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Short Bio of speakers

High Representative of UNCTAD

H.E. Mr. Luis Manuel Piantini Munnigh, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the WTO



Samuel K. Gayi is Head of the Special Unit on Commodities, UNCTAD, in Geneva. Samuel Gayi started at UNCTAD in 1994 as an Economic Affairs Officer in the Office of the Special Coordinator for Least Developed Countries. He is currently Head, Special Unit on Commodities. He holds a Ph.D. in Development Economics from the University of Manchester and has taught in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana. He was also the Principal Planning Economist/Acting Manager, Strategic Planning Division, African Development Bank, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. Samuel has researched and published on a range of development issues of relevance to the least developed countries and Africa, including, Trade Diversification, Financial Sector Reforms, Domestic Financial Resource Mobilization, WTO/trade issues, Structural Adjustment and Poverty Reduction, and Trade Performance and Commodity Dependence.



Ashutosh Shastri is the founder of EnerStrat Consulting- a London based international strategic management consultancy practice in the Energy Sector. Ashutosh has advised leading international energy companies in their corporate and business unit strategies, conducted due diligence for Private Equity and VC funds, provided analyses of macroeconomic and geo-political trends in global energy and its implications for Institutional Investors/Asset Managers. He has acted as independent expert in a range of commercial renegotiations/disputes in the natural gas/LNG and electricity contracts. In addition to his strategic/commercial advisory, he is an adviser to the Commonwealth Secretariat. He also has experience of Track 2 international dialogues on Energy and Climate Negotiations and has provided expert testimony to various (UK) parliamentary committees on Shale Gas, LNG and Energy Security and Pricing. Between 2011 and 2013, he advised the UNECE Gas Centre in Geneva with special emphasis on Unconventional/Shale Gas-Global LNG and the expansion of its scope of activities to cover Asia Pacific Region. He chaired the Industry Forum of the UNECE Gas Centre in Daegu in South-Korea which had a special focus on gas markets globalization. He has also acted as policy adviser to National Governments in Africa and elsewhere where his experience includes conducting policy framing workshops for senior government decision makers and crafting energy policies. He has authored several published papers on Global Unconventional/Shale Gas, LNG, Smart Grids and Wind Energy. Prior to founding EnerStrat, he was an expert consultant in the global energy practice of McKinsey and Company based in London between the years 1995-2003. Prior to McKinsey, he worked as a TQM/ISO-9000 Champion and a Project Engineer in India. Ashutosh is an electrical engineering graduate of The Victoria Jubilee Technological Institute, University of Mumbai. Ashutosh is a member of several committees in the World



Energy Council, chiefly the Trilemma Group, Global Energy Scenarios Committee and Unconventional Gas Expert Group and the international task force on Nuclear Energy Strategy: Post Fukushima. Additionally he is also a member of the Energy Institute, Chatham House, The Institute of Directors and a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Fuellers.

George Ropsomanikis is a Senior Economist in the FAO Trade and Markets Division, where he leads a team working on issues related to smallholder agriculture, price volatility and foresight analysis. His research focuses on food price volatility and its impact, food security, and agricultural development. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Reading and has authored over fifty journal articles, working papers, book chapters and notes. In 2011, he coordinated the work of International Organizations on the InterAgency report to the G20 Agriculture Ministerial ‘Price Volatility in Food and Agricultural Markets: Policy Responses’. He has been a Technical Editor of the State of Food Insecurity in the World (2013-2015), and of the FAO Commodity Market Review (2007-08, 2009-10).

Amy Reynolds embarked on a career in Agricultural Economics in 1991. Her current position is Senior Economist at the International Grains Council, a London-based intergovernmental organisation which seeks to further international cooperation in the grains, rice and oilseeds sectors through information sharing, analysis and consultation on market and policy developments. Amy has been with the Council for 16 years. Previously, she was an economist at the Meat and Livestock Commission where she mainly monitored UK and international trends in the beef and veal sector. Amy holds a BSc (Hons) degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.



