Fifth Annual Symposium on the Role of Religion and Faith-Based Organizations in International Affairs

Bios of moderators and speakers

Opening session



Moderator: **Mr. Rudelmar Bueno de Faria -** General Secretary of the ACT Alliance. He has over 25 years of experience working with national and international faith-based organizations. He is a member of the Advisory Council of Faith-Based Organizations to the United Nations Interagency Task Force on Religion and Sustainable Development.



H.E. Mr. Elliott Harris - His Excellency Mr. Elliott Harris is the UN Chief Economist and Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development. Mr. Harris has over 25 years of international experience in the fields of international economics and development policy analysis.



H.E. Ambassador Lazarous Kapambwe - His Excellency Lazarous Kapambwe was elected sixty-seventh President of the Economic and Social Council on 18 January 2011. Ambassador Kapambwe is currently the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations in New York, a post which he has held since 2007. He is Co-Chair of the Financing for Development Forum. Mr. Kapambwe served as co-facilitator of the Ad-Hoc Open Ended Working Group of the General assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis in 2009-2010. Prior to the United Nations, he served as Zambia's Ambassador to Ethiopia and the African Union, from June 2003 to June 2007. He was concurrently accredited as Ambassador of Zambia to Sudan, Yemen, Djibouti and Somalia.



Bishop Hope Morgan Ward, (on behalf of Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe, General Secretary) - Resident Bishop of the Raleigh Area, which includes the North Carolina Conference in the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church. Hope discovered a love for ministry and mission as Director of Youth and Missions at Fairmont UMC in Raleigh, North Carolina. She and her spouse, Mike, met on a mission trip to Bolivia in 1975 and married in 1977. They served together as teaching parents at the Methodist Home for Children in Raleigh from 1977-1979. During this time, Hope served as chaplain, leading worship on the residential campus. Regular mission engagement has been a part of her life, serving with her husband and children in the development of local and national missional initiatives and international mission partnerships.



Anwar Khan - President of Islamic Relief USA. He has more than twenty-five years of experience working in the field of humanitarian and development assistance. In 1993 Mr. Khan joined Islamic Relief Worldwide. Since then he has aided in expanding IRUSA's operation from a small office in Los Angeles to nine offices around the United States assisting over 11 million people in over 40 countries around the world and here in the U.S. Currently, Mr. Khan sits and serves as an advisor on the board of the Joint Learning Initiative (JLI). Mr. Khan has also served as an advisor for U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)'s Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA), and the U.S. State Department's Religion and Foreign Policy Working Group.



Peter Prove - Director of the World Council of Churches (WCC) Commission of the Churches on International Affairs (CCIA). Mr Prove is responsible especially for the WCC's activities in the fields of peace-building, human rights advocacy and disarmament. He has more than 20 years of experience in international affairs covering a broad range of issues, including peace and security, human rights, sustainable development, food security, climate change, international trade, humanitarian relief, refugees, sovereign debt, HIV-AIDS, indigenous issues, and interfaith dialogue. He has served as President of the NGO Committee on Human Rights (Geneva), and as a member of the Expert Advisory Group for an UNCTAD program on "Promoting Responsible Sovereign Lending and Borrowing", of a UN International Task Team on HIV-related Travel Restrictions, and of the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council.

Panel One

Economy of Life: Faith-based Perspectives on Economic Justice as a Moral Imperative Panel One will present a faith-based framing of financing for sustainable development, including the moral foundations for an Economy of Life that incorporates peace, justice and sustainability.



Moderator: **Dr. Ganoune Diop** - Secretary General of the International Religious Liberty Association. He is the Director of the Public Affairs and Religious Liberty Department (PARL) at the Seventh-day Adventist Church world headquarters. Dr. Diop was the Permanent Representative of the SDA Church at the United Nations in New York and Geneva. He is currently secretary of the Conference of General Secretaries of the Christian World Communions. He extensively works to foster mutual understanding between Christian faith traditions and other world religions and philosophies. He regularly trains leaders in capacity building in reference to peace, justice, and human rights; the pillars of the United Nations.



