

16+ Forum Annual Showcase, Sierra Leone

Panelist Speaker Bios

H.E. Babatunde O. Ajisomo

Special Representative of the President, The Economic Community of West African States Commission, Liberia

Prior to his current appointment as Special Representative of the President of ECOWAS Commission to Liberia, Ambassador Ajisomo served on the Nigerian Delegation to ECOWAS, as well as to several international organizations. In 2012, he worked as the Deputy Head of the Embassy of Nigeria in Thailand and was accredited to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific as Alternate Permanent Representative of Nigeria. Before then, he was the Charge d'Affaires for the Nigerian Embassy in Poland.

With several years of experience in international politics, he has participated in various negotiation sessions as a member of the ECOWAS High Level Delegation to all ECOWAS member states, including the African Union, the European Union, Japan, India and China. Ambassador Ajisomo holds an MA in Diplomacy and International Relations from the University of Lagos, Nigeria.

Mr. Donny Ardyanto

Programme Advisor, Tifa Foundation, Indonesia

Mr. Ardyanto has been with the Tifa Foundation in Indonesia since March 2017. Previously, he worked at the Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation (YLBHI) as Director of Research and Development. Focusing on research and policy advocacy, specifically regarding legal assistance and access to justice in Indonesia, Mr. Ardyanto also represented YLBHI as Co-Chair of the National Working Group to Achieve Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals in Indonesia. Throughout his career, Mr. Ardyanto has worked with several organizations, including Indonesian Corruption Watch, Berantas, Imparsial, and P2D. Mr. Ardyanto holds an MA in Social Development Management from the University of Indonesia.

Mr. Robert Buluma

Manager of Population and Social Statistics, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, Kenya

Mr. Buluma has served with the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics for over 29 years, collecting and analyzing data, and writing and disseminating reports. He is currently a manager and head of the Governance, Peace and Security statistics session, which he founded in 2001. Prior to his current position, he worked as the Principal Economist/Statistician for the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development of Kenya.

He is also the chair for Governance, Peace and Security statistics of the Specialised Technical Group and is a member of the Technical Advisory Group on International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (TAG-ICCS) and a focal point officer for Kenya on Crime Trend Statistics (CTS) which are spearheaded by United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Mr. Buluma holds three degrees: a BSc in Maths from the University of Nairobi, a Bachelor of Philosophy (Economics) from the University of Nairobi, and an MA in Economic Policy Management from Makerere University Institute of Economics, Uganda. He is currently pursuing Ph.D in Development studies at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology in Kenya.

Mr. Omar Castañeda Solares

Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the United Nations

Since 2009, Mr. Castañeda-Solares has been appointed as Minister Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the United Nations. During his term, he has worked in the 5th Committee of the General Assembly (Administrative and Budgetary). He was also in charge of press issues and during Guatemala's membership of the Security Council, 2012-2013, he has been the expert of the Great Lakes Region and Central Africa. Mr. Castañeda Solares has been vice-chair of the 5th Committee during the 70 session of the General Assembly and was promoted to Deputy Permanent Representative of Guatemala in 2016. Mr. Castañeda-Solares has joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala and has held different

positions in the Directorate of Economic Policy and in the Directorate General of Protocol since 2005.

Mr. Castaneda-Solares holds a Master Degree in Diplomacy and International Relations from the Complutense University of Madrid and a degree in International Relations from the University of San Carlos, Guatemala.

Ms. Clare Connellan

Partner, White & Case, LLP, United Kingdom

Ms. Connellan is a Partner based in White & Case's London office and works with the International Arbitration and Construction and Engineering Groups. Clare advises companies, state entities, contractors, owners and operators on the resolution of complex disputes, with a particular focus on disputes within the construction and engineering industry. Ms. Connellan has been involved in arbitrations under the ICC, LCIA and CRCICA rules, as well as ad hoc arbitrations, including under the UNCITRAL and LMAA rules. Ms. Connellan also advises on alternative dispute resolution, including mediation, and is a CEDR-accredited mediator. Ms. Connellan also leads the firm's Business & Human Rights Interest Group and is consulted in relation to issues such as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the Modern Slavery Act, as well as business and human rights training.

