
Speakers' Biographies

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023: Special Edition — a High-Level Event Call to Action

Monday, 10 July 2023 | 1:30-2:30 p.m. EDT

Conference Room 4

Moderator



Ms. Pamela Falk, CBS News correspondent

Ms. Pamela Falk is a CBS News correspondent covering the United Nations from its headquarters in New York City. Her reporting can be seen and heard across CBS News broadcasts and platforms, including CBS News Radio and CBSNews.com. Falk brings a wealth of experience to covering the United Nations beat, also having served as President of the U.N. Correspondents Association from 2012 to 2014.

Ms. Falk has reported across the globe on stories of international impact including the displacement effects of climate change, the toll of the COVID-19 pandemic, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, nuclear non-proliferation, famine and crisis related to refugees and global trade. Her multi-platform reporting has taken audiences into the inner workings of several U.N. agencies including the World Health Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency, and the World Food Program. Her live coverage from U.N. Headquarters in New York and from the CBS News broadcast centers in New York and Washington factored in some of the biggest international news stories, including the death of Osama bin Laden.

Ms. Falk was formerly a staff director to the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee of the House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Relations. She is a permanent member of the Council on Foreign Relations, where she once worked at Foreign Affairs magazine early in her career. Ms. Falk has taught International Law and International Organizations at Columbia University and is the author/editor of six books on international relations. She received her J.D. from Columbia Law School and her Ph.D. in International Relations from New York University.

Video remarks



H.E. Ms. Mia Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados

Ms. Mia Mottley is the 8th Prime Minister of Barbados. She became the first woman to occupy the high office, following General Elections on May 24, 2018, in which she led the Barbados Labour Party to an emphatic victory, winning all 30 seats in the House of Assembly by the largest margin ever seen in the electoral history of the country.

An Attorney-at-Law and Queen’s Counsel, Prime Minister Mottley has been active in the political life of Barbados for almost three decades. First elected in 1994 she is presently serving her sixth term as Member of Parliament for the constituency of St. Michael North East.

Between 1994 and 2008 Ms. Mottley served in the Cabinet of three successive Administrations, first as Minister of Education and Culture; then as Attorney-General and Minister of Home Affairs; and then as Minister of Economic Affairs. In 2003 she was appointed Deputy Prime Minister. Prime Minister Mottley currently also holds the portfolios of Minister of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment. Since becoming Prime Minister, Ms. Mottley has served as the Chair of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) between January 1st and June 30th, 2020. Notwithstanding that, Ms. Mottley, as Prime Minister of Barbados, serves as the Lead Head of Government within CARICOM, bearing responsibility for the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME).

Prime Minister Mottley also serves as Co-Chair of the Americas Cruise Tourism Task Force for the Caribbean, Mexico, Central and South America markets. Prime Minister Mottley is also Co-Chair of the Development Committee (DC) of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (November 2020 to October 2021). Prime Minister Mottley is also Co-Chair of the World Health Organization’s Global Leaders Group on Antimicrobial Resistance.



H.E. Mr. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada

Mr. Justin Trudeau (born December 25, 1971) is Canada's 23rd Prime Minister. Mr. Trudeau's vision of Canada is a country where everyone has a real and fair chance to succeed. His experiences as a teacher, father, leader, and advocate for youth have shaped his dedication to Canadians – and his commitment to make Canada a place where everyone has the opportunities they need to thrive.

The oldest of three boys, Mr. Trudeau grew up with the profound influence of his father, Pierre Elliott Trudeau, and his mother, Margaret Trudeau. He was raised speaking both French and English and has family roots in both Eastern and Western Canada. Mr. Trudeau studied literature at McGill University, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in 1994. He went on to complete the University of British Columbia's education program, and spent several years teaching French, math, and other subjects in Vancouver.

Before entering politics, Mr. Trudeau served as the Chair of Katimavik, on the board for the Canadian Avalanche Foundation, and as an advocate for young people and the environment. As a speaker at events and conferences around the country, he encouraged young people to engage with the issues important to them and participate as active citizens. These experiences made it increasingly clear to him that the issues young Canadians care about – education, the environment, and their generation's economic prospects – needed a stronger voice.

