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Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
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## Inter-regional expert meeting on the measurement of South-South cooperation

4 – 6 June 2024, Venue: Sharq Village, Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Doha, Qatar

### Speakers' biographies

#### Opening Remarks



**Mr. Shaheen Ali Al Kaabi**, is the Director of the Department of International Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Qatar. Before joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, H.E worked as head of Studies and Projects Division in the Qatar Authority for Charitable Activities during the period (2007 – 2010), Head of Safety, Quality & Environment in Public Works Authority (Ashghal) from 2000 to 2007, and Project Manager in Ministry of Municipality and Planning Affairs from 1995 to 2000.


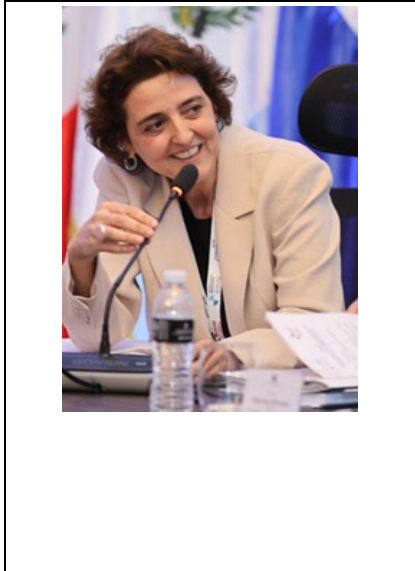

H.E detains has High diploma in Planning from Qatar University (2000), and a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. He is a Member of the Board of Directors of the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), the Qatar Fund for Development (QFD) and the Qatar Permanent Committee on Rescue and Humanitarian Assistance.



**Mr. Pedro Manuel Moreno** (Spain) was appointed Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) by the United Nations Secretary-General on 4 November 2022. He has over 20 years of experience working for multilateral and intergovernmental organizations in programme, management and strategic positions, both in the field and at headquarters.

Mr. Moreno's extensive experience includes working as Deputy Secretary-General of the Communication for Development Committee at the Spanish National Commission with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (1999–2004) and for the United Nations Development Programme (2004–2014), including in Ecuador and, in New York City, as part of the Human Development Report team, at the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean and at the Executive Office. He helped drive United Nations Development Programme *Human Development Reports* and supported programmes on poverty eradication and the Millennium Development Goals, and the human development initiatives.

In 2014, he was appointed Chief of Staff of the Ibero-American Conference in Madrid, an intergovernmental organization bringing together 22 member States of Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean. He coordinated key political processes such as summits of Heads of State in Mexico (2014), Colombia (2016), Guatemala (2018) and Andorra (2020), over 30 ministerial summits and South–South cooperation projects. In September 2021, he was named Chief of Staff and Director of the Office of the Secretary-General of UN Trade and Development.

<p><b>Session 1.</b></p>	<p><b>Moderator: Ms. Wafa Aboul Hosn, Chief of Economic Statistics, ESCWA</b></p>
	<p>His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Abdul Aziz Al Nuaimi - Assistant President of the Planning and Statistics Authority</p> <p>His Excellency holds the position of Assistant to the president of the Planning and Statistics Authority PSA, pursuant to Emiri Resolution No. (3) of 2022. Prior to joining the Authority, he held several leadership positions as Chief Operating Officer of Qatar Foundation, Chief Executive Officer of Silatech, as well as Director of Projects and Initiatives Management in the Office of Her Highness Sheikha Moza. His Excellency Mr. Al Nuaimi also worked for 14 years in the energy field at Qatar Gas and South Hook in the United Kingdom. His Excellency Mr. Al-Naimi holds a Master's degree from Cass Business School in London-UK. Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Southern Illinois University in the United States.</p>
	<p><b>Ms. Cristina Xalma</b> is the main responsible for the Report of the South-South and Triangular Cooperation in Ibero-America edited from 2007 by the Iberoamerican General Secretariat (SEGIB)</p> <p>Cristina Xalma has a PhD in International Economics and Development from the University of Barcelona (UB) and she combines her activity as a researcher with teaching. In both facets, her field of specialisation covers issues related to development, cooperation and Latin America. Since 2007, she has been responsible for the Report on South-South and Triangular Cooperation in Ibero-America, published since then by SEGIB, and presented at successive Ibero-American Summits of Presidents and Heads of Government.</p> <p>In this same field, she actively collaborates with the Ibero-American Programme for the Strengthening of South-South Cooperation (PIFCSS) in the generation of key instances for the development of the conceptual and methodological framework around South-South and Triangular Cooperation.</p>
	<p><b>Mr. Salah AlMuzahmi</b>, Ph.D. is the Director of Research &amp; Development Indicators department at the Statistical Centre for the Cooperation Council for the Arab Countries of the Gulf (GCC-Stat) since March 2017. He is also the acting director of the Population and Social statistics.</p> <p>Salah AlMuzahmi was the Deputy Director General of Planning &amp; Studies in the Ministry of Health, Sultanate of Oman. He joined the Oman MoH in 1992 as Regional health statistician in Dhahira District. In 2004, He appointed as the director of the Department of Health Information and Statistics in MoH Oman. He was also an active member in 12 national committees that are related to health and statistics such as Maternal Mortality committee, five-year health plan, Health insurance. He is also appointed as a national surveys coordinator for some of health related surveys such as GSHS, GYTS, etc.</p>