Ms. Stacey Cram

Policy Director, Namati

Ms. Stacey Cram has advised and lobbied on national and policy development across a range of thematic issues. She joined Namati from Restless Development where she was the Head of Global Policy and Practice, leading on their Post 2015 work. Previously, she supported national civil society organizations, governments, and multilateral organizations to develop education, youth, information and gender policies and to create citizen feedback mechanisms. Ms. Cram also worked for DFID's Education Programme in Nigeria, supporting stakeholders to strengthen accountability mechanisms to deliver quality, inclusive education and advance civil society organizations' capacities in research and advocacy. Ms. Cram has also worked as a consultant for USAID, CORE and the London 2012 Olympic Games.

She holds an MA in International Relations from the University of St. Andrews and an MSc in Global Governance and Public Policy from Birkbeck College.

H.E. Leoni Cuelenaere

Ambassador, Embassy of the Netherlands to Bangladesh

Ms. Cuelenaere has extensive experience serving in the Dutch diplomatic sector. She currently serves as Ambassador of the Netherlands to Bangladesh and has held this position since 2015. Prior to her appointment, she served as Ambassador of the Netherlands to Rwanda, Yemen and Sri Lanka and served as the Deputy Head of Mission in the Dutch Embassy to Zimbabwe.

Ms. Shellac Davies

Executive Director, Sierra Leone Association of Non-Governmental Associations (SLANGO), Sierra Leone

Ms. Shellac Davies has served as the Executive Director of SLANGO since 2007. Prior to this, Ms. Davies was the Regional Director of FIND, with responsibility for Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia. She has also served as the Country Director for Action for Children in Conflict (AFC) and as a Program Officer with the Council of Churches in Sierra Leone. Ms. Davies has also played a vital role in the New Deal since its inception in 2013 and is now the Substantive Focal Point for the New Deal Country Team in Sierra Leone.

Ms. Sandra Elena

Coordinator of the Open Justice Program, Ministry of Justice, Argentina

Ms. Elena serves as a rule of law and open government expert with extensive experience in Latin America and other regions of the world. Since 1990, she has been involved in public sector reform in the following areas: public accountability, transparency, justice sector management, and open government. She has participated in long-term USAID, World Bank and IDB funded projects in Argentina, Mexico, Bolivia, Peru, Haiti and many other nations. Ms. Elena is currently the Director of the Justice Program at CIPPEC, a leading think tank in Argentina. In this capacity, she conducts research and provides technical assistance to public institutions on open government, open data and public sector reform.

Ms. Santa Falasca

Head of Office in Brussels and the Hague, International Center for Transitional Justice

Ms. Falasca joined the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ) in 2009. As Head of Office in Brussels and The Hague, she is responsible for defining and implementing targeted policy initiatives with European Union institutions, the Dutch and other selected European governments, and international organizations. She has more than 15 years' of experience working in the field of external policies and cooperation programs with EU institutions, INGOs and IOs.

Before joining the ICTJ, Ms. Falasca served as Project Manager for the European Commission, monitoring EU funded projects in the field of human rights, rule of law and justice reforms. Previously, she worked as an Advocacy and Campaign Officer for the Coalition for International Criminal Court (CICC), during which time she was responsible for promoting the ICC towards the EU institutions and for coordinating CICC's campaign in Central and Eastern Europe.

Ms. Falasca holds an MA in Advanced European Studies from the College of Europe in Brugge.

Mr. Hugo M. Fernandes

Executive Director, Centro Nacional Chega!, Timor-Leste

Mr. Fernandes has been the Executive Director of Centro Nacional Chega! Since 2017. Prior to this, he was Director of Public Policy and Institutional Strengthening and Team Leader of Support for Good Public Policy (SGPP) Program at the Asia Foundation in Timor-Leste. From 2002-2005, Mr. Fernandes was Coordinator for Truth Seeking Unit and Co, as well as the Managing editor for Timor-Leste's Reception, Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (CAVR) final report. Mr. Fernandes also served as the Research Team Leader and Co-Editor for the Timor-Leste and Indonesia Truth and Friendship Commission's final report and is the Co-Founder of South East Asian Journalists Union (SEAJU). He is currently the Commissioner of the Timor-Leste Press Council.

