

Biographies of Speakers

High-Level Dialogue 1

Keynote speaker

Ms. Malini Mehra, Chief Executive Officer of GLOBE International



Malini Mehra is CEO of GLOBE International, a cross-party network of parliamentarians committed to leadership on sustainable development, climate change and DRR. Over a 30-year international career she has led campaigns for Friends of the Earth Intl and Oxfam; founded award-winning non-profits; led for the UK government on sustainable development partnerships; advised the UN Secretary-General on UN reform, served on numerous advisory boards including UN agencies and corporates such as Unilever and BHP Billiton. At present, she is a Commissioner to the Mayor of London and serves on numerous non-profit boards including China Dialogue and EcoPeace Middle East. A keen swimmer and triathlete, Malini's current global campaign, Teach A Girl

To Swim, highlights coordinated action on drowning prevention, DRR, climate change and girls' empowerment. She has degrees from Smith College (USA) and the Institute of Development Studies (Sussex) specialising in gender, development and governance.

Opening remarks

Ms. Kirsi Madi, Director, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



Ms. Kirsi Madi has over 30 years of experience in the fields of international development, humanitarian action, external relations, partnerships, governance, resource mobilization, inter-agency coordination, intergovernmental processes and organizational development and change. Ms. Madi's career in the United Nations started in 1991 when she joined the UNICEF Office of Emergency Programmes. She has since served as the Chief of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Secretariat in the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board, UNICEF Deputy Regional Director for the Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and Chief of National Committee Relations in the UNICEF Private Fundraising and Partnerships Division. In May 2016, Ms. Madi was appointed as the Director of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), based in Geneva. In this role, she oversees the strategic vision and direction of the organization, and is responsible for the overall management of the organization. She initiated and led a significant organizational change process after taking up her position.

Panellists

H.E. Mr. Enkhtuvshin Ulziisaikhan, Deputy Prime Minister, Mongolia



Educational background:

1976 Completed the secondary school of Murun city, Khuvsgul aimag
1980 Graduated from the National University of Mongolia with profession of a history teacher
1989 Graduated from the Academy of Social Sciences by the Central Bureau of the Communist Party of the USSR.

Work experience:

1980-1990 Assistant researcher, Senior researcher, The Institute of Social Sciences
The Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Party /former Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party/
1990-1995 Parliamentary commentator, Division head and Responsible secretary of "Ardiin Erkh" newspaper
1995-1996 Director of the Secretariat, The Mongolian Radio and Television
1996-2005 Secretary of the Mongolian People's Party
1996-1997 Chief Editor of "Unen" newspaper, Chairman of Ulaanbaatar branch of MPP
2000-2004 Member of the Parliament of Mongolia
2000-2004 Member of the Cabinet of Mongolia,
Minister of Mongolia, Head of the Cabinet's Secretariat
2006-2007 Member of the Cabinet of Mongolia,
Minister for Education, Culture and Science of Mongolia
2006-2008 Member of the Parliament of Mongolia
2008-2012 Member of the Parliament of Mongolia
Chairman of the Standing Committee for State Structure at the Parliament of Mongolia /2008-2010/
Chairman of the majority caucus of MPP at the Parliament of Mongolia /2010-2012/
2012-2016 Member of the Parliament of Mongolia
2012-2013 Chairman of the Mongolian People's Party
Since 2016 Member of the Parliament of Mongolia
Since October 18, 2017 Member of the Cabinet of Mongolia, Deputy Prime Minister of Mongolia

H.E. Mr. Feliks Tsolakyan, Minister of Emergency Situations, Armenia



H.E. Mr. Feliks Tsolakyan is the current Minister of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Armenia. Being qualified as a historian, Mr. Tsolakyan graduated from the Higher School of the State Security Committee (SSC) in Moscow, Russia, and passed a special training by SSC in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Since 1980 Mr. Tsolakyan occupied various positions in the Committee of the State Security of Armenia and since 1993 he directed Departments of National Security in various regions of the country. Head of the Control Service of the President of Republic of Armenia since 1999, and the Deputy Director of the National Security Service adjunct to the government since 2007, Mr. Tsolakyan was appointed to the position of the Governor of the Region of Shirak in 2013, dealing closely with the challenges of a region having suffered severely from the devastating earthquake that had struck the country in 1988. In 2017-2018 Mr. Tsolakyan became Member of the National Assembly and on October 4, 2018 he was appointed as the Minister of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Armenia.

His Excellency Mr. Edoardo Rixi, Deputy Minister of Transport and Infrastructure, Italy



Elected to the Italian Chamber of Deputies in March 2018 Parliamentary elections, in the Liguria constituency, he currently holds the position of Deputy Minister of Infrastructure and Transport.

From 2015 to 2018 he was Councilor for Economic Development, Ports and Logistics of the Liguria Region, a position he left following his election to the Chamber of Deputies.

