



## **GOOD GOVERNANCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE: TOWARDS AN INCLUSIVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA FOR THE AMERICAS**

Asunción, Paraguay June 3, 2014 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

### **1. H.E. Sheila Abed, Minister of Justice of Paraguay**



Sheila Abed has a law degree from the Universidad Nacional de Asunción and a Graduate Certificate in Development of Legislation from Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon. She also holds a Masters Degree in Environmental Law from Université de Limoges in France. Abed is currently finalizing a Doctorate Degree in Law at the Universidad de Buenos Aires. She was President of the International Union for Conservation of Nature's – IUCN, the largest international environmental organization – World Commission on Environmental Law from November 2004 until September 2012. In 2013 she was confirmed as a special envoy to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for Environmental Justice. She is also a member of the Executive Committee of the International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE). Finally, Abed is the former President of the Institute of Economics and Environmental Law (IDEA), an organization that she founded. Within her specialty, she has worked in the follow up to the Ibero-American Summits and the Organization of American States in relation to public participation and access to justice.

### **2. H.E. Jose Molinas Vega, Executive Secretary, Minister of Planning of Paraguay**



José Molinas has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst (1997). From 1998-2001, he taught development economics and macroeconomics at both undergraduate and graduate level at the Catholic University of Asunción (Paraguay), where he was also Academic Director of the Master's Program in Economics. From 2002 until he joined the World Bank in 2005, he was Director of Instituto de Desarrollo. His fields of research include social capital, rural development, the political economy of social service delivery, economics of education, poverty analysis, and applied macroeconomics. He has published several articles and book chapters on the determinants of success for peasant cooperatives, rural land markets, macroeconomics and poverty, the political economy of the policymaking process, and social capital. His publications have appeared in World Development, the Political



Science Journal, Economía y Sociedad, Coyuntura Economica, the ECLAC Desarrollo Productivo Series, and as book chapters published by Edward Elgar Press, EUDEBA, Mundi-Prensa, Editorial Alfaomega, and the IADB.

**3.The Honorable Raul Torres Krimser, President of the Supreme Court of Paraguay**



Dr. Torres Kirmser has a law degree from the Universidad Nacional de Asunción. He is also a Public Notary from the same university. He also holds a Doctorate in Law from the Universidad Nacional de Asunción, where he graduated Cum Laude. He holds the position in the National Law Commission, typist court of First Instance in of the 5<sup>th</sup> Civil Team, Officer Clerk of the Court of First Instance Criminal 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift, Clerk of the court of First Instance of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Shift, Judicial Clerk of the Supreme Court, Judge of First Instance in Commercial Matters, Member of the Court of Appeals in Civil and Commercial, 3<sup>rd</sup> Chamber, Representative of the Judiciary of the Ministry of Justice and Labor, Member of the Editorial Board of “Gaceta Judicial”, Member of the Editorial Board of “Correo Comercial” and Deputy Director of Panel No. 6 “De la Letra de Cambio. La Cuenta Corriente Mercantil”.

**4.Madam Sherry Tross, Executive Secretary for Integral Development, OAS**



Sherry Tross was confirmed as Executive Secretary for Integral Development at the Organization of American States (OAS) in February 2013. As head of the hemispheric Organization’s development programs, she manages a comprehensive portfolio of technical assistance and cooperation programs designed to build human and institutional capacity, strengthen competitiveness, and spur innovation and sustainable growth. She simultaneously serves as Director General of the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD). From 2010-2012, Ms. Tross directed the Summits of the Americas Secretariat, facilitating negotiations and supporting the triennial meeting of Heads of State and Government of 34 countries to develop joint action plans to address regional development, governance, and security concerns. Prior to that appointment, she was Chief of Staff and senior political advisor to the OAS Assistant Secretary General. Before joining the OAS, Ms. Tross served as Director of Business Development at the World



Trade Center Miami from 2003-2005. A founding Research Fellow for the University of Miami's Caribbean Program, she was subsequently appointed Program Director of the University of Miami's North-South research center implementing programs on trade, security and governance issues in the Americas. Ms. Tross has provided consulting services for government agencies and private companies and has been a speaker and commentator at public fora on a range of economic development and security topics.