Mr. Fernandes holds a BSc in Forestry from Gadjah Mada University and a Masters in Public Administration and Public Policy from Universidade da Paz in Dili.

Professor David Francis

Chief Minister, Sierra Leone

Before his appointment as Chief Minister of the Government of Sierra Leone, Professor David Francis was the Chair of the Governance Transition Team. He was accredited as the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for the purposes of the Commonwealth heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)/Commonwealth summit in London. Professor Francis was the Head of Department of Peace Studies and Director of the John and Elnora Ferguson Centre for African Studies (JEFICAS) at the University of Bradford, United Kingdom. He currently serves as Commissioner of the UK Commonwealth Scholarship Commission and holds the UNESCO Chair of African Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Bradford.

Professor Francis holds a PhD from the University of Southampton, United Kingdom and has facilitated the introduction and implementation of 16 undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes in Peace and Conflict Research, as well as Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution at African universities in 10 countries, including in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ethiopia and Botswana.

Mr. Bonian Golmohammadi

Secretary-General of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA)

Mr. Golmohammadi was elected Secretary-General of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) in August 2009. Since then, WFUNA has substantially grown in its programmatic activities, partnerships and organizational structure - including the establishment of new offices in Seoul, Brussels, and New Delhi.

WFUNA now has programs on: Global Citizenship Education, WFUNA International Model UN, SDG 16+, Youth Peace and Security, Human Rights youth projects and SDG Entrepreneurship. A special emphasis has been placed upon increasing transparency and openness within the UN, exemplified by WFUNA organizing the first ever public Security Council election debates.

Previously, Mr. Golmohammadi served as Secretary-General of the United Nations Association (UNA) of Sweden for eight years. During his tenure, UNA-Sweden increased its budget from \$1 to \$5 million, and expanded its staff from 10 to 30 employees, launched new programmatic initiatives and bilateral international project in more than ten countries. Mr. Golmohammadi also guided UNA-Sweden to increase its marketing and public relations capacity. As a result, UNA-Sweden was awarded a Gold Medal at the Cannes Lions International Advertising Festival 2009 for True Evidence of War, a media campaign to support war victims of Georgia. UNA Sweden won a gold medal at the EuroBest Advertising Awards in 2009 as well as several PR, advertising and marketing awards in Sweden.

He has served or is serving on various government advisory boards, UN entities, and civil society organizations.

H.E. Kaha Imnadze

Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations

Ambassador Imnadze was appointed Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations in July 2013 after having spent 10 years in the private sector as a Political Risk Assessment and Investment Consultant, as well as a Consultant in international, regional and national security issues. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Imnadze also served as a Board Member of the Georgian Political Science Association and the Program Director of the Georgian Institute for Russian Studies. Ambassador Imnadze has served as Assistant to the President and Spokesman/Press Secretary for the President of Georgia, Deputy Secretary of the National Security Council of Georgia, and Deputy Chief of the Mission of Georgia to NATO while simultaneously serving as Political Counsellor of the Georgian Embassy to the Kingdom of Belgium, Kingdom of the Netherlands and Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

Ambassador Imnadze is a graduate of the Tbilisi State University with an MA in English Language and Literature.

Ms. Nafisatu Jalloh

Senior Gender Advisor, Irish Aid, Sierra Leone

Nafisatu Jalloh is the Senior Gender Advisor to the Irish Aid programme at the Embassy of Ireland in Sierra Leone. Nafisatu completed her initial studies in Social Sciences at Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone, followed by a Master of Arts in Women's Studies from York University in Toronto, Canada. Nafisatu has more than fifteen years' experience working on women and girls' issues with UN agencies and non-governmental organizations in Sierra Leone. Nafisatu has been leading Irish Aid's gender programme for more than two years now, aiming to protect and empower women and adolescent girls, tackle sexual and gender-based violence, respond to high rates of teenage pregnancy, and ensure that women and their perspectives are represented in decision making.

