



Mauritius Second High Level Forum (HLF)
Harnessing Diaspora Resources for Development in Africa

BIOGRAPHIES

Speakers and Resource Persons

Admassu Tadesse, President, PTA Bank, Burundi

Mr. Admassu Y. Tadesse is the President and CEO of PTA Bank, the Trade and Development Bank of Eastern and Southern Africa, since April 2012.

Prior, he was Executive Vice-President at the Development Bank of Southern Africa, where he served for 10 years, responsible for corporate strategy as well as international finance and investments. He has also served as a management consultant working with various international institutions, including ATMS/AMSCO (AfDB/IFC/UNDP sponsored) and with UNOPS/UNDP/UNICEF where he served for close to 10 years as executive, special advisor, project officer, economic analyst, and monitoring and evaluation expert.

He serves on several international boards including FISEA/Proparco, GAIN and Gulf Africa Bank, and is Vice-Chairman of the African Association of Development Finance Institutions. He has lived and worked internationally for over 30 years, across three continents and is conversant in French and Arabic, apart from fluency in English and Amharic.

He holds an MBA and MSc from the London School of Economics and Political Science and Wits Business School, and has post-graduate training in advanced management and strategic banking at Harvard Business School and INSEAD.

Ali Mansoor, Financial Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MOFED), Mauritius

Mr. Ali Mansoor has been Financial Secretary at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development in Mauritius since 2006. Mr. Mansoor was an Economist at the International Monetary Fund in Washington D.C from 1982 to 1988, and a Public Finance and Trade Economist at the World Bank, also in Washington from 1988 to 1992. Mr. Mansoor has also worked for the European Commission from 1992 to 1995. He was subsequently the Country Economist for Madagascar for the World Bank from 1995 to 1997 and then the Executive Secretary of the COMESA Clearing House, Harare, Zimbabwe from 1997 to 1999. From 2003 to 2006, he was the Lead Economist at the World Bank's Economist Office for Europe and Central Asia Region from 2003 to 2006. He has been Director of Air Mauritius Ltd., since September 29, 2006. Mr. Mansoor holds an MSc in Mathematical Economics and Econometrics, London School of

Economics, and a Master's in Public Policy.

Bakary Cisse, Director, Mali Higher Education Project, Mali

Bakary Cisse was born in 1955 in Lany-Mody in the Region of Kayes in the farthest western part of Mali, on the borders of three countries (Mali – Senegal – the Islamic Republic of Mauritania). Having obtained his Secondary School Certificate, he was admitted at the lycée of Badalabougou (Biological sciences Side) in Bamako, in 1972. Mr. Cisse is a recipient of a scholarship to the State University of Lomonossov in Moscow where he obtained a Master's degree in Biochemistry in 1981 and PhD in 1984.

Recruited as a lecturer in Biochemistry at the National School of Medicine and Pharmacology, at the Ecole Nationale de Médecine et de Pharmacie of Mali in 1986, he was appointed Secretary-General of the same institution in 1990 until 1998. From 1999 to 2010 he headed the Educational and Research activities' Department at the Administration, the Rectorat of the University of Bamako. He has supervised several doctoral theses in Pharmacology.

Since 2010, he has been Chairperson of the Steering Committee, then Coordinator of the Unit responsible for the management of the support project for the development of Tertiary Education in Mali. At the same time, he co-directs the African Institute of training in Education, Research and Evaluation of the Health Sciences.

He is married and a happy father to three children.

Beata Godenzi, Head, Global Programme Migration, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Chuku-emeka Chikezie, Technical Advisers to Government of Mauritius and GFMD

Hon. Commany Wesseh, Minister of State, Office of the President, Liberia (TBC)

Dilip Ratha, Lead Economist and Manager of the Migration and Remittances Unit, World Bank

Dilip Ratha is a Lead Economist and the Manager of the Migration and Remittances Unit at the World Bank in Washington, DC. He acts as a focal point for the Bank's activities and international partnerships on migration and development. He advises many governments and international forums including the Global Forum on Migration and Development, the Global Remittances Working Group, and World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on migration. His expertise includes migration, remittances, and innovative financing. Prior to joining the World Bank, he was a regional economist for Asia at Credit Agricole Indosuez, Singapore; an assistant professor of economics at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmadabad; and an economist at the Policy Group, New Delhi. He has a Ph.D. in economics from the Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi.

