Agenda 2030

The Global Goals
For Sustainable Development
LEAVE NO FAMILY BEHIND
World Family Summit 2016
4-7 December | São Paulo - Brazil

Our Partners:
Start a new era, framing the approach to development into the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets, which calls for an integrated policy-action approach to ensure inclusive economic development, inclusive social development, environmental sustainability, peace and security that responds to the aspirations of all families for a world free of want and fear.

- Provide substantive information on the 2030 Global Sustainable Development Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets;
- Discuss the positive impact of the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets on the Family;
- Promote the integration of a family-focused perspective of the SDGs into policy-making and service-delivery at national and local levels;
- Provide participants with expert analysis on means to include and implement family-focused policies and services contributing to eradicate poverty and promote prosperity, ensuring that no Family is left behind.
- Reach a consensus among participants on the benefits of supporting the inclusion and implementation of the sustainable development goals and targets into family-focused public economic and social policies formulation at national, local and community levels;
- Address the mechanisms and processes for an enhanced collaboration between governments and societies for the SDGs implementation;
- Outline possible new collaboration models useful in providing partnership schemes addressing the SDGs implementation to multi-sectors stakeholders;
- Deliberate on the future of the World Family Summits in the coming decade;
- Draft and approve conclusions and recommendations to the World Family Summit 2016 Declaration to be sent to the 2017 UN ECOSOC High Level Political Forum.

Vision:

Objectives:

Expected Results:

World Family Summit 2016
4-7 December | São Paulo - Brazil

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The World Family Organization recognizes that the Millennium Development Goals helped to galvanize development efforts, improved the existence of many families, saved the lives of those threatened by extreme poverty, disease and hunger, reduced child and maternal mortality, improved the health of people with HIV/AIDS and other non-communicable diseases, decreased the number of children out of school, improved gender equality and participation of women, increased access to clean drinking water and sanitation, raised awareness on environmental issues and improved global partnerships for development.

Despite those achievements, we also recognized that many challenges still remain, progress in human development continue to be uneven, leaving many behind, therefore it was an urgent need to nd new development pathways for transformative changes towards global, inclusive, people-centered and planet sensitive sustainable development to insure human dignity, equality, environmental stewardship, healthy economies, freedom for want and fear and a renewal global partnership.

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Rio +20 in 2012, initiated a consultative process with a wide range of stakeholders reaching a consensus that the Post-2015 Global Development Agenda has to be built on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals, the four core dimensions of development which are inclusive social development, inclusive economic development, environmental sustainability, and peace and security as the three core principles which are human rights, equality and sustainability.

As the results of these wide consultations, the outcome document on Sustainable Development of Rio +20 'The future we want' proposed 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets which are directly or indirectly related to the Family. The World Family Organization with its members and partners could not be out of the discussions and out of the agenda set.

Acknowledging that the family – the basic unit of society – is a powerful agent for sustainable social, economic, environment and cultural development, including peace and security, bearing the primary responsibility for the care, development and protection of children, as well as instilling values of citizenship and belonging in the society, the World Family Summit +10 decided to support the SDGs proposals and included them in the next WFO Strategic Framework 2016-2020 to increase cooperation at all levels on family issues and for undertaking concerted actions to strengthen family-centered policies and programs as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development.

The World Family Organization with its members and partners, managing the transition from the MDGs to the SDGs, are strongly committed to work efficiently to help families to understand and exercise the proposed goals in their everyday life contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

The 2016 World Family Summit – “Families in Balance: Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity ensuring that no Family is left behind”, is a beginning of a NEW ERA which can transform how the future unfolds for the Families all over the world.

ENSURING NO FAMILY BEHIND...
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Ms. Daniela Bas, of Italian nationality, is the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, which provides capacity building and technical cooperation services and it houses the focal points for the UN system of youth, aging, family, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and cooperatives.

Political scientist with a major in International Politics, she graduated Magna Cum Laude with a dissertation on “The elimination of architectural barriers and the employment of people with physical disabilities”. Certified journalist and multicultural / life coach. Her interest has always been people-centred in the various activities, associations, and professional roles she has held.

In addition to her work at the UN from 1986 to 1995, from 1996 until 2011 she held managerial roles in the private sector in Italy and was, inter alia, adviser for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and for the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on human rights and social affairs. Designated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, she was a member of the Board of Directors of the European Union Agency of Fundamental Rights; Special Adviser to the Vice President of the European Commission (On. Frattini); at the European Union, she was representative on the topic “Tourism for All” on behalf of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers of her country.

Ms. Bas worked in radio and TV shows (RAI and Radio 24/ Il Sole 24 Ore in Italy, and TV Channel 4 in the UK) and moderated conferences and wrote articles for magazines on tourism for all.
Welcome Message

Over the past decades we have seen dramatic changes shaping our world, our communities and our families. The societies are ageing, more women work outside their homes and more of us live in the cities. The competitive and rapidly changing labour markets compel parents to be more mobile in search of adequate jobs to support their families. Families themselves are becoming smaller and have to be more self-reliant as they can no longer depend on women or extended family members to care for the young and the old.

Family poverty is still with us. It is troubling for a simple reason: if we do not tackle poverty within families, it will continue in the next generation. Many families struggle to provide for their children and at the same time support their ageing and often frail older family members. Many adopt strategies helping them to survive but jeopardizing their children’s future, for instance taking children out of school to help take care of younger siblings.

Governments and civil society have an obligation to help families so that they do not resort to this type of strategies. They must be empowered to overcome poverty so that it does not continue in the next generation.

We are encouraged to see many policies and programmes doing just that. For instance social protection programmes, child benefits, better child and maternal health services all help to do away with poverty. Adequately paid jobs for parents are key to overcome poverty, as is helping parents reconcile their work with family obligations through a number of initiatives ranging from creating flexible work environments to investments in child care and after-school activities.

We also have to make sure that cities are more livable for families. Here we can think of building housing for all generations. For instance, we need more investment in intergenerational housing arrangements in the city, where extended family proximity is encouraged through tax credits or home loan incentives. So called 'cash and counselling' programmes allow using cash benefits by family members caring for their relatives. To be sure good practices abound and it is good to exchange them.

The topic you chose for the Summit “Families in Balance: eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity and ensuring that no family is left behind” complements the guiding theme of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of ‘Leaving No One Behind’. It makes us focus on families as dynamic and changing units rather than individuals.

It is also a timely topic in light of the theme of the upcoming 55th session of the Commission for Social Development, namely Strategies for the eradication of poverty to achieve sustainable development for all.

The World Family Summit is to bring together the experience and good practices, the endeavours of civil society, policy makers, agencies and academics working with families across the world.

I welcome this effort and its goal of reflecting on how best to address the challenges of today and support the families of tomorrow.
H.E. Dr. Geraldo Alckmin
Governor of São Paulo State, Brazil

Professor, doctor, councilor, Mayor, State Deputy and Congressman twice, Vice-Governor, Governor and Secretary of Development of the Government of São Paulo.

