

**COMMITTEE  
MEETING**

EB/LC/Mtg/19/1

February 12, 2019

To: Members of the Committee on Liaison with the World Bank and Other International Organizations

From: Sabina Bhatia, Committee Secretary

Subject: **Committee on Liaison with the World Bank and Other International Organizations—Summary Record of Meeting 19/1**

Committee Action: Committee members' **information**

Additional Distribution: Members of the Executive Board



**SUMMARY RECORD**  
**COMMITTEE ON LIAISON WITH THE WORLD BANK AND**  
**OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

**Meeting 19/1**  
**January 17, 2019—3:15 p.m.**

**Members present:** Ms. Riach (Chair); Mr. Beblawi, Mr. De Lannoy, Mr. Kaizuka, Ms. Levonian, Mr Meyer, Mr. Raghani, Mr. Siriwardana (representing Gokarn); Ms. Bhatia (Committee Secretary).

**ECOSOC Bureau members present:** Ms. Rhonda King (President of ECOSOC), Ms. Azucena, Mr. Blanchard, Ms. Juul (Vice-President of ECOSOC), Mr. Kadiri, Ms. Kharashun, Mr. Kapambwe, Mr. Okaiteye, Ms. Zappia.

**Also present (at the table):** Mr. Dairi, Mr. Inderbinen, Mr. Kaya, Mr. Lane (SPR), Mr. Lin (Secretary), Mr. Moreno, Mr. Mozhin, Mr. Nabar (RES).

**Agenda for the meeting:** Presentation on the outlook and possible topics for the Special High-Level Meeting with the BWIs, WTO and UNCTAD at the 2019 ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development (New York).

Ms. Riach welcomed the delegation and elaborated on the mandate of the Liaison Committee before turning the floor to the Secretary, Mr. Lin, and the Dean of the Board to give the opening remarks. Staff (Mr. Nabar) gave a brief update on the world economic outlook. Momentum has weakened, and financial conditions have tightened, though with some differentiation across countries. A question was asked on whether commodity prices had contributed to the sharp fall in capital flows to EMs. Staff clarified that capital flows to EMs had weakened before commodity prices dropped; Fed tightening was the key driver. Staff stressed, however, that investors have been differentiating based on fundamentals. In response to a question on tackling youth unemployment, staff noted that the policy recommendations for each country vary, depending on the bottlenecks that exist; however, a two-pronged strategy focusing on opportunity creation and improved job prospects is key. In some countries, a gradual expansion of the social safety net may also be warranted.

The discussion then shifted to the three topics proposed for the high-level dialogue with the BWIs, WTO and UNCTAD, namely: public debt, vulnerabilities and the SDGs; ii) fintech and financial inclusion and iii) the future of work and job creation. Three of the Liaison Committee members gave brief presentations, followed by remarks from ECOSOC Bureau members.

- **Public debt, vulnerabilities and the SDGs.** Mr. Kaizuka noted in his presentation that the share of LIDCs at high risk of or in debt distress has doubled since 2013, reaching about 40

per<sup>1</sup>cent in 2018. He emphasized that LIDCs need to take determined policy actions and spoke about the IMF/World Bank multi-pronged approach to helping countries address debt vulnerabilities. Ms. Rhonda King of the ECOSOC Bureau noted that discussions at the UN have focused on how heavily indebted developing countries can maintain sufficient fiscal space to meet their SDG targets, including through use of debt instruments in climate finance, as well as the growing challenges associated with debt restructuring. Questions were asked about measures to improve revenue mobilization and address illicit financial flows. Directors spoke about the role of TA and the IMF's contribution to global efforts to combat IFFs. In response to a question on data gaps in LIDCs and lack of transparency, staff (Mr. Lane) noted that because the Fund works mostly with Ministries of Finance, the Fund may not have complete records of the debt being contracted by line ministries and state enterprises. It is also more difficult to get comprehensive debt data from nontraditional lenders and commercial creditors.

- **Fintech and financial inclusion.** Mr. De Lannoy spoke about capturing the benefits of technological innovation to bring the previously “unbanked” into the financial system, the role of regulation and supervision in protecting against risks, and the launch of the IMF/World Bank Bali Fintech Agenda. Ms. Kharashun of the ECOSOC Bureau noted that the UN Secretary-General has launched a global task force charged with recommending strategies to harness the potential of financial technology to advance the SDGs.
- **The future of work and job creation.** Ms. Levonian noted that technology is a driver of growth but can also be a source of disruption that can drive inequality. It is important to harness the benefits with policies that promote technology adoption but to also invest in people to support economic mobility. Mr. Kidiri of the ECOSOC Bureau emphasized the need to extend social protection systems to ensure better protection for workers and their families and facilitate labor market mobility. In response to a question on measuring the impact of new technologies on labor markets, Directors emphasized that there is not enough data to determine how automation will affect employment. Though many jobs are at risk of being automated, new jobs have been or could be created by developments in technology—the impact will vary from country to country.

