Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM)
for Arab States

Chair of the RCM

Dr. Asha-Rose Migiro - United Nations Deputy Secretary-General

Dr. Asha-Rose Migiro of Tanzania took office as Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations on 1 February 2007. She is the third Deputy Secretary-General to be appointed since the post was established in 1997. Dr. Migiro served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation from 2006-2007 -- the first woman in the United Republic of Tanzania to hold that position since its independence in 1961. Before that, she was Minister for Community Development, Gender and Children for five years.

As Foreign Minister, Dr. Migiro spearheaded Tanzania's engagement in the pursuit of peace, security and development in the Great Lakes Region. She served as Chair of the Council of Ministers' meetings of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region, a process that culminated into a Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region. Dr. Migiro was also Chair of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ministerial Committee of the Organ on Politics, Defense and Security Co-operation and President of the UN Security Council during its open debate on peace, security and development in the Great Lakes Region.

Dr. Migiro coordinated SADC assistance to the democratic process, including elections, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), as well as support for national elections in Zambia and Madagascar. At the time of her appointment, she was chairing an important SADC Ministerial Troika Meeting ahead of the national elections in the Kingdom of Lesotho. Prior to Government service, Dr. Migiro pursued a career in academia. She was a member of the Faculty of Law at the University of Dar-es-Salaam, where she rose to the rank of Senior Lecturer. She headed the Department of Constitutional and Administrative Law from 1992 to 1994, and the Department of Civil and Criminal Law from 1994 to 1997. Her work was published widely in local and international journals. Dr. Migiro served as a member of Tanzania's Law Reform Commission in 1997 and as a member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in 2000.

Dr. Migiro obtained a Master of Laws from the University of Dar-es-Salaam in 1984 and a Doctorate in law from the University of Konstanz in Germany in 1992. Dr. Migiro was born in Songea , Tanzania , on 9 July 1956. She is married to Professor Cleophas Migiro and has two daughters. In addition to English, she speaks Kiswahili, basic French and German.

ESCWA' S Executive Secretary

Ms. Rima Khalaf Hunaidi held several high-ranking ministerial positions in Jordan, including Minister of Industry and Trade (1993-1995), Minister of Planning (1995-1998), and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning (1999-2000). In her capacity as Deputy Prime Minister and head of the ministerial economic team, Ms. Khalaf promoted economic reform in Jordan while working on promoting social development through building human capital, alleviating poverty and strengthening social safety nets.

Ms. Khalaf held the position of Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Regional Bureau for Arab States (RBAS) at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) from 2000 to 2006. She led important regional initiatives on education, knowledge acquisition and economic growth in the Arab States. She was the founder of the pioneering Arab Human Development Report. The first Report in the series, entitled "Creating Opportunities for Future Generations," received the 2003 Prince Claus Award. The third Report, entitled "Towards Freedom in the Arab World," received the King Hussein Leadership Prize in 2005.

Ms. Khalaf is a regular contributor to regional and international policy forums concerned with the state of development in the Arab world. She participated in a number of international commissions chief among them are the High Level Commission on the Modernization of the World Bank Group Governance (2008-2009), and the International Advisory Group for Managing Global Insecurity (2007-2008). Ms. Khalaf also served as the Chairperson of the Advisory Board of the United Nations Democracy Fund (2006-2007). She was a visiting scholar at Harvard University during the spring semester of 2009-2010.

Ms. Khalaf received the League of Arab States award for "the Most Distinguished Arab Woman in the Field of International Organizations" in 2005 and an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from the American University of Cairo in 2009, in recognition of her "important regional initiatives in education, women's rights, civic engagement and economic growth". In December 2009, the Financial Times listed Ms. Khalaf among the top fifty people who shaped the decade.

A citizen of Jordan, Ms. Khalaf holds a BA in Economics from the American University of Beirut and a Master's in Economics and a Ph.D in System Science from Portland State University in the United States of America. She is married and has two children.

League of Arab States, Assistant Secretary General for Social Affairs

Dr. Sima Bahous took office as Assistant Secretary General and Head of the Social Development Sector at the League of Arab States in August 2008. Prior to that, she served in two ministerial posts in Jordan as Advisor to His Majesty King Abdullah II, and President of the Higher Media Council. Dr. Bahous also headed the Media and Information Division at the Royal Hashemite Court in Jordan, and was Executive Director of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation and the King Hussein Foundation (NGOs). She taught at the Departments of Journalism and Mass Communication at Yarmouk University and Petra University.

