

HOW TO MOBILIZE PRIVATE FINANCE TOWARDS FUNDING THE UN-SDGs?

Monday, May 6

10:00 Official opening ceremony by Jean-Pierre Diserens,
Secretary-General of CIFA

10:15 Welcome address by Tony Mahabir, President of CIFA

10:45 Keynote Speaker: (TBC)

11:30 Keynote Speaker:

Ferghane Azihari, Chargé d'études, Institut de recherches économiques
et fiscales (IREF), Paris

**THEME 1: POVERTY, INC.
FIGHTING POVERTY IS BIG BUSINESS.
BUT, WHO PROFITS THE MOST?**

12:00 Keynote Speaker:

H.E. Mr. Courtenay Rattray, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of
Jamaica to the United Nations, Member of the Group of Friends of SDG Finance.

12:30 Keynote Speaker:

Navid Hanif, Director, Financing for Sustainable Development Office,
Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

THEME 2: FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT (FFD)

At the UN "the Financing for Sustainable Development Office" through the
FFD Forum plays a critical role for financing the 2030 Agenda. In addition, the
FFD Office monitors the SDG implementation, promotes a competitive SDG
Investment Fair and facilitates a dialogue on international cooperation in tax
matters through the Tax Committee.

The recommendations adopted by member states last month at the fourth
ECOSOC FFD Forum and transmitted to the HLPF (High Level Policy Forum)
2019, will be presented in this opening session.

CIFA will lean on the emerging economic trends as they offer hopes for
economic growth and review the keys messages in relation to sustainable
finance.

13:00 Networking Lunch Break

UNITED NATIONS 2030 AGENDA

15:00 THEME 3: ECOSOC 2019 SESSION

**"ONE WORLD FOR ALL: EMPOWERING PEOPLE TO
BUILD EQUAL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES"**

**"ADDRESSING INEQUALITIES AND CHALLENGES TO
INCLUSION THROUGH FISCAL, WAGE AND SOCIAL
PROTECTION POLICIES"**

Confirmed Moderator:

Hanifa D. Mezoui, Member of CIFA's Executive Committee, Former Senior
Advisor Humanitarian Affairs and Civil Society, United Nations Alliance of
Civilizations (UNAOC)

Confirmed Speakers:

Daniela Bas, Director, Division for Inclusive Social Development
Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

Chantal Line Carpentier, Chief, UNCTAD New York Office of the
Secretary General

Louise Kantrow, Former International Chamber of Commerce (ICC),
Ambassador to the United Nations

Lila Karbassi, Chief, Programmes, United Nations Global Compact

Stephanie Kelton, Professor of Public Policy and Economics, Stony Brook
University, USA

H.E. Mr. Horacio Sevilla Borja, Former Ambassador of Ecuador to
the UN, Chair of Group 77 for 2017

16:30 Concluding Remarks:

Francois Lorient, Human Rights Advocate-President, Bar Association for
NGOs

Reda Mezoui, Docteur d'Etat en Sciences Politiques, Algiers University

17:00 End of first day

20:00 17th CIFA Forum Patrons' Gala Dinner
The Metropolitan Club New York, 1 East 60th Street, New York,
'by invitation only' (*Black tie suggested*)

20:30 Confirmed Keynote Speaker:

H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, Former High Representative of
the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), former President of the
United Nations General Assembly (66th Session)

Tuesday, May 7

10:00 Welcome address by the Chairperson for the day

Afaf Konja, Communication Specialist, former Spokesperson for the President of the United Nations General Assembly and UN Resident Global Correspondent

10:30 THEME 4: GLOBAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM REGULATION AND THE IMPENDING NEED TO FINANCE THE UNITED NATIONS' SDGs

How to channel private investments to finance the Sustainable Development Goals?