Geraldo Alckmin was born in Pindamonhangaba, a city in the interior of São Paulo State, on November 7, 1952. He is married to Maria Lúcia Alckmin and has three children: Thomaz, Sophia and Geraldo. He began his career in public life at age 19, as an alderman.

Doctor by training, specialized in Anesthesiology. In 1976, at the age of 23, he was elected mayor of his hometown and became the youngest in the city’s history to take office. In 1982, he was elected State Deputy by the PMDB. In 1986, he was elected Congressman.

He was the deputy leader in the National Constituent Assembly and later one of the founders of the Party of the Brazilian Social Democracy (PSDB). In the Chamber, he was the rapporteur for the Consumer Protection Code, and also the rapporteur for the bill that originated the Social Security Benefits Law.

In 1994, he was elected Vice-Governor of Mário Covas. In addition to his duties, he coordinated the State Privatization Program of the Government of São Paulo. With the death of Covas, in 2001, he assumed the government and was reelected in 2002. He was candidate to the City hall of São Paulo in two occasions, in 2000 and in 2008. Also, he was candidate for the Presidency of the Republic in 2006. In 2009, he was nominated Secretary of State of Development. In 2010, he won the elections for Governor of the state in the first round, receiving more than 11.5 million votes. In 2014, he was re-elected with more than 12.2 million votes.
Minister Osmar Terra was born in the city of Porto Alegre, state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. He is the former mayor of the Municipality of Santa Rosa, former Secretary of Health and has also served for many mandates as Congressman at the Brazilian National Parliament.

Minister Terra has a Degree as a Medical Doctor by the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro with specialization in Perinatal Health, Education and Baby Development.

Born in the city of São Paulo, Minister José Serra has a extensive career in politics. With a PhD in Economic Sciences, he has served the State of São Paulo as Secretary of Economy and Planning, as Congressman, as Senator and as Governor.

On the National Level, he was also the Minister of Planning and is greatly recognized for his work as Minister of Health during the mandate of Former President Fernando Henrique Cardoso.

Minister Ricardo Barros was born in the city of Maringá, Paraná State, Brazil. At the age of 29, he was the youngest Mayor ever elected in the history of Maringá, a city with more than 340.000 inhabitants.

Before occupying the position of Minister of Health, he has served the State of Paraná as Secretary of Industry, Commerce and Mercosur Affairs and also as Congressman during several mandates.
It is a great honor for me to send this message to the participants of the World Family Summit 2016, with such a strong connection to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. I do this with great admiration to the World Family Organization and I share its commitment to leave no family behind, in our joint efforts to eradicate poverty and promote prosperity.

I thank those who made this summit possible: the people of Brazil as well as its Federal Government and the government of the State of Sao Paulo. I would also like to extend my admiration to the grand patron of this meeting, the distinguished President of Brazil.

For many years now, Brazil has been at the forefront of the global fight to eradicate poverty and foster prosperity for all its citizens, with considerable improvements and innumerable success stories, as sources of inspiration for countries engaged in the same battle. It is thus almost natural that Brazil hosts this Summit.

I would also like to thank the President of the World Family Organization Dr. Deisi Kusztra, and her team, for their unswerving commitment to making this conference a resounding success, year after year. Dr. Deisi Kusztra strongly believes in the ideals of the United Nations and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. I sincerely welcome her efforts to leveraging its Sustainable Development Goals to the most important context in which it should be applied: the family unit. She is undoubtedly an ardent contributor to this most noble cause of the United Nations.

This Summit is taking place at a critical moment in history, slightly more than one year after the unanimous adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the 193 members of the United Nations. This unprecedented Agenda is a plan of action for People, Planet and Prosperity. It recognizes that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, and Peace is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.

This historic decision on a comprehensive, far-reaching set of universal and transformative goals and targets is also very much people-centered. This means it aims at serving people first and indeed recognizes the aspirations of families to enjoy peaceful, prosperous and empowering environments.

The time of action is now. It has now been a year since the Agenda was adopted. The moment for implementation is upon us. We
need to identify tangible, replicable success stories to eradicate poverty and empower people, families, to make their life better. Many challenges are ahead of us. We need to raise awareness about their best practices and bring them to the level of family development.

I can only commend the spirit of the Conference, which brings together a wide variety of those stakeholders who need to join forces and act in collaborative partnerships to implement Agenda 2030. My wish is that the particularities and needs of each stakeholder is heard and taken into account by others. My humble wish is also that, in all discussions, exchanges and deliberations, we all remember that beyond belonging to a stakeholder group, beyond representing specific interests or values, all of us are people that belong to what we call the first circle group: the family. What is true of families is also true of communities and, in the long run, of whole countries.

This means providing children and youth with a nurturing environment for the full realization of their rights and capabilities, helping our countries to reap the dividends, including through safe schools and cohesive communities and families. This means ensuring universal access to sexual education and reproductive health-care services, including family planning, health information and vaccination. This also means fostering family entrepreneurship and agricultural productivity so as to raise the incomes of the urban and of family farmers. This means so many more things at so many levels. We need statistical indicators that would allow us to know better the types of family structures, family processes, and family cultures affecting development, and more importantly, to monitor progress in terms family socioeconomics and the eradication of poverty at the family level.

There is no time to lose if we are to reach the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets by 2030. We only have fourteen years to go before we look around and hopefully can say “we did it”. For that to happen, for poverty to be eradicated and for sustainable development to be a daily reality benefiting all of us, families must be the number one beneficiaries, but they should also be a driving force to make the agenda a reality, through their aspirations, expectations, behaviors and actions. We have promised to leave no one behind and reach the furthest first. It is a promise we cannot break.

We need to be inspired and we also need to act. Only action will shape a better tomorrow. A better tomorrow where no mother will send a child to bed hungry. A better tomorrow where families suffer no war and displacements and can remain together. A better tomorrow where women and children have their rights respected and suffer no violations or abuses. Let’s make it happen now!

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Message from United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

Dear Participants and Friends, welcome to the World Family Summit 2016 in São Paulo, Brazil!

This year’s theme on “Families in Balance: Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity ensuring that No Family is Left Behind” is a significant one as it is looking at families through the perspective of the Sustainable Development Goals. Family certainly is one of the core units to achieve the SDG’s and therefore I am looking forward to engaging in a discussion with the You, the Summit participants, to see how we can best achieve the SDG goals through and with the help of families. We cannot leave anyone behind and for that, families are at the core of reaching the goals in the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

I am honored to be representing the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) at the World Family Summit this year and introduce to you during the NGOs Round Table, the remarkable Family stories having already “The Future They Want”, traced in their destiny. UNAOC’s four pillars: Youth, Education, Media and Migration are closely interlinked with Family. The Alliance believes that families are an important part of cultural, social and sustainable development. Families provide care, peace and security as well as basic values and moral principles to their children. These are all core aspects when we look at raising our children to become responsible and caring adults. The UNAOC works to achieve more socially inclusive and peaceful world by building mutual respect among peoples from different cultural and religious backgrounds. We should embrace diversity, not reject it. Families can help us to achieve these goals.

