LIST OF SPEAKERS

Mr. Borhene Chakroun, Director of Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems Division at UNESCO

Borhene Chakroun is an engineer and has a PhD in Education Sciences from Bourgogne University in France. Borhene worked, during the 1990s, as trainer, chief trainer, project manager. He has also worked as short-term consultant for the EU, World Bank and other international organisations before coming to the European Training Foundation (ETF) in 2001. At the ETF, Borhene worked as Senior Human Capital Development specialist. He is now Director of Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems Division at UNESCO-HQ. Borhene conducted a range of policy reviews and skills systems diagnosis in different contexts. He has authored and co-authored various articles and books in the field of skills development and lifelong learning. Much of his most recent work focuses on global trends in reforming education and training systems and global agenda for skills development in the context of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

Mr. Martin Bille Hermann, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations in New York

Before taking up his position as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations in January 2019, Ambassador Martin Bille Hermann served as State Secretary for Development Policy in the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This position is sometimes referred to as 'Head of DANIDA'. DANIDA is the brand name for Danish Development Cooperation.

Prior to this appointment, Martin Bille Hermann served as Ambassador to Indonesia and was also accredited to East Timor and Papua New Guinea.

Before his appointment as Ambassador, Martin Bille Hermann held several positions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including as Head of Department for Asia and the Pacific Ocean region. Before joining the Danish Foreign Service, Martin worked for UNDP in Bhutan.
Martin Bille Hermann is an economist by profession, and also holds a Masters’ Degree in Development Management from London School of Economics.

Mr. Rodrigo A. Carazo, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations in New York

Professional development in the private sector includes: being a liberal professional since 1971 in the fields of Economy, Law and International Relations. He has also served as a consultant for International Organizations (Governmental, Intergovernmental, Non-Governmental) as well as for private entities. He has 48 years of experience as a businessman in commercial, industrial, tourist, agricultural and service sectors.

Academic background includes: serving as a university professor in Costa Rica and in the United States and the University of Peace; Member of the Board of the public Distance University in Costa Rica; he holds a Law Degree from the University of Costa Rica and a similar degree in Economic and Social Sciences from the University of Costa Rica, a PhD in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Geneva- Switzerland and has completed further studies in History and International Law.

Ms. Marcella Favretto, Chief of the Sustainable Development Section, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human rights (OHCHR)

Marcella Favretto is the Chief of the Sustainable Development Section of OHCHR, which works at the global level, as well as in support of UN field presences and national stakeholders at the country level, to integrate and mainstream human rights into development policy and practice, including in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. Marcella has over 20 years of work experience in human rights, development and peace and security at the global and country level.

Ms. Birgitte Feiring, Department Director, Human Rights and Development, The Danish Institute for Human Rights

Birgitte Feiring is Department Director at the Danish Institute for Human Rights, leading work on the links between the 2030 Agenda and human rights. Birgitte has worked more than 30 years in the intertwined fields of sustainable development and human rights. Her experience spans from fieldwork in remote communities to positions in the European Commission and the International Labour Organization. As an independent consultant, she has advised donors, UN agencies, companies and civil society organisations. Birgitte is currently the chair of the SDG Working Group of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions.

Ms. Maria Ploug Petersen, Senior Advisor, Human Rights and Development, The Danish Institute for Human Rights

Maria works as a senior adviser on integrated approaches to realising human rights and sustainable development. Before joining the Danish Institute of Human Rights in 2020, she worked for 15 years in the field of sustainable development and human rights with the UNDP, the Open Society Foundations, and with CARE International at the global policy and country implementation level.

Ms. Ariane Adam, Deputy Director of the Equal Rights Trust

Ariane Adam leads the Equal Rights Trust’s legal research work on the rights to equality and non-discrimination and their role in the realisation of other human rights and
development, as well as the Trust’s programme of support to lawyers providing legal services and the implementation of the organisation’s body of strategic litigation. She is an experienced legal practitioner with a specialisation in discrimination and human rights claims.