Dr. Ulrich Duchrow - Professor of systematic theology at the University of Heidelberg/Germany, specialised in ecumenical and interreligious theology and theology-economy issues. Dr. Duchrow is the Co-founder and honorary chair of Kairos Europa, an ecumenical grassroots network striving for economic justice together with organisations of the marginalized and with solidarity groups (secular and church-related). Kairos Europa coordinates the Kairos Palestine Solidarity Network in Germany. He has worked in various capacities with the World Council of Churches (particularly in the Conciliar Process for Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation). He worked with the Lutheran World Federation and the Reformed Alliance of Reformed Churches on the Process of Confession against economic injustice and ecological destruction.



Dr. Manuel Montes - Senior Adviser on Finance and Development and Permanent Observer of the South Centre to the United Nations in New York. He was previously Chief of the Development Strategies and Policy branch at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA). Before that he was a Program Officer in International Policy for the Ford Foundation. He had been on the economics faculty at the University of the Philippines. His publications have focused on development macroeconomics and finance. Dr. Montes holds a PhD in Economics from Stanford University.



Sister Winfred Doherty - Member of the Congregation of Our Lady of Good Shepherd, an international community of catholic sisters present in 74 countries. Winifred has been the NGO Representative to the United Nations since 2008. A social worker by profession, Winifred graduated from University College Cork, Ireland and was a missionary in Ethiopia for 16 years. As NGO representative her advocacy focuses on the issues addressed in the 6 position papers of the congregation. She is a member of the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors, a director of the Working Group on Girls and advocates with NGO Committees including the Status of Women, Social Development, and Financing for Development.



Dr. Azza Karam - Serves as a Senior Advisor on Culture and Social Development, at the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). She is the Lead Facilitator for the United Nations Strategic Learning Exchanges on Religion, development and humanitarian issues. She represents UNFPA as Coordinator/Chair of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Engaging Faith-Based Organizations for Development; and coordinates engagement with members of a Global Interfaith Network for Population and Development with over 500 faith-based organizations.

Panel Two

Integrating Human Rights in Financing for Sustainable Development



Moderator: **Rev. Dr. Liberato Bautista -** "Levi" C. Bautista is President of CoNGO—The Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (2018-2021) and Assistant General Secretary for UN and International Affairs at the General Board of Church and Society (GBCS) of The United Methodist Church. He has been an NGO representative at the UN for close to 22 years, including as President of the Committee of Religious NGOs at the UN (2015-2017), President of CoNGO (2009-2011), and Chair of the Council of Organizations of the UN Association of the USA. Bautista studied political science, history, and international studies in the Philippines, and religion and social and political ethics in the United States.



Ms. Lidy Nacpil - Lidy has been an activist for more than three decades, starting as a university student fighting the Marcos dictatorship in the 1980s. She has worked as a local, national, and international organizer and campaigner on many issues – human rights, peace, women's rights, economic justice, sustainable development, debt and public finance, tax justice, climate justice, and the transformation of energy systems. She has helped to organize a number of grassroots movements. She is currently the coordinator of the Asian Peoples Movement on Debt and Development – an alliance of peoples movements and NGOs in Asia.



Ms. Kathryn Tobin - Advocacy Coordinator for the SDGs at WaterAid, where she links WaterAid's work on water, sanitation and hygiene to global efforts to reduce inequalities and achieve sustainable development. Katie worked at the UN from 2011 to 2014, focusing on gender equality, human rights, and sustainable development as a program and communications officer with the United Nations Non-

Governmental Liaison Service. In 2014 Katie co-founded Regions Refocus, an initiative that works on policy analysis around economic and gender justice. A graduate of Barnard College and School of Oriental and African Studies (University of London), Katie has also worked on women's rights, conflict resolution, organizational strategy, and sustainable development in the US and in Uganda.