### **5.H.E. Amalio de Marichalar, Count of Ripalda, Spain**



Amalio-Joaquín de Marichalar y Sáenz de Tejada. Count of Ripalda was born in Pamplona (Navarra) August 13, 1958. After attending high school at the P.P. Jesuitas de Burgos, he studied for several years Law and Political Science and Sociology in the Universidad Complutense of Madrid, where he earned a Master in Management of Agricultural Enterprises in the Instituto de Empresa of Madrid. Since his career covers various business fields, he has been a promoter of symbolic and pioneering projects in the history of Spanish insurance sector, like the combined life and casualty insurance for the members of the Armed Forces, as well as creator and promoter of the insurance for Peace and Humanitarian Missions for the Army, all of this with a pronounced social character. At the same time, he directs other activities from his professional practice in various sectors of the business world in the fields of international investment, foreign trade, real estate trade and innovation, as well with a pioneering spirit. In the social spectrum, he belongs to various institutions and organizations in the private sector. He is President of the Asociación Foro Soria 21 for Sustainable Development, where he works on various tasks on behalf of sustainable development. He attended as rapporteur on the proposal of the Earth Council, the Ministerial Preparatory Conference for the World Summit on Sustainable Development of the United Nations, held in Bali in 2002 and officially represented the County and the City of Soria, he attended as well as rapporteur to the World Summit on Sustainable Development of the United Nations, held in Johannesburg in 2002. He also attends and participates in various international conferences and summits such as the submission of the Environmental Code of Colombia, in Bogota, the event celebrated in Panama in October 2003 about Business Social



Responsibility organized by the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank, the Second Inter-Company Social Responsibility in Mexico in October 2004, or that of Urbino (Italy) on the Earth Charter in Amsterdam in November 2005, the International Conference of the Global Reporting Initiative GRI in October 2006 in Amsterdam, which involves a high level working group in the International Forum on Small and Medium Cities - Region ( Territory 21) held in La Rioja in November 2006 , the High Level Meeting of Ambassadors on Environment and Sustainable Development with Global Reporting Initiative on the role of governments and sustainability in Aldeaseñor , Soria, in January 2007 ; World Conservation Congress IUCN sessions within the Earth Charter in 2008; preparatory meetings of the Copenhagen Summit held in Geneva in 2009 ; High School Lisbon 21 Global Forum on Water , Energy and Sustainable Development, held in Porto in 2010; to Lisbon 21 World Forum on Water, Energy and Sustainable Development held in Lisbon in 2011; to the Rio + 20; Global Forum Porto 21 Cities and Sustainable Development in Porto in April of 2013 , etc. He is an editor and participant in conferences, symposiums and seminars related to the field of sustainable development , both in Spain and abroad he is running a permanent work analysis and dissemination of knowledge on various subjects related to this field, also organizing from the association president, Meetings, Conferences and International Forums newspapers that allow an open and ongoing debate creating awareness in favor of sustainable development , and creating channels to establish a plan of action.

**6. H.E. Manuel Pulgar Vidal, Minister of Environment and Chair of UNFCCC COPXX (Perú)**



Manuel Pulgar-Vidal is the Minister of State for Environment in Peru and a lawyer specializing in environmental law and policy. His former positions have included Executive Director, Peruvian Society for Environmental Law; President, Inter-American Association for Environmental Defense; President, Permanent Seminar on Agricultural Research; Director, National Fund for Natural Areas Protected by the State, PROFONANPE; and Alliance Director, Tropical Andes. Manuel teaches environmental law, natural resources management and mining, energy and environment, and is Programme Coordinator at Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. Manuel will be the host of COP20, as Peru



takes over the presidency of the largest global event on climate change. The negotiations will aim to reach an international binding agreement that can replace the Kyoto Protocol.

**7. Senator the Honourable Bhoendradatt Tewarie, Minister of Planning and Sustainable Development, (Trinidad & Tobago)**



Senator Dr. the Honourable Bhoendradatt Tewarie has served Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) and the Caribbean region in areas of public policy, public and private sector governance and education. He was the first Chairman of the Council for Competitiveness and Innovation in T&T and is a former Pro Vice Chancellor and Campus Principal of the University of the West Indies, St Augustine. As a Member of Parliament, he held the portfolio of Minister of Industry, Enterprise and Tourism, and was Leader of Government Business in the House of Representatives from 1986-91. He assumed his current position of Minister of Planning and Sustainable Development in May 2011.

