Stakeholder Forum

OPENING

9:00 - 10:00, 13 May
Room 2, CICG

Moderator

Mr. Daniel Perell

Daniel Perell joined the Baha’i International Community’s United Nations Office as a Representative in 2011. His areas of work include social and sustainable development, global citizenship, disaster and humanitarian affairs, the role of religion in society, and defense of the Baha’i Community. He is currently a Global Organizing Partner of the NGO Major Group and the Chair of the NGO Committee for Social Development. In 2010, Mr. Perell received a JD from the University of Virginia School of Law and an MA in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University and was admitted to the New York State Bar Association. Mr. Perell has worked with the International Service for Human Rights in Geneva, the United Nations in Aceh, Indonesia and other organizations in the Marshall Islands and Chile.

Welcome remarks

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 (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.

Panelists

Mr. A B Tajul Islam, MP, Hon’ble Chairman Parliament Standing Committee for Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR), Government of Bangladesh

Mr. A B Tajul Islam, MP (Member of Parliament) is a legendary politician and renowned freedom fighter of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh. He was born in 4 May 1951 in a pious Muslim family. He started his career as a commissioned officer in Bangladesh Army. But soon after his retirement he joined Bangladesh Awami League, the largest and the oldest political party in Bangladesh. He engaged himself for the welfare of the people of his locality. His pro people works bring him name and fame.

Mr. A B Tajul Islam became the Member of Bangladesh National Parliament 4 times (1996-2001; 2008-2013; 2014-2019 and 2019 to present). Now he is the honorable Chairman of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief. He is working with national policy formulation for disaster risk management in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh National Parliament also entrusts him as honorable Member of Estimate Committee, Member of Parliamentary National Committee and Member of Ministry of Liberation War Affairs. Previously he served the nation as honorable State Minister (1996 to 2001) of Ministry of Liberation War Affairs and Chairman Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Liberation War Affairs (2014-2019).

Mr. Philippe Besson, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

Philippe Besson started his assignment as Head, Multilateral Division at the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (FDFA - SDC) in August, 2017. His unit primarily is in charge of Switzerland’s relations with, and contributions to UN humanitarian organisations, as well as the Red Cross-Red Crescent Movement. Moreover, it manages and coordinates Switzerland’s contribution to disaster risk reduction and the promotion of resilient societies.
Philippe Besson has been with SDC since 1990. He carries a degree from the Geneva Graduate Institute of Development Studies. He combines experience in the field with expertise in development policies, in particular as regards development effectiveness. Mr. Besson was stationed over the years in Berne, Dhaka, Niamey, Paris (OECD-DAC) and Juba (South Sudan). He managed SDC programmes in India, Turkey, Poland and Palestine.

**Mr. David Nabarro, former USG for SDGs, and co-lead of the Nature-Based- Solutions Strand of the UN Climate Summit**

David Nabarro is co-lead of the Nature-Based-Solutions Strand of the UN Climate Summit, and he is a Professor of Global Health at the Imperial College London and supports systems leadership for sustainable development through his Switzerland based social enterprise 4SD. Furthermore, he is Advisor at the Global Commission on Adaptation in Rotterdam. He secured his medical qualification in 1974 and has worked in over 50 countries – in communities and hospitals, governments, civil society, universities, and in United Nations (UN) programs.

David worked for the British government in the 1990s as head of Health and Population and director for Human Development in the UK Department for International Development. From 1999 to 2017 he held leadership roles in the UN system on disease outbreaks and health issues, food insecurity and nutrition, climate change and sustainable development. In October 2018, David received the World Food Prize together with Lawrence Haddad for their leadership in raising the profile and building coalitions for action for better nutrition across the Sustainable Development Goals.