

## INSTITUTIONAL SPEAKERS

### INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND



#### **Jihad AZOUR**

*Director of the Middle East and Central Asia Department*

Mr. Jihad Azour is the Director of the Middle East and Central Asia Department at the International Monetary Fund where he oversees the Fund's work in the Middle East, North Africa, Central Asia and Caucasus. Mr. Azour served as Lebanon's Finance Minister in 2005-08, during which time he coordinated the implementation of important reforms, including modernizing the country's tax and customs systems. Before and since his time as finance minister, he held a wide range of positions in the private sector, including McKinsey and Booz and Co. where he was a Vice-President and Senior Executive Advisor. Prior to joining the IMF in March 2017, he was a Managing Partner at investment firm Inventis Partners. Mr. Azour holds a PhD in International Finance and a post-graduate degree in International Economics and Finance, both from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris. He also did research on emerging economies and their integration into the global economy as a post-doctoral fellow at Harvard. Mr. Azour has published several books and articles on economic and financial issues and taught extensively.



#### **Franck BOUSQUET**

*Deputy Director of Engagement with Fragile and Conflict-Affected States*


Franck Bousquet is the deputy director coordinating engagement with fragile and conflict-affected states (FCS) at the IMF. Franck led the preparation of the IMF FCS Strategy approved by the Board in March 2022. Prior to joining the IMF, he was the senior director of the World Bank's Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group. Franck led the development of the Bank's first Strategy for Fragility, Conflict and

Violence. In this role, he mobilized expertise and supported teams across the Bank to deliver on the ground in collaboration with humanitarian-development-peace partners, including the implementation of the \$25 billion International Development Association financing package for the poorest countries. Franck has several years of leadership experience in working on fragile and conflict affected states, including significant work on resilience and reconstruction issues such as the World Bank's response to the Syrian refugee crisis. He led an international effort, through the set-up of the Global Concessional Financing Facility, to bridge the gap in humanitarian and development assistance by providing concessional financing to middle-income countries facing refugee crises and providing a Global Public Good. Franck previously held roles in the public and private sectors focused on water, transport, urban, social development, finance and capital markets. He holds an MBA with a specialization in finance from Columbia Business School and a graduate diploma in engineering from the National Engineering School of Public Works in France.




**Pritha MITRA**  
*Division Chief of Strategy, Policy and Review  
Department*

Pritha Mitra, Division Chief in the IMF's Strategy, Policy, and Review Department, IMF. Her division, Climate and Development Policies, oversees operational climate policy issues—including the Resilience and Sustainability Trust (RST)—coordinates climate and economic development work across the IMF, and supports engagement with international organizations. Previously, Ms. Mitra has been IMF mission chief for the Republic of Congo and Malawi and has worked on a wide range of IMF surveillance and program cases spanning Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe, including large emerging markets such as Turkey and Ukraine. In addition to climate issues, she has

	<p>led analytical work on food security, social and equity issues, natural resource shocks, and structural policies underlying economic growth. Before joining the IMF, Ms. Mitra worked in transfer pricing consulting. She holds a M.A. from the University of Toronto and a Ph.D. in economics from Columbia University in New York.</p>
	<p><b>Monique NEWIAK</b> <i>Deputy Chief of Inclusion and Gender Unit</i></p> <p>Monique Newiak is the Deputy Chief of the IMF’s Inclusion and Gender Unit, in the IMF’s Strategy, Policy, and Review Department, IMF. She joined the division after her assignment as the IMF’s Resident Representative in Sierra Leone (September 2019–March 2023). While working on a wide range of sub-Saharan African countries over the past decade at the IMF, she has been a key contributor to the IMF’s analytical and operational agenda on inclusive growth, including as a co-editor of the books <i>Women, Work and Economic Growth—Leveling the Playing Field</i> (2017) and <i>Good Governance in Sub-Saharan Africa—Opportunities and Lessons</i> (2022), and the just launched book on <i>Gender Equality and Economic Development in Sub-Saharan Africa</i> (2024). She holds a PhD in Economics from Ludwig-Maximilian’s University of Munich. Her research has been published in journals, such as <i>European Economic Review</i>, <i>Canadian Journal of Economics</i>, and <i>Oxford Review of Economic Policy</i>.</p>
	<p><b>Ceyla PAZARBASIOGLU</b> <i>Director of the Strategy, Policy, and Review Department</i></p> <p>Ceyla Pazarbasioglu is Director of the Strategy, Policy, and Review Department (SPR) of the IMF. In this capacity, she leads the work on the IMF’s strategic direction and the design, implementation, and evaluation of Fund policies. She also oversees</p>