Mr. Guleid Ahmed Jama

Co-Founder and Chairperson, Human Rights Center, Somaliland

Mr. Guleid Ahmed Jama specializes in criminal defense and is the Co-Founder and Chairperson of Human Rights Center, a leading human rights advocacy organization based in Somaliland. The Center monitors human rights violations in Somaliland and assists victims of human rights abuses. Mr. Jama is also a practicing lawyer and holds an MA in International Relations and Diplomacy. He is internationally recognized as a frontline defender of human rights.

H.E. Dr. Alie Kabba

Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Sierra Leone

Dr. Kabba has over 20 years of professional experience in public policy analysis and administration, management and evaluation, strategic planning and development, and program design and implementation. Prior to his appointment as Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in May 2018, he served as Executive Director of the Chicago-based United African Organization and Public Service Administrator in the US, establishing a viable model for promoting social and economic justice, civic participation and empowerment of African immigrants and refugees in the US. Dr. Kabba also served as the Co-Chairman of the Golden Door Coalition, an organization committed to the resettlement of refugees with dignity and necessary support.

Dr. Kabba is known for his service and activism in uniting African immigrant communities and addressing common issues with a strategic focus on strengthening the organizational leadership capacity of the community.

Dr. Kabba obtained his undergraduate degree from the University of Ghana at Legon and his graduate studies at the University of Nigeria at Nsuka.

Mr. Francis Ben Kaifala

Chief, Anti-Corruption Commission, Sierra Leone

Francis Ben Kaifala was appointed Chief of the Anti-Corruption Commission in June 2018. Prior to his appointment, he was the Senior/Managing partner in the Firm Kaifala, Kanneh & Co. and was a Lecturer in the Law Department at Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone. Mr. Kaifala is a household name at the Sierra Leone Bar and has served as the Public Relations Officer and Spokesman of the Sierra Leone Bar Association in 2012-2013. He has years of experience in Corporate/Commercial Litigation and practice in the Superior Courts of Judicature of Sierra Leone. He has appeared in several high-profile cases in the High Court, the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court.

Mr. Kaifala received his Masters of Law in Law and Economics from Queen Mary University of London and from The University of Texas at Austin in Comparative Constitutional and Administrative Law and International Rights.

H.E. Dr. Francis Kai-Kai

Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone to the United Nations

Dr. Francis Kai-Kai was appointed Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations in August 2018. Prior to his appointment, Dr. Kai-Kai spent 12 years as a senior United Nations staff member. From January to March of this year, he was chief of Civil Affairs/Peace Consolidation Services in the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL). He also served as Field Crisis Adviser/Field Operation Manager to the United Nations Mission for Emergency Ebola Response (UNMEER) in 2015 and as Chief of United Nations Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Section in 2007. Dr. Kai-Kai has also served as Director of Development Assistance Coordination in the Office of the Vice-President in Sierra Leone.

Dr. Kai-Kai earned his BA from the University of Sierra Leone and holds a doctorate degree and master of science degree in agricultural economics from universities in Germany and the United Kingdom, respectively.

H.E. Kalthoum Kennou

Vice President, Court of Cassation, Tunisia

H.E. Kennou serves as a Judge of the Tunisian Cassation Court and is Commissioner for the International Commission of Jurists. She previously served as an investigating Judge at the Tribunal of Tozeur in Tunisia, an investigating Judge at the Tribunal of Kairouan, and a Judge at the Court of Appeal of Tunis. She has been President of the Tunisian Judges' Association since 2011 and served as its Secretary-General in 2005. H.E. Kennou is a strong advocate in support of the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary in Tunisia.

Ms. Maya Katsitadze

Deputy Director, International Center on Conflict and Negotiation, Georgia

Ms. Katsitadze is the Deputy Director of the International Center of Conflict and Negotiation (ICCN) and has been with ICCN since 2006. She is a trainer and mentor of distance learning for communication, organizational and personal development, monitoring and evaluation. Since 2011, she has been a member of the International Network Program Evaluation (IPEN). Since 2008, Ms. Katsitadze has actively participated in Georgian-Abkhazian, Georgian-Ossetian and Georgian-Russian public diplomacy dialogue meetings. She has also worked on strengthening the regions of Georgia by transferring modern knowledge and skills, thereby creating favorable conditions for their development. In 2015, she founded the grassroots CBO Regional Development Fund, and in 2017, Ms. Katsitadze was elected as local government MP of the Abmbrolauri municipality in the Racha region of Georgia.

