

Opening Plenary Session Speakers

10:00-12:30, 28 June 2017

Dr. Götz Schmidt-Bremme

Ambassador for the 2017-2018 GFMD Co-Chairmanship

Doctor Götz Schmidt-Bremme is the German Ambassador for the 2017-2018 GFMD Co-Chairmanship, as well as the Special Representative of the Federal Foreign office for Return Management. Previously, he was the Director for Legal and Consular Issues including Migration from 2013 until 2017, Minister (Economic affairs) in Paris between 2012 and 2013, Head of the Division for Private International Law, Civil Law, Mercantile and Commercial Law, International Customs and Tax Law. In 1988, Dr. Schmidt-Bremme entered the foreign service and had different posts in the diplomatic service: Saudi Arabia, Portugal, Brazil and France. From 2002 to 2005, he was posted in Sao Paulo, Brazil as Deputy-Consul. In 1996, he was the Head of the Economic Section at the German Embassy in Lisbon (Portugal) and German Deputy Commissioner General at Expo 98. From 1990 to 1992, he served as Deputy Consul-General in Jeddah (Saudi Arabia). His publications include contributions to Germany's consular practice handbook and a commentary on the Foreign Service Act.

Amb. Schmidt Bremme studied law and philosophy in Bonn and Lausanne and has been an attorney from 1987 to 1988. He is married with three children.



H.E. Mr. Sigmar Gabriel

Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, Germany

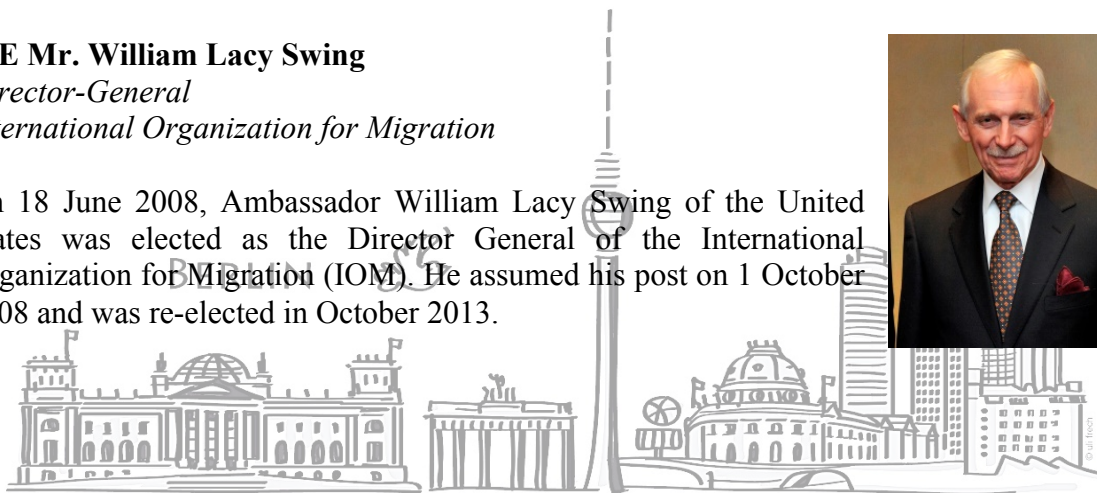
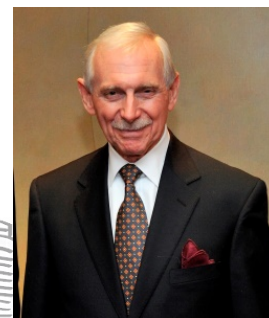
Sigmar Gabriel took up the post of Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs on 27 January 2017. He was born in Goslar in 1959, and was state premier of Lower Saxony from 1999 to 2003. From 2005 to 2009 he was part of the Cabinet, serving as Federal Environment Minister. Sigmar Gabriel held the post of Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy from December 2013 to the end of January 2017.

H.E Mr. William Lacy Swing

Director-General

International Organization for Migration

On 18 June 2008, Ambassador William Lacy Swing of the United States was elected as the Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). He assumed his post on 1 October 2008 and was re-elected in October 2013.



From May 2003 till January 2008, as UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ambassador Swing successfully led all facets of the largest UN peacekeeping operation in history.

Prior to this appointment, Ambassador Swing served as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara and Chief of Mission, United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO).

Ambassador Swing has had a long and distinguished career as a member of the Senior Foreign Service of the Department of State, (USA), spanning some forty years including five postings as Ambassador to African countries – South Africa, Nigeria, Liberia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (ex-Zaire), and the former People’s Republic of the Congo (Congo Brazzaville).

