



Multiple Pathways to Sustainable Development

Tuesday 21 July 2015, 14:00-16:30

International Environment House II
7-9 ch. de Balexert, Châtelaine (Geneva)

Biographies

SHENG FULAI

Head of the Research and Partnerships Unit, Green Economy Initiative

Fulai is the head of the Research and Partnerships Unit of ETB based in Geneva. His areas of expertise include integrated public policymaking, international payments for ecosystem services, and integrated economic and environmental accounting.

He designed and managed the implementation of UNEP's Green Economy Initiative launched in 2008. He is the coordinator of the UNEP report "Towards a green economy" and the UN inter-agency report "Working towards a balanced, inclusive green economy", both published in late 2011.

Fulai holds a Masters degree in economics from the Shanghai University of Finance and Economics (1985). Prior to joining UNEP in 2005, for over twenty years, he had served the Chinese Ministry of Finance, the World Bank, the World Wide Fund for Nature, and Conservation International. His most recent publication is a guidance manual on green economy policy assessment.

MONIKA LINN

Principal Advisor Office of the Executive Secretary, UNECE

Monika Linn is Head of the Sustainable Development and Gender Unit in the Office of the Executive Secretary of UNECE. Her Unit leads and coordinates UNECE's contributions to the post-2015 process, as well as for other cross-sectoral themes in the development field, like Financing for Development and Gender.

Monika has more than 20 years of experience in multilateral sustainable development work. Before joining the United Nations in 2001, she worked for 10 years in the International Affairs Division of the Swiss Environment Agency and was involved in a wide range of multilateral meetings, conferences and



negotiation processes on sustainable development, including the Rio Earth Summit in 1992.

Previous assignments in the UN include work in UNDESA, as a member of the Secretariat for the Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, inter-agency cooperation as the Director of the Environmental Management Group in UNEP, and Deputy Director of the Environment Division in UNECE.

LI HAISHENG

Director General, Department of International Cooperation, China Ministry of Environmental Protection

Li Haisheng is the Director General of the Department of International Cooperation of Ministry of Environmental Protection of China and Deputy Secretary General of China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development. Previously, Mr. Li served the Ministry of Environmental Protection as the Director and Deputy Party Secretary of the Ministry's Projects Evaluation Center and the deputy director of Department of Environmental Impact Assessment. Mr. Li's early career path also includes Chinese Society for Environmental Sciences, China Society for Hydropower Engineering and Nankai University. Mr. Li acquired his Bachelor degree in Chemistry from Jilin University in China, Master degree in oceanology from University of Hawaii in the United States, and PhD in chemical engineering from Beijing University of Chemical Technology in China.

H.E. THANI THONGPHAKDI

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva

Mr. Thongphakdi has been Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva since 2012. He is a career foreign service officer, having joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1987.

Mr. Thongphakdi has represented the Kingdom in many international meetings. During 2014-2015, he was elected Co-Chair of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Preparatory Committee for the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction as well as Co-Chair of the World Conference's Main Committee.

Prior to his posting in Geneva, Mr. Thongphakdi was Director-General of the Department of Information and Spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, having been Deputy Director-General and Deputy Spokesman before that.

He has also served as Chief of Staff to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Director for North America, Head of the Policy and Planning Division's Policy Section and Liaison Officer and Assistant Permanent Representative of Thailand to UN ESCAP in Bangkok.



During 2001-2004, he was posted to Washington, DC, as Counsellor and then Minister-Counsellor responsible for political and economic affairs.

From 1995-2000, Mr. Thongphakdi was seconded to the Secretariat of the Prime Minister, working as foreign affairs co-ordinator and interpreter to the Prime Minister.

In recognition of his services, he has been bestowed the Knight Grand Cordon (Special Class) of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand and the Knight Grand Cross (First Class) of the Most Exalted Order of the White Elephant.

Mr. Thongphakdi is a graduate of the Australian National University in Canberra, where he received a Combined Bachelor of Economics/Bachelor of Science in 1985. He continued his studies at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, receiving a Master of Science in Foreign Service with Honours in International Business Diplomacy in 1987.

NCUMISA P. NOTUTELA

Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of South Africa to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations, Geneva

Ncumisa Notutela is Deputy Permanent Representative at the South African Permanent Mission to the United Nations Office in Geneva.

In 1995, Ms Notutela was among the first representatives of the new South African Government in the new Department of Foreign Affairs, now Department of International Relations and Cooperation, working with Southern African Development Community (SADC) issues. In early 1997, she was deployed to the South African Embassy and Permanent Mission to the UN in Vienna covering the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and Crime Prevention. In January 2000, she was deployed to the SA Permanent Mission to the UN in New York to cover disarmament and non-proliferation issues. Subsequently, she was appointed the Director for UN Political Affairs in Pretoria and led the team for South Africa's two terms of the UN Security Council membership (2007/2008 and 2011/2012).

MARÍA NATALIA PACHECO RODRÍGUEZ

Second Secretary at the Permanent Mission of the Plurinational State of Bolivia in Geneva

Natalia Pacheco works at the Permanent Mission of the Plurinational State of Bolivia in Geneva since 2013, where she is in charge of environmental issues, including disaster risk reduction, as well as UNCTAD, and ILO, and has recently joined the climate change cluster.

Natalia finished in 2012 a Master in Development Studies at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva. Her thesis focused on the position of Bolivia on Climate Change Negotiations.

Natalia finished in 2010 a Master in International Relations, International Law and Diplomacy at the Universidad Católica in La Paz. She previously worked for the Ministry of Legal Defense of the State of Bolivia.