Dovelyn Agunias, Regional Research Officer, International Organization for Migration (IOM) Bangkok

Dovelyn Rannveig Agunias is a Policy Analyst at the Migration Policy Institute (MPI) and a Regional Research Officer, focusing on Asia-Pacific policy, at the International Organization for Migration (IOM),

where she is based in the Regional Office in Bangkok. Ms. Agunias's areas of expertise include Diaspora policy; temporary and circular migration, particularly between Asia and the Middle East; and the migration-development nexus. Her most recent publications include two books on Diaspora engagement policies, *Developing A Road Map for Engaging Diasporas in Development: A Handbook for Policymakers and Practitioners* (co-author) and *Closing the Distance: How Governments Strengthen Ties with their Diasporas* (editor). She is also author of various reports on labor migration and development, including, most recently, *Labor Migration from the Colombo Process Countries: Good Practices, Challenges and Ways Forward* (co-author), *Running in Circles: Progress and Challenges in Regulating Recruitment of Filipino and Sri Lankan Labor Migrants to Jordan*, and *Migration's Middlemen: Regulating Recruitment Agencies in the Philippines-UAE Corridor*.

Before joining MPI and IOM, Ms. Agunias was an Edward Weintal Scholar at the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy in Washington, DC, and a full-time migrant factory worker and part-time migrant domestic worker in Reykjavik, Iceland. She holds a master's degree in foreign service, with honors, from Georgetown University, where she concentrated in international development, and a bachelor's degree in political science, cum laude, from the University of the Philippines.

Elizabeth Adjei, Technical Advisers to Government of Mauritius and GFMD

Enawgaw Mehari, Medical Practitioner and President, People-People Inc, USA

Dr. Enawgaw Mehari is the founder and CEO of people to people Inc. (P2P), a nonprofit organization that aims to improve health care and reduce AIDS in Africa, particularly in Ethiopia. Ethiopian-born Enawgaw Mehari, MD, came to the US in 1995 to fulfill his dreams of becoming a neurologist, enrolling in the University of Kentucky for a neurology residency. Dr. Mehari pursued fellowship training in Pain management and neurophysiology at Case Western University in Cleveland and NeuroAIDS at Washington University in St.Louis. After his training he began practicing neurology with specialties in pain management and neuro-AIDS at the Morehead Clinic and St. Claire Regional Medical Center in Kentucky for the last 10 years. He serves as assistant professor in family medicine at college of medicine, University of Kentucky and neurology course director for St.Claire /University of Kentucky medical students. Dr. Mehari is also an honorary faculty member for neurology department , College of medicine, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia.

He has expanded the services of P2P, including opening the People's Free Clinic in Morehead, KY, in 2005 for the working poor who have no health insurance and a clinic online for anyone anywhere in the world.

In 2006 Dr. Mehari won a distinguished services award from the Society of Ethiopians Established in the Diaspora, and in 2007 he was nominated as a CNN Hero, awarded by the cable network to everyday people around the globe who have made a major impact on the world. In 2008, P2P and Dr. Mehari were officially honored and presented with a Certificate of Recognition by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and the governor of Kentucky for his work in Morehead and Ethiopia.

Geoffrey Omondi, Deputy Labor Commissioner, Ministry of Labor, Kenya

Mr. Geoffrey Apollo Omondi is the Deputy Labor Commissioner in the Ministry of Labor and Human Resource Development currently in charge of Child Labor as well as Research & Development Division.

Mr. Omondi has served as Deputy Chief Industrial Relations officer in Kenya's Ministry of Labor for over one decade and is an expert on the labor laws and policies and has hands on experience on labor administration matters in Kenya. He is an authority on International Labor and Migration matters as well.

Prior to his posting as Deputy Labor Commissioner, he was immediate Principal Counsellor - Labor at the Kenya Permanent Mission to The United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland from 2005 -2009. Mr. Omondi also has experience as Secretary to the National Tripartite Consultative Committee of Government, Federation of Kenya Employers and Central Organization of Trade Unions.

Mr. Omondi has a strong background in International Relations and Comparative Labor Relations gained at the University of Nairobi including a two years course of advanced degree studies in Labor and Development studies at the International Institute of Social Studies in The Hague, in the Netherlands.

