



Preparatory Roundtable on Financing

22 November 2022

Profiles of panelists

Opening Statement

Mr. Raouf Mazou

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Mr. Raouf Mazou took up his appointment as UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Operations on 1 February 2020, bringing 28 years of experience with the organization. His various assignments have enabled him to garner expertise in such areas as emergency response, repatriation, and the development of strategies aimed at bridging the gap between relief and development. Mr. Mazou previously served as Director of UNHCR's Africa Bureau in 2019 and as UNHCR Representative in Kenya for over five years. In the four years immediately preceding this assignment, he was a Deputy Director in the Africa Bureau, covering the East and Horn of Africa. Other senior positions he has held at UNHCR include Deputy Director of the Division of Operations Support and Head of the Emergency and Security Service, a role in which he oversaw the organization's global emergency management and staff security interests. Mr. Mazou joined UNHCR in 1991 in the Great Lakes Region and subsequently served in West Africa, supporting the agency's response to the Liberian and Sierra Leonean refugee crises. He holds a Bachelor's degree in law from the University of Geneva, Switzerland. He is fluent in English and French.

Moderators

Ms. Sorcha O'Callaghan

Overseas Development Institute (ODI)

Ms. Sorcha O'Callaghan is the Director of the Humanitarian Policy Group at ODI where she leads research on local humanitarian action, inclusion and diversity, refugee livelihoods, and humanitarian financing. A specialist in displacement, civilian protection, and humanitarian action in protracted crises, she has worked extensively in East Africa, and her policy, academic, and media work has been published widely. Prior to working with ODI, she was Head of Humanitarian Policy at the British Red Cross and previously coordinated the Sudan Advocacy Coalition, an NGO policy and advocacy consortium in Sudan. With a background in law, Sorcha has also worked in the refugee and asylum sector in Ireland.

Ms. Irene Sun

UNHCR

Ms. Irene Sun is the Senior Innovative Financing Officer at UNHCR. In this role, she leads a new team helping UNHCR design and develop innovative financing mechanisms beyond UNHCR's traditional grant-based funding for the benefit of refugees, host communities, and UNHCR's own finances. Previously, Irene was an Associate Partner at McKinsey & Company, where she specialized in economic development and global health projects in Sub-Saharan Africa. Irene's book about Chinese investment in Africa, *The Next Factory of the World*, was named by the *Financial Times* as one of the best business books of the year in 2017, and her work has been featured in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Harvard Business Review*, *Bloomberg*, and CGTN (formerly known as CCTV). In addition, Irene has been a Visiting Fellow at the Center for Global Development and the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative. Irene is a graduate of Harvard College, Harvard Business School, and Harvard Kennedy School.

Panelists

Mr. Aymen Musmar Ali

Government of Sudan

Mr. Aymen Musmar Ali is a Senior Education Advisor at the Federal Ministry of Education. Mr. Ali was an Education Specialist at the World Bank in the Eastern and Southern Africa region, between 2010 and 2017. He is leading and managing a number of emergency and development projects with more than 15 years of experience in project management, public policy, and research. In addition to working on numerous consultancies with the World Bank, UNHCR, UNICEF, and AFDB, he also a founder of Taleem Baker, an education Initiative in 2018, and DCS consultancy services in Ohio, USA. Mr. Ali has co published a number of reports and policy notes on education and human development. Mr. Ali has an Master of Public Administration from the University of Wisconsin in the USA and a Bachelor of Arts in economics and political science from the University of Khartoum.

Mr. François de Borchgrave

Kois Invest

Mr. François de Borchgrave brings more than 15 years of experience in private equity investments with a specific focus on impact investing in the last 11 years. François co-founded KOIS, an impact investment and innovative finance advisory firm, and is the Managing Partner in charge of KOIS' European operations. He is leading KOIS' efforts on social impact bonds in Europe, especially in France and in Belgium, and is KOIS' lead person on asset management and innovative finance product structuring in the renewable energy sector. Prior to KOIS, he founded an internet start-up for business services, and he worked within large corporations in the technology sector. Additionally, François is co-founder of Toolbox, a non-profit that provides management services to NGOs, and was a volunteer for several NGOs, such as Mother Theresa and Operation Thermos. He also lectures on social entrepreneurship at Solvay Brussels School of Business. François holds a Master in Business

Administration from Harvard Business School and a Bachelor of Arts in Commercial Engineering from Solvay Brussels School of Business.