Ms. Rhonda King noted that the Special High-Level Meeting with the BWIs, WTO and UNCTAD is scheduled for April 16 and emphasized that the Forum will provide an important opportunity to assess progress across areas of the Addis Agenda. The dialogue will focus on two topics, namely, ‘public debt, vulnerabilities and the SDGs’ and ‘fintech.’ There will be a lunch discussion on the ‘future of work and job creation’ prior to the dialogue.

The meeting concluded at 4:52 p.m.

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<sup>1</sup> The agenda for the meeting and the biographies of the ECOSOC delegation are attached.

**Consultations between the ECOSOC Bureau and the Executive Directors of the World Bank Group (WBG) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF)  
Thursday, 17 January 2019, Washington D.C.**

**Programme**

**11:30**                      **Estimated arrival of ECOSOC Bureau at World Bank Group**  
**Venue:** World Bank Headquarters, Main Complex building, 1818 H Street, NW, Washington D.C.

**Meetings at the WBG**

**11:30 – 12:15**            **Meeting with WBG/IFC Senior Management**

Topic for discussion:

- Update on WBG Maximizing Financing for Development approach

Moderator/Chair: Ms. Karin Finkelston, Vice President, Partnerships, Communication, and Outreach, International Finance Corporation

Remarks by H.E. Inga Rhonda King, President of ECOSOC

Remarks by Co-facilitators on the outcome of the ECOSOC FfD Forum (H.E. Ms. Mariangela Zappia, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations, and H.E. Mr. Lazarous Kapambwe, Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations)

Remarks by Co-facilitators on the General Assembly High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development (H.E. Mr. Marc-André Blanchard, Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations, and H.E. Mr. Daniel Okaiteye, Deputy Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations)

Interactive discussion

Wrap-up and summary of next steps

**Bilateral meetings between ECOSOC Bureau members and their Country Executive Directors (optional)**

**12:30 – 14:30**                    **Working lunch with the Executive Directors and senior staff of the World Bank Group**

Moderator: Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, Senior Vice President for the 2030 Development Agenda, United Nations Relations, and Partnerships

Welcoming remarks by Mr. Merza Hussain Hasan, Dean of the WBG Board of Executive Directors

Remarks by H.E. Inga Rhonda King, President of ECOSOC (*including introduction of topic "Public debt, vulnerability and the SDGs"*)

Remarks by H.E. Ms. Kira Christianne D. Azucena, Charge d'affaires, a.i., Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations (*introduction of topic "Fintech and financial inclusion"*)

Remarks by H.E. Ms. Mona Juul, Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations (*introduction of topic "The future of work and job creation"*)

Interactive discussions

Wrap-up and summary of next steps

**15:00 – 15:15**                    **WBG program wraps up, transfer to IMF Headquarters**  
**Venue:** IMF Headquarters, 700 19th Street, N.W., Washington D.C.

**Meetings at the IMF**

**15:15 – 17:00**                    **Meeting with the Executive Directors and IMF senior staff**

Chair: Ms. Shona Riach, Chair of the Liaison Committee with the World Bank, the United Nations and other International Organizations

Welcoming remarks by Mr. Jianhai Lin, IMF Secretary

Remarks by H.E. Inga Rhonda King, President of ECOSOC

Remarks by Mr. Aleksei Mozhin, Dean, IMF Executive Board

Topics for discussion:

- Update on Global Economic Outlook (Presentation by IMF)

- Topics for the interactive dialogue:

*Public debt, vulnerability and the SDGs*

- Remarks by Mr. Masaaki Kaizuka, IMF Executive Director
- Remarks by H.E. Inga Rhonda King, President of ECOSOC

*Fintech and financial inclusion*

- Remarks by Mr. Anthony De Lannoy, IMF Executive Director
- Remarks by Ms. Tamara Kharashun, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Belarus to the United Nations

*The future of work and job creation*

- Remarks by Ms. Louise Levonian, IMF Executive Director
- Remarks by H.E. Mr. Omar Kadiri, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations

Interactive discussions

Wrap-up and summary of next steps



**H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**

*President of ECOSOC*

*Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations*

Ms. Inga Rhonda King, who comes to diplomacy from the private sector, has lived and worked in several Caribbean countries, the United States of America and China. She is a business owner, business strategist, the author of three books, and a management accountant with more than two decades of professional experience. She also holds a Bachelor of Science in mathematics and chemistry and is the immediate past chair of the Investment Promotions Agency of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (Invest SVG) and a former Honorary Consul for Portugal to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Since becoming Permanent Representative in September 2013, Ambassador King has had several leadership roles which include: ECOSOC Vice-President 2017-2018; Chair of the Island Women Open Network; Chair/Spokesperson of L69, the largest reform group for the Security Council Reform; and Chair of the Fifth Committee of the 71<sup>st</sup> session the General Assembly (2016-2017).



**H.E. Ms. Mona Juul**

*Vice- President of ECOSOC*

*Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations*

Ambassador Mona Juul was appointed Permanent Representative of Norway to the UN in New York in January 2019. Ambassador Juul was previously Ambassador to the United Kingdom (2014-2018), Director General for Security Policy and the High North in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2011-2014), Ambassador/Deputy Permanent Representative, at the Permanent Mission to the UN in New York (2005-2010)

and Chairman of the 1st Committee of the 61<sup>st</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly (2006).

She served as Ambassador to Israel (2001-2005), accredited to Cyprus for the same period. State Secretary/Deputy Foreign Minister at the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2000), Special Advisor/Ambassador/Middle East Coordinator in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1997-2000) chairing the AHLC (Ad Hoc Liaison Committee on Assistance to the Palestinians). Minister Counsellor at the Norwegian Embassy in Tel Aviv (1994-1997).

Ambassador Juul has been with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 1986, during which time she has gained broad diplomatic experience. This includes working in the Cabinet of the Minister of Foreign Affairs (1992-1993) and member of the small Norwegian team that facilitated the secret negotiations between Israel and the PLO leading to the Oslo-Agreement. Her first posting was at the Norwegian Embassy in Cairo (1988-1990). Ambassador Juul holds a Master degree in Political Science from the University of Oslo.

**H.E. Mr. Omar Kadiri**

*Deputy Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations*

Mr. Omar Kadiri was appointed Deputy Permanent Representative at Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations in New York in November 2017. Prior to this appointment he served as Counselor and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations between July 2010 and October 2017. He also served as a Political Coordinator during Morocco's membership in the United Nations Security Council between 2012 and 2013. From July 2008 to June 2010, he was appointed as Human Rights Officer in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva.

Mr. Kadiri also served as First Secretary and Counselor at the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva between 2005 and 2008. From 2000 to 2005, he was First Secretary at the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations in New York. From 1996 until 2000, he worked as a Secretary of Foreign Affairs at the Human Resources Management and the United Nations and International Organizations Departments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Rabat

Mr. Kadiri graduated with Diplôme d'Etudes Normales from l'Ecole Nationale d'Administration Publique.



**H.E. Ms. Kira Christianne D. Azucena**

*Charge d'affaires, a.i., Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations*

Ms. Azucena was educated in Silliman University in Dumaguete City and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in communications.

A career diplomat, she joined the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs in 1995, and served in various capacities, including as Director of the Division for Central Europe at the Office of European Affairs; and Executive Director at the Office of the United Nations and Other International Organizations.

Abroad, she served in the Philippine Embassy in Rome as First Secretary and Consul and Alternate Permanent Representative to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); the Philippine Consulate General in Hong Kong SAR as Deputy Consul General; and Deputy Consul General at the Philippine Consulate General in New York and Manager of the Philippine Center in New York. Currently, she is Deputy Permanent Representative at the Philippine Mission to the United Nations, New York.

**Ms. Tamara Kharashun**

*Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations*



Ms. Tamara Kharashun was appointed Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations in October 2016. She was previously Counsellor at the Directorate General for Multilateral Diplomacy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus between 2014 and 2016. From 2009 to 2012, she served as First Secretary at the Embassy of the Republic of Belarus in Ukraine, and from 2002 until 2009 as First Secretary and Senior Counsellor at the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus. She was also Second Secretary at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva from 1997-2000.

Ms. Kharashun was appointed as an Attaché, Third Secretary, Second Secretary at the Department for International Economic Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus between 1993 and 1997.

Ms. Kharashun worked as an Economist at The Economy Research Institute of the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Belarus between 1992 and 1993. She graduated from Belarusian State University in 1992 and completed her PhD in Economics in 2005.