Dr. Doerte Doemeland - Practice Manager for Global Macro and Debt Analytics in the Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment (MTI) Global Practice of the World Bank. She has worked on technical, analytical and operational tasks in low and middle-income countries in ECA, LAC and Sub-Saharan Africa, including as Lead Economist for EU member states and the Andean Countries. She also joined the World Bank's Research Department for two years to work with the Sr. Vice President and Chief Economist. She was the first Program Manager of the World Bank's Debt Management Facility (DMF), responsible for setting up the DMF and establishing its work program. Doerte has published several books, book chapters and articles in peer reviewed journals on issues related to fiscal policy, debt and growth.



Ms. Anita Thomas - Chair of the NGO Committee on Financing for Development, a Substantive Committee of the Conference of NGOs (CoNGO). She is the main representative of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund (VGIF) to the UN, an international women's fund providing grants for the empowerment of women and girls. Her experience, spanning over twenty years with both domestic and international NGOs, include advocacy of the rights of girls as the main representative of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to the UN for over ten years, and in management roles with the Conference of NGOs, Sam Schmidt Paralysis Foundation, and consultant roles in project and grants management and finance. Thomas holds an M.S. in Finance (Simon School of Business, University of Rochester), Master's In Public Affairs and Politics (Rutgers University), and M.A. in Economics (Madras Christian College, India). She is a Fellow of the Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University.



Dr. Elizabeta Kitanovic - Executive Secretary for Human Rights of Conference of European Churches, in Brussels. She is working as senior human rights advocate vis-a-vis International Organizations. She is editor of the Human Rights Training Manuel for European Churches and is editor and founder of the first European Churches Human Rights Library and the Church and Society's Annual Reports 2007-2014. In 2009/2010 she has been a member of the Advisory Panel of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency and was again nominated for 2012/2014. Ms Kitanovic completed her studies in Theology and doctoral studies at Political Science Faculty in Belgrade. She graduated from the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Serbian Government.

Panel Three

Bios for Panel three –Sustainable Resourcing for Sustainable Development



Moderator: Ms. Mercy Niwe - Currently serves as the Lead for the Faith-Based Initiative at the World Bank Group. Mercy formerly served as a Senior Program Manager in economic development at World Vision, a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to help them reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. As an economist with World Vision, Mercy provided technical assistance to a multimillion dollar portfolio of economic development programs in Africa, Latin America, and Asia. With almost 20 years of experience in international development, advocacy, policy and finance, Mercy's expertise includes project design and implementation; policy design and advocacy; managing diverse partnerships; fundraising; and integrating behavioural change approaches into market systems. She holds a bachelor's degree in economics, mathematics, and statistics, and a master's degree in economic policy and management, both from Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. A native Ugandan and now naturalized American, Mercy has a passion for building the capacity of faith based organizations to contribute to the financial and social economies of vulnerable communities. She is a sought-after speaker and mentor especially in areas of "economic empowerment for women" and the "role of faith in development". Mercy worships at Fairfax Community Church with her husband Moses and two children (Moshe 10, Meira 7) where they are involved in the neighbourhood group ministries and hospitality.



Bishop Ingeborg Midttømme - Norwegian Lutheran bishop for the Diocese of Møre in the Church of Norway. Midttømme was born in Oslo, Norway on 20 November 1961. She has been the Bishop since 2008. She was elected as the first female leader of the Norwegian Association of Clergy trade union in 2003. Midttømme attended the MF Norwegian School of Theology and graduated in 1986. She was ordained as a priest in 1987. She worked in Høybråten in Oslo from 1987 until 1993. She then became the parish priest for Sørfold in the Salten region in Northern Norway from 1993 until 1997. In 1997 she took a chaplain job in Holmlia in Oslo. She was appointed Bishop of the Diocese of Møre in 2008.



Mr. Navid Hanif - Joined the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) in 2001. From 2001-2003 he was Senior Policy Adviser in the Division for Sustainable Development and member of the team for the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in 2002. He later joined the office of the Under-Secretary General for UNDESA and focused on departmental initiatives in various policy areas. He was appointed as the Chief of Policy Coordination Branch in the office for Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) support in 2004. In 2005, he was sent on a special assignment as Principal Officer in the Office of the UN Secretary General and member of the team for the 2005 World Summit. In January, 2010, he was appointed as Head of the newly established DESA Strategic Planning Unit. In June 2012, he was appointed Director of the Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination. In 2018, he was appointed as Director for the Financing for Sustainable Development Office.



