputy Director in the Strategy, Policy and Review Department, Deputy Director in the IMF Monetary and Capital Markets Department, and Special Advisor to the Managing Director. Before that, Mr Bertuch-Samuels worked for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development as Director and Head of the President’s Office from 1998 to 2000. He was Director of the Economics and Financial Markets Department of the German Savings Banks and Giro Association from 1993 to 1998 and also served as a Senior Advisor to the Deputy Minister and to the Minister of Finance of Germany.
- **Ms. Shireen Said** – Global Policy Adviser on Human Rights in UNDP’s Bureau for Development Policy. Ms. Said advises UNDP on its human rights policies and programmes related to development. She also manages the Global Human Rights Strengthening Project and serves on a range of UN Inter-agency committees including the UN Development Group human rights mainstreaming mechanism. She is the UNDP’s lead advisor for the UN’s post 2015 thematic consultation on Governance.
- **Mr. Hazem Fahmy** – Chief, Multi-Stakeholder Engagement & Outreach Branch, Financing for Development Office, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Mr. Fahmy holds degrees from the American University in Cairo, Harvard University, and the New School (NY) from which he received his PhD in economics.
- **Mr. Vinicius Pinheiro** – Deputy Director, International Labour Organization - Office for the UN. Prior to joining the ILO, Mr Pinheiro was National Secretary for Social Security of Brazil (1999–2002). In 2001, Mr Pinheiro was elected Vice-President of the Inter-American Social Security Conference, based in Mexico City. Between 2002 and 2005 he worked for the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), in Paris. Mr Pinheiro joined the ILO in 2005 and has worked in several capacities including as senior advisor to the ILO Director-General on Social Protection, G20 and for the preparation of the Rio +20. He also served as executive secretary of the Social Protection Floor Advisory Group (Bachelet Group).
- **Ms. Yassine Fall** – Chief, Economic Empowerment Section, UN Women. Yassine Fall is an economist with 30 years of experience in development policy and practice. She is presently leading UN Women’s work on economic empowerment, and served



as Regional Director, Economics Advisor and Interim Director of INSTRAW. Prior to joining UN Women, Yassine worked as professor of mathematics and applied economics and was head of the Association of African Women for Research and Development. She directed for 13 years a successful international consulting enterprise combining environmental field research, capacity development and macroeconomic policy analysis. She was active in global civil society organizing for economic rights and was among the group of African economists that called for alternative approaches to market driven policies. She led the caucus for Economic Justice during the Beijing conference and advised African Governments to support gender responsive macroeconomic policies. Ms. Fall has edited and contributed to a number of publications in French and English, including “Harvesting Feminist Knowledge for Public Policy: Rebuilding Progress”