The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations seeks to overcome divisions, prejudice, misconceptions, and polarization, which potentially threaten world peace. The Alliance aims to address emerging threats emanating from hostile perceptions that foment violence, and to bring about cooperation to heal such divisions starting at the family level. The Alliance is a platform on which the international community can build greater understanding and communication to stem the tide of intolerance and misunderstanding, which is sometimes deliberately promoted for political ends. It can offer to family a new perspective of hope and peace for security and development.

I am looking forward to hearing ideas on how we can see that family is incorporated to the core of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals! Let’s ensure that together we work towards a more peaceful and sustainable world! Let me conclude by congratulating the Government of the State of Sao Paulo for its constant support and applaud Dr. Desi Kusztra for not only her multiple successful and innovative activities but also for her tolerance, compassion and respect for all of humanity.
On behalf of the League of Arab States, I would like to extend my cordial welcome to all distinguished guests coming afar from various parts of the world, and my warm congratulations to World Family Organization, one of the most committed advocate for Family issues Worldwide, for the successful preparation of the World Family Summit 2016, at beautiful multicultural city of São Paulo.

In 2015, the World Family Summit was held in partnership with League of Arab States, for the second time in Cairo, and for the fourth time in the Arab region. As we all know, 2015 was a critical turning point in development history, and Cairo summit was a starting point for a new era proposing the core of post-2015 development Agenda that forge ahead for greater success and now the World Family Summit 2015 Declaration, approved in Cairo, is an official UN Document.

On the Regional level, the Arab Regional Group proudly achieved being the first regional group that successfully put a regional Family Development Agenda 2030, in parallel with the International Sustainable Development Agenda 2030, cross cutting the 17 goals of SDGs from a family perspective.

Taking into consideration the conflicts that the Arab region is suffering, and the devastating consequences of these conflicts, the "Family Development Agenda in the Arab Region 2030" was endorsed by Ministers of Social Affairs in Arab Region during the "High Level Arab Conference" on "Requirements and Protection of the Arab Family in Light of Contemporary Changes" in 2016 organized by League of Arab States and currently in the Arab region, we are working on developing indicators to assess the implementation of "Family Development Agenda 2030" in Arab countries.

This year, while the World Family Summit 2016 is devoted to address eradicating poverty, insisting on including the voices of the families all over the world, we should take into account the growing inequalities both within and across all countries. It is also important to use the family as the unit of analysis when designing efforts and policies to alleviate poverty, and to recognize an inclusive economic growth as a prerequisite for sustainable poverty reduction.

On this occasion, I would like to thank Dr. Deisi Kusztra – President of World Family Organization, and her very unique team for their determination and great sincerity working hard to support Family issues all over the World.

I look forward to a successful World Family Summit and concrete proposals to further enhance to role of all families in development “Leaving No Family Behind”.
Peace and justice are the bedrock of economic and social development. The inclusion of SDG 16 – peace and justice – in Agenda 2030 represents a major step forward in the work of the United Nations and the world community. The challenge of achieving peace has both an international as well as a national dimension.

Too much foreign aid and development work of past decades has focused exclusively on the national level, ignoring and often denying the international dimension. However, the international dimension appears clearly in the UN Charter, including in its provisions on non-intervention in other countries and on the right of countries to self-determination.

Virtually all the conflicts of recent and historical times have an important explicit or covert international dimension. As development stakeholders committed to the family as the basic unit of society, we must recognize and keep on our radar screens both the international and national dimensions of conflicts. Throughout the world, but especially in resource-rich or strategically important countries, war has destroyed lives and livelihoods, as well as increased poverty and insecurity for families. There is no more telling indicator of the lack of peace and justice and the failure of societies and institutions than the flow of refugees and internally displaced people. The year 2015 saw the largest number of refugees and displaced people ever – over 65 million. Some 20 million of these were refugees.

Ten years ago, there were less than half the number of displaced people. Over half of all refugees today are children. Children lose parents and other family members, and far too many receive no education. Girls are forced into early marriage. Boys are often drawn into gang violence. And women and girls face rape as a weapon of war. A definitive solution to the refugee crisis requires durable political, rather than military, solutions to violent conflicts.

The global powers involved in the conflicts in the Congo, Syria, Iraq, Libya, Yemen and elsewhere must reach agreement through mutual respect for each other’s strategic interests and above all respect for the UN Charter.

The United Nations public administration programme has distilled some of the lessons learned from around the world into a set of factors for consideration in tailoring specific post-conflict reconciliation and reconstruction strategies. These factors include, among others, the effective separation of the executive, legislative and judiciary, the participation of civil society and the private sector in governance, sustainable management of the environment and natural resources, internal security forces reform, prevention of cross-border movements of fighters and arms, and a merit-based public administration.

The key message of the 2030 Agenda – and of the 2016 World Family Summit -- is: “leave no one behind.” We must get all societies emerging from conflict – including displaced citizens and their families -- on board the sustainable development ship for safe passage to the year 2030.

Nikhil Chandavarkar, PhD
Founder and CEO, Thersus Sustainability
Former Chief, Outreach and Communications for Sustainable Development, United Nations
Message from World Family Organization President

Distinguished Participants!

Welcome to the World Family Summit 2016!

Over the past 70 years the World Family Organization has built an extensive and solid platform to improve the existence of many families all over the world and in partnership with the United Nations, Governments at National and Local levels, Universities, NGO’s and Communities mobilized efforts to responsibly address the challenges and opportunities to include the family in the process of development.

On January 1st 2016, the world officially began to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development based on 17 Sustainable Development Goals as a transformative Plan of Action for people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership to address urgent global challenges over the next 15 years.

The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the Goals, apply to all societies and the family as the most basic unit of society is a powerful agent to exercise and disseminate the goals and targets as they are directly or indirectly related to the family. We want to be part of this integrated policy-action approach to ensure inclusive economic development, inclusive social development, environmental sustainability, peace and security that responds to the aspirations of all families for a world free of want and fear.

We want to be part of the solemn promise to leave no one behind!

The World Family Summit 2016 theme “Families in Balance: Eradicating Poverty and promoting prosperity ensuring that no family is left behind” is a beginning of a new era which can transform how the future unfolds for the families all over the world.

Distinguished Participants, we are happy to host you in the beautiful São Paulo City and to count with your full energy in giving your contribution to the discussions and decisions on how to implement the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals over the next 15 years ensuring that no Family Is left behind.
‘The new agenda is a promise by leaders to all people everywhere. It is a universal, integrated and transformative vision for a better world. It is an agenda for people, to end poverty in all its forms.

An agenda for the planet, our common home. An agenda for shared prosperity, peace and partnership. It conveys the urgency of climate action. It is rooted in gender equality and respect for the rights of all.

Above all, it pledges to leave no one behind.’

-UN Secretary General BAN Ki-moon
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-UN Secretary General BAN Ki-moon

Spread the news!