Hanna Simon Ghebremedhin, Director General, Department of Eritreans Residing Abroad, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Eritrea

Ms. Ghebremedhin is currently the Director General of the Department of Eritreans Residing Abroad, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Eritrea. Prior to this posting, she also served as Ambassador of the State of Eritrea to the Republic of France and Permanent Representative to the UNESCO from 2001-2006, and as Ambassador to the European Union and the Benelux from 1999-2001.

Ms. Ghebremedhin earned her Masters Degree Masters Degree in International Relations and Diplomacy from Euclid University in 2011. She has been decorated with the "Legion d'Honneur" by the Government of the French Republic in 2006

Ilan Cohn, Executive Director, JDC's Center for International Migration and Integration, Israel

Ilan Cohn graduated from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London, in the field of Development Studies and Foreign Policy. His international career started in 1999, working with the UN, IOM and EU in the Balkans, Southeast Asia, and Eastern Europe, in various programmatic capacities, mostly dealing with a wide range of migration issues: displacement & post-conflict return, migration management capacity building, migrant labor recruitment, counter-trafficking, assisted voluntary return and reintegration, and migration & development. Since 2008, he serves as Director of Migration Services at the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), responsible for JDC's Center for International Migration and Integration (CIMI) migration programs in Israel. On behalf of CIMI, he conducts Migration & Development consultancies in partnership with several UN agencies. Today, Ilan lives with his wife and daughter in Jerusalem.

Irena Omelaniuk, Technical Advisers to Government of Mauritius and GFMD

Jan Boyer, Managing Director, SOFRA – Investment Advisory for Emerging Markets, Washington, DC

Mr. Boyer has 25 years' experience in international finance and entrepreneurship. He has had chief executive responsibility for private equity initiatives at Softbank, FleetBoston, and Salomon Smith Barney, with activities in seven countries. He has substantial operating, restructuring, and turnaround experience in growth and mature companies. While at Lehman Brothers, Mr. Boyer worked on principal investing, merger and acquisition, corporate finance, and government advisory transactions in the United States, Europe, Latin America, Asia, and Africa. He has served on corporate and nonprofit boards, has published, been interviewed and been a speaker both in the United States and abroad.

In government, Mr. Boyer represented the United States (upon nomination by President Bush and confirmation by the US Senate) on the Executive Boards of the Inter-American Development Bank, the Multilateral Investment Fund and the Inter-American Investment Corporation. He was previously Senior Advisor to the President serving at the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) and Visiting Fellow in International Finance and Emerging Markets at the Peterson Institute for International Economics (IIE). Mr. Boyer has participated full-time in two US presidential campaigns, worked in the US Senate and has advised policy-makers on three continents.

Mr. Boyer has lived most of his life outside the United States and is fluent in five languages. He received his bachelor's degree from Stanford University (economics and international relations) and his master's degree from Harvard University.

Amb. Joe Keshi

Ambassador Keshi has over 35 years working experience in the highest level of Government serving as Permanent Secretary - Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Secretary - Cabinet Secretariat, The Presidency, Charge d'Affaires, Embassy of Nigeria, The Hague, The Netherlands, as well as Consul-General of Nigeria, Atlanta, Georgia.

Ambassador Keshi holds a B. Sc in political science from University of Ibadan Nigeria; an M.A. in Administration and Development from Institute of Social Studies, the Hague, Netherlands and Post Graduate Diploma in International Relations and Diplomacy from Nigerian Institute of International Affairs, Lagos, Nigeria.

Kofi Anani, Senior Operations Officer, World Bank, Africa Region

Dr. Kofi Anani is a versatile hands-on international development expert with in-depth experience in strategic thinking and planning pertaining to the political economy of public sector and governance reforms in Africa; capacity building (involving needs assessment, remedial actions design, implementation, monitoring and impact evaluation); and community organizing.

Dr. Anani has served as the Program Leader of the World Bank Africa Diaspora Program, and led a dedicated effort to build partnership with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Private Sector

companies to design and launch the African Diaspora Investment Fund (ADIF). The Fund is aimed at mobilizing the African Diaspora resources into private investment vehicles to support development needs on the continent. His professional work within and outside the Bank covers over 20 years in International Development practice focusing on governance challenges in various communities where poverty is concentrated in Africa. He has led Bank missions and dialogues with Governments and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to identify new and innovative measures for development financing.