Besides her public sector experience and that with civil society and academia, Dr. Bahous worked on Development and Communication with UNICEF and WHO. She served on the Boards of Trustees of a number of Institutions of Higher Education, Media, and Development.

Dr. Bahous is highly committed to promoting socio-economic development in the Arab World by enhancing gender equality, youth empowerment, quality education, and the values of human rights. She is a strong believer in the media's central role in development, and a keen advocate of intercultural dialogue and understanding.

Dr. Bahous holds a Ph.D. Degree in Mass Communication and Development from Indiana University - USA (1986), an M.A. in Literature and Drama from Essex University - UK (1980), and a B.A. in English Literature from Jordan University (1977).

Dr. Sima Bahous is married to Dr. Ziad Rifai. They have one daughter - Jahan.

In order of Session Presentations

Session 1

Habib Al- Habr (UNEP)

Dr. Habib N. El-Habr is the Director and Regional Representative of the United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office for West Asia (UNEP/ROWA), a post he assumed in 2005.

Dr. El-Habr received his Masters Degree in Public Health in 1983 from the American University of Beirut, Lebanon and a Ph.D. in Freshwater Ecology in 1987 from University of Lyon, France. From 1983 to 1988, he worked at the National Scientific Research Council in France as a Water Research Specialist. He joined UNEP in November 1988, becoming Officer-in-Charge and Deputy Chief of the Freshwater Unit at the UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi until 1995, when he moved to Japan to assume the functions of the Deputy Director of the UNEP International Environment Technology Center. From September 1996 to December 1998, Dr. El-Habr was the Regional Coordinator for the UNEP Regional Coordinating Unit for East Asian Seas in Bangkok, Thailand, prior to moving to Bahrain and his current position.

Besides his expertise in freshwater resources management, Dr. El-Habr during his long experience with UNEP has worked in coastal and marine management, wastewater mangement, environmental health and environmental assessment. Dr. El-Habr's strength is in the development of policy options and advice to the concerned governments on major environmental issues. He is also member of the United Nations Disaster Coordination Team.

Ms Fatima Hachem (FAO)

Dr. Fatima Hachem has been the FAO Food and Nutrition Officer for the Near East Region since 2001, and the officer in charge for food security since October 2009.

Dr. Hachem holds a Master's Degree in Nutrition from the American University of Beirut and a Ph.D. in Food Science from the University of Reading, UK.

Dr. Hachem started her career in 1993 as a researcher in community nutrition at the University of Lyon II in France. In 1998, she joined the University of Teesside, UK as a senior lecturer in food science and nutrition, where, in addition to her teaching and research responsibilities, she assumed the role of program developer and course leader of the BSC degree in Food, Nutrition and Health Science. In 2001, she was appointed in her current position as regional food and nutrition officer for FAO. In this capcity, she advises member countries in the Region on the development and implementation of national food and nutrition policies and programmes, and provides them with technical support to raise the capacity of national staff and institutions in the fields of food safety, nutrition and household food security.

Ms. Hoda Rabie Abou Elliel (LAS)

(coming soon)

Mr Zlatan Milišić (WFP)

Mr. Milišić manages the Programme, Resource Management, Logistics, Finance, Administration and ICT Units of the Regional Bureau and is also very active with Security, Human Resources, Fundraising and Public Information tasks. Together with the Regional Director and WFP Country Offices, he ensures effective management of WFP operations with an aim to save lives and protect livelihoods and health of the populations affected by conflict, poverty and recurring natural disasters. Mr. Milišić also oversees regional emergency preparedness, planning and response activities and in that capacity he led a new emergency operation in Uzbekistan, in June 2010, following a refugee influx from Kyrgyzstan. Prior to his appointment in Cairo, Mr. Milišić was the WFP Representative/Country Director for Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan (2007-2009), where he managed WFP operations and offices. Before that he held various management and technical positions with WFP, including: Emergency Coordinator in Lebanon (2006) Representative/Country Director in Somalia (2005-2006) and Burundi (2003-2005); Chief, Interagency Affairs Branch in Rome (2003); Programme Adviser for Emergencies in Rome (2000-2002); Emergency Coordinator in southern Sudan (1998-2000), Regional Emergency Officer in the Great Lakes (1997), Information and Communications Officer in Rwanda (1995-1996).