the IMF's interactions with international bodies, such as the G20 and United Nations. Prior to her current position, Ms. Pazarbasioglu served at the World Bank Group (WBG) from 2015–2020, most recently as the Vice President for Equitable Growth, Finance, and Institutions. She oversaw a portfolio of nearly \$30 billion of operational and policy work and advisory engagements in the WBG Global Practices of Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation; Macroeconomics, Trade, and Investment; Governance; and Poverty and Equity. She also had management responsibility for more than 2,200 staff in 138 countries, including 30 fragile and conflict-affected states. Ms. Pazarbasioglu also worked on policy and country issues during two previous tenures at the IMF (1992–1998 and 2003–2015). She served as Deputy Director in the Monetary and Capital Markets Department, in charge of the work on financial sector regulation and supervision and crisis management. She also worked as Assistant Director in the European Department and was the mission chief for Ukraine. Before that, she led the Emerging Markets chapters of the Global Financial Stability Report and worked on financial sector policies and restructuring, including in Argentina, Russia, and Uruguay. Prior to 1998, she focused on structural reforms after crises in the Nordic countries, Emerging Europe, Latin America, Turkey as well as in Korea and Thailand. Ms. Pazarbasioglu, a Turkish national, joined the Government of Turkey crisis management team in 2001 to focus on reforming the pension system, establishing the inflation targeting regime, and implementing the “voluntary” debt swap. She was then appointed as the Vice President of the Banking Regulation and Supervision Agency of Turkey. During 1998–2001, Ms. Pazarbasioglu served as the Chief Economist of Emerging European Markets at ABN AMRO Investment Bank in London. She holds a doctorate in economics and finance from Georgetown University and studied at Princeton

	<p>University (visiting scholar). She is a certified Securities and Financial Derivates Representative (from the U.K.). She has published on financial crises; banking and corporate sector restructuring; regulatory reforms; macro-financial analysis; and debt management.</p>
	<p><b>Abebe Aemro SELASSIE</b>  <i>Director of the African Department</i></p> <p>Abebe Aemro Selassie is the Director of the African Department, where he oversees the IMF’s operations and engagement with 45 countries across sub-Saharan Africa. Under his leadership the IMF has disbursed some \$51 billion to support the post pandemic recovery and foster greener more inclusive growth. Working tirelessly alongside the region’s leaders Mr. Selassie strives to strengthen the region’s financial architecture and support Africa reaching its true potential. Before taking up his current position in 2016, Mr. Selassie gained extensive experience in a wide-ranging career at the IMF. He held various senior positions, including Deputy Director in the African Department, Mission Chief for Portugal during the Euro Area Crisis and South Africa. He has served as the IMF’s Senior Resident Representative in Uganda and earlier in his career, he worked on the Fund’s lending programs with Turkey, Thailand, Romania and Estonia. While in the Strategy, Policy and Review Department he was deeply involved in low-income country and emerging-market programs and policy design issues. Before joining the IMF in 1994, he worked for the Government of Ethiopia as Principal Economist in the Office of the President and at the Economist Intelligence Unit in London.</p>

## OLIVER WYMAN



### **Dominik WEH**

*Partner, Co-Head of the Government and Public Institutions Practice, Europe*

Dominik Weh is a partner working at the intersection of public policy, finance and risk, and organizational effectiveness in Oliver Wyman's Frankfurt office. He has worked with major financial institutions, central banks, supervisors, and regulators on a variety of topics, including strategy, organization, and governance.

In 2011, he spent a year seconded with the World Economic Forum, leading a project on the benefits and risks of financial innovation in the aftermath of the financial crisis.