Dr. Anani has an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the public sector governance and capacity issues related particularly to public finance management, anti-corruption strategies and plans, local governance, decentralization, service delivery and regional integration in Africa. He has also worked in various capacities in fragile and conflict-affected countries including Kosovo, South Sudan, Somalia, Sierra Leone and Liberia.

Prior to joining the World Bank, Dr. Anani has served as: Civil Affairs Officer responsible for Municipal Government and Administration in Kosovo under the United Nations Mission in Kosovo; UNDP consultant on harnessing Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for development; an instructor in Rural Planning and Development at the University of Guelph, Canada; and as a lecturer in Development Administration and Regional Integration in Africa at the University of Ghana, Legon. He holds a PhD in International Development from the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada.

Lin Yong, Vice Director, Institute for Ethnic Chinese Studies, Fujian Academy of Social Sciences

Lin Yong is currently a Professor at the Institute for Ethnic Chinese Studies in the Fujian Academy of Social Sciences. He is also the Secretary-General of Fujian Overseas Chinese Historical Society, and executive member of the council of China Overseas Chinese Historical Society. His primary research interest areas include investments of overseas Chinese, their enterprises and hometowns.

Mr. Yong obtained his PhD in History from Xiamen University in 2006.

Mamy Razakanaivo, Executive Secretary of CPGU

Mr. Razakanaivo is currently Executive Secretary of CPGU (Cellule de Prévention et Gestion des Urgences) in the Prime minister's Office. His other responsibilities have also included serving as National Director for the GFDRR Project implementation - "integrated climate change and disaster risk into the economic development in Madagascar"; President of regional platform on risk insurance mechanism in OIC region with Island project (IOC/EU); Focal point of project IOM about Migration Profile in Madagascar; and National Coordinator of inter ministerial committee for migration

Mr. Razakanaivo received a diploma in Disaster risk Management from the University of Antananarivo Madagascar, and also holds an MSc in Marine and coastal zone environment protection from CDG-Germany.

Mary Mpereh, Principal Planning Analyst, National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), Ghana

Mohammed Bernoussi, Secretary General, Ministry for Moroccans Living Abroad, Morocco

Nana Yaa Konadu, Head of Remittances Unit, Ecobank Ghana

Nana Yaa Konadu is currently the Head of Remittances at Ecobank Ghana responsible for managing the bank's partnership with various money transfer organizations and the Diaspora business. She also has oversight responsibilities for the remittance business in the West African Monetary Zone (WAMZ) region including countries like Guinea, Liberia, Gambia and Sierra Leone.

Nana joined Ecobank in 2003 and became the Head of Customer Service for Ecobank Ghana in 2005 and later the Regional Head for the WAMZ region with the main responsibility of ensuring exceptional service delivery to the bank's customers.

Prior to joining Ecobank, Nana held key positions including the Head of Training and later Service Quality at the then Social Security Bank (now Societe Generale Ghana).

In 2008 she was nominated by Ecobank to serve on a Customer Care committee by the Ghana Health Service. She has for the past three years acted as a consultant and trainer for the Service towards building exceptional service delivery in health care across Ghana.

Nana has a Bachelors degree in Sociology and a Masters degree in Entrepreneurship.

Nora Derrer, Migration Section, Population Division Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

Nora Derrer serves as an Associate Expert in the Migration Section of the United Nations Population Division, Department for Economic and Social Affairs, New York. The Migration Section estimates and analyzes global migration trends, produces reports for the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, organizes expert and coordination meetings, and collaborates with partner organizations. Prior to joining the United Nations, Ms. Derrer worked at Irish Aid Uganda on good governance, for the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs in the area of foreign migration policy and for UNHCR in Damascus.

Ms. Derrer holds a Master's Degree in Social Anthropology from the University of Zurich. Her Master's thesis focused on the living conditions and changing identities of Iraqi refugees living in Damascus. Currently, she is finalizing a Master of Advanced Studies in Development and Cooperation at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich.

Paul-Harry Aithnard, Group Head of Research, Ecobank Transnational Incorporated (ETI)

Paul-Harry has been Head of Research for the Ecobank Group since 2008. Here he oversees a sizeable team of Pan African analysts producing Industry Research, Commodities Research, African currencies and bonds markets research, economic analysis and product-specific analysis to enable institutional clients to navigate Africa's complex marketplaces, ensuring the highest level of independence and objectivity in Ecobank's research. Under his responsibility, Ecobank Research has been awarded as the Best Africa Research Team in 2011 by Africa Investor in New York (USA).