Before joining WFP, Mr. Milišić worked with UNHCR in his home country, Bosnia and Herzegovina (1992-1993), which was affected by a war at the time, where he worked on the design, implementation and monitoring of humanitarian activities. Prior to that, Mr. Milišić was a Lawyer at a Legal Firm in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, from 1990 to 1992, when he became a Legal Advisor and Analyst at the War Crimes Commission of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in Sarajevo, for a brief period before joining the UNHCR. A national of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr Milišić was born in 1967, in Sarajevo (then Yugoslavia), where he obtained in 1990 a University Degree in Law (BA), at the University of Sarajevo. He also obtained a Masters Degree (MA) in International Politics and Security Studies at the Bradford University in the UK, in 1994.

Mr. Tarik Alami (UN-ESCWA)

Mr. Alami is the acting Director of Economic Development and Globalization Division (EDGD) at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA). He has served the United Nations in a number of capacities. He has been the chief of Emerging and Conflict related Issues (ECRI) section, Officer in Charge of the Economic Analysis Division. He has written spoken and organized meetings on topics such as MDGs, The Impact of Economic variables on the Social Dimension of Development, Efficiency of the Banking Sector, Macroeconomic policy for regional coordination, Conflict-Driven Displacement, Dynamics of Communal Tension, Strengthening Good Governance in Conflict Affected Countries, Private Sector Resilience. Mr. Alami worked at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and was a professor of Economics at the American University of Beirut from 1996-2004. He taught International Trade, International Finance and Advanced Microeconomics. He has published several articles including in: Journal of Policy Modeling, Journal of Economics and Business, Journal of Macroeconomics, Journal of Economic Studies, Journal of Development and Economic Policies, Arab Economic Journal and The Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research. He graduated with a B. A. in Economics from Bir-Zeit University, West Bank and holds an M.A. from George Mason University in Virginia, USA and a Ph.D. in Monetary Economics from the American University in Washington DC, USA

Session 2

Mr. Ziad Abdel Samad (Arab NGO Network for Development)

Mr. Samad is the Executive Director of the Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND), a regional organization based in Beirut, since 1999. ANND brings together 30 NGOs and nine national networks from 12 Arab countries, which are active in the fields of social development, human rights, gender, and the environment

Mr. Abdel Samad is a member of the Lebanese Negotiating Committee for the accession in the WTO. He sits on the International Council of the World Social Forum and the Coordination Committee of Social Watch, an international network of citizen coalitions that monitors the implementation of the commitments made at the 1995 World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen. Mr. Abdel Samad is a member of the Board of Directors of CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation. He is also a member of the UNDP CSO Advisory Committee to the Administrator. Mr. Abdel Samad is the President of the National Steering Committee of the UNDP Local Initiative Facility for Urban Environment (LIFE) program in Lebanon and General Manager of the Centre for Developmental Studies (MADA), a Lebanese centre for social and economic studies and research. In addition, Mr. Abdel Samad is the Vice President of the Lebanese Development Forum (LDF), which is a Lebanese NGO established in 2001."

Mr. Juraj Riecan (ESCWA)

Juraj Riecan is the Director of the Statistics Division (SD) at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA). He serves the United Nations since 1992. During his work with UN-ECE, he significantly contributed to the development of the Generic Statistical Message (GESMES) that later evolved into the Statistical Data and Medatata Exchange standard (SDMX). In 1994 he also became involved in coordination of international statistical work, while serving the Secretariat of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES), the oldest regional statistical body in the UN System. He was responsible for the annual production of the integrated presentation of statistical work programmes of around 50 international organizations, as well as for development of medium-term and annual statistical programmes of the UNECE.