H.E. Jacqueline Konan

Deputy Secretary-General, the Mano River Union, Sierra Leone

H.E. Jacqueline Konan was appointed Deputy Secretary-General in Charge of Peace and Security of the Mano River Union in 2017, after being nominated for this position by the Government of Ivory Coast. Prior to this she worked as a Technical

Consultant for the Minister of African Integration before becoming President of the Organization Committee and Cabinet Director.

H.E. Konan also served as Chief of Staff for the Ministries of Higher Education and Scientific Research in Ivory Coast from 2005 to 2007. H.E. Konan is a member of the Federation for World Peace, for which she serves as Peace Ambassador.

Mr. Herbert M'cleod

Country Director, International Growth Centre, Sierra Leone

Mr. M'cleod is the Country Director for the International Growth Centre (IGC), an organization which aims to promote sustainable growth in developing nations by providing demand-led policy advice based on frontier research. Mr. M'cleod has been an advisor to the Office of the President and Vice President of Sierra Leone in its transition from post-conflict to normal development and has led efforts to ensure the application of human rights in the operations of the extractive industry. Throughout his 35 year career, Mr. M'cleod has been involved in development work in fragile countries for UNDP in Eritrea, Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Ms. Michala Mackay

CEO & Registrar, Corporate Affairs Commission

Michala Mackay has been the CEO and Executive Registrar of the Corporate Affairs Commission since 2013, ensuring the implementation of the Companies Act of 2009. Prior to her current position, Ms. Mackay has served as Director of Legal and Licensing Affairs of the National Telecommunications Commission in Sierra Leone. Ms. Mackay received her MBA from the University of Cumbria.

Ms. Isata Mahoi

National Coordinator, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding, Sierra Leone

Ms. Mahoi has been the National Network Coordinator for the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) since April 2017. WANEP is a leading regional peacebuilding organization founded as a response to civil wars that plagued West Africa in the 1990s. The organization has succeeded in establishing strong national networks in every Member State of ECOWAS, with over 500 member organizations across West Africa. WANEP-SL incorporates women's groups and religious institutions committed to encourage, facilitate and mobilize local initiatives for peacebuilding and conflict resolution, as well as the promotion of gender justice. Previously, Ms. Mahoi has served as a Lecturer in Sustainable Development Economics at the University of Makeni and as the Ebola Coordinator for Addax Bioenergy Ltd.

Ms. Mahoi holds a MA in Development Economics and International Cooperation from the University of Rome and a PhD in Economic Policy from the Catholic University of Milan, Italy.

Dr. Gayle Martin

Country Coordinator, World Bank, Sierra Leone

Dr. Martin is the World Bank's Country Manager for Sierra Leone and has over 25 years of experience in international development. Dr. Martin has served in the World Bank in a variety of settings: in low- and middle- income countries as well as fragile contexts, and in lending and non-lending roles. In addition to being based in the World Bank's headquarters, she has lived in three of the World Bank's six regions: East Asia and Pacific Region, the South Asia Region, the Africa Region. Amongst other qualifications, she holds a doctoral degree in microeconomics from Harvard University.

Ms. Mary O'Neill

Head, Irish Aid, Sierra Leone

Having worked initially as a school teacher and principal in Ireland, Ms. O'Neill began her career as an international development professional in 1993, working in Mozambique between until 1996 on programmes to re-establish essential

education services following the Rome Peace Accord. Since then, Ms. O'Neill has led development and humanitarian programmes in Cambodia, Laos, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia and South Sudan. Prior to joining the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in 2017, Ms. O'Neill served as Concern Worldwide Country Director in Ethiopia. She took up her post as Head of Cooperation at the Embassy of Ireland in Sierra Leone in early 2018.

Ms. O'Neill holds a BA from the Mary Immaculate College of Education and an MA from the University of Manchester.