Between 2000 and 2008 he worked in various positions with BBSP, a leading research and markets strategy firm located in Paris, Montreal and Singapore. As Global Head of Commodities, and Co-Head of Global Macro Analysis in Paris, Paul-Harry supervised all commodities research at BBSP and covered key institutional clients (banks, asset managers and hedge funds) on investment strategies in various assets/markets, including commodities, fixed income, equity and currency markets in Africa. From 2000 to 2007, Paul-Harry was a director of the North American office located in Montréal, in charge of Equity Research and Sales.

Paul-Harry holds a Master's degree in Political Science/History from Sorbonne Paris IV, a postgraduate qualification in Business Administration and a Master's degree in Finance from HEC Montréal.

Philip Bob Jusu, Migration Officer, African Union Commission (AUC)

Mr. Jusu is currently a Migration Officer at the African Union Commission in Addis Ababa. Prior to this assignment, he also worked as a Political Affairs Officer at the UN Interim Administration in Kosovo (UNMIK). He also has experience working as a Refugee Support Officer at RMS Refugee Resettlement.

Mr. Jusu obtained an MSc in International Humanitarian Action from University College Dublin in 2011; an International Diploma in Project Management from Cambridge University in 2008 and a Masters in Public Policy from the University of Waikato in 2007.

Rafael Munoz Moreno, Country Representative, World Bank, Africa Region

Rafael Muñoz Moreno is Senior Country Economist at the World Bank. He holds a Ph. D in Economics from University of Louvain (Belgium), and a European Doctoral Program in Quantitative Economic after visiting the London School of Economics. He has published several research papers, mostly on labor economics and business cycles. Prior to joining the World Bank, Mr. Muñoz worked in the Spanish Embassy in Tokyo as Economist and the European Commission as operation officer in charge of development projects in Latin America. Since joining the World Bank in 2005, Mr. Muñoz has worked in the office of the Vice-President of the Economic Department and has served as country economist in the Africa Region. Mr. Muñoz is now based in Mauritius as Country Economist and acting Residence Representative.

Raj Makoond, Director, Joint Economic Council, Mauritius

Raj Makoond is the Executive Director of the Joint Economic Council. He is a Board Member of the European Centre for Development Policy Management and member of the Mauritius Negotiating Team on WTO matters as well as ACP-EU relations. Raj Makoond has served as the Deputy-Secretary General of the Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry from 1990 to 1993. From 1976 to 1990, he was economist and senior economist at the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development and was seconded to the Ministry of Commerce and Deputy Prime Minister's Office and Ministry of Tourism. Raj Makoond holds a BA (Hons) in Economics and an MSc in Tourism Planning.

Ron Hendrix, Political Advisor, Delegation of the European Union (EU) to the African Union

Mr. Hendrix is currently working as a Political Advisor in the EU Delegation to the African Union (based

in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia). He is responsible for the Joint Africa-EU Strategy Partnership on Migration, Mobility and Employment (MME).

Salomon Samen (Technical Advisers to Govt. of Mauritius and GFMD)

Shahidul Haque, Director, International Cooperation and Partnership, IOM, Geneva

Mr. Haque is the Director of International Cooperation and Partnership for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Geneva. Former positions with the IOM include: Regional Representative for the Middle East; Regional Representative for South Asia; Regional Migration Management Coordinator for West Asia. Mr. Haque has also served in the Bangladeshi Foreign Service, with assignments in London, Bangkok and Geneva.

Mr. Haque has published widely on migration and trafficking related issues. He is the recipient of the IOM Director General's Award in 2005. His research interests include migration, social development and trade issues.

Mr. Haque has a Master's in Social Welfare from Dhaka University and an MA in International Relations, from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Sharron McPherson, Executive Chair, WEDI International Pty Ltd

With over 25 years experience as an accomplished investment banker and former Wall Street attorney, Dr. S.L. McPherson's focus is in developing and implementing innovative models for financing economic growth and development principally in Sub-Saharan Africa. She has worked with some of the world's leading international businesses, governments and multilaterals as both policy and strategic advisor. Positions held in Sub-Saharan Africa include former CEO of Tanaka Investments (South Africa) and former Corporate Finance Manager for Mettle Merchant Bank (South Africa).

