



**MEMBERSHIP OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S TASK FORCE FOR  
THE HIGH-LEVEL PLENARY MEETING OF THE SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY**

**Ms. Gemma Adaba (TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO), Representative to the United Nations,  
International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)**

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Gemma Adaba is the Representative of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) to the United Nations in New York, a Confederation of national trade union centres in 152 countries and territories on all five continents, with a total membership of 148 million workers. A native of Trinidad and Tobago, Ms. Adaba is a passionate advocate for decent work, social justice and gender equality; she serves on the board of the North-South Centre and on the jury for the ILO Decent Work Prize. Her trade union work began in the teaching sector, where she was an active member of the Trinidad and Tobago Teachers Association in the late 1960s. She obtained a Masters' Degree in Sociology from the University of Western Ontario, Canada, and pursued post-graduate research in Sociology and Demography at the Free University of Brussels in Belgium.

**Ms. Barbara Adams (UNITED KINGDOM), Senior Fellow, Global Policy Forum and  
Member of the Board, Social Watch**

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Economist, well-known international social justice and gender equality advocate, and Senior Fellow at the Global Policy Forum, Ms. Adams is also a member of the Women's Working Group on FfD, serves on the Boards of Social Watch, American Friends Service Committee and of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC) and has undertaken development work in Latin America, including on housing and settlement projects in Uruguay. Ms. Adams is formerly the Chief of Strategic Partnerships and Communications at UNIFEM (2003- 2008). She has worked with women's organizations on advancing gender equality in the macroeconomic and aid effectiveness policy arenas. Ms. Adams has authored and co-authored many articles, reports and booklets on the United Nations and the issues that it faces.

**Ms. Nur Amalia (INDONESIA), Executive Director, RACA Institute**

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Nur Amalia is a respected civil society activist from Indonesia and also plays an important role in multiple regional coalitions in the Asia-Pacific region related to the environment, development and women. She also plays a strong role in the Global Campaign for Climate Action (GCCA).

The RACA Institute conducts advocacy, facilitation and education for peasants, fisher folk, indigenous peoples, urban poor, with no gender discrimination, develops critical consciousness concerning democratization, human rights values and the environment. It also pushes law and policy reform at land, water and other natural resources and conducts data collecting, data storage and also spreading the information that is needed by peasants, indigenous people, fisher folks and the urban poor. The RACA Institute facilitates conflict resolution that is based on land, water or other natural resources.

**Ms. Katie Chau (CANADA), Youth Coalition**

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Katie Chau has worked in sexual and reproductive health and rights for the past 7 years. She has coordinated national and community-based sexual and reproductive health projects in West Africa, and also has experience with international advocacy on sexual and reproductive health and rights issues (SRHR). For example, she participated in the 2008 UN High Level meeting on HIV and AIDS and in the Commission on Population and Development. Katie has a strong understanding of the MDG framework, reflected in her master degree in Public Health in Developing Countries. In addition to working on SRHR and youth leadership, Katie also has a thorough understanding of the linkages between SRHR with other global development issues, especially climate change and poverty reduction.

**Dr. Myrna Cunningham (NICARAGUA), Chair, Center for Indigenous People's Autonomy and Development**

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Dr. Myrna Cunningham, a surgeon, is Chair of the Center for Indigenous People's Autonomy and Development and also the founder of Casa Museo, a museum and multicultural center dedicated to indigenous and Afro-Nicaraguan art and history. Dr. Cunningham is an indigenous Miskita and a former member of the National Assembly of Nicaragua where she also served as Minister of Health and as Governor of the North Atlantic Coast. She founded (and acted as the first female Chancellor of) the University of the Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua (URACCAN) and has served as the General Secretary of the Inter-American Indigenous Institute. In 2002, she received the Pan American Health Organization's Public Health Heroine of the Americas Award.

**Mr. Joseph Cornelius Donnelly (UNITED STATES), Permanent Delegate to the United Nations, Caritas Internationalis**

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Joseph Cornelius Donnelly serves as Permanent Delegate to the United Nations for Caritas Internationalis, a global confederation of 162 Catholic relief, development and social services organizations with programs in more than 200 countries and territories. As the Caritas representative to the UN, Donnelly has developed working groups with both secular and faith-based NGOs to highlight particular needs of countries and peoples caught in crises, both those well-covered by the media and those "hidden crises" with equally profound destruction of life,

land, human rights and basic hopes. Some of these are focused on Northern Uganda, Haiti, Democratic Republic of Congo, Colombia, Sri Lanka, Southeast Asia and Iraq.

Mr. Donnelly has, in particular, worked on Middle East issues for the last two decades, during many years of which he lived in the region and worked to build partnerships in diverse efforts with governments, civil society, religious leaders and the international community. His involvement with and on behalf of Iraqi refugees began in 1991 with the urgent humanitarian needs that followed the first Gulf War. He has continued to the present day working with Caritas programs, NGO partners and U.N. colleagues in the region while advocating at UN Headquarters with Member States and the UN Security Council.