Jean Marc Anga has over twenty years’ experience in agricultural commodity development, eighteen of which have been acquired in the International Cocoa Organization. In consequence, Dr. Anga has become a world expert on cocoa, a commodity that plays a vital role in the economies of several African countries, particularly for poverty alleviation in rural communities. Over the years, he has developed a substantial knowledge and understanding of African socio-economic affairs coupled with a keen global perspective on sustainable commodity development. Dr. Anga started his career in his home country in the 1980’s, initially working as Project Analyst in the Ministry of Agriculture of Côte d’Ivoire, before rising to become Deputy National Coordinator in the Plant Protection Department. His international career began after completing his postgraduate studies in the United Kingdom when, in February 1996, he was offered the post of Project Officer in the International Cocoa Organization. Promotion to the position of Project Manager followed swiftly, and in 2005, Dr. Anga rose to the post of Director of the Economics and Statistics Division of ICCO. In March 2010, Dr. Anga was appointed to the position of Acting Executive Director of the International Cocoa Organization. In September 2012, the Members of the International Cocoa Council unanimously confirmed Dr. Anga in the position of Executive Director of the International Cocoa Organization. Dr. Anga, a national from Côte d’Ivoire in West Africa, holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Science from the University of London and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Westminster University, in London.

Andrei Guitchounts is a Director of Trade Analysis of the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC). He graduated from the Moscow State Institute for International Relations with master’s degree in economics and international trade in 1978. He worked at the Soviet state trading company “Exportljon/Novoexport” in cotton trading department from 1978 to 1990. He joined the Secretariat of ICAC in 1990 and is working on cotton trade issues and statistics. The ICAC is an association of more than 40 cotton producing and consuming countries. The mission of the ICAC is to assist governments in fostering a profitable and healthy world cotton industry. The Committee achieves this mission by serving as a forum for consultation and cooperation on international issues related to cotton policies, by providing



accurate and timely statistics on cotton production, consumption, trade and by facilitating the exchange of technical information about cotton.



Sujatmiko, Director, Directorate General of Mineral and Coal, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources of the Republic of Indonesia. Sujatmiko was born in Sragen, 19 May 1965. He joined Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources of Indonesia back in 1995 as Mine Inspector. Receiving his Master in 2002 from Paris School of Mine majoring in Mineral Economy. From 2009 to 2011, he serves as Deputy Director for Environmental Protection under the Directorate General of Mineral and Coal (DGMC). 2009 to 2011, he was assigned as Head of Planning and Reporting under Secretariat Directorate General of Mineral and Coal. And starting January 2015, he is appointed as Director of Mineral and Coal Program Supervision under DGMC. Mr. Sujatmiko was in charge of policy evaluating for development of mineral and coal including national planning and utilization of mineral and coal, spatial planning and database, mineral and coal related investment and cooperation, as well as mineral and coal related state revenue.



Glenn Gemerts is a Senior Geologist who served for many years as Head of the Suriname Geological & Mining Service (GMD) and as Deputy Director Mining of the Ministry of Natural Resources. For several years he also served as Managing Director and President Director of the State Mining Company, N.V. Grassalco. Mr. Gemerts was a Member of the Gross Rosebel Task Force Negotiation Team and a Member of the Advisory Group for the Development of the Bakhuis Bauxite Deposits. For now, Mr. Gemerts serves as an Advisor to the State Mining Company, N.V. Grassalco. Since 2005 Mr. Gemerts is a Member of the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining Minerals and Metals (IGF) and has been Vice Chairman for South America and the Caribbean. In 2013 he became Chairman of IGF.

Charles Akong is Economic Affairs Officer for Policy and Regulation at the African Mineral Development Center, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Addis Ababa Ethiopia. Until January 2015, he was Programme Officer, Security Sector Reform, and African Union Commission Addis Ababa. Previously, he worked in WHO in various positions including Technical Officer, Office of the Assistant Director General, WHO Geneva as well as External Relations Officer at the European Commission, Brussels. He has also worked as International Consultant, Energy and Poverty Reduction Strategies UNDP, New York as well as Energy Policy Analyst in Cameroon. He also was elected board member of the Global Village Energy Partnership International. Mr. Akong has background in economics, public health, public policy, climate science, international relations and environmental sciences.

