



Private Sector Day

Opening

13:30 - 14:00, 14 May 2019

CICG, Room 7/8

Chair

Ms Kirsi Madi, Director, UN 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 (UNDRR), 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.

Speakers

Ms Semya Ayoubi, Chief Economist, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

Ms. Semya Ayoubi has been serving as a Chief Economist for the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs since November 2018. She provides advice to the directorate of the SDC and reports directly to its

Director. SDC is part of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA). Prior to this position, Mrs. Ayoubi was appointed by the Foreign Minister and Head of FDFA, as Deputy Secretary General. In this position, she also acted as head of the Division of affairs of the Federal Council (Swiss Government) and the Parliament, which she had joined in mid-2012 as a referent (advisor). From mid-2012 to October 2018, she continuously performed the function as a referent for the Head of FDFA for all aspects regarding Swiss international cooperation deployed by SDC. From April to November 2017, she acted as Secretary General ad interim in order to ensure a smooth transition in the change of Foreign Minister that took place in this period.

Mrs Ayoubi achieved a Master Degree in Political Economics and Political Science from the University of Berne in 1994 and a Master Degree in Executive Master of Business Administration FH from Kalaidos University of Applied Sciences in Zurich in 2011.

Mrs. Ayoubi has acted since 2005 as a private lecturer at the University of Berne and at the University of Applied Sciences in Business Administration (HWZ) Zurich in postgraduate Master courses in the field of health economics and policy.

Ms Sandra Wu, Board Member, UN Global Compact

Sandra Wu is the Chairperson and CEO of Kokusai Kogyo since 2013, and Co-Founder and Director of Japan Asia Group, of which Kokusai Kogyo is a wholly-owned subsidiary, since 1998. Sandra serves as member of the UN Global Compact Board.

She is board member of UNISDR Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies (ARISE), was Chair of UNISDR's private sector stakeholder group from 2013 to 2015, and was named DRR Champion at the UN Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2015.

She is a steering board member of the Future of Urban Development & Services Initiative, a Governor of the Infrastructure and Urban Development (I&U) Industry Group, a member of Disaster Resource Partnership and the Alliance of Climate CEO Leaders, of the World Economic Forum. With the Forum, she has served as member of Global Agenda Council (GAC) on Disaster Risk Management 2012 and GAC on Infrastructure 2013, advisory board member for Global Risk Report 2016 and 2017, and Co-Chair of I&U Industry Group in 2017. She is a Trustee of Shizenkan Graduate School of Leadership and Innovation.

Ms. Wu is a graduate from the Department of Chinese Literature, National Taiwan University and the Advanced Management Program, Harvard Business School.

Mr. Dale Sands, Chair, UNDRR Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Communities (ARISE)

Mr. Sands is Chair, United Nations ARISE Network - United States and Co-Chair United Nations ARISE Global Board working with Ms. Mami Mizutori, Special Representative to UN Secretary General. ARISE is a private sector organization focused on the Sendai Framework disaster risk reduction goals. He is a contributing author to the Fourth National Climate Assessment Report: Climate Change Impacts, Risks and Adaptation in the United States.

Mr. Sands has served as Vice Chair, United Nations' Private Sector Advisory Group for International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (2013 – 2015) and was a Board member from 2011 to 2015. While Vice Chair, UNISDR Private Sector membership grew to 100 companies/42 countries. With IBM, he developed the first Disaster Resilience Scorecard based on the UN's Ten Essential for Disaster Risk Reduction-an innovative tool to assess preparedness of communities to respond and recover from natural disasters. The Scorecard received international acclaim including the Notre Dame Climate Adaptation Index 2015 Prize.

Mr. Sands is a frequently invited speaker to international climate and environmental conferences. He has over 40 years of environmental experience, including authoring 50 technical publications and presentations. Additionally, Mr. Sands is the elected Mayor of The Village of Deer Park, Illinois (2017-2021). Mr. Sands earned a B.S. in Chemistry (Central Michigan University), a M.S. in Environmental Science (University of Michigan) and a M.B.A. (California State University East Bay).