Hereditary Chief Phil Lane Jr. - An enrolled member of the Yankton Dakota and Chickasaw First Nations and is an internationally recognized leader in human and community development. During the past 45 years, he has worked with Indigenous peoples in North, Central and South America, Micronesia, South East Asia, India, Hawaii and Africa. He served 16 years as an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Education at the University of Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada. With Elders from across

North America, Chief Phil co-founded the Four Worlds International Institute (FWII). As well, Chief Phil is a Director of the Four Directions Corporation, an Indigenous owned company, incorporated in 1996 as Four Worlds' economic development arm.



Mr. Sharif Aly - Chief Executive Officer at Islamic Relief USA (IRUSA). Sharif joined the IRUSA as Advocacy Counsel in 2014, during his tenure as Advocacy Counsel, Sharif spearheaded and managed major IRUSA strategic advocacy campaigns focused on food security and livelihood programs, refugee resettlement, civil society and humanitarian access, as well as climate change and environmental policies. Sharif also served as IRUSA's Lead United Nations representative where he developed and utilized evidence-based research to advocate on behalf of the organization's core values, programs philosophy and policy positions. As Advocacy Counsel, Sharif led major non-governmental coalition efforts to promote and strengthen financial access for civil society organizations.



Rabbi Diana Gerson - Associate Executive Vice President of the New York Board of Rabbis. Since 2005, she has been successfully advancing the NYBR's leadership role in confronting family violence, sexual abuse and exploitation, in and beyond New York. A recognized authority in the field, Rabbi Gerson has reached across faith communities to provide family violence prevention education and training to over 4000 members of the clergy, community leaders, 3000 teenagers and adults. Rabbi Gerson has developed training programs for the New York City Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence and has educated faith leaders at the New York City Family Justice Centers. She currently serves as the interfaith liaison between the New York Board of Rabbis and the UNICEF USA, where she has worked collaboratively to develop an interfaith toolkit for the End Trafficking Initiative in addition to writing monthly newsletters and planning educational events for clergy and communal leaders, focused on child protection. In addition, she has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV), where she was the chairperson of the Jewish Women's Caucus. She has spoken at conferences around the world on the topic of confronting violence against children, with a focus on the faith community's role and responsibility in ending the commercial sexual exploitation of children. Most recently she was a speaker and moderator at the 5th Forum of the Global Network of Religions for Children (GNRC) in Panama City, Panama.

Panel Four

Building Genuine Partnerships for Sustainable Development



Moderator: **Rev. Douglas Leonard** - World Council of Churches' (WCC) Representative to the UN. He advises the 350 member churches of the WCC on their advocacy in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals, and supports their diplomacy and peace-building efforts. He also serves as the WCC's liaison to the World Bank. Rev. Leonard served for several years as the Executive Director of Al Amana Centre, a center for the study of global Muslim-Christian relations and diplomacy based in the Sultanate of Oman. His scholarly work has appeared in numerous academic journals and books and he serves as a special editor of The Muslim World. Rev. Leonard is an ordained minister in the Reformed Church in America, a progressive mainline Christian denomination in the US. He received his MDiv from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2001.



Ms. Athena Peralta - Programme executive for economic and ecological justice at the World Council of Churches. Previously she worked with the National Economic Development Authority of the Philippines as senior economic development specialist. Her research and advocacy focus on the intersections between economic, ecological and gender justice. She completed her M.A. in economics of development and post-graduate diploma in feminist development economics from the Institute of Social Studies (Erasmus University) in The Hague in the Netherlands.