## Co-facilitators on the General Assembly High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development



**H.E. Mr. Marc-André Blanchard**

*Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations*

Mr. Marc-André Blanchard was appointed as Canada's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York in 2016. In 2017, he was named as a member of Canada's North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) Council. From 2010 - 2016 he was Chairman and CEO of McCarthy Tétrault, one Canada's national law firms. From 2003 to 2010, he was the Quebec Managing Partner for McCarthy Tétrault while practicing as a litigator and advising companies on strategic issues. He has been involved in some of Canada's landmark cases and transactions. During his tenure as

President and CEO, McCarthy Tétrault was named the most innovative law firm in Canada and one of the most innovative in North America by the Financial Times. Canadian Business identified Mr. Blanchard amongst Canada's top 50 most powerful business leaders for 2016. In 2013, Mr. Blanchard was named among the 25 most influential lawyers in Canada by Canadian Lawyer Magazine, and Catalyst Canada awarded him the CEO Recognition Award for his leadership in diversity. In 2016, he was awarded the distinction of Advocatus Emeritus by the Quebec Bar Association.

Mr. Blanchard holds a Bachelor of Law (LL.B), from the Université de Montréal, a Master (LL.M) in Public International Law, from the London School of Economics and Political Science, a Master of Public Administration (MPA) and a Master of International Affairs (MIA), from the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. He was admitted to the Quebec Bar in 1992. Mr. Blanchard is married to Monique Ryan and they have two children, Laurent and Adrien.



**H.E. Mr. Daniel Okaija Okaiteye**

*Deputy Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations*

Mr. Daniel Okaija Okaiteye was born on 28th February 1969 in Accra in the Greater Accra Region of Ghana. Mr. Daniel O. Okaiteye was employed in April 1999 into the Foreign Service of Ghana. He has worked in various Bureaux (Departments) in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ghana, including the Human Resource and Administration, Protocol, Conferences and Multilaterals, Trade and Economic, Finance

and Accounts, among others.

Regarding his duty tours abroad, Mr. Okaiteye had served in Ghana's Diplomatic Mission in Berne, Switzerland, from 2004 to 2008, followed by Bamako, Mali, from 2010-2014 and since April 2017 he has been serving in Ghana's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York as the Deputy Permanent Representative, with special supervisory role over Conference Officers in the Mission and with particular responsibility to Security Council issues.

He Okaiteye holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geography and Political Science (1993) and Masters in International Affairs (2002) from the University of Ghana.

## Co-facilitators on the outcome of the 2019 ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development



**H.E. Ms. Mariangela Zappia**

*Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations*

Ms. Mariangela Zappia was appointed Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in August 2018. Prior to this appointment, Ms. Zappia was Diplomatic Adviser and G7-G20 Sherpa to the Prime Minister of Italy between 2016 and 2018. From 2014 to 2016, she served as Italy's Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Brussels, and from 2011 until 2014, as Head of the European Union delegation to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva.

Ms. Zappia was also Minister Plenipotentiary at Italy's Permanent Mission in Geneva between 2007 and 2011, and First Counsellor at its Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York from 2000 to 2003. She was the coordinator of major events under the Italian Presidency of the G8 in 2009, including on violence against women and women peace and security. She served as Counsellor in charge of media relations at the Press and Information Service in the Office of the Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Rome from 1994 to 1997.

Ms. Zappia holds a Master's degree in political science and international relations from the University of Florence, and also earned a post-graduate degree in diplomatic and international relations from the same institution.



**H.E. Mr. Lazarous Kapambwe**

*Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations*

Mr. Lazarous Kapambwe was appointed Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations in 2007. During his tenure, he served as President of the Economic and Social Council between 2011 and 2012. From 2012 until 2017, Mr. Kapambwe also served as Special Adviser for Economic Affairs to the Chairperson of the African Union Commission.

Mr. Kapambwe was Zambia's Ambassador to Ethiopia from 2003 to 2007. Prior to that, he served in several other capacities with his country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including Permanent Secretary from 2002 to 2003; Deputy Permanent Secretary responsible for Asia, Africa and the Middle East from 2000 to 2002; Director for Africa and the Organization of African Unity between 1996 and 2000; and Counsellor and Deputy Chief of Mission at Zambia's Embassy in Bonn from 1993 to 1996 and in the same capacity at the country's embassy in Washington, D.C., from 1988 to 1993. In 1987, he served in the Principal Cabinet Office as a speech writer for the Prime Minister.

Mr. Kapambwe has a post-graduate diploma in international relations from Nairobi University, Kenya, which he attended from 1985 to 1986, and received a certificate in contemporary American politics from New York University i