Mr. Marcel Stoessel

Senior Policy Advisor on Fragility, Conflict, Violence, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Mr. Stoessel is a Senior Policy Advisor on Fragility, Conflict, and Violence at the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). He leads the global policy dialogue and global financial partnerships on these issues with multilateral development institutions, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank. Prior to his current work at SDC HQ, Mr. Stoessel was based in fragile- and conflict-affected countries since 2001. He has held a variety of positions within different organizations, including that of Deputy Director and Acting Director of Cooperation for SDC in Mali and in the Great Lakes; Head of Sub-Office of UN OCHA in Mogadishu; Country Director of Oxfam in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; as well as Delegate, Head of Sub-Delegation and Deputy Head of Delegation in Haiti, Afghanistan, Chad, Liberia, and Sierra Leone (2001 – 2002) for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Mr. Stoessel holds an MA in International Relations from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva.

Ms. Sofia Ramyar

Executive Director, Afghans for Progressive Thinking

Ms. Ramyar leads the largest youth-led and student-focused professional organization in Afghanistan, Afghans for Progressive Thinking (APT). In this capacity, she has worked with over 20,000 students from 35 public and private universities across six provinces towards a just, peaceful, and inclusive society through the promotion of youth empowerment and youth participation. Ms. Ramyar has engaged in discussions and activities to further the goals of the UN Security Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security and has lobbied for the UN Security Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace, and Security until it was passed in 2015. She has not only impacted her own society but also involved her organization in regional and global conversations and efforts for change. In 2018, she was selected as the only Afghan Youth Representative to the UN who spoke about the role of youth in peace and security in the UN Security Council debate in September 2018.

Ms. Ramyar holds a BA from Kabul University and has attended leadership development and peacebuilding seminars and workshops in the US, the Netherlands, India, Turkey, and Sri Lanka.

H.E. Cheick Sako

Minister of Justice, Ministry of Justice, Guinea

Mr. Sako was appointed Minister of Justice by President Alpha Condé in January 2018. Prior to his appointment, he worked for 22 years at his own legal practice in Montpellier, where he presided over cases from Niger, Armenia and the ICC. He was a visiting professor at the faculty of law at the University of Montpellier.

Mr. Sunil Saigal

UN Resident Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative, Sierra Leone

Mr. Saigal was appointed Principal Coordinator of the UNDP's Response to the Ebola Outbreak in September 2014. Prior to this position, he served as Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Regional Director for the Regional Bureau for the Arab States (RBAS). Mr. Saigal operated as Resident Coordinator/Resident Representative in Djibouti, having also served as Officer-in-Charge in Chad and in Guinea. He also served as RC/RR/HC and Director of UNIC in Burundi. Previously, he was the Director of the Office of Legal and Procurement Support at BoM; Chief of the Policy and Control Unit at the Bureau for Financial and Administrative Services; Deputy Director of the Division for Resources Mobilization at the Bureau for Resources and External Affairs.

Mr. Saigal holds a candidatus juris from the University of Copenhagen in Denmark.

Professor Joel Samuels

Director, Rule of Law Collaborative, University of South Carolina, United States

Professor Samuels has authored articles on international boundary disputes, maritime piracy and domestic civil procedure and he is a lead co-author of one of the premier casebooks on international law, *Transnational Law*. As Director of the Rule of Law Collaborative, he oversees programming focused on rule of law development across the globe. In addition, he regularly lectures to U.S. Government officials from the State Department, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Department of Justice and the Department of Defense on rule of law development abroad. Professor Samuels has also worked at the World Bank in both Washington, DC and in Zimbabwe, drafting the Initiative for Capacity Building in Africa.

Professor Joel Samuels received his A.B., in politics from Princeton University and his J.D. from the University of Michigan.

Professor Mr. Osman Sankoh

Statistician-General, Statistics Sierra Leone

Prior to his appointment as Statistician-General in March 2018, Professor Sankoh was the Executive Director of INDEPTH Network, an international research outfit which specializes in health data management. He has also worked as a Biostatistician and Epidemiologist at the Institute of Public Health at the University of Heidelberg Medical School in Germany. During that time, he collaborated with the Nouna Health research Centre in Burkina Faso.

Professor Sankoh is a member of the Advisory Board of the International Journal of Epidemiology and has been a consultant on population and health issues for the World Bank, the World Health Organization and the African Census Analysis Project at the University of Pennsylvania in the US.