## WORLD BANK GROUP



### **Hana BRIXI**

*Global Director for Gender*

Hana Brixi is the Global Director for Gender at the World Bank, where she leads the organization's efforts to advance gender equality worldwide. She directs the World Bank's approach to knowledge, operational strategies, and partnerships to improve gender outcomes, and recently led the development of the World Bank Group Gender Strategy for 2024-2030. With a distinguished career spanning human development, public finance, and governance, Ms. Brixi has held leadership roles in the Middle East & North Africa, East Asia & Pacific, and Europe & Central Asia regions, as well as in the Human Capital Project and Social Protection and Governance Global Practices. During her time in China from 2001 to 2010, she served as the Health Systems Manager for the World Health Organization and Social Policy Chief for UNICEF. An accomplished author, she has published articles in professional journals and written books on economic development, including *Trust, Voice and*

	<p>Incentives on service delivery and Government at Risk on fiscal management.</p>
	<p><b>James HEIMBACH</b>  <i>Vice-President of External Corporate Relations</i></p> <p>James “Jay” Heimbach, Vice-President of External Corporate Relations, leads the team responsible for stakeholder relations, partnerships, and communications at the World Bank. His role focuses on developing advocacy strategies to communicate the Bank’s impact, shape public opinion on global development issues, and build support among key stakeholders. Jay brings extensive experience in global cooperation for local progress, having served as the World Bank’s Special Representative to North America, Australia, New Zealand, and Israel, where he managed relationships with key donor governments. Before joining the World Bank, Jay was Senior Director for North American Government Affairs at the ONE Campaign, a global advocacy organization combating extreme poverty. He also has significant experience in U.S. government roles, including Chief of Staff to Senator Sherrod Brown and Special Assistant to President Obama, where he worked on energy, environmental, and manufacturing issues. Earlier, he served in the Clinton administration as Senior Policy Advisor in the White House Office of Legislative Affairs.</p>
	<p><b>Xavier DEVICTOR</b>  <i>Advisor to the Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group</i></p> <p>Xavier Devictor is the Advisor for the Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group at the World Bank, leading work on forced displacement as a development challenge. He has broad experience across regions on country programs, strategy and</p>

policy dialogue, most recently as Country Manager for Poland and the Baltic Countries until 2014, and Country Program Coordinator for Egypt, Yemen and Djibouti from 2007-2011. He joined the Bank as a young professional. Earlier in his career, he was Program Manager for UNHCR in the former Yugoslavia, where he managed humanitarian programs including leading humanitarian convoys into conflict areas. He holds a Masters of Economics, Ecole Polytechnique, Paris.



**Luis Felipe LOPEZ-CALVA**

*Global Director for Poverty and Equity*

Luis Felipe López-Calva is the Global Director for Poverty and Equity at the World Bank Group, bringing over 30 years of experience working with international organizations and advising governments. Previously, he served as the UN Assistant Secretary General and Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean at the United Nations Development Programme. During his time at the World Bank, López-Calva held several key roles, including Practice Manager for the Poverty and Equity Global Practice in Europe and Central Asia, and Co-Director of the World Development Report 2017 on Governance and the Law. His expertise is demonstrated in his leadership of policy operations valued at over US\$1.1 billion. López-Calva’s notable contributions extend beyond poverty alleviation, as he is a dedicated advocate for equity and climate justice. His strategic vision for the World Bank’s Poverty and Equity Global Practice focuses on elevating poverty reduction and equitable growth on the global agenda.





**Tea TRUMBIC**

*Manager of Women, Business, and the Law*

Tea Trumbic, the Manager for the Women, Business and the Law project at the World Bank, has been a driving force behind initiatives that promote women's economic empowerment. With a background in international relations and gender studies, she's helped design policies tackling barriers women face globally. Tea's recent work includes researching gender disparities in labor markets, advocating for inclusive policies, and leading programs that improve access to education and healthcare for women and girls. Her efforts have been key to advancing gender equality and supporting the World Bank's mission of sustainable development.



**Axel VAN TROTSENBURG**

*Senior Managing Director of Development Policy and Partnerships*

Axel Van Trotsenberg, Senior Managing Director of Development Policy and Partnerships, directs the World Bank's core development work grouped into five verticals – People, Planet, Prosperity, Infrastructure and Digital Transformation – and ensures its integration into operations, with a special focus on climate change, fragility, human capital, and debt sustainability issues. He currently co-leads the Bank's reform agenda aimed at increasing the scale and impact of World Bank operations and oversees the Bank's numerous partnerships including with the UN, international financial institutions (IFIs), and bilateral partners. Prior to this, Mr. van Trotsenberg was the Managing Director of Operations, from October 2019 to April 2023.