LEAVE NO FAMILY BEHIND...
THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development

1. NO POVERTY
2. ZERO HUNGER
3. GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING
4. QUALITY EDUCATION
5. GENDER EQUALITY
6. CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7. AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
8. DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
9. INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
10. REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
12. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13. CLIMATE ACTION
14. LIFE BELOW WATER
15. LIFE ON LAND
16. PEACE AND JUSTICE STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

World Family Summit 2016
4 - 7 December | São Paulo | Brazil
Official Program

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Official Program
In September 2015 at an historic UN Summit for Sustainable Development 193 world leaders approved the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Counting 17 Goals and 169 targets, this Agenda is a Plan of Action for People, Planet, Prosperity, Partnership and Peace.

On January 1st 2016, the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development officially came into force challenging all sectors of society to mobilize efforts to implement it and in special to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities, tackle climate change and strengthen universal peace in large freedom.

The commitment to “leave no one behind” is a key feature that we must embark in a great collective journey, ensuring that the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the Global Goals are translated into effective actions reaching everyone over the next 15 years.

The World Family Summit 2016 is our starting point. With our discussions and recommendations, we have a unique opportunity before us to pave the road and together fulfill the pledge on the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda making sure that NO FAMILY WILL BE LEFT BEHIND.
December 4 | Official Welcome

**19:00 - 20h30 Official Opening Ceremony**

Hosted by:

H.E. Dr. Geraldo Alckimin | Governor of São Paulo State
H.E. Mr. Nikhil Seth | UN Secretary General Assistant and UNITAR Executive Director
H.E. Dr. Deisi Kusztra | World Family Organization President

**Guests:**

H.E. Mr. José Serra | Minister of Foreign Affairs - Brazil
H.E. Mr. Osmar Terra | Minister of Social and Agarian Development – Brazil
H.E. Mr. Ricardo Barros | Minister of Health – Brazil
H.E. Ms. Daniela Bas | Director of Division of Social Policy and Development UNDESA
H.E. Ambassador Inas Mekkawy | Head of Women, Family and Childhood Department in the League of Arab States
H.E. Mrs. Maria Aparecida Borghetti | Vice-Governor of Paraná State - Brazil
H.E. Dr. Hanifa Mezoui | Senior Advisor, Humanitarian Affairs & Civil Society UN Alliance of Civilizations

**Official Photo**

**21:00 - 23:00 Welcome Dinner in Celebration of the World Family Summit 2016**
December 5 | Morning Sessions

8:45 - 9:00  Participant’s Welcome Electronic Session I
Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development – 17 Goals to Transform Our World, Leaving no One Behind.

9:00 - 10:30  Ministerial Level Panel | Leaving No One Behind
This session will present to participants more details of what “leave no one behind” means to governments economic, social and environmental agendas and which actions are needed to provide the right implementation framework during the next 15 years, ensuring that no family will be left behind.

Introduction: H.E. Mr. Nikhil Seth | UN Assistant Secretary General and General Director of UNITAR

Voluntary Contributions:

H.E. Dr. Maria do Carmo Brant | Brazilian National Secretary for Social Assistance, Ministry of Social Development
H.E. Ms. Shaza Zaher Abdellateef | League of Arab States, Women Family and Childhood Council
H.E. Mr. Mohamed Saeed Al Neyady | UAE Ministry of Community Development, Family Development Foundation
H.E. Mrs. Maria Aparecida Borghetti | Paraná State Vice-Governor

Conclusions:

H.E. Ms. Daniela Bas | Director of Division for Social Policy and Development at UN DESA

Discussions and recommendations.

10:30 - 10:50  Coffee-break
December 5 | Morning Sessions

10:50 - 11:00
Participant’s Welcome Electronic Session II
The New Urban Agenda – Making Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements Leaving No One Behind.

11:00 - 12:30
Local Authorities Panel
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Today, more than half the world’s population live in cities. By 2030, it's projected that 6 in 10 people will be urban dwellers as cities offer more efficient economies, provision of goods, services and transportation. This session will discuss how readdressing the way cities and human settlements are planned, designed, developed, financed and governed will help to end all forms and dimensions of poverty, reduce inequalities promote sustained, inclusive economic growth, achieve gender equality, improve human health and well-being, foster resilience and protect the environment, ensuring that no family will be left behind.

Moderator: Dr. Deisi Kusztra | President of the World Family Organization

Introduction: Sing a song of sustainable cities by Jaime Lemer - TED

Keynote Speaker I: Dreaming up the city families want to live in by planning and managing adequate urban spacial development ensuring high quality of life for all and at all ages.

Mr. Cassio Taniguchi
Metropolitan Superintendent of Florianopolis
Former Mayor of Curitiba City
Former Senior Fellow of UNITAR
Keynote Speaker II:  Dreaming up the city families want to live in by implementing participatory sectorial policies, public services, healthy environment and good and transparent governance.

Mrs. Patrícia Pequeno Costa Gomes Aguiar
Mayor of Tauá City, Ceará State, Brazil

Keynote Speaker III:  Dreaming up the city families want to live in by ensuring sustainable and inclusive prosperity and opportunities for all and at all ages.

Ms. Daniela Bas
Director of Division for Social Policy and Development at UN DESA

Discussions and recommendations.

12:30 - 13:45  Lunch offered by WFO
December 5 | Afternoon Sessions

13:50 - 14:00  
**Participant's Welcome Electronic Session III**  
The 2030 Development Agenda and We The People's for Global Goals

14:00 - 15:30  
**NGOs Panel | Success Stories**

**Moderator:**  
Prof. Alzira Guimarães | Brazil  
World Family Organization - Vice-President for Technical Activities

**Introduction:**  
Dr. Hanifa Mezoui | Algeria  
Senior Advisor, Humanitarian Affairs and Civil Society, United Nations Alliance of Civilizations

**Success Story I:**  
Peace Boat, Raising awareness, building connections and promoting sustainable development  
Ms. Emilie McGlone | USA  
Director of Peaceboat US

**Success Story II:**  
The Global Sanitatem  
Mrs. Maria Teresa Maia | Portugal  
Estímulo ONGD, Causas com Efeito

**Success Story III:**  
Sustainable Development: Building strong families and ensuring family well-being for all  
Dr. Anjli Doshi | Malaysia  
Deputy General Director of the National Population and Family Development Board

**Discussions and Recommendations**

15:30 - 15:50  
**Coffee Break**
December 5 | Afternoon Sessions

15:50 - 16:00  | Participant’s Welcome Electronic Session IV
The 2030 Development Agenda – We Want to See Numbers in Action for Global Goals.

16:00 - 17:30  | Business Panel | Success Stories

Moderator: Mr. Isidro de Brito | Portugal
World Family Organization Vice-President for Legal and Administrative Affairs

Introduction: United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Success Story I: The private sector voluntary initiative and CEO’s Commitments to implement universal sustainability
Mr. Angus Rennie | Canada
United Nations Global Compact Senior Manager

Success Story II: Decentralized cooperation for public-private partnership to strengthen Global and Local Sustainable Development
Mr. José Antônio Fares | Brazil
Director of CIFAL Curitiba, Superintendent of the Social Services of Industry at the Paraná State Industries Federation

Discussions and Recommendations

19:00 - 22:00  | Official Dinner
Plenary Session I | Leave no Family Behind

9:00 - 10:30

Theme: End poverty in all its forms everywhere by promoting inclusive sustainable social and economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

Why it matters? More than 700 million people still live in extreme poverty and are struggling to fulfill the most basic needs like health, education, access to housing, water and sanitation, to mention just a few.