In 2007, he built a community-based, grassroots campaign to win the Liberal Party nomination in the Montréal riding of Papineau. He was elected in 2008, and re-elected in 2011, 2015, and 2019. Mr. Trudeau was elected Leader of the Liberal Party in April 2013. On October 19, 2015, Mr. Trudeau led his party to victory, winning a majority government with seats in every province and territory across the country. He was sworn in on November 4, 2015. On October 21, 2019, Mr. Trudeau led the Liberal Party to re-election, earning a second mandate from Canadians.

Panelists



H.E. Dr. Isma Yatun, Head of the Board of the National Auditor of Indonesia

On April 21, 2022, the Board Members of the Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia (BPK) appointed Dr. Isma Yatun for the succession of leadership in BPK, making a history for being the first female to sit on the highest leadership role in BPK.

Dr. Yatun was born in Palembang on October 12, 1965. She holds a Bachelor degree in Chemical Engineering (Sriwijaya University), a Master's degree in Chemical Engineering with a major in Gas Management (Indonesia University), and a Ph.D in Accounting (Padjajaran University). Prior to this, she was a BPK Board Member since 2017, after serving as a member of the Parliament for 13 years.



H.E. Mr. Jaap Slootmaker, Vice Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Mr. Jaap Slootmaker has been Director-General of Water & Soil Affairs at the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management since September 2020. The Directorate-General for Water and Soil Affairs is responsible for policy development in the fields of water policy and flood risk management; climate adaptation; water projects in specific areas; and water and soil issues. He worked for the municipality of Zoetermeer, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Rijkswaterstaat. He has held various positions at Rijkswaterstaat, in recent years he has been deputy Director-General. Mr. Slootmaker studied Public Administration in Leiden and Operational Auditing at the Erasmus University.



Mr. Navid Hanif, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, UN DESA

Mr. Navid Hanif is the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). He is also the UN sous Sherpa to the G20 finance and main tracks.

He joined UN DESA in 2001. He was Senior Policy Adviser in the Division for Sustainable Development and member of the team for the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in 2002. He served as the Chief of Policy Coordination

Branch and later Director in the office for Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) support and the Director for Financing for Sustainable Development Office. He was the first head of the DESA Strategic Planning Unit established in 2010.

He was Principal Officer in the Office of the United Nations Secretary-General, Vice-Chair of the UN High Level Committee on Programming (HLCP) and Co-Coordinator of the UN team on repositioning of the UN Development System that led to major reforms in 2018.

He has contributed several articles on financing and investing in the SDGs in various journals and reports.

Mr. Hanif holds an MIA, International Political Economy, Columbia University (NY), and an M.A., English Literature, Government College University (Lahore).



Dr. Mohammed Ali Loutfy, Director for Capacity-Building and Advocacy, G3ICT

Dr. Mohammed Ali Loutfy is the Global Initiative for Inclusive Information and Communication Technologies director for capacity building and advocacy, where he manages G3ICT's Digital Accessibility Right Education (DARE) Academy. He currently co-chairs the Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities on the Sustainable Development Goals at the United Nations.

Dr. Loutfy has held several leadership positions and worked as a consultant for a broad array of organizations, including: National Democratic Institute, Bank Information Center, Disabled People's International, Arab Forum for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and World Blind Union, where he conducted research, developed advocacy toolkits, and led country based assessments around issues of accessible elections, inclusive budgets, World Bank operations and disability inclusion.

In Fall 2019, Mohammed earned his Ph.D. in Anthropology from the American University of Washington, DC. In 2009, as a Fulbright Scholar, he earned his master's degree in International Development from the same university



Mr. Alexander J. Diaz, Senior Manager, AI for Social Good and Crisis Response and Humanitarian Aid, Google.org

Alexander J. Diaz leads AI for Social Good and Crisis Response & Humanitarian Aid at Google.org, Google’s philanthropic arm. Through this role, Mr. Diaz manages Google’s philanthropic efforts to empower nonprofits to develop and deploy high-impact AI applications that address critical global challenges and ensure the benefits of AI reach marginalized populations. He also manages Google’s efforts in response to global crises, such as natural disasters and public health emergencies, providing innovative nonprofits on the frontlines with funding and volunteers to help communities better prepare, respond, and recover from crises. As a Rhodes Scholar, Mr. Diaz received a Master’s of Public Policy and a Master’s of Financial Economics at the University of Oxford. He graduated from Harvard College Phi Beta Kappa with highest honors in psychology. He has been named to Forbes’ List of 30 Under 30 for Law & Policy. The son of Dominican and Cuban immigrants, he was raised in Union City, NJ.