## MP SPEAKERS

### BOLIVIA



#### **Luis Guillermo SEOANE**

*Senator, Bolivia*

Hon. Dr. Luis Guillermo Seoane Flores, a Bolivian national, obtained his degree in Medicine and Surgery in 1983 from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). In December 1984, he earned a Master's degree in Public Health (MPS) from the National Institute of Public Health of Mexico. From 1995 to 1996, he pursued postgraduate studies and obtained a Master's degree in Public Policy and Management (MPA) from the Catholic University of Bolivia. Dr. Seoane also holds a diploma in Local Health Systems and Community and another in negotiation skills, both completed through the OPS/OMS virtual classroom in 2009 and 2013, respectively.

In academia, Dr. Seoane began his career in 1985 as a full professor of public health and social medicine at the Faculty of Medicine. He was the Academic Coordinator of the Master's program in Public Health at the Universidad Mayor de San Andrés (UMSA). Between 1986 and 2004, he held various positions at UMSA, including Director of University Planning, while continuing to serve as a full professor of public health until August 2004.

In university leadership, Dr. Seoane served as President of the Medical Students' Center; Executive of the FUL (UMSA); President of the Organizing Committee for the XX University Congress; Member of the Executive Committee of CUB; President of the Medical Teachers Association; and President of the Teachers Federation (FEDSIDUMSA).

He is a member of the Bolivian Society of Public Health (SBSP). Since 2017, Dr. Seoane has been a

full member of the Bolivian Academy of Medicine (ABOLMED).

In non-governmental organizations (NGOs), he worked as a child health and nutrition advisor for Save the Children from 1989 to 1993. He was the Director of the MotherCare Project from 1995 to 2000. He later served as Regional Coordinator for Latin America for John Snow Inc. (JSI) from 2000 to 2004. He provided short-term national and international consultancies for OPS/OMS, CIDA, JICA, DFID, BID, and BM. From 1998 to 2001, he was President of the Assembly of Associates at the Center for Health Research and Studies (CIES).

In 1985, he joined the Bolivian Ministry of Health as National Director of Health Human Resources. He was also the National Coordinator of the Health Reform, and ultimately served as Undersecretary of Public Health from 1993 to 1994.

Dr. Seoane has worked for 12 years with OPS/OMS. From 2004, he served as an international consultant in Family and Community Health in Guyana for 6 years. From 2010 to 2016, Dr. Seoane was appointed as a representative in the areas of “Health Determinants and Promotion throughout the Life Course” at the OPS/OMS Representation for Venezuela, Aruba, Curaçao, Sint Maarten, and the Insular Territories of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

During the general elections held in 2020, he was elected as a National Senator for the Plurinational State of Bolivia, representing the Comunidad Ciudadana Alliance. He served as the Head of the Comunidad Ciudadana caucus in the Senate for the years 2021-2022 and 2023-2024. He also held the position of National Political Coordinator for the Comunidad Ciudadana Alliance.

## CAMEROON



### **Aliyoum FADIL**

*Member of Parliament, Committee on Finance and the Budget, Cameroon*

Hon. Aliyoum Fadil serves as a Member of the National Assembly of Cameroon, where he contributes to the Committee on Finance and the Budget. Additionally, he chairs the Cameroon Chapter of the Parliamentary Network and actively supports the World Bank, participating in global engagements like the 2023 field visit to Morocco.

## CANADA



### **Tony LOFFREDA**

*Senator, Deputy Chair of the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade, and the Economy, Canada*

Hon. Tony Loffreda was appointed to the Senate of Canada in 2019 by the Governor General of Canada on the advice of the Prime Minister.

He currently sits on the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance and the Standing Senate Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration. He also serves as Deputy Chair of the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade, and the Economy. Senator Loffreda also serves on several Senate Working Groups. He is a member of various parliamentary associations and interparliamentary groups, including serving as Vice-Chair of the Canada-Italy Interparliamentary Group and Chair of the Canadian Chapter of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. He is a member of the Independent Senators Group.

Prior to his appointment, Senator Loffreda was a Vice Chairman and Executive at RBC. He has also served on various boards and committees

including, but not limited to, the Concordia University Board of Governors; the Integrated Health and Social Services University Network for West-Central Montréal; Montréal International; the Italian-Canadian Community Foundation; the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Canada; and the executive committee of the Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montréal.