Poverty has many dimensions, but its causes include unemployment, social exclusion, high vulnerability to disasters, diseases and other phenomena which prevent them from being productive. This session will discuss how the active engagement in policymaking, governments, society, business community and families can make a difference in addressing poverty, ensuring that families rights are promoted, their voices heard, inter-generational knowledge shared and that innovation and critical thinking are encouraged at all ages to support transformational changes in communities and in families lives.

Moderator: Dr. Elie Mekhael | Lebanon
Assistant Professor at the Lebanese University
World Family Organization Advisor

Keynote Speaker I: Implementing the appropriated measures and national and local efficient social protection schemes to mitigate all forms of poverty.
Mr. Nidhal Ben Cheikh | Tunisia
Centre for Research and Social Studies – Director of the research unit on Redistribution Policies and Social Development
December 6 | Morning Sessions

Keynote Speaker II: Implementing development-oriented policies that support productive activities, entrepreneurship, access to financial services and decent job creation for all.
Dr. Wanda Engel Aduan | Brazil
Synergos Institute Country Director
Former Minister for Social Assistance in Brazil
Former Chief of Social Programs Division of the Inter-American Development Bank

Discussions and Recommendations

10:30 - 10:50
Coffee-break

1947 - 2017
Celebrating

Keynote Speaker I: Every women, every child, every family everywhere achieving better health by accessing affordable Universal Health Coverage.
Dr. Deisi Noeli Weber Kusztra | Brazil
World Family Organization President
Executive Director of the National Union of Associations for Protection of Motherhood, Childhood and Family
December 6 | Morning Sessions

10:50 - 11:00

Participants Welcome Electronic Session VI
Imagine a Better Future for all Children

11:00 - 12:30

Plenary Session II | Leave no Family Behind
Theme: Promote lifelong well-being for all and at all ages with good health and lifelong quality education.

Why it matters? Promoting healthy lives, well-being at all ages and lifelong quality education is essential to Sustainable Development. Significant strides have been made on increasing life expectancy and reducing some of the common killers associated with child and maternal mortality. However many more efforts are needed to ensure that families can access to affordable and quality universal health coverage. Obtaining a quality lifelong education is the foundation to improve families’ life. Besides formal regular education, early childhood education and lifelong access to literacy and vocational skills and opportunities for all needs to be improved. This session will discuss how the active engagement in policymaking, governments, society, business community and families can make a difference in addressing quality universal health coverage and lifelong quality education at all ages.

Keynote Speaker I: Every women, every child, every family everywhere achieving better health by accessing affordable Universal Health Coverage.
Dr. Deisi Noeli Weber Kusztra | Brazil
World Family Organization President
Executive Director of the National Union of Associations for Protection of Motherhood, Childhood and Family
December 6 | Morning Sessions

Keynote Speaker II: Children come first: Early Childhood Development and Early Childhood Education are the key to a full and productive future life and for the progress of the family, the community and the nation.
Mrs. Lara Hussein | Jordan
World Family Organization Vice-President for Family Policy
Former UNICEF Gulf Area Chief of Child Protection

Discussions and Recommendations

12:30 - 13:45   Lunch offered by WFO
December 6 | Afternoon Sessions

13:50 - 14:00  Participant's Welcome Electronic Session VII
Putting the Women's Agenda as a Priority by Michelle Bachelet – UN Women

14:00 - 15:30  Plenary Session III | Leave no Family Behind
Theme: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence.

What it matters? Women and girls represent half of the world’s population and therefore also half of its potential. But today gender inequality persists everywhere and stagnates social and economic progress. Women’s and girls empowerment is essential to expand economic growth and promote social development. Inequality faced by girls begin right at birth and follow them all their lives, everywhere and frequently begin in the family. Gender equality is a fundamental human right therefor discrimination, harmful practices and violence against women’s and girls must not be tolerated. This session will discuss how the active engagement in policymaking, governments, society, business community and families can make a difference in addressing all gender related challenges.

Keynote Speaker I:  Empowering women and girls to ensure theirs full and effective participation in the family and in all sectors society with equal opportunities for leadership and decision-making positions in political, economic and public life.
Dr. Anis Ben Brik | Germany
Director of Doha International Family Institute
December 6 | Afternoon Sessions

Keynote Speaker II: Strengthening sound policies and enforceable legislations for the promotion of gender equality and education of the family and the community to eliminate all form of discrimination, harmful practices, exploitation and violence against women’s and girls everywhere.  
Dr. Amany Asfour | Egypt  
President of the Egyptian Business Women’s Association  
President of the Afro-Arab Network for Women Empowerment  
World Family Organization Advisor

Discussions and Recommendations

15:30 - 15:50

Coffee Break
December 6 | Afternoon Sessions

15:50 - 16:00  
**Participant’s Welcome Electronic Session VIII**
Refugees and Migrants... Far From Home...

16:00 - 17:30  
**Plenary Session IV | Leave no Family Behind**  
Theme: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies reaching furthest behind first.

Why it matters? In today's world we are witnessing an unprecedented level of human mobility. Migrants are present in all countries of the world searching for new economic opportunities and horizons. Refugees are moving to escape armed conflict, poverty, food insecurity, persecution, terrorism, or human rights violations and abuses. Large movements of migrants and refugees have political, economic, social, developmental, humanitarian and human rights ramifications, that calls for global approaches and global solutions. Building peaceful, just and inclusive societies, based on the rule of law and accountable institutions is key to this process. This session will discuss how to address these complex issues to find lasting solutions to protect those families who are most at risk.

**Keynote Speaker I:** Addressing large movements of refugees and Migrants to save lives, protect rights and share responsibilities.  
Mr. Joop Theunissen | Netherlands  
Deputy Chief of the Policy Coordination Branch at the Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination

**Keynote Speaker II:** Building peaceful effective, accountable and inclusive societies and institutions to achieve universal peace and security in large freedom.  
Dr. Nikhil Chandavarkar | India  
Founder and CEO of Thersus Sustainability

Discussions and Recommendations.

19:00 - 22:00  
**Official Dinner**
December 7 | Farewell Day

8:45 - 9:00  Participants Welcome Electronic Session IX
            Leave No One Behind...

9:00 - 10:30 World Family Summit 2016 Declaration
              Presentation and Discussion

10:30 - 10:50 Coffee-break

10:50 - 11:00 Participants Welcome Electronic Session X
              What's the Plan?