Mr. Cheikhna Mohamed Mahmoud Chavei

Government of Mauritania

Mr. Cheikhna Mohamed Mahmoud Chavei has been an executive at the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Promotion of Productive Sectors in Mauritania since January 1997. He has been Deputy Director of Programming and Allocative Efficiency of Investments at the General Directorate of Financing and Economic Cooperation since January 2021. After completing his primary and secondary studies in Mauritania, he obtained a Bachelor's degree specializing in International Business in 1995 at the Haute Ecole de Commerce ex (INC) in Algiers, followed by a second university degree, a General Diploma in Demography, obtained in 2004 at the Cairo Demographic Center in Egypt. From 1997 to 1999, Mr. Chavei was an Executive at the Directorate of Human Resources in charge of monitoring the implementation of the Mauritania - UN Cooperation, followed by seven years as an Executive at the Department of Social Development in charge of monitoring and evaluation (1999 - 2006). Between 2006 and 2009, he first held the post of Executive at the Department of Studies and Development Strategies in charge of monitoring and evaluation and subsequently of Head of the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit at the Wilaya of Gorgol (decentralized division of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Promotion of Productive Sectors at the level of the wilaya of Gorgol in Mauritania). Before taking his current position, Mr. Chavei was Head of the Regional Programs / Department of Strategies and Policies at the General Directorate of Economic Policy and Development Strategies from 2009 to 2021.

Mr. Xavier Devictor

World Bank

Mr. Xavier Devictor is Manager in the Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group at the World Bank, where he is leading a multi-pronged effort aimed at strengthening World Bank-financed programs in countries affected by fragility, conflict, and violence, including on issues related to forced displacement, prevention and risk mitigation, and operational support. He is the lead author of the World Bank's flagship report "Forcibly Displaced – Towards a Development Approach to Support Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons, and Their Hosts". Xavier has over twenty years of experience within the World Bank Group with a focus on the definition and management of complex country programs and policy dialogues, at both strategic and operational levels. Since joining the Bank in 1999 as a Young Professional, he has worked in the Africa, Middle East and North Africa, South Asia, and Europe and Central Asia regions. Prior to his current position, he was the World Bank's Country Manager for Poland and the Baltic Countries. Starting in December 2021, Xavier will be co-director for the preparation of the 2023 World Development Report on migration and forced displacement. Prior to joining the World Bank, Mr. Devictor was Program Manager for UNHCR in the former Yugoslavia, where he managed humanitarian programmes, including leading humanitarian convoys into conflict areas. He holds a Master of Economics from the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris and a Master of Public Policy from the Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées in Paris.

Mr. Lucas Gómez

Government of Colombia

Lucas Gómez is the Presidential Envoy for the Colombia-Venezuela Border since October 2020. He is in charge of coordinating the governmental response to the migration influx from Venezuela at the national and regional levels, as well as of integrating related efforts from donors, international actors, and civil society organizations. Previously, he was Director of Economic, Social and Environmental Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His 15+ years experience includes advisory roles in transparency and fiscal control for the Office of the Comptroller General and in local development planning for the Governorship of Boyaca. He has also advised UN agencies (IOM, UNDP) and international organizations (Norwegian Refugee Council) in issues related to forced displacement and internal armed conflict victim rights. Lucas holds a BA in Geography and History from La Rochelle Université (France), a MSc in Comparative Politics from Sciences Po (France), and a joint PhD in Political Science from Science Po and the Universidad Externado (Colombia).

Dr. Elke Löbel

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany

Dr. Elke Löbel headed the task force on displacement and migration, which was set up by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development in 2015 and which was merged with the Directorate she now heads in 2016. From 2011 to 2015, Elke Löbel was Head of the Division dealing with the Middle East (Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Syria, Palestinian territories, Yemen, Gulf States) and Egypt. Previously, she had been responsible for cooperation with political foundations and the churches, budgetary affairs, and cooperation with South Asia (Sri Lanka and Nepal). Before joining the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development in 2006, Elke Löbel managed the Exposure and Dialogue Programme (EDP) Bonn, where she was responsible for developing and implementing exposure and dialogue programmes in Asia, Africa, and Latin America in collaboration with the German parliament, the BMZ, GIZ, KfW, and faith-based aid organisations. From 1996 to 2000, she worked as an aid worker with the German Development Service, helping to set up the non-governmental women's organisation "Casa de la Mujer" in Bolivia. Ms Löbel also has several years of experience in the area of municipal economic development. Whilst working on her PhD, she worked as a consultant, undertaking several missions abroad to Africa, Asia, and Latin America. She has a son who was born in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, in 1996.