Mr. Marcel Sauer

Senior Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Czech Republic

Mr. Sauer has been with the Department of Multilateral Economic Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic since 2017 and has served under the Department of American States and Department of Cultural Relations. He has also served as the Commercial Counsellor at the Czech Embassy in Tokyo, the Director of the Czech Cultural Institute in Vienna and the Third Secretary to the Czech Embassy in Washington, DC.

H.E. Dr. Priscilla Schwartz

Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, Ministry of Justice, Sierra Leone

Dr. Schwartz is the first female Attorney-General and Minister of Justice in Sierra Leone, and is the only female lawyer with a Doctor of Law degree. Dr. Schwartz served as state Counsel and Special Assistant to the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, at the Law Officers' Department, Sierra Leone and was subsequently assigned to the Vice President. She was key in setting up the UN Special Court for Sierra Leone, which involved coordinating the Security Council visit, negotiating and drafting the statutes and agreements, and their subsequent implementation.

Prior to her appointment as Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, Dr. Schwartz worked as Senior Lecturer and the Director of the Energy and Natural Resources Law Programme at the Royal Docks Schools of Business and Law in the United Kingdom. She has made distinctive contributions to the advancement of legal knowledge through authorship of high quality and widely cited refereed publications. She has also applied subject expertise in 'Sustainability Law' and developed e-learning courses on the Right to Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Dr. David Sengeh

Director of Science, Technology and Innovation, Office of the President, Sierra Leone

Dr. Sengeh was appointed Chief Innovation Officer in the Government of Sierra Leone earlier this year. Dr. Sengeh is also the Research Manager at IBM Research Africa in Nairobi, and co-founded Global Minimum Inc., of which he is President of the Board. Born and raised in Sierra Leone, Dr. Sengeh received his PhD at the MIT Media Lab, where his research in the Biomechatronics Group focused on the design of comfortable prosthetic sockets and wearable interfaces.

Dr. Fatou Taqi

President, 50-50 Group of Sierra Leone

Dr. Taqi is Director of Academic & Career Advisory & Counselling Services at the University of Sierra Leone. She also co-ordinates the University ICT Team. Dr. Taqi is also a lecturer at the Department of Language Studies & the Institute for Gender Research & Documentation at Fourah Bay College. Fatou is currently the President of the 50/50 Group in Sierra Leone. She is passionate about women's empowerment and gender equity.

H.E. Nabeela Tunis

Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Sierra Leone

Mrs. Tunis was appointed Minister of Planning and Economic Development of Sierra Leone in May 2018. She is also the Co Chair of the International Dialogue and Chair of the g7+ group of fragile states. Prior to her appointment, Minister Tunis served as the Programme Manager and Co-Founder of the Women's Network for Environmental Sustainability, promoting gender equality and inclusivity at national and international fora. During her work at the United Nations Peacekeeping Mission, she managed and contributed to successful intra and inter party political mediation and the formation of Cross Political Party Associations.

Minister Tunis holds a BA in Political Science and English and an MA in Rural Development.

Ms. Lucy Turner

Coordinator, Global Alliance for Reporting Progress on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies

Ms. Turner is Coordinator of the Global Alliance for Reporting Progress on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies. She has supported the development of policy and practice on peacebuilding in Sierra Leone, Nepal, Timor Leste and Palestine. She played a key role in developing several important reform initiatives, including the Global Focal Point arrangement and the first International Dialogues on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding ('New Deal'). Lucy has a special interest in South-North learning, the individual causes of violence and reform, and the role of the arts in driving social change. Ms. Turner has worked in San Quentin Prison (California), is a Non-Executive Director of a Scottish digital empowerment project, and runs an arts-based project to promote unity in diversity.

Ms. Turner holds degrees in Politics and Philosophy from the University of York, and in International Studies and Diplomacy from SOAS.

Mr. Habib Ur Rehman Mayar

Deputy General Secretary, g7+ Secretariat

Mr. Mayar is Deputy General Secretary of the g7+ Secretariat based in Dili, Timor-Leste. He has served in the Secretariat since 2013 and serves as lead on policy and advocacy for better engagement in fragile situations. He advises the Chair of g7+ on matters concerning peacebuilding and statebuilding at the WB/IMF, UN, IDPS (International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding), and other related international forums to provide g7+ perspective on the related issues. Prior to that, Mr. Mayar was Head of the Aid Coordination department in the Ministry of Finance of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, which served as the Government's focal point for donors to ensure coordination of development aid for effective implementation.