11:00 - 12:30 Closing Ceremony
              WFO 2016 Awards Ceremony
              Launching of WFO’s 70th Anniversary Celebrations – 1947-2017
              Participants Official Photo

12:30 - 13:45 Farewell Lunch
Dr. Alzira Maria D'Ávila Guimarães is the Vice-President for Technical Activities of the World Family Organization. Graduated in Nursery in the Federal University of Sergipe in 1980, Sanitarist for the National School for Public Health (1982), Specialist in Maternal and Child Health in the University of Brasilia (1987), Master Degree in Sciences of Health and PhD in Pediatrics in the University of Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo. Coordinator of Basic Services of Health (1992-1994) for the Secretary of Health of Sergipe and Professor of the Department of Nursery and Nutrition for the Federal University of Sergipe State in Brazil.

Angus facilitates UN-Business collaboration as Senior Manager of Partnerships and UN Relations with the UN Global Compact in New York. In addition to a broad range of partnership-brokering activities with Global Compact participant companies, Angus coordinates a Community of Practice of UN staff focused on strengthening the capacity of the Organization to engage the private sector, advancing UN issues and goals while promoting responsible and sustainable business. Before joining the UN Global Compact, Angus practiced law in Canada. He has experience in corporate and commercial law, civil litigation, and international criminal law. Angus also served as Special Assistant to Speaker of Canada’s House of Commons, as a Policy Analyst at the Ontario Legislature, and as an advisor and organizer on numerous political campaigns.

Dr. Anis Ben Brik has written and published on the above issues and he has been frequent speaker at regional and international professional and academic conferences. He is also the former Senior Fellow at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - UNITAR and is currently the Coordinator of Basic Services of Health (1992-1994) for the Secretary of Health of Sergipe and Professor of the Department of Nursery and Nutrition for the Federal University of Sergipe State in Brazil.

Dr. Amany Asfour is graduated from Faculty of Medicine - Cairo University and had her Master Degree & M.D., PhD Degree in Pediatrics. In her academic career, she is a Lecturer of Pediatrics at the National Resarch Center of Egypt. She joined the private sector since she was a student at the Faculty of Medicine. Within few years, she was also able to establish a company for Medical equipments with more than 30 brands. Her interests were not limited to establishing her private Business only but soon she realized the importance of creating an organization targeting Economic Women Empowerment & Young Women Entrepreneurship Promotion. As a result she established the Egyptian Business women Association in 1995. D; Asfour founded the Business and Professional Women in Egypt.

Mr. Cassio Taniguchi is the former Mayor of Curitiba City, Paraná State in Brazil. Mr. Taniguchi is graduated in Electronic Engineer at the Federal University of Paraná. He is also the former Senior Fellow at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - UNITAR and is currently the Mayor of Curitiba City, Paraná State in Brazil.

Dr. Deisi Noeli Weber Kusztra is a Medical Doctor, Pediatrician, Doctorate on Public Health. She is also a Specialist in Public Health who has a lot of experience in complex projects throughout the world. Dr. Kusztra is a Consultant to many International Institutions, such as the World Health Organization, Pan-American Health Organization, U.S. Agency for International Development, and UN Fund for Population Activities.

Ms. Daniela Bas worked in radio and TV shows (RAI and Radio 24/ Il Sole 24 Ore in Italy, and TV Channel 4 in the UK) and moderated conferences and wrote articles for magazines on tourism for all. In addition to her work at the UN from 1986 to 1995, from 1996 roles she has held. She was, inter alia, adviser for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and for the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, member of the Board of Directors of the UN National Committee of Italy, President of the Information Office of the UN in Milan, Honorary Consul of the UK in Milan, and was, inter alia, adviser for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and for the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, member of the Board of Directors of the UN National Committee of Italy, President of the Information Office of the UN in Milan, Honorary Consul of the UK in Milan.

Anjli Doshi (Ph.D) is the Deputy Director General (Policy) of the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, National Population and Family Development Board Malaysia. In addition to her work at the UN from 1986 to 1995, from 1996 she has been frequent speaker at regional and international professional and academic conferences.

Director of the Family Policy Division at the Doha International Family Institute (DIFI) a member of the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development. Before joining DIFI, Dr. Ben Brik served as President Middle East at the Eneref Institute, a research and advocacy organization based in the US. He taught in the Department of Sociology at the United Arab Emirates University. He has previously worked in the government of Dubai and Abu Dhabi and served as policy advisor and researcher for several years.

Graduated from London School of Economics and Political Science, Dr. Ben Brik has undertaken numerous consultancy projects throughout the Gulf region and Europe. His areas of interests are social policy, family cohesion and well-being, fertility and demography, parenting and child well-being, social exclusion, family and SDGs, social change and development, and social responsibility. Recently, he has been involved in a number of projects on social cohesion, youth development, fertility and sustainable development strategies and policies. Dr. Ben Brik has written and published on the above issues and he has been frequent speaker at regional and international professional and academic conferences.
Anjli Doshi (Ph.D) is the Deputy Director General (Policy) of the National Population and Family Development Board Malaysia, Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia.

Work responsibilities include development of family development training modules, planning, development and implementation of policies, family development initiatives and programs on parenting and reproductive health, social and family research, advocacy, and training.

Ms. Daniela Bas, of Italian nationality, is the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Political scientist with a major in International Politics, she graduated Magna Cum Laude with a dissertation on “The elimination of architectural barriers and the employment of people with physical disabilities”, Certified journalist and multicultural / life coach. Her interest has always been people-centred in the various activities, associations, and professional roles she has held.

In addition to her work at the UN from 1986 to 1995, from 1996 until 2011 she held managerial roles in the private sector in Italy and was, inter alia, adviser for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and for the Presidency of the Council of Ministers on human rights and social affairs. Designated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, she was a member of the Board of Directors of the European Union Agency of Fundamental Rights; Special Adviser to the Vice President of the European Commission (On. Frattini); at the European Union, she was representative on the topic “Tourism for All” on behalf of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers of her country.

Ms. Bas worked in radio and TV shows (RAI and Radio 24/ II Sole 24 Ore in Italy, and TV Channel 4 in the UK) and moderated conferences and wrote articles for magazines on tourism for all.

Mr. Cassio Taniguchi is the former Mayor of Curitiba City, Paraná State in Brazil.

He is also the former Senior Fellow at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research – UNITAR and is currently the Superintendent of the Metropolitan Region of Great Florianopolis, Santa Catarina State, Brazil.

Mr. Taniguchi is graduated in Electronic Engineer at the Tecnological Institute of Aeronautics (ITA) in São José dos Campos, São Paulo State, Brazil.

Dr. Deisi Noeli Weber Kusztra is a Medical Doctor, Pediatrician, with a Master Degree in Maternal and Child Health Care and a Doctorate on Public Health. She is also a Specialist in Public Health Administration, Hospital Administration, Financial Management for Health Programs, Design and Implementation of Local Health Systems and Gender Programs Administration.

Dr. Deisi started her international career nearly 25 years ago implementing Maternal and Child Health Care Policies and Programs for many Governments. She worked in Africa, Europe, Middle East and North America and is now based in South America, from where she networks with the world on Family Issues.