William Lacy Swing was assigned to the Republic of South Africa in 1989, shortly before Nelson Mandela’s release from prison. The posting was the culmination of a diplomatic career begun twenty-six years before in Port Elizabeth.

Ambassador Swing has been the recipient of numerous professional, diplomatic and academic distinctions, including the Annenberg Award for Excellence in Diplomacy from the American Academy of Diplomacy, the Presidential Certificate of Commendation, and the American Foreign Service Association’s award for “Lifetime Contribution to American Diplomacy”. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Harris Manchester College, Oxford University and a recipient of the Order of Merit, First Class, of the Federal Republic of Germany.



Mr. El Habib Nadir
Secretary General
Ministry in Charge of Moroccans Living Abroad
and Migration Affairs

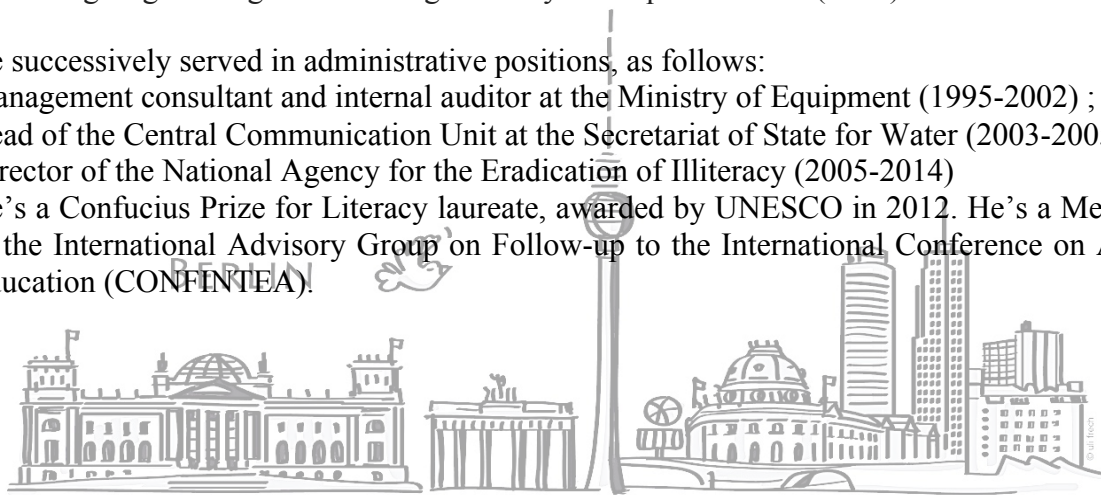
Secretary General of the Ministry Delegate to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in charge of Moroccans Living Abroad and Migration Affairs, since 2014.

He holds an engineering degree and PHD in process engineering from the "Institut National Polytechnique de Grenoble-France" (1990 et 1994). He holds, also, a Masters Degree in consulting Engineering from "Collège de Polytechnique de Paris" (2003).

He successively served in administrative positions, as follows:

Management consultant and internal auditor at the Ministry of Equipment (1995-2002) ;
Head of the Central Communication Unit at the Secretariat of State for Water (2003-2005) ;
Director of the National Agency for the Eradication of Illiteracy (2005-2014)

He’s a Confucius Prize for Literacy laureate, awarded by UNESCO in 2012. He’s a Member of the International Advisory Group on Follow-up to the International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA).



Mr. Nasser Bourita

*Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
Kingdom of Morocco*



Mr. Nasser Bourita whom His Majesty King Mohammed VI appointed as Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, was born on 27 May 1969 in Taounate. Mr. Bourita held previous positions such as Minister Delegate to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Ambassador, Chief of Cabinet of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. Prior to that, he served as General Director of Multilateral Relations and Global Cooperation Directorate. He also held the position of Director of the United Nations and International Organizations Directorate.

Mr. Bourita's diplomatic career includes postings to Austria and Belgium from 1995 to 2000 and from 2002 to 2003. Mr. Bourita is actively engaged in a wide range of issues of interest to Morocco, in bilateral and multilateral arenas with focus on the United Nations, IAEA, UNIDO, NATO, EU, the Arab League, the OSCE, the NAM, etc. In addition, he took part to a number of national and international conferences and meetings related to disarmament and security, peacekeeping, human rights, global issues and regional cooperation. He is a member of different committees such as the Steering Committee of the National Program of education to human rights, the expert panel of OIF on peacekeeping and the Central Authority for the Prevention of Corruption. He was a lecturer in international law at the Faculty of Law, Economics and Social Studies, Rabat.

Mr. Bourita is married and has two children.