Aloyce Tesha trained at the University of Dar es Salaam and graduated with Bachelor of Science (Geology) and employed as a geologist in the Ministry of Energy and Minerals since 1984. Since then worked as exploration geologist at the then Minerals Department of the Ministry which later was changed to Geological Survey of Tanzania. Completed graduate degree in applied geophysics at the University of Texas at El Paso in USA in 1995 and worked briefly with the Tanzania Geological Survey before being transferred to the Ministry of Energy and Minerals headquarters under the Commissioner of Minerals. At the Ministry head office, he was dealing with policy issues and administration of the mining act and later appointed Project Manager to a UNIDO/UNDP/GEF funded Global Mercury Project being implemented in six countries worldwide from 2002 to 2009. He was appointed Ministry of Energy and Minerals spokesman from 2009 to 2011 and then appointed Assistant Commissioner of Minerals for the Southern Zone in 2011 where he was responsible in administering the Mining Act 2010 and its regulation in the zone on behalf of the Commissioner of Minerals. He was transferred to State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) with effect from May 2012 responsible with technical matters of the Corporation. In July 2014 he was appointed Acting Director of Investment and Marketing of the Corporation. In January 2015



transferred to the Ministry to work as Assistant Commissioner of Minerals under the Commissioner of Minerals dealing with mineral economics and trade. He has published more than ten international scientific papers related to mineral sector.



Michael Tost is Vale's Head of External Affairs Europe/ North America, based in Switzerland. Michael has an environmental engineering master's degree from the University of Leoben, Austria and various post-graduate courses at London Business School, UK and AGSM in Sydney, Australia. He is a passionate and motivated sustainable development and mining professional. Before joining Vale, Michael was Head of Mining and Metals at the World Economic Forum, where he initiated the project "Mining & Metals in a Sustainable World" and was focused on the advancement of responsible mineral development. Before, he was with Rio Tinto, where he worked for over 12 years in various sustainable development and health, safety and environment related roles in Austria, UK and Canada. Outside work, Michael is very passionate about mountains, endurance sports and nature.



Philippe Chalmin, diplômé d'HEC, Agrégé d'histoire et Docteur es lettres, est professeur d'histoire économique à l'Université Paris-Dauphine où il dirige le Master Affaires Internationales. Il est le président fondateur de Cyclope, le principal institut de recherches européen sur les marchés des matières premières qui publie chaque année le rapport Cyclope sur l'économie et les marchés mondiaux. Il a été nommé en Octobre 2010, Président de l'Observatoire de la Formation des prix et des Marges Alimentaires auprès du Ministre de l'Agriculture et du Ministre de l'Economie et des Finances. Il a été membre du Conseil d'Analyse Economique auprès du Premier Ministre, du Haut Conseil des Biotechnologies et du Conseil des Ventes Volontaires. Il est l'auteur d'une quarantaine d'ouvrages dont parmi les plus récents « Le monde a faim » (2009), « le siècle de Jules » (2010), « demain, j'ai 60 ans, journal d'un économiste » (2011), « Crises, 1929, 1974, 2008 Histoire et espérances » (2013).



Abhishek Deshpande leads the oil and oil products research at Natixis, providing price forecasts, trading strategies and analysis of developments across the global oil and oil product markets. Prior to joining Natixis, Abhishek worked for a business consulting firm in Cambridge. Abhishek has a doctorate in Chemical Engineering from Cambridge University and holds Chartered Engineer status with the Institute of Engineers, UK. While pursuing his degree, he spent time working for Indian Oil Corporation Limited. Abhishek has appeared on CNBC, Bloomberg TV, presented at Oil & Gas conferences and is quoted regularly by financial media globally. He has also published articles in financial and energy journals such as Petroleum Economics.



Benson Mwakina is an Electrical Engineer with over twenty four years post graduate experience in Public Service. He is trained both locally and internationally on renewable energy technologies, project formulation, feasibility study analysis, environmental impact analysis, contract management and funding. He holds an MBA(Executive) Degree. He is the Senior Principal Superintending Engineer heading the Alternative Energy Technologies Division in the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum which comprises of Solar Energy, Wind Energy and Small Hydro Power Development. His duties are: (i) Monitoring, supervision and evaluation of alternative energy technology programmes including off-grid, decentralized hybrid and stand-alone solar, wind and small hydropower systems; (ii) Preliminary designs and cost estimation of alternative energy technology projects; (iii) Coordination and appraisal of Alternative Energy Technology Projects; (iv) Development of technical standards related to Solar, Wind, and Small hydropower; and (v) Review of environmental Impact Assessment reports studies related to alternative energy technology projects.