Since December 1997, as the President of the World Family Organization, Dr. Deisi Kusztra represents the Organization at the United Nations, Governments and Inter-governmental Organizations level.

Dr. Kusztra is a Consultant to many International Institutions, such as the World Health Organization, Pan-American Health Organization, World Bank, Interamerican Development Bank, U.S. Agency for International Development, and UN Fund for Population Affairs.

She has received many national and international awards and prizes in recognition of her dedication and her work towards the promotion of Family Policies throughout the world.
Dr. Elie Mekhail is an Advisor at the Executive Board of the World Family Organization. He is also the General Secretary of the Higher Council For Children Lebanon and was elected in 2004 and 2007 as Vice President of The Arabic League Committee for Children. From 1991 – 1997, he was the Founder and President of: “Permanent Conference for Lebanese Student In France” and since 1994, he is a Member of the Lebanese Association of Epidemiology.

Dr. Mekhail has a University degree in Nutrition and also in Biostatistics, a Master’s degree in Biology and also in Public Health and a PhD in Public Health, all at the University of Paris, France.

Ambassador Inas Mekkawy is a high-level diplomat at the League of Arab States. She has an experience for more than 25 years in Arab and international affairs, sustainable development, women’s empowerment, setting and implementing the developmental projects at national and regional levels.

She has a long experience on Arab and African affairs, strategic planning, policies making, and regional partnerships on women’s empowerment with the United Nations.

Ambassador Mekkawy is currently Director of Women, Family and Childhood Department at the League of Arab States. She has a deep knowledge and understanding of the status of women’s rights, in Egypt, as well as, on the issues of women, peace and security during armed conflicts at the regional level. In addition, she is the founder of Bahia Ya Masr movement and the Standing Committee for Egyptian Women.

Emilie McGlone has been working with Peace Boat since 2004 and currently is the United Nations liaison and Director of the New York-based office of Peace Boat US, a non-profit organization working to promote peace, sustainable development and respect for the environment through educational programs organized onboard the Peace Boat, a chartered passenger ship that travels the world on peace voyages. Peace Boat holds Special Consultative Status with the Social and Economic Council of the United Nations and works in partnership with UN delegates, Nobel Peace Laureates and community leaders from around the world to create opportunities for international cooperation focused on conflict resolution, environmental sustainability, indigenous issues, cultural awareness and peace education.

Emilie works to foster youth education and develops specific programs for families, students and young diplomats to learn about important global issues onboard the Peace Boat. Founded in 1983 and nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2008, Peace Boat has sailed on over 92 global voyages, carrying more than 50,000 people to more than 100 countries. Peace Boat has recently launched a new initiative to build an ECO SHIP to sail in 2020, which will showcase green technology and design, while inspiring positive change to radically reduce our carbon footprint.

A team leader, at the international level, spanning 28 years of worldwide responsibilities with increasing complexity to ensure the United Nation’s outreach and cooperation involving civil society organizations and the private sector, with special emphasis on youth, health, women empowerment, education, the MDGs/SDGs and Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR).

Liaising and networking with governments entities, international organizations and external/internal agencies related to humanitarian causes. Has encumbered, since 1990, high level positions at the United Nations and managed successfully the United Nations civil society and NGO Branch with its 3500 affiliates. Achievements in education, training and technical cooperation have received worldwide recognition.

Joop Theunissen has worked with the United Nations since 1990. He initially worked for the UN regional office for Asia and the Pacific, subsequently for UNDP, and in 1995 moved to the UN Conference on Human Rights in Vienna. In 1999, he joined the UN Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna as Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia, where he worked on the intergovernmental follow-up to various international drug control conventions and on the UN System Strategy on HIV/AIDS. He transferred to New York in 2000 as Director of the NGOs Branch, a position he held until 2014, during which time he led UN efforts to strengthen the role of NGOs in the UN system, to expand their role in the implementation of the MDGs/SDGs and Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR).

In February 2014 he joined as deputy chief of the Policy Coordination Branch of OESC and, prior to his UN work, he worked at Rabobank of the Netherlands, and carried out coordination work for some NGOs. He held a number of positions with the Dutch government, coordinating the Dutch development cooperation before going to work with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the field of Human Rights in the World. He was the head of the UN Programme on Youth up to 2006, where he worked on the intergovernmental follow-up to various international youth conventions. He is a member of the UN Advisory Committee on Shame.

He was the head of the UN Programme on youth up to 2006, where he worked on the intergovernmental follow-up to various international youth conventions. He is a member of the UN Advisory Committee on Shame.
Isidro de Brito is the Vice-President of Legal and Administrative Affairs of the World Family Organization. He is also the President of the National Association for Family Action in Portugal - ANJAF, which promotes training for unemployed persons, Positive Parentally training, European Project in the field of Conciliation between Family life and Professional life, and other areas for persons and families in risk of exclusion. He is member of the Portuguese Council for Family.

Mr. José António Fares has graduated in Psychology, with a specialization in Human Resources and a Master’s Degree in Business Management from the Getúlio Vargas Foundation. He was a speaker at the UN General Assembly in 2010, was President and National Director at ABRH –PR and has also been a professor. Currently he is the Managing Director of SESI and IEL, including the role of General Director of the Paraná Industry College. Since 2012, he is the Executive Director of CIFAL Curitiba.

Joop Theunissen has worked with the United Nations since 1990. He initially worked for the UN regional office for Asia and the Pacific in agriculture, rural development, and social development. He transferred to UN Headquarters in 1999, where he worked on the intergovernmental follow-up to various global UN summits. He was the head of the UN Programme on youth up to 2006, and subsequently worked on the new UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). Joop joined the DESA NGO Branch as deputy chief from 2009 to 2014. In February 2014 he joined as deputy chief of the Policy Coordination Branch of OESC and, prior to his UN work, he worked at Rabobank of the Netherlands, and carried out research on the sugarcane industry in the Philippines. He carries a master’s degree in development economics from Tilburg University in the Netherlands and a postgraduate diploma in sociology from Columbia University in New York.

Maria Teresa Maia is an Advisor at the Executive Board Member of the World Family Organization.

She has a University degree in School Management, a Master’s Degree in Educational Management and Administration and is currently developing her PhD thesis in Social and Sustainable development in Portugal with the theme: Communitary Education and Local Sustainable Development.

She is also the President of ‘Estímulo’ Study Centre, an NGO dedicated to the Educational cause.

WFO’s Vice-President of Family Policy Coordination, Mrs. Lara Hussein is a development professional with more than 15 years of experience in policy development, policy advocacy, and in managing international development programs in areas related to social development with a particular emphasis on family policy, education, child protection and early childhood development. She worked with the United Nations, policy think tanks, and International NGOs contributing to innovative policies, leading multi-disciplinary teams, and managing grants for complex multi-country programs.

Lara has a Master degree in Education from Huddersfield University of UK. She worked with UNICEF Gulf Area Office as Chief of Child Protection, the Jordanian National Council for Family Affairs as Deputy Secretary General, and with Doha International Family Institute of Qatar Foundation as Director of Family Policy.
Nidhal Ben Cheikh

Nidhal Ben Cheikh (born in 1974) is an economist, Advisor of the Minister of Social Affairs in Tunisia and Director of research at the Centre for Research and Social Studies (CRES) and member of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Social Policy Network at the University of Bath (UK).