Sharron has a Doctorate's Degree in Law (Columbia University), an honor's degree in Finance from the University of Toulon (La Garde, France) and a B.A. in Economics (College of William & Mary). In August 2011, she concluded post doctoral studies at Singularity University (NASA Ames Research Center – Silicon Valley, CA).

In Africa, she has served as an advisor to a number of government and state-owned entities including South African Constitutional Court, the South African Reserve Bank, the South African Department of Trade and Industry, the Gauteng Department of Economic Development, the Department of Minerals & Energy and the Central Bank of Nigeria. Multilateral institutional engagements include the World Bank/IFC, the British Commonwealth Secretariat and the Development Bank of Southern Africa.

In the private sector in both the US and Africa, she has served as advisor and enterprise development specialist for leading multinational companies including Citibank, Shell Corporation and Coca Cola. She writes and speaks extensively on her global international exposure and experience in private equity in emerging world markets.

She is a published author and sits on a number of local and international boards, including New Faces New Voices, a pan-African initiative that is being spearheaded by Mrs. Graça Machel.

H.E. Amb. Shree Servansing

H. E. S.B.C. Servansing is the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva including the World Trade Organization (WTO). He was born in Mauritius on 22 April 1955. He has served on various Committees at the WTO. He was the Chair of the Committee on Trade and Environment for two successive terms in 2005 and 2006 and has served as the Chair of the WTO Committee on Trade and Development for three consecutive terms from 2007-2009. He also chaired the Work Programme on Small Economies and the dedicated session on Aid for Trade. He was also the Chair of the African Group in Geneva in 2007 and has been the Coordinator of the ACP Group in Geneva from 2004-2006 and from March 2008 to date. He has participated in numerous conferences / seminars where he has presented papers or acted as a panelist on trade issues including the Doha Development Agenda trade negotiations, Aid for Trade and the Environment. Ambassador Servansing is the holder of an MA (Sociological Studies) from University of Sussex (1980) and a Postgraduate Diploma in Foreign Affairs and International Trade from the Australian National University (1994).

Soheyla Mahmoudi, Task Manager, AIR initiative, World Bank

Ms. Mahmoudi is currently the Senior Operations Officer for the African Diaspora Program in the Office of the Africa Regional Vice President at the World Bank. She is the Task Team Leader (TTL) for the AIR Project and leads the World Bank's team in implementing the Project. She is also the TTL for Strengthening Diaspora engagement projects in several countries - such as Ethiopia and Kenya - as well as the African Union Commission (AUC) Global Diaspora Program, and AUC's Diaspora Program in North America. She joined the Bank as Finance Analyst and has worked on various assignments, such as working in the Africa Region Capacity Development and Partnership Unit and Africa Region Operation Quality and Knowledge Department. She has extensive World Bank operational experience in Africa, South Asia, and East Asia regions. Ms. Mahmoudi's specialized experience is in areas of post conflict / conflict countries. She worked and lived in Afghanistan right after fall of Taliban in 2001 and also worked extensively with the Governments of Ethiopia, Eritrea, South Sudan (Juba), and Uganda.

Ms. Mahmoudi is from Iran and migrated to the USA after Iran's revolution. Ms. Mahmoudi holds an MBA from Johns Hopkins University in Maryland and completed her Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration at Catholic University of America in Washington D.C.

Sonia Plaza, Senior Economist, Development Economics Prospects Group, World Bank

Sonia Plaza is a Senior Economist in the Development Economics Prospects Group of the World Bank. She has worked on science and technology projects in Latin American and coauthored a major analytical survey of migration and development for the Africa region. She is the co-author of the recently edited book, *Diaspora for Development in Africa*. She was a core member of the group that produced the book, *Africa's Silk Road: China and India's New Economic Frontier*, and wrote chapter 5, which includes sections on market information through ethnic networks and migration, and Diaspora contributions in

innovation, technology, and skills transfer, regional trade agreements, and bilateral agreements dealing with labor mobility. She works on the international mobility of students and the impact of the Bologna Process and the Lisbon Agenda in developing countries. She advises many universities on the transfer of skills and tapping into their Diasporas.

Ms. Plaza attended the University of Lima and earned a degree in economics, after which she joined Chase Manhattan Bank. She was then invited to join the Peruvian Ministry of Trade as a manager responsible for countertrade and debt swap agreements. She negotiated Peruvian external debt and trade agreements. She was Professor of Economics (International Economics) at the Peruvian School of Foreign Service and at the University of Lima in Peru, and was adjunct faculty (Microeconomics and Macroeconomics) at The American University in Washington, DC.