Having worked in the area of aid management since 2008, Mr. Mayar was involved in discussions regarding monitoring and evaluation of the Paris Declaration, the Accra Agenda for Action and the Busan Partnership, and participated in the negotiations on the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States.

Like many Afghans who led their countries during the Russian occupation in the 1980s, Mr. Mayar grew up in a refugee camp in Pakistan. He holds an MA in Business Administration from the Baluchistan University of IT and Management Sciences.

H.E. Tom Vens

Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to Sierra Leone

Mr. Tom Vens has served as the Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to Sierra Leone since August 2017. Previously, he served as First Counsellor of the Head of Section Political, Press and Information of the EU Delegation to

Somalia, Tanzania and the East African Community, as well as Counsellor of the Head of Economic Section of the European Commission to Uganda. He was the First Secretary of the Head of Economic Section for the EU in Ethiopia, Djibouti and IGAD.

Ambassador Vens holds Masters from the University of Ghent, Belgium, University of Valencia, Spain and the University of Leuven, Belgium.

Mr. Michael James Warren

Security and Justice Expert, Cordaid, the Netherlands

Mr. Warren works as a Security and Justice Expert at the Dutch NGO Cordaid, collaborating with Cordaid's country teams and partners to tackle complex security and justice challenges in fragile and conflict-affected contexts. Mr. Warren has also served as Programme Manager at PAX, focusing on the interlinkages between local governance and conflict prevention in northern Kosovo. He worked as a Strategy Advisor at United Nations Habitat, highlighting urban violence reduction and the role of cities in building peace and legitimate governance.

During his career, Mr. Warren was the Director for Project Development and Fundraising at Nonviolent Peaceforce and a Programme Specialist for Security and Rule of Law at UNDP Kosovo. He has supported and advised local and national officials, international policymakers, and civil society actors in more than a dozen countries.

Mr. Warren holds an MSc in the Political Economy of Violence, Conflict and Development from SOAS.

H.E. Guy Warrington

British High Commissioner to Sierra Leone, United Kingdom

Mr. Warrington has been the British High Commissioner to Sierra Leone since August 2016 and is responsible for the direction and work of the High Commission and its Deputy High Commissions and/or Consulates, which includes political work, trade and investment, press and cultural relations and visa and consular services. Previously, Mr. Warrington served as the Director of English Regions for the UK Trade and Investment Department, Her Majesty's Consul General to the United Arab Emirates, and Minister Counsellor of the UK Mission to the Republic of Korea.

Since beginning his career at the Foreign Commonwealth Office in 1986, Mr. Warrington has served as the Head of Levant Section in the Near East and North Africa Department, Head of Humanitarian and War Crimes Section of the United Nations Department, and the Deputy Head of the Drugs and International Crime Department.

Mr. Warrington holds degrees from The London School of Economics and SOAS.

H.E. Ingrid Wetterqvist

Ambassador, Embassy of Sweden to Liberia

Ambassador Wetterqvist has been the Swedish Ambassador to Liberia since 2017. Prior to her current position, she served as the Minister Counsellor of Development for the Permanent Representation of Sweden to the European Union and as Senior Adviser for Democracy Support for the European External Action Service. She has also served as the Director for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden and as Director of IDEA.

Ambassador Wetterqvist holds a BA from Uppsala University.

Ms. Nikki de Zwaan

Policy Advisor and Programme Manager, Cordaid, the Netherlands

Ms. de Zwaan is an expert on security provision and access to justice at Cordaid. Before joining Cordaid in 2016, she worked at non-governmental organisations such as CARE and Pax, providing program support and technical assistance to country offices and partners in countries such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Burundi, the DRC and South Sudan. She has conducted field research in Uganda, the DRC, Pakistan and Colombia and facilitated action research in South Sudan, Somalia and Burundi. Ms. de Zwaan also has experience in developing toolkits and manuals and translating research findings into practical guidelines.