Mr. Felipe Muñoz

Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)

Since August 2020, Mr. Felipe Muñoz has been the Chief of the Migration Unit at the Inter-American Development Bank. Starting in February 2018, he was advisor to the President of Colombia for a comprehensive response to migration from Venezuela, when he was in charge of coordinating government responses to the migration influx from Venezuela at the national and regional levels, as well as of integrating related efforts from donors, international actors, and civil society organizations. Previously, he was senior counsellor for Colombia at the Board of Executive Directors of the IADB. His vast experience in Colombia's public sector includes serving as Private Security Superintendent,

Director of the National Intelligence Agency, and posts as advisor to Bogota's Mayor and to the Minister of Finance, among others. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Finance and International Relations from Universidad Externado in Colombia and a Master in Regional and Urban Planning from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Ms. Cecilia Scharp

Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)

Ms. Cecilia Scharp is currently Assistant Director General at SIDA, heading the Department for International Organisations and Policy Support (INTEM) since mid-August 2017. INTEM implements the Swedish government's six global thematic strategies, contributes toward the agency's subject-related knowledge and policy development, and provides subject related expert support to the Swedish Government, including in multilateral cooperation and coordination. She left UNICEF New York in 2017 after five years at the WASH section where she was leading UNICEF's work on water and environment issues. Cecilia led the global consultation to develop SDG 6 on water and sanitation for UN-Water and was engaged throughout the process. Before leaving for UNICEF, she held various positions at SIDA and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, most recently as Assistant Director at SIDA's department for countries where Sweden is engaged in long-term collaboration (PROGSAM) and as Head of Sweden's development collaboration in Liberia. Cecilia has a Master of Science in civil engineering and holds a PhD in Land and Water Management from the Royal Institute of Technology in Sweden.

Ms. Marriët Schuurman

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands

Ms. Marriët Schuurman is the Director of the Department for Stabilization and Humanitarian Aid of the Dutch MFA. Prior to this role, she led the Task Force on the UN Security Council membership of The Netherlands. She has held a number of high-level positions within multilateral security bodies, including Special Representative on Women, Peace and Security at NATO.

Ms. Halima Mint Sidouwa

Mbera Refugee Camp, Mauritania

Ms. Halima Mint Sidouwa was born in 1968 at Lerneb (Tombouctou-Mali). Following the war in Mali, Halima fled with all her family members to Mauritania in 2012 to find safety and protection in Mbera refugee camp leaving behind her shop and property. At the camp, she started organizing women in associations and support groups, encouraging them to participate in the various activities at the camp and to access services. She worked with OXFAM from 2013-2014 as community extension worker leading sensitization on water and sanitation. From 2014 to 2016 she worked with INTERSOS on child protection, SGBV, assistance to PSN and community mobilization. She received training in these fields. Since 2014, she has been a member of the foster family bank receiving unaccompanied minors, separated children and at times girls fleeing child forced marriages. Halima is a leading member of the community and is very dedicated to education especially girl child education, which

she continues to raise at any given platform. She is a gender-based violence activist working closely with all actors to prevent and respond to such acts, having been herself a survivor of child marriage. Halima is also a member of the camp conflict resolution committee working with host communities to promote peaceful coexistence. Halima is a very active member of the community having cemented her leadership position in the community, earning respect for her actions and what she stands for. She is mentoring her peer women to hold leadership positions and to seek equal human rights.

Ms. Charlotte Slente

Danish Refugee Council

Ms. Charlotte Slente was appointed Secretary General of the Danish Refugee Council on December 1st, 2019. Ms. Slente comes from a long career in the Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has held multiple senior management posts central to Denmark's development and humanitarian policy, hereunder State Secretary for Development Policy and Under-Secretary of State for Global Development – heading the Danish International Development Agency DANIDA. Charlotte Slente has also served high-level diplomatic posts, including Under-Secretary of State for Global Politics and Security, as well as Under-Secretary of State for Consular Affairs. She has been Ambassador for Fragile States, as well as Economic Diplomacy, and held several senior posts at Denmark's bilateral Embassies. Ms. Slente started her career with UNDP and holds a Master of Science in International Business Administration and Modern Languages from the Copenhagen Business School. She was born in 1966 and is married to Alberto, with whom she has two sons, aged 18 and 21.