UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, appoints High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing.

21 May 2015.

Kristalina Georgieva and Sultan Nazrin Shah are appointed as co-chairs of the Panel. This initiative will bring together distinguished individuals with a wide range of experience and expertise.

The Panel will examine humanitarian financing challenges and will identify ways in which the gap between rising needs and the resources available to meet them can be closed. It will also work on generating solutions around the issues of more timely and predictable funding, as well as ways in which resources can be used more effectively.

THE PANEL MEMBERS

Kristalina Georgieva (Bulgaria) is Vice President of the European Commission responsible for Budget and Human Resources. Prior to her appointment in November 2014, she was the EU Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response (2010 – 2014). During her term in office she oversaw the delivery of life saving assistance to nearly 500 million children, women and men affected by conflicts and natural disasters around the world. From 1993 to 2010, she served in a number of positions in the World Bank Group - in her last position, as the World Bank's Vice President and Corporate Secretary, she played a key role in the Bank's governance reform and accompanying capital increase in the wake of the 2008 international financial crisis.

Sultan Nazrin Shah of Perak (Malaysia) is the eldest son of the late Sultan of Perak. He has assumed the role of Financial Ambassador of the Malaysian International Islamic Financial Centre, has been Pro-Chancellor of Universiti Malaya since 1989 and is the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Malay College Kuala Kangsar. He is also an Eminent Fellow at the Institute of Strategic and International Studies in Malaysia. The Sultan has written articles and spoken on a wide range of issues including constitutional monarchy in Malaysia, education, Islam, ethnic relations and economic development.

Hadeel Ibrahim (United Kingdom) is Executive Director of Mo Ibrahim Foundation. Established in 2006, the Foundation, which is a non-grant making organisation, focuses on defining, assessing and enhancing governance and leadership in Africa. She is also co-Chair of the Board of Directors of the Africa Center in New York, whose mission is to promote partnership, collaboration, dialogue and understanding between African artists, business leaders and civil society and their counterparts in the United States and beyond.

Badr Jafar (United Arab Emirates) is chief executive of the UAE’s Crescent Group, operating globally across six industry verticals including natural gas, ports and logistics, and healthcare. He is actively involved with and sits on the boards of various international non-profit organizations spearheading programs in support of social development, secondary education and the arts, and is a prominent advocate of social entrepreneurship. In 2010, he launched the Pearl Initiative in cooperation with United Nations agencies to promote a corporate culture of transparency and accountability within the Middle East.
Trevor Manuel (South Africa) is a Senior Advisor to the financial advisory firm Rothschild. He served in the Government of South Africa as Cabinet Minister for 20 years. He was Minister of Trade and Industry from 1994 to 1996 and Minister of Finance from 1996 to 2009. From 2009 to 2014, he served as Minister in the Presidency for the National Planning Commission. During his tenure, South Africa reported its budget surplus in 2007 - he increased spending for education, housing and sanitation. In 2008, he chaired Committee on IMF Governance Reform. He has received numerous international awards and recognition for his accomplishments.

Linah Mohohlo (Botswana) is the Governor of the Bank of Botswana. She has also worked for the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and, in her capacity as Governor of the IMF for Botswana, she has been a member of the International Monetary and Financial Committee, representing the IMF Africa Group 1 Constituency. She served on the Commission for Africa and the Lancet Commission on Investing in Health; she is also a member of the Africa Progress Panel. In 2011, Ms Mohohlo co-chaired the World Economic Forum on Africa. She is a recipient of a number of professional awards, including Botswana’s highest public service award for efficient and devoted service (The Presidential Order of Honour).

Walt Macnee (Canada) is Vice Chairman of MasterCard Worldwide and is responsible for various senior client and government relationships. Previously, he was President of International Markets, Global Markets, as well as for Americas Region. From 2001 to 2004, he was President of MasterCard Canada. He briefly left MasterCard from 2004 to 2006 when he was Executive Vice President at Canadian Imperial bank of Commerce. Prior to joining MasterCard he spent 18 years with Toronto Dominion Bank where in his last position as Senior Vice President, he had full product management and client service responsibility for payment cards and personal lending.

Margot Wallström (Sweden) is the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs. She has had a long career in politics in the Swedish parliament, the Swedish government, and the European Commission. She was Environment Commissioner from 1999–2004 and in the Swedish government she was Minister for Consumer Affairs, Women and Youth in 1988–1991, Minister for Culture in 1994–1996 and Minister for Social Affairs in 1996–1998. She was also the first of five vice-presidents of the 27-member European Commission from 2004 to 2010 and worked as Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General (SRSG) on Sexual Violence in Conflict from 2010 to 2012.

Dhananjayan Sriskandarajah (Sri Lanka) is the Secretary General of CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation. In 2009, he was appointed Director General of the Royal Commonwealth Society, a large NGO devoted to Commonwealth affairs based in London. He was the first non-British and youngest person to head this 140-year-old organization. Before being appointed to the RCS, he was Deputy Director of the Institute for Public Policy Research. He is a researcher, author and commentator on migration issues and economic development.