**Ms. Elisabeth Gateau (FRANCE), Secretary General, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)**

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Elisabeth Gateau is the first Secretary General of UCLG. Building on her past experience as a local elected official in France, she previously held the position of Secretary General of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), the European section of UCLG. She then went on to oversee local government issues at the Secretariat of the European Convention, which prepared the draft Constitution of the European Union. In July 2004, Elisabeth Gateau's longstanding contribution to regional and local politics received special recognition through the Emperor Maximilian Prize award that acknowledges the outstanding efforts made to implement the principle of subsidiarity and the Council of Europe's Charter on Local Self-Government. Ms. Gateau has dedicated her first and second terms as Secretary General to setting the basis for a strong UCLG by: increasing the role and influence of local government in global governance and making UCLG the main source of support for democratic, effective, innovative local government close to the citizen.

**Ms. Heather Grady (UNITED STATES), Managing Director, *Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative***

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Heather Grady is the Managing Director of *Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative*, founded by H.E. Mary Robinson in 2002 and headquartered in New York. Heather is particularly involved in programs on promoting the right to 'decent work', corporate responsibility for human rights, climate justice and women's leadership. During her career she has spent almost two decades managing long-term development and humanitarian programs in East Asia, the Middle East and Africa. Prior to joining Realizing Rights she worked with Oxfam Great Britain, serving as the Global Lead on Rights and Institutional Accountability, as Regional Director for East Asia based in Thailand, and before that as Oxfam's Country Representative in Viet Nam, where she resided from 1993 to 2000.

Heather has written extensively on international development and human rights, and co-authored one of the first books on participatory appraisal methodology published in more than a dozen languages. She speaks Vietnamese, Chinese and some Arabic. Heather holds degrees from Smith College and Harvard University. She is on the Board of Trustees of the New York Society for Ethical Culture, and is on the Advisory Boards of Human Rights Ahead and Trickle Up.

**Ms. Lysa John (INDIA), Global Call to action Against Poverty Coordinator**

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Lysa John is the National Campaign Coordinator of Wada Na Todo Abhiyaan ('Keep the Promises Campaign') - one of the largest civil society networks in India today, with an outreach across 29 states and a membership of over 5000 development organizations. Since June 2009, she is the new Global Campaign Director for GCAP (Global Call to action Against Poverty). With a presence across 100+ countries, the work of GCAP is focused on holding governments accountable to address the structural causes of poverty and inequality, and enabling the representation of traditionally excluded communities in the institutions and processes that will determine the achievement of human rights, gender justice, social justice and security for all. GCAP's main aim is to achieve policy and practice changes that will improve the lives of people living in poverty.

**Louise Kantrow, Ph.D (UNITED STATES), Permanent Representative of the International Chamber of Commerce to the United Nations**

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Louise Kantrow was appointed the International Chamber of Commerce's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in March 2007. Ms. Kantrow's career includes service at the United Nations, the United States Agency for International Development, the Population Council and the United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA). Most recently, she served as Executive Director of the International League for Human Rights, one of the oldest human rights organizations in the world. Prior to that, as Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer with the UN Association of the USA (UNA-USA), she supervised a major expansion of programmes at the Business Council to the United Nations. Dr. Kantrow received her Bachelor's degree in Sociology from the University of Michigan and earned both a Master's degree and Doctorate in Demography and Economics from the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Kantrow speaks English and French.

**Mr. Avet O. Khachatryan (RUSSIA), Transatlantic Partners Against AIDS (TPAA)/the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria (GBC), Russia**

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Mr. Khatchatryan is currently an Expert/Consultant at the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria (GBC); the International AIDS Society (IAS); and the Eurasian Harm Reduction Network (EHRN). Until recently, he served as the Head of the TPAA Representative office in Russia which involved regional representation, coordination of all country operations, as well as leading a team of 25 people and a \$2.5 million annual budget. He has also previously worked with UNAIDS and with Doctors Without Borders (Medicin sans Frontieres). He attended the Russian State University of Humanities receiving a degree in the Management of Organizations.

**Ms. Mama Koité Doumbia (MALI), President, The African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET)**

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Mama Koité Doumbia, born in Thiès, Senegal, in 1950, holds a higher diploma in youth training. She is particularly well-known for her long support of union causes and her determination to find ways to reinforce the capacities of national women's NGOs in the area of training, speaking, communication, and leadership. Now based in Mali, Ms. Koité is the elected President and Chairperson of the Executive Board of The African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET), an organization with the goal of promoting African women's collective leadership for equality, peace and sustainable development.

**Ms. Yemisi Ransome Kuti (NIGERIA), Founder and Executive Director, Nigerian Network of Non-Governmental Organizations (NNNGO)**

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Ms. Yemisi Ransome Kuti is the recently retired chairman and founder of the Nigerian Network of Non-Governmental Organizations (NNNGO) which is the first organization of its kind in Nigeria to bring together civil society organizations. It has worked since its formation in 1992 to affect a harmonized agenda for third sector development and its influence in the national framework. In the early 1990s, Ms Ransome-Kuti established 'Girl Watch'; an organization aimed at educating young Nigerian girls from poor backgrounds. In 2006, she was appointed a Civil Society advisor to the World Bank. Ms Ransome-Kuti has been one of those leading the charge in working for Nigeria to meet its Millennium Development Goals and to eradicate poverty.