Based on this experience he created around 2005 the Database on International Statistical Activities that is the main coordination tool utilised by the CES. Mr. Riecan also worked in the field of social and demographic statistics, notably population and housing censuses and statistics on international migration. Since 2002 he became a Team Leader, later Chief of Section, responsible for the area of statistical information systems and dissemination and communication of statistics. In this period he streamlined the work in this area into five basic streams comprising statistical metadata (METIS), management of statistical information systems (MSIS), statistical dissemination and communication (DissCom), statistical data editing (SDE) and statistical data confidentiality (SDC).

He joined ESCWA in January 2009. Mr. Riecan graduated with Masters degree from the Commenius University in Bratistava in probabilities and mathematical statistics in 1984, where he later obtained PhD in mathematical statistics in 1991

Session 3

Mr. Elliot Harris (HLCP)

Mr. Harris was born in the Bahamas and raised in Trinidad. He attended the University of Miami and Georgetown University in Washington D.C., obtaining a B.Sc. in German and Political Science in 1982. He took up the study of economics in Germany, first at the Philipps University in Marburg, and completing them at the Christian Albrechts University in Kiel, where he obtained the Diplom Volkswirt degree in 1987. In 1988, he received an Advanced Studies Certificate in international economics and policy research from the Institute of World Economics in Kiel.

Mr. Harris joined the Fund in the Economist Program (EP) in 1988, and came to the African Department in 1989, working primarily on the countries of the CFA Franc zone. In 1995, he joined the Fiscal Affairs Department, where he worked on public expenditure policy issues, in addition to country-related work in some Central Asian countries. He rejoined the African Department in November 1996 as Assistant to the Director. In July 2000, Mr. Harris was named Chief of the West Africa II Division of the African Department, with responsibility for Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Togo. He has led IMF negotiating missions to Togo, Chad, and Guinea. In July 2002, Mr. Harris became an Advisor in the Policy Development and Review Department (PDR), with responsibility for low-income country issues, with particular focus on issues related to aid effectiveness, liaison with the UN system on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); and the Strategic Partnership with Africa (SPA). From 2007-2008 he headed the Development Issues Division, which in addition to these areas, also was responsible for the IMFs relations with the Development Committee. Since September 2008, Mr. Harris is the IMF's Special Representative to the United Nations, in addition to serving as Assistant Director of the Strategy and Policy Review Department. In this capacity, in September 2009 he was named Vice Chair of the High-Level Committee on Programs of the UN Chief Executives Board for Coordination.

Session 4

Ms. Nicola Shepherd (DESA)

Nicola Shepherd is the UN Focal Point on Youth. In this capacity, she is the Head of the UN Programme on Youth, which serves as the focal point on youth for the United Nations System. Ms. Shepherd is the Co-Chair of the UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development which works to increase the effectiveness of UN work in youth development by strengthening collaboration and exchange among all relevant UN entities. Prior to joining the UN Secretariat, Ms. Shepherd was Vice President for International Programmes for an international NGO. In addition, she has worked for UNICEF both at Headquarters and in the field in Africa. In 2006, Ms. Shepherd joined the UN Secretariat staff in the United Nations Secretariat for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. She has been serving at UN Focal Point on Youth since December 2008.

Mr Rami Khoury (American University of Beirut)

Rami George Khouri, 61, is a Palestinian-Jordanian and US citizen whose family resides in Beirut and Nazareth. An internationally syndicated political columnist and book author, he is the first director of the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut, and also serves as a nonresident senior fellow at the Kennedy School of Harvard University and the Dubai School of Government. He is editor at large, and former executive editor, of the Beirut-based Daily Star newspaper, and an internationally syndicated columnist. He was awarded the Pax Christi International Peace Prize for 2006.

He teaches annually at American University of Beirut, University of Chicago and Northeastern University. He has been a fellow and visiting scholar at Harvard University, Mount Holyoke College, Syracuse University and Stanford University, and is a member of the Brookings Institution Task Force on US Relations with the Islamic World. He is a Fellow of the Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs (Jerusalem), and a member of the Leadership Council of the Harvard University Divinity School. He also serves on the board of the Center for Contemporary Arab Studies at Georgetown University (USA) and the International Advisory Council of the International Committee of the Red Cross.He was editor-in-chief of the Jordan Times for seven years and for 18 years was general manager of Al Kutba, Publishers, in Amman, Jordan, where he also served as a consultant to the Jordanian tourism ministry on biblical archaeological sites. He has hosted programs on archaeology, history and current public affairs on Jordan Television and Radio Jordan, and often comments on Mideast issues in the international media. He has BA and MSc degrees respectively in political science and mass communications from Syracuse University, NY, USA.