Catherine Araujo-Bonjean is a doctor in economics. She is a permanent CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique) researcher. She works at CERDI (Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches sur le Développement International), a laboratory of economics at the University of Auvergne in Clermont-Ferrand (France). Her main fields of research are: Commodity markets, Agricultural and Food policies, Household behavior and Family economics. She has published numerous papers in international peer reviewed journals such as *World Development*, *Ecological Economics* and the *Journal of African*

Economics. She has refereed papers for international journals among which: *Agricultural Economics*, *Environmental and Resource Economics*, *European Journal of Development Research*, *Food Policy*. She also supervises Ph.D. students and post-doctoral fellows in their field. She is a consultant for the World Bank, the FAO and the UNDP.

Francis Mulangu is an agricultural economist at the African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET). His responsibility includes leading ACET policy and research agenda in the areas of agricultural value added, and agro-processing, a work agenda that contributes to ACET's Africa Transformation Report (ATR). Francis joined ACET in 2011 and in the course of his tenure he has published and contributed to academic and policy papers, book chapters, and high profile reports including a background paper for the First African Human Development Report published by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in 2012. Francis' academic work has focused on agricultural value chain, climate change valuation, rainfall index insurance contingent credits, and trade and its implication on poverty. Francis holds an MA in Economics and Ph.D. degree in Agricultural Environmental, and Development Economics from the Ohio State University and a BS in Economics from the University of North Texas.



Christophe Gouel is research fellow at INRA, Economie Publique, Paris. His research topic is the dynamics of commodity prices, particularly in relation to issues of food security. He studies the design of stabilisation policies through storage and trade policies. In 2011/2012, he was an economist at the World Bank, Development research group for the Agriculture and Rural Development program. In 2011, he completed his PhD at the Ecole Polytechnique. His PhD dissertation revolves around agricultural prices fluctuations and the optimal design of stabilisation policies. He defended it in April 2011 and he was under the

direction of Jean-Marc Bourgeon and Sébastien Jean. In 2006/2008, he was an economist at CEPII, where he is still research fellow. At CEPII, he contributed to the development of the applied general equilibrium model MIRAGE and he used it to study issues such as agricultural policies, trade policies and WTO negotiations.



Catherine Simonet is Research Officer for the Resilience and Adaptation team in the Climate and Environment Programme. She is Development Economist with research interests in climate change adaptation, environmental and economic vulnerability, climate information and resilience. Her previous work has centred on adaptation in the Least Developed Countries and the impact of climate shocks on economic development and climate vulnerability. She holds a PhD in Development Economics from the Centre d'Etudes et de

Recherches Internationales (CERDI), France, and has previously worked for the French think tank Foundation for International Development Study and the European Commission Joint Research Center (JRC). Her country experience is focused on sub-Saharan Africa in countries including Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali, and in Pacific countries including Tonga and Polynesia.



Gerdien Meijerink is an economist, and heads the International Policy Department of LEI, a research institute of Wageningen UR. She received her MSc and PhD from Wageningen University (agricultural economics and development economics). Her area of expertise is in international agricultural, trade and food policy, with focus on the agricultural and food markets in developing countries. She has extensive experience in collaborative research projects in developing countries (South-East Asia and Africa) at Wageningen UR from 2001 and at the CGIAR (ISNAR) from 1996-2001. Her recent work focuses on food markets (local to international) and economic risk management in these markets.

H.E. Mr. Marwa Joel Kisiri, Ambassador, Permanent Observer, Permanent Delegation of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva



Abdou Konlambigue, a citizen of Togo, is a Program Officer Markets Access at AGRA. He is in charge of the development and the support to innovative value chain approach that increase the participation of smallholder farmers in local, regional and global trade flows. This is done through the development and the management of grants but also the backstopping of partners. He manages a diversified portfolio of investments in Ghana, Burkina Faso, Mali and Nigeria. Mr. Konlambigue has more than 12 years' experience in rural finance, structured trade financing, and agricultural value chain development. He joins AGRA from International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC) where he has been the Regional Advisor on Value Chain Economics and Rural Finance. Mr. Konlambigue holds a Master's degree in Rural Economy and Sociology from the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium and Engineer degree in Agronomy (Major: Agricultural Economics) from the University of Lomé's School of Agronomy.



