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SPEAKER PROFILE

Jong-Soo Yoon is the Head of the UN Office for Sustainable Development, under the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Dr. Yoon is a former Vice Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea, and an environmental expert in sustainable development. With over 20 years of experience at the Ministry of Environment, he focused on the establishment and delivery of policies through various projects in planning and budget, personnel management and other major tasks. Previous positions in the Ministry included Assistant Minister of the Environmental Policy Department, Director General of Water Supply and Sewerage Bureau, Director General of the Waste Circulation Bureau, and Director General of Air and Climate Change Bureau, among many others. Dr. Yoon also contributed at the international platform on environment as an Environmental Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the UN in New York. He also played a pivotal role for the successful establishment of the second National Strategy for Sustainable Development (2011-2015). Dr. Yoon graduated from Seoul National University and has a PhD in environmental engineering from Seoul University.

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema is the Director of the Law Division, UN Environment, since June 2014, as well as the Director, ad interim, of the Corporate Services Division since March 2018. Elizabeth has worked at UN Environment for almost two decades. Between July 2009 to 2012, she was the Executive Secretary of the UN Environment/Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), Acting Executive Secretary of the UN Environment/Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas (ASCOBANS) and Interim Executive Secretary of the UN Environment/Gorilla Agreement, all based in Bonn, Germany. From January 2012, she became the Deputy Director and Coordinator of the Operations and Programme Delivery Branch in the Division of Environmental Policy Implementation. From 2013 to June 2014, she was also the Acting Director of this Division currently known as Ecosystems Division. Before joining UN Environment, she was a career diplomat in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania, for over a decade.

Shantanu Mukherjee presently heads the Policy and Analysis Branch in the Sustainable Development Division within the UN's Department of Economic and Social Affairs. He is a micro-economist with interests in poverty, health and sustainability. A particular area of focus in his current work is enhancing the impact of science, technology and innovation in advancing sustainable development. Prior to this, he led the research and writing unit of UNDP's Human Development Report through two report cycles, preceded by a stint as head of UNDP's global Millennium Development Goals policy work. In that position, he worked with national planning, finance and sector ministries in many countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Some of his most interesting experiences during this period were in Indonesia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Ghana, Togo and Yemen. Shantanu began his career with the Indian Government in various areas of development policy planning and implementation; and finance. He earned a PhD in Economics from Princeton University in 2006, and also holds advanced degrees in public policy and physics.

Victoria Luque Panadero is a sustainable development expert who specializes on the nexus between poverty and environment. During the last 9 years she has overseen the scaling up of the Poverty-Environment Initiative (PEI) from a pilot in 9 countries in Africa and Asia to a joint programme providing technical and financial support on integrated approaches in almost 30 countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean. This joint Initiative between UNDP and UN Environment is perceived as a precursor of the integrated approach needed to deliver the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. Victoria has also led the integration of gender equality in the country-led programmatic approach to poverty-environment mainstreaming pioneered by the Initiative. Before joining PEI, Victoria was Head of the Spanish International Development Cooperation Agency (AECID) in the Democratic Republic of Congo and led the decentralization strategy of UNDP to support local development in Brazil. Victoria holds a Master's degree in international affairs, specializing in development studies from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences-Po).

Servus Amo Sagday is the Assistant Director for Poverty Monitoring in the Ministry of Finance and Planning of Tanzania. He is also the National SDGs Coordinator 2018 and a member of Tanzania's Development Evaluation Association. Servus has many years of experience in poverty policy analysis, monitoring, and reporting. He was engaged in the design and implementation of the national development policy frameworks including National Development Vision 2025, Long Term Perspective Plan (2011 - 2025), the National Poverty Eradication Strategy (1997), the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (2005 - 2015) and various poverty-focused action plans.