Ms. Shahida Azfar (UNICEF)

Ms. Shahida Azfar joined UNICEF Pakistan as a National Planning Officer in 1975 then moved to NYHQ in 1983 as Desk Officer in Africa Section. In 1989, she was appointed as Representative to Namibia and then was seconded to UNFPA as first Director of Country Support Team for South and Central Asia covering 16 countries and based in Nepal. Ms. Azfar returned to UNICEF in 1995 as Regional Director ESARO and served as Representative to Bangladesh from 1998 till 2001 when she assumed duties as Representative to Egypt.

She moved to NYHQ in 2004 to set up the Global Child Survival Partnership with the participation of UN agencies, bilateral donors, countries, academic institutions and professional bodies. Between 1995 and 2006, Ms. Azfar served on the Board of Engender Health. Upon retirement from UNICEF after 31 years of service, Ms. Azfar served as CEO of Family Planning Association of Pakistan and as Chief of Party of a USAID funded project with Population Council till January 2010 and is currently on the Board of two NGOs in Pakistan. Before joining UNICEF, Ms. Azfar worked as research assistant at the Centre for International Affairs, Harvard University.

Mr. Khaled Louhichi (League of Arab States)

Khaled Louhichi is the Director of the Youth and Sport Department, and the Director of the Population Policies and Migration Department in the League of Arab States. Mr. Louhichi is a Tunisian Socio-demographer and a member in several specialized organizations such as IUSSP and the Arab association for Sociologists and member in the UN Committee for International Migration. He coordinates the Arab Youth Observatory in the Arab League and supervises publications and projects in the youth field in partnership with UNFPA and the Council of Europe.

Session 5

Mr Bahktiar Amin - Former Minister of Human Rights, Iraq

Mr Amin was born in Kirkuk in 1959 and has more more than twenty five years of experience in the field of international human rights and humanitarian issues. His other areas of work include Minorities, indigenous Population's and Human Rights, Woman Rights, Refugees, Land Mines, Ad Hoc based Tribunals and ICC, Rule of Law, NGO Networking, Capacity Building, Freedom of Expression, Political pluralism, Social justice, Cultural rights, Civil liberties, Democracy, Liberating Prisoners and Conflict Resolution.

Following his Masters Degree in International Relations (Sorbonne University-Paris), and Doctoral Studies in Geopolitics in Paris, he became an Advisor for the Department of Migration and Refugee Affairs in Sweden. Mr Amin was Secretary General of the Kurdish Institute in Paris 1988-1994, and Advisor to Mrs. Danielle Mitterrand (France –Liberties Foundation) 1990-1996.

In 1997 he became Director of the Human Rights Alliance. In 2000, he founded and became the Executive Director of the International Alliance for Justice (AIJ) which coordinates a network of 275 International NGOs from more than 120 countries.

During this time, he was also an NGO representative of the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva (1988-2002). He has organized conferences and seminars in more than 40 countries on Human Rights in Iraq and Crimes of Saddam Hussein's regime. He also testified on the situation of Iraq before the US Congress, European Parliament, and OSCE.

He has participated in many international and regional conferences and meetings on a wide range of issues, and in fact finding missions in Iraq, Iran, Turkey, Syria, Kurdistan, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India among others.

Mr Amin has been in served in a public capacity in Iraq since 2003. He was Deputy Member of the Iraqi Governing Council 2003-2004, member of the Transitional Administrative Law's drafting committee, and Foreign Affairs, Media, and Civil Society Committees. He then held the post of Minister of Human Rights in Iraq 2004 -2005.

He speaks Kurdish, English, French, Arabic, Swedish and SerboKroatian.