	<p>Dr. Salah received his Ph.D. in Public Health from the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia (2015). His doctoral thesis aimed to study the mortality patterns in Oman via in-depth review of epidemiological and demographic patterns. He graduated from The Sultan Qaboos University, Oman, with his B.S. in Mathematics and Computing in 1992. In 2003, Dr Salah obtained his MPH in Applied Epidemiology from Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Australia.</p>
	<p><b>Mr. Alex Shimuafeni</b> is the current Statistician-General of Namibia since 01 April 2016 and was the SADC Statistics Committee Chairperson from August 2018 to August 2019. His career spans from 1995 as a Statistician at the Central Bureau of Statistics (now reformed to the Namibia Statistics Agency), Chief Statistician at the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Namibia from 1999 to 2000 before joining the Namibian industries: Telecommunications Industry, Banking Industry, Housing Industry and Broadcasting industry. His experience includes a 28 years career with 24 years management experience of which about 18 years were at Senior Executive management level.</p> <p>He currently serves as the Board Chairperson of August 26 Construction as well as an ordinary Board Director for the Namibia Infrastructure Development and Investment Fund. He is the Co-founder of the first ever Housing Index within the financial sector of Namibia which is now called the First National Bank (FNB) Housing Index.</p> <p>Mr. Alex Shimuafeni is a holder of a Master of Statistics degree obtained from the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. He also holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from Regent Business School in South Africa.</p>
	<p><b>Mr. Sameh Hussein</b> works as Lead Technical Cooperation Specialist in the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), which is a multilateral development bank with 57 member countries in Africa, Arab Region and Asia.</p> <p>Mr Sameh formulates and oversees projects that use South-South Cooperation for the exchange of developmental solutions across the IsDB member countries.</p> <p>His work in more than fifteen countries has been centered around using innovation, knowledge, and technology for addressing people's challenges at corporate and national levels. He also led the preparation of important publications about South-South Cooperation.</p> <p>Mr Sameh is a Computer Engineer and holding Master of Science in Strategic Planning as well as Post Graduate Certificate in Business Research Methods from Heriot-Watt University, UK. Mr Sameh is from Egypt.</p>

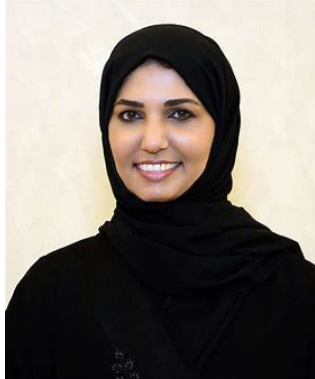


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**Session 2.**

**Moderator: Ms. Anu Peltola, Director of Statistics, UN Trade and Development**



**Ms. Hend Abdalrahman Al-Muftah** is the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations Office at Geneva.

She served in various roles since 2004, including different academic, research and professional positions. From May 2015 to January 2021, she was Vice President for Administration and Finance and Associate Professor at the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies. She taught at Qatar University from 1990 to 2016, starting as a teaching assistant, and finishing as an associate professor of management (2010 to 2016). She was Executive Director of the Childhood Cultural Centre of the Qatar Foundation from April 2012 to September 2014. She also served as Director of Human Resources at Qatar University from 2004 to 2008. In 2017, Ms. Al-Muftah was appointed as a member of the Shura Council of Qatar.