Luminita Ghita is currently Head of Sustainable Development within the Ministry of Environment of Romania and the Coordinator of the Secretariat of Inter-Ministerial Committee for the Coordination of the Integration of Environmental Protection into Sectoral Policies and Strategies at the National Level (the main decision body on sustainable development). Luminita was responsible for the elaboration of Romania's voluntary national review at the 2018 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. She serves as National Focal Point to UN Environment and the UN Environment Assembly. She was also a member in 10 YFP Board for mandates (2013-2017). In 2007 she joined the Ministry of Environment as Senior Advisor for Sustainable Development, participating at all international processes on shaping the international environmental and sustainable development agenda (national coordinator for the UN Commission for Sustainable Development, Rio +20 Conference, the High-level Political Forum). Before joining the governmental institution, she worked in private sector marketing, corporate social responsibility and communications. Luminita has a BSc in ecology, an MSc in management of natural resources from Ecological University of Bucharest and post-graduate studies in marketing from Bucharest University of Economic Studies. Having a keen interest in sustainable development and security related issues, she is a PhD Candidate on national security and intelligence within the National Defense University "Carol I", Bucharest.

Hossein Fadaei, heads the Secretariat of the UN Environment Management Group ([EMG](#)) which is an inter-agency mechanism for enhancing coordination and collaboration on the environment in the UN system. Mr. Fadaei manages the Secretariat and coordinates UN inter-agency expert groups to prepare UN-wide strategies and action plans on emerging environmental challenges. He also coordinates processes for enhancing environmental and social sustainability management performances of the UN agencies including through a peer review program. Mr. Fadaei joined UN Environment in 2000 as Liaison Officer for Europe where he led initiatives on environment, human rights and environmental security including the Environment and Security (ENVSEC) initiative. Prior to joining UN Environment, Mr. Fadaei was a diplomat and negotiator in international environmental processes such as Rio Conference on Sustainable Development in 1992. He served as Deputy Permanent Representative of Iran to UN Environment and UN-Habitat in Nairobi from 1996 to 2000 during which he was a bureau member of UN Environment and UN-Habitat Governing Councils. Mr. Fadaei holds a university degree in international relations and is currently a PhD research fellow in the University of Geneva.

Rosemary Kalapurakai is the Director a.i. of the Sustainable Development Cluster (Inclusive Growth) of UNDP's Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, and is the Lead Advisor on 2030 Agenda. Previously, she was the Deputy Executive Coordinator of the UN Volunteers (UNV) Programme. In addition, Rosemary has extensive experience of UNDP's work in different regions, serving as Chief of the Policy and Operations Support Unit of the Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States at UNDP and as Programme Advisor in the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, covering South East Asian and Pacific countries. She was also the head of the UNDP Lao PDR Governance team as Assistant Resident Representative. Rosemary joined UNDP in 2001 through the Leadership Development Programme. Rosemary has significant expertise in gender and social inclusion issues, through her tenures as Programme Specialist at UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and as Information and Communications Manager for UNDP's Global Gender Programme; her work at the International Women's Tribune Centre, an international NGO aimed at strengthening women's information networks world-wide (2003 – 2007); and as an advocate on disability issues. Rosemary holds a doctorate in business (marketing) and a Master's degree in economics from the Ohio State University (USA), and completed a post-doctoral fellowship from the London Business School.

Ernesto Soria Morales is Senior Policy Analyst at the OECD's Policy Coherence Unit since 2010. His recent work has focused on developing analytical tools to support governments in strengthening institutional mechanisms to enhance policy coherence in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. He joined the OECD in February 2009 as a Senior Policy Analyst on development to support the Heiligendamm-L'Aquila Dialogue Process between the G7 and the five major emerging economies (G5) where he supported the policy dialogue on common principles for effective development co-operation. Prior to joining the OECD, Mr. Soria Morales was advisor for the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs in several areas including the Under-Secretary for the UN system. Since 2013, he has been guest lecturer in international development at the Complutense University of Madrid; the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (2002-2005) and the José María Luis Mora Research Institute in Mexico for the Master's programme in development cooperation. Mr. Soria Morales, graduated in international relations at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, holds postgraduate studies in development and international cooperation by the Complutense University of Madrid. He is co-author of several OECD reports on policy coherence for sustainable development.

Rilli Lappalainen is the Secretary General of Kehys, Finnish Non Governmental Development Organizations platform to the European Union. Rilli has worked for many years at local, national, European and international levels promoting sustainable development and policy coherence. He is a member of the Finnish Development Policy Committee as well as the National Commission on Sustainable Development.