She has a dual degree from Yale University and the University of Pennsylvania in International Economics and Development. Her research interests include international migration, labor mobility, trade, Diaspora and the future of labor. She joined the Institute for the Study of Labor as a Research Fellow in February 2010.

Stanley Omosa, Finance and Insurance Expert and Diaspora Representative

Mr. Omosa currently works at the Financial Services at Massachusetts Mutual, a leading mutual life insurance company. He completed his MBA from Harvard University in 2002. Mr. Omosa originally hails from Kenya.

Amb. Usha Dwarka-Canabady, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mauritius

Victoria Garchitorena, President, Ayala Foundation, Philippines

Victoria P. Garchitorena is considered as one of the pillars of the Philippine non-government organization sector. She was founding Chair of the League of Corporate Foundations, Philippine Council for NGO Certification, Philippine Association for Volunteer Efforts, Metro South Cooperative Bank, and the Makati NGO Network. She is/has been Chair or Trustee of the following: Asian Institute of Management; Justice Cecilia Munoz Palma Foundation, Pinoy ME, Ramon Magsaysay Awards Foundation, EDSA People Power Commission, AIM Alumni Association, Mendiola Consortium, Ateneo de Manila University, De La Salle University, College of the Holy Spirit, International Center for Innovation, Transformation and Excellence in Government, Management Association of the Philippines; Gifts & Graces among others. She was also a Board Member of the United States-based Council on Foundations and is a Senior Adviser of the World Bank's Asia-Pacific Advisory Council Against Corruption. She is also Adviser to the World Bank on Social Protection and Labor Policy.

Vicky also served as the Senior Consultant on Good Governance and Poverty Alleviation to the Office of the President of the Philippines, the Head of the Presidential Management Staff, Secretary to the Cabinet, and a Director of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

Vicky established Ayala Foundation USA in 2000, a Diaspora philanthropy foundation that served as a “bridge of hope across the seas”. It has since been transformed into the Philippine Development Foundation, which focuses on developing an ecosystem in the homeland that will support and develop science and technology as a driver for economic growth and development. Under her leadership, Ayala Foundation hosted the Civil Society Days of the GFMD in Manila in 2008.

She has recently retired as a Managing Director of Ayala Corporation and President of Ayala Foundation, Inc. and Philippine Development Foundation (formerly Ayala Foundation USA). She is now Consultant to Ayala Corporation and Member of the Board of Trustees at Ayala Foundation, PhilDev, and the Alvarez Foundation. She continues to be active in the NGO community in the Philippines.

Vincent Okele, CEO, Intrans Management, Brussels

Vincent Okele is a Brussels-based Management Consultant and President of AFRICAN AXIS, (www.africanaxis.org) an organization of African Diaspora professionals. Over the past decade, he has been involved in advocacy work at the level of the European Union as well as in research on the developmental impact of migration on home economies. He is the lead author of a recently published report on Diaspora-led investments into Sub-Saharan Africa: issues and policy recommendations. Formerly with Ernst & Young Consulting, he is currently a Managing Partner of Intrans Management Services (www.inmanse.com), a management consultancy providing strategic growth management advisory services to private and public institutions in Europe and in emerging economies.

Wisdom Tettey, Dean, Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies, University of British Columbia

Wisdom J. Tettey is a Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies at the University of British Columbia, Canada and Coordinator of the Ghana Diaspora Educational and Professional Network. His research expertise and interests are in the areas of mass media and politics in Africa; ICTs, civic engagement and transnational citizenship; the political economy of globalization and ICTs ; brain drain, Diaspora knowledge networks and higher education capacity building in Africa.

He has published extensively in these areas, and is author/co-author and editor/co-editor of several books, including *The Public Sphere and the Politics of Survival: Voice, Sustainability, and Public Policy in Ghana* (2010); *Challenges of Developing and Retaining the Next Generation of Academics: Deficits in Academic Staff Capacity in African Universities* (2010); *African Media and the Digital Public Sphere* (2009); and *The African Diaspora in Canada: Negotiating Identity and Belonging* (2005). He has also served, and continues to serve, as a consultant to several national and international organizations in his fields of scholarly expertise.