**8. Dr. Carlos Castillo, Executive Secretary, Development and Social Inclusion Cabinet (Honduras)**

Lawyer, M Sc. Engineering Management, with a concentration in Business Continuity/Disaster Risk Reduction/Integral and Sustainable Development. Dr. Castillo is currently the Executive Secretary of the Development and Social Inclusion Cabinet since February 2014. From November 2013 to January 2014 he served as the Deputy Chief Executive for the Presidential Inauguration Commission. Also, in the past he has served as the Director of International Relations, Continuity of Government and Operations, Enterprise Risk Management and Head Advisor to the Minister, Second Secretary for the Honduran Mission to the Organization of American States, and Secretary General to COPECO.

**9. Senator the Honourable Maxine McClean, Minister of Foreign Affairs (Barbados)**



Senator, the Honourable Maxine McClean was invited to join the Cabinet of Prime Minister, the Honourable Mr. David Thompson, as a Minister in the Prime Minister’s Office in January 2008. On November 24, Senator McClean was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Foreign Trade. Senator McClean is a former Lecturer in the Department of Management Studies, University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, where she taught for seventeen and half years. She is a graduate of University of the West Indies - Cave Hill Campus, where she received Upper Second Class Honours in Public Administration in 1978. In 1979, she was awarded an OAS Fellowship to do graduate work at Ohio University, where she received the MBA in 1981 and the MA in International Affairs in 1982. She also received a Fulbright Fellowship to Louisiana State University in 1986. During her academic career, she taught several management courses at UWI within the Department of Management Studies, in the Executive MBA and Executive Development Programmes of the Centre for Management Development, Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity, (BIMAP) and Louisiana State University. These courses included Managerial Communications, Marketing, Personnel Management and Industrial Relations, Principles of Management, Strategic Management and Entrepreneurship. In 1999, Senator, Maxine McClean established her own consulting firm, Strategic Interventions Inc. As a Management Consultant, she has conducted in-house training for management and other employees of Goddards Enterprises Ltd., the Barbados National Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank and National Petroleum Corporation, and several small enterprises. She has been involved in the training and mentorship programmes of the Youth Entrepreneurship Scheme of the Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs and Culture, Barbados, and the Mentorship programme of the Youth Business Trust.

**10.The Honorable Antonio Herman Benjamin, Justice, High Court (Brazil)**





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Appointed Justice of the National High Court of Brazil in 2006 by President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, Professor Antonio Herman Benjamin was a career Assistant Attorney General of the State of São Paulo for over twenty years, where he headed the Environmental Protection Division for several years. Professor Benjamin was the founding President of both the Brazilian Consumer Law and Policy Institute and Law for a Green Planet Institute. He is a former President of the Brazilian Fulbright Alumni Association, a member of the UN Secretary General Legal Expert Groups on Crimes against the Environment and for many years a member of the Brazilian Environmental Council (CONAMA), first appointed by president Fernando Henrique Cardoso and later re-appointed by President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. At the international level, he served as co-president of INECE –The International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement. Currently, he is the chair of the Brazil-US Law Society and the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law. Justice Benjamin is a professor at the Catholic University of Brasília School of Law and a visiting professor of the University of Texas School of Law at Austin since 1994. He received his LL.B. from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, his LL.M. from the University of Illinois and his PhD from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul. He is the founder and emeritus editor-in-chief of the Brazilian Consumer Law Review and the Brazilian Environmental Law Review. He has co-drafted several major Brazilian statutes, including the 1990 Consumer Protection Code, the 1992 Anti-Corruption Act, the 1994 Competition Act, the 1998 Crimes Against the Environment Act, the 2012 Forest Code, the 2006 Forest Concession Act and the 2006 Atlantic Forest Act. Professor Benjamin has published over thirty books and articles in Brazil and abroad. During the 2012 Rio+20 Conference, he served as Secretary-General of the UNEP World Congress on Justice, Governance and Law for Environmental Sustainability.