Felipe Arango García is currently an international cooperation & development advisor for several NGOs in Colombia. He recently coordinated and drafted Colombia's first Spotlight Report on SDG implementation, from a non-governmental perspective. During the last 8 years, he has worked as a consultant for the UN system in Colombia (UNODC, IPE-UNESCO), as university teacher at major academic institutions (Universidad Externado, Universidad del Rosario), and he also served as government official at the Presidential Agency for International Cooperation (APC-Colombia) and the Ministry for Development Planning (DNP). Felipe holds a Master's degree in international cooperation from the Institut des Hautes Etudes pour l'Amérique Latine (IHEAL, Paris) and a Master's degree in public administration from the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA, Strasbourg).

Rolph Payet was appointed as Executive Secretary for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions Secretariat in October 2014. He was previously Minister of Environment and Energy of Seychelles, and in 2008 founded the first University in the country, where he also served as its first President and Vice-Chancellor. He is also Associate Professor at the University of Linnaeus, Sweden. Previously he contributed to the reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007, and has served on numerous global forums such as the World Bank Blue Ribbon Panel, the UN Group of Experts for the Regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands, and as the Interim Coordinator of the Nairobi Convention, UN Environment Regional Seas Programme. He is also founding member of a number of conservation-oriented foundations such as the Global Island Partnership, the Sea Level Rise Foundation, the Seychelles University Foundation, the Seychelles Centre for Marine Research and Technology, the Island Conservation Society and the Silhouette Foundation. He has received numerous international awards and recognition for his work including a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum and an honorary doctorate in science from the University of London.

Suh-Yong Chung is Professor in the Division of International Studies at Korea University. He was also a visiting Professor at SciencePo in Paris in year 2014-2015. Professor Chung directs Center for Climate and Sustainable Development Law and Policy and Korea University's Center for Climate Change and Marine Environment Governance. He has published numerous journal articles and monographs in the fields of climate change, environment and sustainable development. At the policy level, Professor Chung is a member of Policy Advisory Board of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chair of National Working Group on UNDP/Global Environment Facility Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Project, and Director of Institute of UN Affairs of UN Association-Korea. Previously, Professor Chung

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Alfred Wills is the Deputy Director General, Environmental Advisory Services, in the Department of Environmental Affairs, responsible for managing South Africa's sustainable development programmes and engagements, both nationally and internationally. He has 36 years of change management experience, 12 years as an applied environmental scientist, innovating nature conservation management practices, and 6 years as a member of the team leading the strategic transformation of public service environmental sector in post-apartheid South Africa. In this role he focused on developing and implementing new human resources, organizational, policy and legislative models and systems in and for the environment sector. Since 1999 he has held executive management and strategic leadership positions in the South African government, 15 years of which he has been the country's chief environmental negotiator.

Eunhae Jeong is a Senior Development Management Expert in UN Office for Sustainable Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. In her current work, she is committed to assisting countries' implementation of internationally agreed SDGs in applying integrated approaches for envisioning, planning, implementing and monitoring national development plans and strategies. She is also leading various capacity development and knowledge sharing activities on goal 6 (water), goal 13 (climate change) and goal 15 (terrestrial ecosystem). Before she joined UNOSD, she worked for the Korean government for 20 years establishing and implementing sustainable development policies in the field of water, climate change, and biodiversity conservation. During her time in the Korean Ministry of Environment, she actively engaged in international sustainable development discourse including the negotiation for Rio+20, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity. She also worked as a council member of Global Environment Facility representing Australia, New Zealand and Republic of Korea from 2011 to 2012.

Diane Klaimi is currently the Programme Management Officer at the Law Division, UN Environment working on the coherent implementation of multilateral environmental agreements (MEA). She is also the Project Manager of the UN Development Account 11 project on SDGs and MEAs, "Towards coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of the SDGs in 5 countries: Colombia, Guyana, Bangladesh and Burkina Faso. She served as the Regional Coordinator for Ecosystems and Biodiversity for 9 years at UN Environment West Asia Office in Bahrain. Diane holds a Master's degree in land use planning from the American University of Beirut and has over 20 years of experience in advancing environmental policy planning and management in dryland, marine and aquatic ecosystems in the Middle East. Before joining UN Environment, she worked many years as a government official and with the private sector. Her flagship projects include managing a multimillion public-private partnership with a mega coastal developer in the Palm Islands of Dubai, United Arab Emirates, aiming at reconciling environment and development, a restoration project in Lebanon, and the Iraqi Marshlands World Heritage Inscription as a UNESCO site.