He is a leading philanthropist, active in service to many communities, having chaired fundraising activities across the province for various causes such as the Giant Steps School; the Montréal Jewish General Hospital; McGill University Goodman Research Centre; the Montréal Cancer Institute and many more. He is also a frequent and sought-after speaker on economic and community issues.

Among his many awards and distinctions, he is a recipient of the Lieutenant Governor of Québec's Gold Medal for Exceptional Merit; the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal; the Governor General of Canada Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers; the Canadian Italian Business and Professional Association's Person of the Year Award; the Philhellene of the Year Award by the Hellenic Community of Greater Montréal; and the Senate of Canada 150th Anniversary Medal which he received prior to his appointment. He was also inducted as an administrator into the Montréal-Concordia Soccer Hall of Fame.

Senator Loffreda passed the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Final Exam and earned a USA - Certified Public Accountant designation through the University of Illinois. Senator Loffreda also holds a Chartered Global Management Accountant international designation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He earned his Bachelor of Commerce degree with a major in accounting from the University of Concordia.

## DENMARK



### **Astrid KRAG**

*Member of Parliament, Foreign Affairs Committee, Denmark*

Astrid Krag is a Danish politician and Member of the Folketing for The Social Democratic Party. With over two decades of experience in Danish politics, Krag has held multiple ministerial roles, including Minister for Social Affairs and Senior Citizens (2021–2022) and Minister for Social Affairs and the Interior (2019–2021). She has been a prominent advocate for social welfare, education, and senior citizen rights throughout her career.

Before joining The Social Democratic Party in 2014, Krag was a member of The Socialist People's Party, during which she was Minister for Health and Prevention (2011–2014). Her parliamentary career began in 2007, representing the Zealand greater constituency, and she has since earned recognition for her leadership on key issues such as immigration, fiscal affairs, and welfare policies. Krag has also served as the Vice-chairwoman of the Immigration and Integration Committee and held spokesperson roles in various sectors, including alien affairs, naturalization, and children's issues.

Throughout her career, Krag has been an active member of several parliamentary committees, including the Foreign Affairs, Cultural Affairs, and Greenland Committees.

## ITALY



### **Giulio CENTEMERO**

*Member of Parliament, Italy; President of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Standing Committee on Socio-economic and environmental affairs, Parliamentary Assembly for the Mediterranean (PAM)*

Hon. Giulio Centemero is a member of the Chamber of Deputies at the VI Finance Committee,

coordinator of the financial markets unit of the Economics Department of the Lega and Treasurer of the party since 2014. He is a member of the Italian delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM).

He is a Chartered Accountant and Statutory Auditor, with a degree in economics and commerce from the University of Bergamo and an executive Master in

PA management from SDA Bocconi as well as a graduate certificate in Project management from Boston University.

Hon. Centemero trained professionally in tax M&A and at the same time consolidated his political experience in the European parliament together

with Matteo Salvini. He is also co-chairman of the economic panel of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, a member of the executive board of the International Parliamentary Network for Education and president of the parliamentary intergroup of Friendship Italy - Armenia.

He has published interviews and articles in generalist and financial sector magazines and channels. His greatest interest lies in fintech and alternative capital markets.

## JAMAICA



### **Hon. Marlene MALAHOO FORTE**

*QC, MP, JP, Minister of Legal and Constitutional Affairs, Jamaica; Vice-Chair of the Parliamentary Network*

Hon. Marlene Malahoo Forte was appointed Minister of Legal and Constitutional Affairs in January 2022. She is a Member of Parliament who has served in both Houses of Parliament of Jamaica. She previously served as Opposition Senator Senate Spokesperson on Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade (2012 - 2014) and Shadow Minister of Health (2015 - 2016). She is the former Attorney General of

Jamaica where she served from 2016 to 2022. Hon. Forte holds a Master of Public Administration (MPA) Degree and Diploma in Public Policy and Management from Harvard University, a Master of Law (LLM) Degree in Commercial Laws with further specialty in Financial and Regulatory Laws (Commonwealth Scholar) from King's College London, a Bachelor of Laws Degree (LLB) (Hons) from the University of the West Indies in Barbados, a Certificate of Legal Education from the Norman Manley Law School (Jamaica) and Diploma in International Arbitration and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators in London. She is also a Yale World Fellow and alum of Yale University.