#### **11. Dr. Juan Pablo Aristegui, Rapporteur, Environmental Tribunal (Chile)**

Has a Law Degree from the Universidad de Chile, a Masters in International Studies from the Universidad Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, Spain, and is a Doctorate candidate at the same university. He has been a Professor of International Law and Environmental Law at the Universidad Diego Portales and the



Universidad Adolfo Ibañez, as well as being a lecturer at the Universidad Pompeu Fabra in Spain. He is currently an associate investigator in the Law and Environmental Policy Program at the Universidad Diego Portales and works as a lawyer in the Office of International Affairs at the Ministry of Environment.

**12.H.E. Marco Vinicio Redondo Quirós, Representative, Legislative Assembly (Costa Rica)**

Marco Vinicio Redondo Quirós is a deputy from Cartago, serving in the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica for the 2014-2018 legislative session. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration and his training is concentrated in technical environmental management.

**13.H.E. Marcela Guerra, Senator and Representative of ParlAmericas (México)**



Ms. Guerra has a degree in business administration from the Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education (ITESM). She is currently President of the Mexican Senate's Foreign Affairs Committee for North America; Representative of Mexico for the North American sub-region and President of the Congress of the Union's delegation to ParlAmericas; and member of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Ms. Guerra was a Member of the Chamber of Deputies for the Federal Legislature LXI (2009-2012); Member of the Chamber of Deputies for the Federal Legislature LIX (2003-2006); Member of the Chamber of Deputies for the Legislature of the state of Nuevo Leon LXIX (2000-2003); and President of *Bienestar y Vida, A.C.* (Wellbeing and Life), an organization dedicated to serving vulnerable groups (1998-2000). She was founder and advisor to *Pacto Plural de Mujeres* (Plural Pact for Women), 1998-2000, and general secretary of the National Confederation of Popular Organizations (CNOP) for the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) of Nuevo Leon (2000-2003). She is the author of a book titled *Manual and Guide for Families Living with Disabilities* (1999).

**14. The Honorable Antonio Fretes, Justice, Supreme Court of Paraguay\***

Dr. Fretes is a member of the Constitutional Tribunal, responsible



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for the regions of Paraguari, Misiones and Guairá.

**15. Madam Elizabeth Mrema, Director of the United Nations Environment Program Division on Environmental Law and Conventions**



Madam Mrema has worked with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for almost two decades. Until January 2013 since July 2009, she was the Executive Secretary of the UNEP/Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), Acting Executive Secretary of the UNEP/ASCOBANS and Interim Executive Secretary of the UNEP/Gorilla Agreement all based in Bonn, Germany. Since then (January 2013), she has been the Deputy Director and Coordinator, Operations and Programme Delivery Branch in the Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI). Before joining UNEP, Elizabeth worked with the Tanzania Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MOF&IC) and left as a Counsellor/Senior Legal Counsel. During her time with the MOF&IC, she was also a lecturer in Public International Law and Conference Diplomacy at Tanzania's Centre for Foreign Relations and Diplomacy. Currently, she is a visiting lecturer at the University of Nairobi - Law School and the International Development Law Organization (IDLO). A lawyer and career diplomat with LLB (Hons) from the University of Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, LLM from Dalhousie University, Canada and Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations and Diplomacy (Summa Cum Laude) from the Centre of Foreign Relations and Diplomacy in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania. She has published several articles related to international environmental law, compliance and enforcement of conventions and developed, among others, a number of multilateral environmental agreements negotiation tools, handbooks and guidelines currently used by UNEP in its capacity building programmes.