Ms. Al-Muftah has a Ph.D. in human capital formation-human resources management from Exeter University, United Kingdom (2004). She also has a master's degree in management science from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, United Kingdom (1999), and a bachelor's degree in public administration from Qatar University, Qatar (1990).



**Mr. Denis Nkala** (Ph.D.) is the Chief- Intergovernmental and UN Systems Affairs in the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation.

Prior to his assignment in New York, he worked in the Asia-Pacific region (2006-2012 and 2017- 2022). He has worked extensively with countries in the region including China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Republic of Korea and Thailand. Denis Nkala has published several articles in professional journals relating to South-South and triangular cooperation. Denis Nkala studied Economics and Business Administration (B.Sc.), Applied Economics (M.Sc.) and Applied Management and Decision Sciences (Ph.D.). His previous assignments include New York, Thailand, Iraq and Zimbabwe. Denis is a national of Zimbabwe.



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**Mr. José Guillermo Ordorica Robles** currently serves as the Ambassador of Mexico in Qatar.

He joined the Mexican Foreign Service as a career member in 1993. After achieving the rank of minister in October 2015, he became the Ambassador by the President of Mexico in April 2017, and then served as the Ambassador of Mexico in Romania.

He has served in various roles, including to advance academic activities in the field of peace. A signature achievement is the establishment of TRICAMEX, a consular coordination group which unites the McAllen consulates of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico in an exchange of best practices. This group has now been duplicated in cities across the United States where consulates of the four countries can be found.



**Ms. Reem Ismail Elsybaey** is the head of Sustainable development Unit at the Central agency for Public mobilization and statistics (CAPMAS) since 2018 responsible for the preparation of the national statistical reports of SDGs. She has worked in the office since 2009 in different areas related to management, sampling and measuring progress towards SDGs. She is the focal point for Egypt in the Inter Agency Expert Group for SDGs (IAEG-SDGs), and is the focal point in TOSSD, and has participated in various global, regional, and national events related to SDGs and other statistical conferences.

She holds a bachelor degree in statistics from faculty of economics and political science-Cairo University 2004, and a Master degree in applied statistics from Cairo University and MBA from ESLSCA University.



**Mr. Márcio Lopes Corrêa**, General Coordinator for Multilateral Technical Cooperation, Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC)

He is the Head of the General Coordination for Multilateral Technical Cooperation, Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC). He is senior advisor in policy, normative and methodological frameworks regarding international development cooperation; Responsible for coordinating technical cooperation programs in Brazil with 30 international organizations and the European Union; Senior delegate to multilateral conferences governing councils and deliberative bodies of regional and multilateral organizations; Coordinates the Brazilian participation in the OECD's TOSSD Task Force, as well as in the IAEGSDG Working Group on Measurement of Development Support. He holds degree in International Relations and MBA in Project Formulation and Appraisal.



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**Mr. Stefan Schweinfest** is Director of the Statistics Division in UN Department on Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) since July 2014. Under his leadership, the Division compiles and disseminates global statistical information, develops standards and norms for statistical activities including the integration of geospatial, statistical and other information, and supports countries' efforts to strengthen their national statistical systems, including to measure SDGs.

He started his career joining the Statistics Division in 1989 in the area of national accounting, and worked in various other areas, such as statistical capacity building, and indicator frameworks, and was responsible for external relationships of the Division with countries and international organizations.

Stefan Schweinfest studied Mathematical Economics at the Universities of Wuerzburg and Bonn in Germany. He holds a Diplome D'Etudes Approfondies (Masters) from the University of Paris in these fields. He also conducted postgraduate research at the London School of Economics (LSE).



**Mr. Matthias Reister** is Chief of the Development Data Section at the United Nations Statistics Division, New York since 2015. In this function he is responsible for the Division's cross-cutting databases and publications, among them UNdata and the Global SDG Indicators database. From 2020 to 2022 he served as secretary of the Working Group on Measurement of Development Support established by the United Nations Statistical Commission that developed the SDG indicator 17.3.1. Other areas of work are statistical quality assurance and the monitoring of the SDGs. Before, he was Senior Statistician at the Office of the Director of the Statistics Division and for many years Chief of the International Merchandise Trade Statistics Section and responsible for UNComtrade. He joined the Statistics Division in 2000. Mr. Reister started his career at the Federal Statistical Office of Germany (Destatis) where he held management positions in the areas of health statistics and national accounts.

Mr. Reister holds Master degrees in Economics and in Business administration.