**KENYA**



**Tabitha Maureen MUTINDA**

*Senator, Kenya*

Senator Tabitha has an extensive background in promoting environmental stewardship and gender equality, holding significant roles in various Senate committees and international organizations. She is a leader in multiple capacities, including the Vice Chairperson of the Kenya Women Senators, Vice Chairperson of the Senate Finance and Budget Committee; and Vice Chairperson of the Kenyan Chapter of the Parliamentary Network on World Bank and IMF. She also seats in service as a member of the Senate Business Committee; Senate Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee and the County Public Investment and Special Funds Committee. Additionally, she is the Director and Chief Executive Officer of Novamont Kenya Limited and serves as the Vice-President of the World Scout Parliamentary Union (WSPU). She has an academic background in Business Management and is furthering her studies with a PhD in Business Development. This blend of leadership, academic



pursuits, and advocacy underlines her dedication to societal progress and policy development. She describes herself as “people centric but pulled politically leftist”.

**KOSOVO**



**Jeta STATOVCI**  
*Member of Parliament, Vice Chair of the Economy Committee and Budget Committee, Kosovo*

Hon. Statovci is one of the youngest members of the parliament of Kosovo and has been in office since March 2021. She serves as Deputy Chair of the Committee on Economy, Industry, Entrepreneurship and Trade and is a member of the Committee on Budget, Labor and Transfer. Furthermore, she participated in the Inquiry Committee on Energy Crises Management and Parliamentary Committee on Stabilization Association Agreement at the Parliament of Europe. During her time at the parliament, she has paid vast focus towards economic developments in the country, in relation to labor market – with focus on woman and youth, energy sector, and entrepreneurship.

Previously, she served as Health and Social Policy Advisor to the Speaker of the Assembly of Kosovo, who is currently the President of the Republic of Kosovo, Vjosa Osmani. During that time Hon. Statovci was actively involved in proposing steps to combat COVID-19 and was part of the team drafting an anti-COVID law. She also has experience working as a health management lecturer and consultant for several institutions.

Jeta Statovci holds a Masters's degree from the London School of Economics (LSE) in International Health Economics and a Bachelor's degree in Economics and Management from the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT Kosovo).

## LUXEMBOURG



### **Sven CLEMENT**

*Member of Parliament, Justice Committee, Luxembourg*

Hon. Sven Clement is a Member of Parliament from Luxembourg and co-founder and honorary president of the Pirate Party Lëtzebuerg. He is a member of the Justice Committee, of the Committee on Health and Social Security, of the Commission on the Economy, SMEs, Energy, Space, and Tourism, and of the Subcommittee on European Affairs.

Clement studied business informatics at Saarland University, where he also represented the Pirate Party in the university's student parliament. Together with his party colleague Jerry Weyer, he runs a digital communications consultancy company. Following the general election on 14 October 2018, Sven Clement was elected to the Chamber of Deputies for the central constituency on 30 October 2018. Since 14 September 2020, he has also been CEO of AccountTech SARL bringing together several products in FinTech and RegTech.

## MOROCCO



### **Neila TAZI**

*Senator, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Chamber of Councilors, Morocco*

Hon. Neila Tazi has been a Senator in the Moroccan House of Counselors since 2015, where she was the first woman Vice-President of the Senate from 2016 to 2018, and the first to chair plenary sessions. She also serves as the Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee at the Chamber of Councilors.

She was born in Washington DC where her father was an Executive Director at the World Bank in the late 1960s, giving her a life-long connection to

the World Bank. She is the Chair of the Moroccan Chapter of the Parliamentary Network (PN) and frequently plays an active role in PN global and regional activities. Ms. Tazi was elected as President of the Federation of Cultural and Creative Industries in February 2019. In 1998 she founded the Essaouira Gnaoua and World Music Festival.

## ROMANIA



### **Oana-Silva TOIU**

*Member of Parliament, Chair of the Youth and Sports Committee, Romania*

Ms. Toiu is a former state secretary in Romania's Ministry of Labour, applies her passion for social innovation to search for solutions irrespective of whether they come from policy, field work or business. She is the founder and general manager of Social Innovation Solutions, which offers training and consultancy in social innovation and entrepreneurship. Annually they run in partnership with Global Shapers two start-up ideas challenges, Social Impact Award and Future Makers, engaging in trainings more than 1400 young people across Romania and connecting the best ideas with a global network of solutions.