**16. H.E. Ambassador Albert Ramdin, Assistant Secretary General of the OAS**





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Ambassador Albert Ramdin has a long and distinguished career in international relations, diplomacy and government negotiations in the Americas. A citizen of Suriname, Ambassador Ramdin began his career in the private sector and was soon appointed advisor on foreign trade by his government. In 1997, he became Suriname's Ambassador to the Organization of American States in Washington, D.C. Following his tenure as Ambassador, he was appointed Assistant Secretary General of CARICOM. After serving CARICOM from 1999-2001, he became senior political adviser of then OAS Secretary General Cesar Gaviria for three years. Ambassador Ramdin was elected Assistant Secretary General of the OAS on June 7, 2005. He was unanimously re-elected to serve a second five-year term on March 24, 2010. As Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of American States, Ambassador Ramdin pledged to ensure the fair and equal representation of all 34 countries represented at the hemispheric organization. Having responsibility for the guidance of the Permanent Council of the OAS, Assistant Secretary General Ramdin has managed the discussion of sensitive issues among countries by providing key advice, recommendations, proposals and solutions to potential conflicts. Assistant Secretary General Ramdin has also been instrumental in managing election-related conflicts in several countries, and has served as Chief of Mission to election observation teams. Assistant Secretary General Ramdin has advocated for social and economic opportunities for youth as Chair of the OAS Interdepartmental Working Group on Youth. He has been influential in providing support to countries via OAS programs to strengthen sustainable development, increase productivity and innovation of small and medium-sized enterprises. He secured the upgrade of national identity systems to allow citizens to obtain basic identity documents. Ambassador Ramdin spearheaded efforts for the creation of the OAS Private Sector Forum to promote dialogue between the public and private sectors of the Western Hemisphere, with a view to improving the conditions for investment, productivity, job creation, social cohesion, and to ensure the effective delivery of the benefits of democracy to the people of the Americas. In 2011, Assistant Secretary General Ramdin delivered on his pledge to Heads of Government from Central America and the Caribbean to strengthen trade relations between the two regions, in light of the global economic slowdown. For the first time in

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2011, and subsequently in 2012 and 2013, he brought together top CEOs and Trade Ministers from Central America and the Caribbean to discuss opportunities and challenges to business between both regions, resulting in the establishment of annual meetings on policy issues, business, trade and investment. As a result, top business executives have agreed on measures to fully realize the potential for the development of Pan-Caribbean businesses. Assistant Secretary General Ramdin has also ensured that Haiti remains a high priority on the OAS Agenda. He has provided active support and assistance to the people of Haiti and consecutive Haitian governments for over a decade and has led negotiations with Haiti's leaders on behalf of the international community in times of conflict. In addition to directly supporting the democratic processes on the ground in Haiti, Ambassador Ramdin also spearheaded the establishment of the Haiti Task Force within the OAS in Washington, which coordinates all Haiti related activities and programs. ASG Ramdin was also instrumental in re-establishing the Group of Friends of Haiti in Washington, which brings together member states, permanent observers, international and financial institutions, to discuss developments and update programs. In the area of security, Assistant Secretary Ramdin has worked closely with the United Nations and experts from the wider security community to build political awareness of an innovative model that would not only satisfy sub-regional security priorities, but also build capacity to combat the spread of biological, chemical and nuclear weapons to terrorist organizations. By linking a broader set of international security and development issues, he has raised the profile of the OAS within the global security community. Assistant Secretary General Ramdin's work in the Hemisphere has also served to revitalize OAS relations with other international and regional organizations, including the European Union, United Nations, CARICOM, SICA and others. By bringing together regional and international organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector from different continents, he has facilitated dialogue to address emerging common needs and interests. He has advocated for more inclusive forms of government across the Americas and has promoted sharing the organization's long-standing experience in peace-building and democratization with other regions of the world. Within the OAS, Assistant Secretary General Ramdin advocated the journey of becoming "green."



The organization became more energy efficient, and ultimately reduced paper consumption by over 95 percent. Having served in different capacities in the Hemisphere for most of his life, Assistant Secretary General Ramdin bases his actions on People, Peace and Prosperity. He believes secure, peaceful, and healthy democracies are enabled by sound economies. Because of this, he has worked hard to deliver programs and provide opportunities to countries across the hemisphere, with the hopes of generating employment, and ultimately improving the quality of life for citizens of all countries.

**17. Elizabeth (BETH) Hogan, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator**



Elizabeth (Beth) Hogan is the senior deputy assistant administrator for USAID’s Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean. Previously, she served as the director of the Agency’s Haiti Task Team, overseeing reconstruction efforts after the 2010 earthquake. Hogan has also served with USAID in Washington, D.C., as executive director of the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid, director of South American affairs, and director of the development education grants program. Hogan is a member of the senior foreign service with over 25 years of development experience in Latin America (Guatemala and Jamaica), Africa (Cote d’Ivoire and South Africa) and Asia (India). She has also served as the senior development counselor to the ambassador of the U.S. Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva. Hogan holds a Master’s Degree in international public policy from Johns Hopkins University’s School of Advanced International Studies and a Master’s in national security policy from the National War College.