Omar Shami (Youth Representative – Lebanon)

Omar Bassam Shami, 20, is a Lebanese youth who has delivered the voice of his peers since he was 16, hosting and editing episodes, writing storyboards, and shooting experimental documentaries for Sawtuna, a UNICEF TV program that used to be broadcast on LBCI. His film ' First Year Freedom ' won first prize in the UNESCO short film competition in 2009. He also engaged in ad-making, and won many prizes in the BFI London film festival 2010, and Tribeca film festival 2009, along with a selected film for Cannes Lions Film Festival 2009. Some of his documentaries (My Fear and I Took My Road) gained a great success in film festivals(Docudays, Janna, Human Rights film festival).Shami is currently studying Pure Mathematics at Notre-Dame University in Lebanon.

Fatiha Serour (UNOPS).

Ms Serour is a socio-economist with over 20 years-international development experience combining strategic thinking and support to policy-making with programme planning and monitoring/evaluation expertise in poverty alleviation, conflict prevention & reconstruction, food security & sustainable livelihoods. She currently heads the Regional Office which is responsible for large post-conflict reconstruction, humanitarian and peace building programmes in Afghanistan, Iraq, the Palestinian Territories and Europe/CIS. As Senior Adviser to the SRSG for Afghanistan, Ms Serour contributed to in-depth analyses of the political situation and designed relevant policy frameworks and programme approaches aimed at integrating women and other vulnerable groups in the UN mandate. As manager of the technical cooperation programme, she provided support to Member States to strengthen their capacity to implement the Millennium Development Goals especially in relation to poverty eradication. As technical adviser to the International Fund for Agricultural Development, she developed & tested participatory methodologies to improve targeting mechanisms for effective poverty alleviation and sustainable livelihoods including microfinance schemes and food security. As the World Food Programme Senior Programme Adviser, Ms Serour helped translate policy commitments into programmes; implement and monitor them to meet ever-increasing needs in Africa, the Middle-East and Asia/Pacific, ensuring that refugees and IDPs have access to food in a safe environment. Prior to WFP, Fatiha negotiated with the European Union, then managed for 5 years, an ecu 10.5 million project supporting Sexual & Reproductive health projects for youth & women in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey and the West Bank/Gaza. Ms Serour's academic experience includes research and lecturing on development strategies at the universities of Aberdeen, Oxford and Oran. Her extensive technical expertise in substantive issues coupled with policy making and resource mobilisation makes her an ideal strategist and manager. She is trilingual with a multidisciplinary background and excellent communication/interpersonal skills in addition to an expert knowledge of East, West and North Africa as well as the Middle/Near East and Asia.

Session 6

Mr. Zafiris Tzannatos (ILO)

Mr. Tzannatos is Senior Regional Advisor for Employment Policy and Macroeconomics at the ILO Regional Office for the Arab States in Beirut. Previously he served as Advisor to the World Bank's Managing Director and was Manager for Social Protection in the Middle East and North Africa Region as well as Leader of the Global Child Labor Program. He graduated from the University of Athens, obtained his Doctorate from the University of London, and received executive education at the Harvard Business School and the Kennedy School of Government.

He has held senior academic appointments in the United Kingdom, in addition to honorary appointments in universities and research centers, and is a former Professor and Chair of the Economics Department at the American University of Beirut. He has advised governments of industrialized and emerging countries as well as international organizations on issues relating to economic and human development, and has published 14 books and monographs, and more than 150 reports and papers in the areas of development strategy, social policy, gender equality, child labor, trade unions, education, training, pensions and, more broadly, labor markets and social protection.

Ian Pool (Demographic Expert)

(David) Ian POOL, has an MA (NZ, 1960, Auck Univ College) and a PhD (Australian National University, 1965). He was Elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand (RSNZ) (1994). He is an Emeritus Professor, University of Waikato, Associe de Recherche, CEPED, Universite, Paris (Descartes) and Honorary Professor, Jinjiang College, Sichuan University, China. With Prof Yves Charbit, Universite Paris, he is Editor-in-Chief for a new book series to be published by Springer, "Demographic Transformation and Socio-Economic Development".