**Ms. Thuy-Linh Nguyen, Monitoring & Evaluation Manager, Advance Family Planning, Bill & Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health**

Thuy-Linh Nguyen leads the design and implementation of monitoring, evaluation, and learning strategies for the Advance Family Planning (AFP) initiative and provides country-level MEL support to its six focus countries. Prior to joining AFP, she worked in vaccine research, advocacy, and communications at the International Vaccine Access Center, leading efforts to monitor global uptake of new and underutilized vaccines, implementation of vaccine programs, and impact evaluations. Her background also includes experience in domestic policy advocacy for women’s health research, healthcare reform, and clinical epidemiology, with a special interest in women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights and maternal/child health. She completed her MPH and BA in biology at Washington University in St. Louis.

**Ms. Halima Shariff, Director AFP-Tanzania, Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs in Tanzania**

Halima Shariff is the Country Director for the Advance Family Planning (AFP) initiative of the Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs (JHCCP) in Tanzania. With a background in media, policy, and advocacy in reproductive health, family planning, and gender, Ms. Shariff has championed evidence-based advocacy within the civil society community to address reproductive health issues that impact women’s and children’s health. In addition, Ms. Shariff’s experience includes promoting women advancement in the public and private spaces towards building a more equitable society through addressing patriarchal elements that push women to the periphery. She also serves on the Board of Directors for a number of local civil society organizations in Tanzania.

**Ms. Irene Choge, Media Advocacy Manager, Jhpiego in Kenya**

Irene Choge joined AFP partner Jhpiego Kenya as a Media Advocacy Manager. She has a background in education, health communication and journalism. Irene has more than eight years’ experience in media broadcasting with specialty in health, science and environment, governance, and humanitarian fields. Previously, she worked at The Nation Media Group as a Senior Reporter.

Irene initiated the Nation Television (NTV) Health Assignment segment. This is a regular weekly feature segment that highlights unique health and development stories that influence decision-makers and impact on people’s lives. She has received a wide collection of media awards including the ‘Storyteller of the Year (TV category)’ at the Internews Story Festival as well as 2nd Best in Health Reporting category during the Kenya Media Council awards.

**Ms. Sakina Amin Bello, Senior Program Advisor, Reproductive Health, Pathfinder International in Nigeria**

Sakina Amin Bello is a public health practitioner with experience in developmental interventions across health financing and maternal, neonatal and child health/sexual and reproductive health interventions within Nigeria. With over seven years’ experience in planning and implementation of reproductive health programs at both national and sub-national levels, she is a key focal person in implementing Advance Family Planning advocacy strategy in twelve states in Nigeria.
Sakina is also a master facilitator in the AFP SMART approach. She is a member of the Health Sector Reform Coalition and National Reproductive Health Technical Working Group.

**Ms. Magdalena Brier, Managing Director of ProFuturo Foundation**

Mrs. Magdalena Brier is the Managing Director of ProFuturo Foundation, an education program launched in 2016 by Telefonica Foundation and "la Caixa" Foundation, whose mission is to narrow the education gap in the world by providing quality digital education for children in vulnerable contexts in Latin America, The Caribbean, Africa and Asia.

Magdalena holds a master’s degree in Economic Sciences from Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and an MBA from IESE Business School. She joined the Telefonica Group in August 2000 as Deputy Director of Finance and Planning for Telefonica Data. She had previously held several positions in Financing international projects and Financial Controlling within Alcatel Spain. After a period working in Financial Controlling for Telefonica Group, she joined Telefonica Foundation as Director of Management and Resources. In January 2019 she was promoted to Chief of Staff of the Chairman’s Office, assuming the coordination of Telefonica Foundation and ProFuturo Foundation.

**Ms. Dina Buchbinder – Founder and President of Education For Sharing**

Dina is a social entrepreneur who is changing traditional education in Mexico and in the world. In 2007, passionate about the ideas and potential of childhood, she founded Education for Sharing (E4S), an international organization that forms better citizens from childhood through the power of play.

Dina is the Chair of the Board of the Mexican Association for United Nations. She holds a degree in International Relations from the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM). She is also Hubert Humphrey Fellow of Urban Planning at MIT and holds a Master in Public Administration by the Harvard Kennedy School. Dina has represented Mexico in forums of social development in Asia, Europe, America and the Middle East.