She is also a teacher and a Board member of The Entrepreneurship Academy, where students work in teams, learning about business by running real businesses under the guidance of a "team coach".

Oana has been invited to speak at the "Future of Europe" at Harvard and at the European Commission conferences, has been featured in 101 Romanians that have an impact on the country by Foreign Policy, as one of the 6 young leaders who are improving the state of the world by the World Economic Forum agenda and is an AIESEC alumna and a German Marshall Fund Memorial Fellow.

Oana is part of the 2012 generation of the Aspen Young Leaders Program.

## SOMALIA



**Marwa Abdibashir HAGI**

*Member of Parliament, Deputy Chairperson of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change Committee, Somalia*

Hon. Marwa Abdibashir Hagi is the Deputy Chairperson of the Natural Resources, Environment, and Climate Change Committee in the House of the People, Federal Republic of Somalia. With over 10 years of professional experience working with the Somali Government, she has gained an exceptional understanding of Somali business laws and both national and international business practices.

Her expertise lies in efficiently planning and coordinating actions to ensure the success of parliamentary endeavors. Hon. Marwa has successfully developed and strengthened collaboration with government stakeholders, steering committees, and project partners, aligning these efforts with the project's Implementation Manual.

She is adept at preparing comprehensive Project Status Reports (PSRs) for assessment by the World Bank TTL and the Project Steering Committees (PSC). Her experience includes supporting local and international consultants, monitoring project activities, conducting value chain assessments, and delivering training and technical assistance. Hon. Marwa's strong interpersonal and communication skills enable her to excel under pressure and meet tight deadlines.

In addition to her work with the Somali Government, Hon. Marwa has over nine years of experience working with the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) in various divisions, including Finance, Procurement & Support, and

Communication. This has provided her with ample experience in the oil and gas sector.

Her key priorities include the implementation and respect of the Rule of Law across various sectors within the government, promoting Somali climate resilience and environmental protection, empowering women in education, employment, and politics, and fostering hope and capacity-building among the youth to create sustainable job opportunities.

## TANZANIA



### **Neema LUGANGIRA**

*Member of Parliament, Committee for Foreign Affairs, Defence & Security, Tanzania*

Hon. Neema Lugangira is the Member of Parliament representing NGOs in the Parliament of Tanzania. She is Chair of the Parliamentary Caucus on Food Safety and a member of the Committee on HIV, TB and Drugs, as well as the Committee on Social Services and Community Development.

She is a champion of education with Haki Elimu, the national education coalition in Tanzania, and a member of the International Parliamentary Network for Education. She is also a National Food Systems Champion for the Ministry of Agriculture, and a National Non-Communicable Diseases Champion for the Ministry of Health.

She has significant experience in leading national and international development projects, including overseeing the administration of agricultural and social-economic programs and initiatives across Tanzania. She is also the founder of the Agri Thamani Foundation, which seeks to end malnutrition through education, agricultural sector planning and policy advocacy.

## UNITED KINGDOM



### **Liam BYRNE**

*Member of Parliament; Chair of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF*

The Rt Hon. Liam Byrne MP is a Member of Parliament for Birmingham Hodge Hill, Chair of the Parliamentary Network of the IMF & World Bank, and Gwilym Gibbon Research Fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford.

A former Cabinet minister, Liam served as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster in No 10 Downing Street during the Great Financial Crisis, and in Her Majesty's Treasury where, as Chief Secretary to the Treasury, he designed Labour's fiscal consolidation strategy. In Opposition, Liam served in a number of frontbench positions, chaired Labour's Policy Review, served on the Council of Europe and founded the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Inclusive Growth, which he chairs.

A former Fulbright scholar at the Harvard Business School, Liam has written twenty books, chapters and pamphlets about economic history, development and foreign affairs. His history of British capitalism *Dragons: Ten Entrepreneurs Who Built Britain* was published in 2016. He is also the author of *Black Flag Down: Counter Extremism, Defeating ISIS and Winning the Battle of Ideas*; and *Turning to Face the East: How Britain Prospers in the Asian Century*. Liam is one of Westminster's leading authorities on China, helped kickstart the Economic & Finance Dialogue, and co-founded the UK-China Young Leader's Roundtable.