Since 1965 he has been a member of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) and of the Population Association of America. He was elected to IUSSP's Nominating Committee, 1987-1991, and Appointed to the IUSSP's Scientific Committee on Age Structure and Policy, 1997-2001. He was elected to the Academy Council, RSNZ (1996-2001); and served on a number of its Committees (eg Fellowship selection; scientific medals); the RSNZ nominated him to a Panel on Scientific Capacities, International Scientific Union (Paris) (2005), and he was a James Cook Fellow, RSNZ (2005-06).Over his career, Ian Pool has published 160+ books, monographs, scientific articles, and discussion paper, plus numerous reports. He won the Te Rangi Hiroa (Sir Peter Buck) Medal, RSNZ (2009).Ian Pool has carried out field surveys in Ghana, Burkina Faso and Niger. He was a Field Representative for the Population Council in Ghana (1965-66), and was a consultant to the International Statistical Institute/World Fertility Survey (1974-76). He has undertaken numerous consulting missions for United Nations', bi-lateral and other agencies, particularly UNFPA, across anglophone and francophone Africa, spanning countries from Malawi, Namibia and the Democratic Republic of Congo to Senegal and The Gambia; in Asia in China, Bangladesh, India, Vietnam and Cambodia; in the Pacific in Tonga. For the ICPD, Cairo, 1994, he provided technical support to the Pacific countries in their preparations, and was in the New Zealand Delegation.

Session 7

Ms. Haneen Sayed (World Bank)

Haneen Sayed is the Human Development Coordinator of Lebanon, Syria and Jordan and the MENA Region Youth Co-Coordinator. She is based in the Lebanon Country Office where she leads the World Bank's human development programs in Lebanon, Jordan and Syria in the fields of education, health, social protection, and youth. She is an economist with experience in education, labor, and social protection.

Prior to joining the MENA region in December 2003, she was the Country Manager for Korea and Myanmar in the East Asia and Pacific Region of the World Bank. She also served on the Executive Board of Directors of the World Bank as Senior Advisor to the Executive Director representing the countries of the Middle East. Prior to joining the Board of Directors, she worked on Indonesia, Pakistan, and countries of the Caribbean.

Haneen joined the World Bank in 1992 from Stanford and Columbia Universities where she earned her M.A. and M.Phil degrees in economics. She has taught at various universities in New York City, as well as worked at Morgan Stanley in the country credit risk department, the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development. She is the author of several articles on the economic impact of the financial crisis in East Asia on human capital development; the impact of public spending on health and education, evaluations of literacy programs, and sex segregation in the labor force.

Eric Mottu (IMF)

Mr. Mottu is the Resident Representative of the International Monetary Fund in Lebanon since September 2009. He has been working for over 12 years with the IMF on numerous emerging market countries in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa, including Lebanon. Before that, he worked at the Swiss Ministry of Finance.

Mr. Mottu has a doctorate in economics from the University of Geneva.Mr. Zlatan Milišić was appointed Deputy Director of WFP's Regional Bureau for Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe in October 2009, after having spent 15 years with the Programme and 17 years with the United Nations system on various, mainly field-based and emergency-related assignments.

Mohammad Jamal Al Saati (Islamic Development Bank)

Mr. Mohammad Jamal Alsaati is currently the Director of the Operations Policy and Services Department at the the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; a post he assumed in mid 2009.

Mr. Alsaati, a Saudi National, has joined the IsDB in 1998 as a Senior Projects Officer and progressed in several operational posts up to the Deputy Director of the Country Operations Department for MENA Region. After the Re-Organization of the IsDB' Operations Complex from a Regional Scheme into a Matrix Scheme, Mr. Alsaati was appointed as the Director of the Operations Policy and Services Department. This Department looks after several central, strategic and coordinating areas such as the Development Policy, Project Procurement, Compliance, Development Effectiveness, Portfolio Management, Development Partnerships and Co-Financing, Training, Administrative Budget, etc. Before joining the IsDB, Mr. Alsaati had about 14 years of working career with the Civil Aviation Authority in Saudi Arabia, dealing and working closely with reputed international firms such as BECHTEL, USA and DUMEZ, France and many others.

Mr. Alsaati holds a B.S Degree in Civil Engineering (1985) from San Jose State University, California, USA; a Master Degree in Public Administration (1989) form the University of San Francisco, California, USA; another Master Degree in Urban and Regional Planning (1993) from King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia; and he is pursuing his Doctorate Degree on a part-time basis. He is a member of many international professional associations. He frequently represent the IsDB in major international and regional forums. He is also a Board Member of few companies associated with the Islamic Development Bank.