Already a Deputy in the XVI legislature, he resigned after being elected Councilor of the Liguria Region in 2010, holding the position of Group leader of the Lega Party.

Regional secretary of the Lega Party in Liguria since 2015, former Deputy Secretary of Matteo Salvini, he was Municipal Councilor of Genoa for two terms, in which he held the position of Group leader.

His Excellency Mr. Walid Doudech, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations Office at Geneva and specialized institutions in Switzerland, Tunisia



Ambassador Walid Doudech was appointed Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva in October 2014. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1989 and has previously served as Assistant to the Ambassador of Tunisia to the African Union in Addis Ababa (2003-2008), Ambassador of Tunisia to Sudan (2011-2013). He held various functions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs including Head of Division of the Department of International Organizations in 2001, Director of Legal Affairs in 2013 and Chef de Cabinet of the Minister of Foreign Affairs in 2014.

Ambassador Doudech also was invited as lecturer at the Diplomatic institute from January to April 2011 and from December 2013 to January 2014, Speaker at the National Defense Institute of Tunis in November 2013 and lecturer at the War College in Tunis in January 2014.

Since his nomination as Ambassador Permanent Representative of Tunisia in Geneva he was promoted to the Grade of Minister Plenipotentiary Extraordinary (2016), has been President of the African Group twice (3 months in 2016/3 months in 2018), President of the Arab Group also twice (3 months in 2015/ 3 Months in 2018), Chairperson of the Committee of Regional Trade Agreements in WTO in 2017, President of the Committee of Development and Intellectual Property in WIPO in 2017 and President of the Conference of Disarmament in 2018. Ambassador DOUDECH has a diploma of advanced studies in political science (Doctoral 3rd Cycle) and master degree in international law. He was born in Hammam- Lif, Tunisia, on 31 December 1961, is married and father of two children.

Mr. Eduardo José Gonzales Angulo, Director General, National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD), Colombia



Mr. Eduardo José Gonzales Angulo is the Director General of the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management (UNGRD). He is a Civil Engineer by profession, has a Master's degree in Sustainable Development with an emphasis on Disaster Prevention and Attention, as well as he has studies in Defense and National Security, Senior Management, Total Quality Management and in Disaster Development and Attention Models.

He served as Director of Disaster Prevention and Attention – DPAD for more than 7 years between 1999 and 2006 depending on the Ministry of the Interior and Justice in Colombia. He was the Director of the Special Risk Reduction Committee of the Association of Caribbean States in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, and Mayor in Charge of Popayán city -where he was born- during 14 periods between 1992-1994; Head of the Urban and Rural Reconstruction Division of the Autonomous Regional Corporation of Cauca, Secretary of Municipal Public Works and Secretary of Municipal Planning of Popayán, as well as President of the Andean Committee for the Prevention and Attention of Disasters between 2002 and 2003; and Promoter and Manager of the Master's Degree in Risk Management at Universidad del Valle, Tulane USA University, 2005 - 2008.

Moderator

Ms. Beatrice Marshall



Beatrice Marshall is a guest speaker at forums on issues ranging from Africa's Look East policies, China-Africa partnerships, Africa's post-colonial development, diplomacy and the media, and women in leadership.

Beatrice Marshall is a global News Anchor for China's international news organization, China Global Television Network; (CGTN) based at the network's Africa headquarters in Nairobi. She anchors "Africa Live", a daily News program that gives viewers a deeper perspective of the news and views of Africa. Beatrice is also the host of "Talk Africa"– the channel's flagship weekly talk show providing global viewers with an insider's perspective of the political and economic affairs shaping the African continent. Beatrice has interviewed 18 sitting African Heads of State as well as China's Premier Li Keqiang during his four nation African tour in 2014. She has conducted interviews with numerous leading African personalities, decision-makers & thought-leaders, including former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, the former African Union Commission Chair Nkosasana Dlamini-Zuma, former African Development Bank President Donald Kaberuka among others.

Ms Marshall joined CGTN News with a wealth of regional and international expertise of over 15 years in journalism, covering major events across Africa. She is also a regular contributor to global events, among them, moderating panels annually at the World Economic Forum (WEF) on Africa and the Africa CEO Forum in Geneva. She also moderated an African Ministerial panel at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 22) in Marrakesh, UNCTAD 14 in Nairobi, The UN World Urban Forum in Colombia (WUF 7), TICAD V1 (Tokyo International Conference on African Development) in Nairobi and the New York Forum on Africa among others. Beatrice has covered numerous high level events including the annual African Union Heads of State summits since 2012, China's one belt one road summit (2017) in Beijing and was the lead anchor for CGTN for the 2013 BRICS Summit in South Africa

Beatrice Marshall speaks four languages and holds a Masters Degree in Mass Communication from the University of Leicester (UK).