Monem Salam - President and Executive Director of Saturna Sdn. Bhd., Saturna Capital's whollyowned Malaysian subsidiary, and a Director at Saturna Capital. He received his degrees from the University of Texas: BA (Austin) and MBA (Dallas). He worked as the Chief Investment Officer for ITG & Associates (Dallas) until 1999; then as a representative with Morgan Stanley (suburban Dallas) until

joining Saturna Capital in June 2003. He served as the Director of Islamic investing and Deputy Portfolio Manager to the Amana Mutual Funds Trust until moving to Kuala Lumpur in 2012 to oversee Saturna Sdn. Bhd. Monem is Adjunct Professor at IE Business School and speaks at Islamic finance/investment conferences worldwide and he is co-author of A Muslim's Guide to Investing and Personal Finance. Monem has authored chapters on Islamic Investing in both Contemporary Islamic Finance and Islamic Capital Markets and he contributes articles to leading Islamic financial magazines. As a mark of recognition of his achievements in Islamic economy, Monem was ranked among 500 of the Islamic world's most prominent and influential leaders by ISLAMICA 500 in 2015.



Mr. Clive Harris - Head of Maximizing Financing for Development at the World Bank—where he leads the organization's approach to systematically leverage all sources of finance, expertise, and solutions to support developing countries' sustainable growth. Previously, he was the Practice Manager for Public-Private Partnerships at the World Bank Group. There, he advised on strategic direction, promoted partnerships, and facilitated global knowledge about PPPs. He has worked on the development of markets for infrastructure services and the contracting of basic services to the private sector through PPPs for over 25 years, including in his native United Kingdom, Australia, and many countries in Latin America, Asia, and Africa. He has published on infrastructure regulation, private provision of basic services, and institutional mechanisms for implementing PPPs. Previously Clive was Manager for PPPs in the World Bank Institute, with a focus on capacity building and knowledge dissemination.



Barbara Adams - Born and educated in England, trained as an economist, Barbara Adams' experience has many facets – as a researcher and teacher, as a CSO policy advocate, and with a long tenure working for the United Nations. A consistent theme has been strengthening and supporting CSO engagement with the multilateral and UN system and in intergovernmental policy processes for peace and justice, most recently during the many phases of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the establishment of the Sustainable Development Goals. She has authored and co-authored many articles, reports, commissioned studies and books, and is a regular contributor in the Global Policy Watch briefings series. Publications include: Accounting for Africa at the United Nations: A Guide for Non-Governmental Organizations; Putting Gender on the Agenda: A Guide to Participating in UN World Conferences; Climate Justice in a Changing World, co-authored with Gretchen Luchsinger; Reclaiming Multilateralism for People, Rights and Sustainable Development; Whose Development, Whose UN?; and Fit for Whose Purpose?, co-authored with Jens Martens.



Michael Even - Interim Chief Executive Officer of FaithInvest, an Alliance of Religions investing for Conservation and the common good. As an investment professional with over 35 years of industry experience in various roles and organizations. Mike advises organizations such as the Massachusetts Pension Reserves Management Board (PRIM) on projects aimed at increasing fund sophistication and efficiency and advises the Alliance for Religions and Conservation (ARC) in Faith-Based-Investing. Mike has served as the Chairman of Man Numeric Investors in Boston. He joined Numeric in 2006 and had served as President and CEO. Prior to joining Numeric, Mike worked for Citigroup for nine years building a global asset management organization. After Citi merged with Travelers, he became global CIO of the Private Bank and eventually, global CIO for and Co-Head of Citigroup Asset Management, overseeing investment teams running more than \$500 billion in client assets. Prior to joining Citigroup, Mike spent 13 years at Independence Investment Associates in Boston. Mike received a BA from Cornell University and an MA in business from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Mr. Aamer Naeem - Chief Executive Officer of Penny Appeal, a relief and development agency providing poverty relief across Asia, the Middle East and Africa by offering water solutions, organizing mass feedings, supporting orphan care and providing emergency food and medical aid. Mr. Naeem completed his MBA with distinction from Nottingham University Business School. He is the director of Innov8 Creative Solutions Ltd - a management consultancy and leadership training institute. He has sat as a Fitness to Practice Committee member of the General Pharmaceutical Council and General Teaching Council of England. He was awarded an OBE by The Queen in 2019 for services to community development.