His main research interests are in evaluation of social protection programmes, informal economy analysis and measurement, poverty analysis, child poverty and Multidimensional Poverty indicators and local development. He has been engaged for the past 12 years as an international consultant and has undertaken several consultancies in North African countries and GCC countries on behalf of UNICEF and UNDP.

Mohamed Saeed Al Neyadi

Master Degree in Quality Management and my Bachelor Degree in Management information System. Worked in different committee such as Excellence Committee in FDP. Evaluation of the Social Services in the Emirate Of Abu Dhabi. Speaker in conferences. Certificate in Coaching.


Dr. Maria do Carmo Brant

Dr. Maria do Carmo Brant is the National Secretary for Social Assistance at the Ministry of Social and Agrarian Development in Brazil.

She holds a degree in Social Work from the Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo (1965) and a PhD in Social Work from the Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo (1974). She is currently a consultant at the São Paulo Municipal Secretariat, a consultant of the ‘Via Pública’ Institute and executive council - Municipal Secretariat for Social Development.

Dr. Brant has experience in the area of Social Service, with emphasis on Public Policies; Politics and Government Planning, working mainly in the following subjects: family, social assistance, public policies, social assistance, social policy and education.

Nikhil Seth

Dr. Nikhil Chandavarkar is the Founder and CEO of Thersus Sustainability, an international research and consultancy group devoted to promoting sustainable policies and practices in government and business for the realization of Agenda 2030 and the SDGs. Thersus focuses in particular on middle-income countries and the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa).

Prior to his retirement from the United Nations in March, 2016, after more than 36 years of service, Nikhil was most recently Chief of Outreach and Communications Branch, Division for Sustainable Development, DESA with responsibility for partnerships, stakeholders and public outreach.

Nikhil has held various UN management positions at HQ and served in Brazil, Paraguay and Colombia with UNDP. He has also advised governments and businesses in Asia and the Pacific, Africa and Latin America. He took active part in both the 1992 and 2012 Rio conferences on sustainable development.

Nikhil holds a Ph. D in economics from Georgetown University and is a Fellow of the Royal Society for Arts, Commerce and Manufacture of London.

Patrícia Aguiar

Patrícia Aguiar is the Mayor of Tauá Municipality in Ceará State, Brazil. Born in Fortaleza, where she studied at Santo Inácio Law School. She has a degree in Social Work from the Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo (1974). She is currently the Secretary of Social Action and in 1992 became the most recent title in 2013. In addition, she received the Cadastro Unico (Single Registry) of Poor Families in Brazil.

During her career with the United Nations since 1993, Mr. Seth was responsible for a strategic consulting to the Pacto pela Alimentação, Bolsa Escola, Programa de Erradicação do Trabalho Infantil. She also coordinated the implementation of the Cadastro Unico (Single Registry) of Poor Families in Brazil.

Patricia was awarded nine times with the title of the best mayors coordination of the conditional transfer programs (Bolsa Protection Network. She was responsible for the general position of Minister for Social Assistance in Brazil between 1999-2002, during the second term of President Fernando Henrique.

In recognition of the impact of her work, she won the 2012 International Award in the Social Sector, granted by the UN Economic and Social Council for Economic and Social Development.

Mrs. Rachel Aird is an Advisor at the Executive Board Member of the World Family Organization. She holds a degree in Social Work from the Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo (1974) and a Masters in Pedagogy and Civilization (Centre International D’Études Pedagogiques, Sévres, France).

Mrs. Aird has a University degree in Psychology at Leicester University in the United Kingdom and is post-graduated in Administration of London. She has been a teacher in the favelas of Rio. Wanda held the position of Minister for Social Assistance in Brazil between 1999-2002, during the second term of President Fernando Henrique.

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Wanda Engel Aduan is Country Director, Brazil. She has a long history of leadership in the Brazilian social sector, starting with serving in the Cadastro Unico (Single Registry) of Poor Families in Brazil.

In 1987, she completed her studies and began to act as a lawyer, an activity she pursued until the year 2000.

In 1999, she was the Chief of the Policy Coordination Branch in the Division for Economic and Social Affairs. In 2002, during the second term of President Fernando Henrique.

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Dr. Wanda Engel

Dr. Wanda Engel Aduan is Country Director, Brazil. She has a long history of leadership in the Brazilian social sector, starting with serving in the Cadastro Unico (Single Registry) of Poor Families in Brazil.

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In 1999, she was the Chief of the Policy Coordination Branch in the Division for Economic and Social Affairs. In 2002, during the second term of President Fernando Henrique.

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Patrícia Aguiar
Mr. Nikhil Seth is currently the United Nations Assistant Secretary General and Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

During his career with the United Nations since 1993, Mr. Seth has also served as Director of the Division for Sustainable Development (DESA), Head of the Rio +20 Secretariat, Special Assistant and Chief of Office to the Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs.

He was also the Chief of the Policy Coordination Branch in the Division for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination, among other functions.

Mrs. Rachel Aird is an Advisor at the Executive Board Member of the World Family Organization.

She is also the Chairperson of The Family Africa representing over 30 centres throughout Africa at public forums such as the African Union. She is also a consultative partner on African Union Expert forum on Plan of action for the family in Africa, Founder/Director of Counselling and Support Centre for HIV positive Mothers and children Johannesburg and Founder/Director of Free Day Care Centre for the children of HIV positive mothers and AIDS orphans.

Mrs. Aird has a University degree in Psychology at Leicester University in the United Kingdom and is post-graduated in English.

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Patrícia Aguiar is the Mayor of Tauá Municipality in Ceará State, Brazil. Born in Fortaleza, where she studied at Santo Inácio College and studied Law at the University of Fortaleza (Unifor). In 1987, she completed her studies and began to act as a lawyer, an activity she pursued until the year 2000.

Patrícia began political activity in the municipality of Tauá, where she was Secretary of Social Action and in 1992 became the most voted councilor in the history of the Municipality of Tauá. In 2000, she was elected Mayor of the city and, in 2004, re-elected.

Patricia was awarded nine times with the title of the best mayors of Ceará, the most recent title in 2013. In addition, she received the GREEN SEAL from the Ministry of the Environment. In the area of health, it reduced the infant mortality rate of Tauá, and took the Family Health Program to 100% of the municipality, making Tauá a reference in the Local Health System.

Wanda Engel is the Director of Instituto Synergos Brasil, responsible for a strategic consulting to the Pacto pela Educação do Pará.

In recognition of the impact of her work, she won the 2012 International Award in the Social Sector, granted by the UN Council for Economic and Social Development.

Wanda Engel holds a Ph.D. in Education (Pontificia Universidad Católica, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), an M.D. in Education (Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), and has Post-Graduate studies in Pedagogy and Civilization (Centre International D’Études Pedagogiques, Sèvres, France).
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