Barhat Kulkarni, Stalwart Management Consultancy Services, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India. Over the past 10 years, Mr. Kulkarni has handled various assignments relating to operations, consulting, and research in different areas of commodity and financial market microstructures. He has worked for agencies such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), IFPRI and exchanges such as MCX, ECX and AHGX. He worked for more than five years in commodity markets in Africa. In 2000, he started his career as a commodity trader and in 2005 moved to join MCX. In 2008 he took up a job with UNDP and was tasked to advise in setting up the trading operations for the Ethiopia Commodity Exchange. In 2011, he ended his assignment with UNDP and began his own consulting firm, helping upcoming African exchanges. Presently he is working on assignment to set up a commodity exchange in Malawi. He is also involved in several other initiatives in Asia and Africa. He holds a PhD in commodity markets and has written two books, one on agri risk management, the other on commodity markets and derivatives.

H.E. Mr. Malloum Bamanga Abbas, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Chad to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

George Mermigkas joined the Office of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Geneva in September 2013 dealing with trade issues and their relation to food security and rural development. He has a wealth of experience as he has served the Greek administration both in Athens and in Geneva, working for the Greek Permanent Mission. In addition, he supported the Cyprus Presidency of the EU working at the Permanent Mission of Cyprus in Geneva. His role includes, inter alia, monitoring the multilateral trade negotiations and preparing reports on aspects having an impact on food security, monitoring international policy developments in Geneva related to the mandate and the objectives of the



FAO, representing the FAO at forums related to trade and food security and providing policy and strategic advice. He holds a BA in Agricultural Economics and an MSc in Rural and Regional development.



Steven Were Omamo is a Senior Advisor in the Policy and Programme Division of the UN World Food Programme (WFP), having returned to WFP in January 2015 after two years as Director of Policy and Advocacy with the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). Before joining AGRA, Dr. Omamo was Director of WFP's Addis Ababa Liaison Office and Representative to the African Union and UN Economic Commission for Africa. He also served as Deputy Director of WFP's Policy, Planning and Strategy Division, Chief of WFP's Food Security and Safety Nets Service, and Chief of WFP's Social Protection and Safety Nets Service. A national of Kenya, Dr. Omamo has worked in several national, regional and international organizations, including Egerton University, the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute, the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa, the International Service for National Agricultural Research, the International Livestock Research Institute, and the International Food Policy Research Institute. Dr. Omamo has published extensively on agricultural and broader economic development policy, with a particular focus on policy requirements for strengthening smallholder agriculture in Africa. Dr. Omamo holds degrees from California State University, Fresno (BSc), the University of Connecticut (MSc), and Stanford University (MA and PhD).

Borgui Yerima est actuellement chargé de Programme «Régulation du marché» à l'Agence régionale pour l'agriculture et l'alimentation (ARAA). Il y coordonne dans le cadre des politiques publiques de régulation du marché, les études sur les instruments aux frontières et les instruments de stockage permettant de faire face à la volatilité et à la flambée des prix des produits agricoles dans l'espace CEDEAO, et assure la veille sur l'économie ouest africaine, des impacts du Tarif extérieur commun, de l'OMC et de l'Accord de Partenariat Economique (APE) entre la CEDEAO et l'Union Européenne. Il était précédemment enseignant d'économie industrielle et d'économie agricole à l'Université de Parakou au Bénin. Borgui YERIMA a passé plus de 20 ans dans la recherche (1989-2012) au Laboratoire d'analyse régionale et d'expertise sociale (LARES) à Cotonou au Bénin, où il a réalisé ou contribué à la réalisation de plusieurs études notamment sur: «le commerce transfrontalier en Afrique de l'ouest», «Accord de Partenariat Economique et Dynamique des flux commerciaux régionaux», «la fiscalité relative aux transactions commerciales entre le Bénin et le Nigeria», «Identification des produits sensibles dans le cadre de l'Accord de l'APE CEDEAO-UE», etc. Il y a publié en collaboration: en 2012 un rapport sur l'Etat du commerce de la CEDEAO, en 2011 «produits de base, crise économique mondiale et développement des capacités productives pour les PMA: cas du Bénin», en 2008 «les potentialités agricoles de la CEDEAO pour la fondation FARM», en 1998, «Après le cycle d'Uruguay, les opportunités pour les pays les sous-développés».