- ▶ Global financial markets' deregulation in 1970s, '80s and '90s allowed for the introduction of highly sophisticated financial instruments, which caused an overt misallocation of savings and impaired the efficient allocation of financial resources towards real economic growth. How to create the needed funding of 'common good' goals, such as the SDGs?
- ▶ In the aftermath of the global financial crisis of 2008, enhanced financial regulation aimed mainly at the stabilization of the financial system (as a pre-condition to economic growth and job creation) and the protection of investors. Should regulators now focus on directing the global financial system towards becoming the leading funding source for achieving the SDGs by 2030? Are these goals (financial system stability and SDGs) compatible or incompatible?
- ▶ How to improve regulation of the financial system in order to reduce/eliminate speculative investments?
- ▶ How to align the global financial system with sustainable development? Which investments are really relevant and efficient for the SDGs as opposed to financial instruments basically packaged/structured to generate fees/income benefitting the financial system dominant players and asset managers?
- ▶ How to align the financial system interests with the 'common good' goals: SDGs? What is urgently needed: increased liberalization and deregulation, allowing for enhanced competition, stronger regulation across all sectors (financial and economic), selective nationalization process...?

Confirmed Moderator:

William K. Black, Member of CIFA's Advisory Board, Associate Professor of Economics and Law, University of Missouri-Kansas City, USA

Confirmed Speakers:

Thierry Bonneau, Professor of Law, Director of the doctoral school of private law, University of Panthéon-Assas (Paris 2)

H.E. Mr. Mohamed Fathi Ahmed Edrees, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Egypt to the UN, Chair Group 77 for 2018

Joe Oliver, Canadian Corporate Director, former Minister of Natural Resources (2011) and former Minister of Finance (2014)

Olaf Weber, Research Chair in Sustainable Finance, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Canada

12:15 THEME 5: TAXATION AND SDGs

How to achieve the SDGs through a tax system aimed at enhancing private wealth creation?

- ▶ Rethinking taxation in a globally integrated liberal economy: how to finance public spending without impairing competitiveness, innovation and growth?
- ▶ Who should bear the burden of direct taxation in a world where a State cannot tax:
 1. capital/capital income (free movement of capital)
 2. corporate profits too heavily (risk of delocalization)
 3. the rich (who can transfer their residence to low tax jurisdictions)
 4. the poor
 5. the middle class exclusively that consumes and drives demand?
- ▶ How to achieve tax compliance (fight against tax fraud) without excluding vast amounts of undeclared funds from financing economic development? Are tax compliance policies going too far and playing against economic development especially in emerging countries? How to unlock the financial resources available in offshore accounts?

Confirmed Moderator:

Daniel Mitchell, Member of CIFA's Advisory Board; Chairman, Center for Freedom and Prosperity

Confirmed Speakers:

Allison Christians, Full Professor Associate Dean (Research) H. Heward Stikeman Chair in Tax Law, McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Peter Egger, Professor of Applied Economics, ETH Zurich, KOF Swiss Economic Institute

Stephanie Kelton, Professor of Public Policy and Economics, Stony Brook University, USA

14:00 *Networking Lunch Break*

15:00 THEME 6: QUANTUM POLITICS AND SDGs

How to achieve the SDGs in the new political era of quantum politics characterized by the populist intrinsic opposition to regulation, taxes, globalization and multilateralism, along with the rejection of political elites and mainstream media?

- ▶ In the current global political environment, could SDGs be achieved through multilateral agreements, increased regulation, heavier taxation of the carbon content of fuels, bureaucratic politics approach?
- ▶ In a newly designed global political environment, could the answer be: diminished State intervention and regulation, reduced tax pressure, increased trust in the capacity of citizens, corporates, investors to come up with the best solutions to face the challenges of achieving the SDGs?

Confirmed Moderator:

Francois Lorient, Human Rights Advocate-President, Bar Association for NGOs

Confirmed Speakers:

Joe Oliver, Canadian Corporate Director, former Minister of Natural Resources (2011) and former Minister of Finance (2014)

Henry Olsen, Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center, Washington, DC

16:30 End of second day