NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY

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Key Challenges of Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship for the SDGs

Wednesday, February 28, 2018 * 2PM – 4:30PM, 2nd Floor of the CCUN

H.E. Mr. Lot Thauzeni Pansipadana Dzonzi, Deputy Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Malawi to the United Nations in New York. Ambassador Dzonzi is the past Vice Chairperson of the 55th and 56th Sessions of the UN Commission of Social Development. Prior to his deployment in New York he was the Inspector General of Police. He worked with the Malawi Police Service for 28 years. He is an author of several books among which are; Reaching Out Reach Higher, of Mountains and Valleys, Success is Spelt Sweat Equity and Soaring With the Eagles. He is also a motivational speaker and a leadership and personal growth trainer.

Mr. Reinhard J. Krapp, Minister and Head of the Economic and Financial Affairs Department at the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations. Mr. Krapp has been the Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs at the Mission of Germany since July 2014. He served as Deputy Ambassador at the German Embassy in Sofia, Bulgaria from 2011 to 2014. He was Head of Division for International Environment Policy from 2006 to 2011 in the Berlin Foreign Office. He served as Head of Legal and Consular Department in the German Embassy in Moscow 2003 to 2006. His focus was on Sustainable Development from 1999 to 2003 at the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations. He went to Diplomatic School in Bonn from 1981-1983. Mr. Krapp attended that Universities Muenster/Westphalia and Lausanne/Switzerland, Faculty of Law 1972 – 1978. He is married with three children.

Professor Juan Elias Chebly, Lead Adviser on Partnerships and Outreach to the UN Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations Environment Programme & Head of the UN Environment Management Group; Founder of Voipebox.com and GiveMe5.org. Prof. Chebly holds a BS in Management, a minor in International Business, a Finance MBA degree from St. John’s University in Queens, NY and a Ph.D in Sustainable Development from Simon Bolivar University in Caracas, Venezuela. At age 24, he became St. John’s Tobin College of Business youngest professor in 2010. In 2009, in founded Voipebox.com, a telecom startup introducing innovative and pioneering VOIP telephony solutions in South America and the US. Since 2013, he has been tasked to serve in different capacities as a report writer, researcher, programme manager, public speaker, strategic adviser, and community builder at the UN, at the juncture between academic research, policy-making, and inclusive governance through partnerships and global outreach.

Ms. Dali Schonfelder, 17 year old, Founder & Co-Creator of NALU: Dress to Give. Ms. Schonfelder made many friends when traveling to rural India each year with her family. One year, she returned to find that the government had stopped paying for some of her friends’ uniforms after they reached 12 years old. Since students were forbidden to attend school without uniforms, those who could not afford uniforms could no longer receive an education. Three years ago together with her younger brother Finn, she Co-founded NALU to break the poverty cycle and give students of all socio-economic levels the opportunity to stay in school. She oversees the process from start to finish, first designing the uniforms, and then traveling to India to lead their distribution. In a pilot program, NALU made and provided more than 6,500 school uniforms to children living in extreme poverty, resulting a doubled enrollment. Not only are more students attending school, but academic performance has increased and teenage pregnancy in the village has decreased. Further supporting the community, NALU employs local tailors to manufacture the uniforms. To ensure the sustainability of their impact, she and her brother developed a business model by selling clothing and accessories. In the coming year, NALU’s business revenue will provide 20,000 uniforms per month by 2020, creating long-term impact for rural India. She and Finn are NGOCSD-NY Honorary Advisers for Youth Leadership.
Mr. Vadim Belikov is Founder & CEO of the SMUVA LTD & CEO of StroyBusiness a real estate development company. Mr. Belikov is Vice-President of the Board of the Business Assembly of the G-20Y Summit IOC, Vice-President of the International Youth Diplomacy League. Also, he is involved in consultation with international business companies and advises a variety of international clients on investment in business development in Russia, USA and Latin America. For the past 11 years he has worked in sustainable development businesses and contributed to non-profit international youth projects focused on the sustainable development goals and current issues. Together with his colleagues he wrote development strategies for many international youth projects, such as: G200 Youth Forum, G-20Y Summit, Next Generation Energy Leaders Council and the International Youth Diplomacy League. Over the last 8 years he has taken part a number of International summits, forums and scientific conferences. He has a Masters degree in World Policy from the School of International Relations in North-Western Institute of Russia and at the North-West institute branch of Russian Academy of National Economy and Public Service. He is preparing his PhD dissertation examining the growing influence of NGOs on sustainable development and World Policy. He is an Honorary Adviser on Sustainable Energy for the NGO Committee of the Sustainable Development-NY. *SMUVA LTD. is a FinTech company - www.smuva.com.

Mr. Nicholas Wolferman, Owner of Wolferman Consulting Company. Mr. Wolferman has extensive experience working with entrepreneurs through his consulting company working primarily with small business owners on their marketing and business development strategies. Outside of helping entrepreneurs build the businesses of their dreams, and securing their livelihood, Mr. Wolferman is a board member of New York Therapy Animals. In this role, he shares his experience and marketing strategy to assist with fundraising and programming efforts in order for the organization to continue supporting those in need of a friendly, furry friend in the New York City area. Mr. Wolferman is also a member of the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY. As a recent graduate of Columbia University, Mr. Wolferman was honored as a Senior Marshall for his graduating class, received the Indelible Mark King’s Crown Leadership Award, and the Student Leadership Visionary Award during his time there.

Ms. Jadayah Spencer is the Executive Director of the International Youth Leadership Institute. Ms. Spencer is an advocate for improving access to opportunities that enhance the lives of youth, people of African descent, and indigenous people worldwide. A proud IYLI alumna, she became an IYLI fellow in 2010 and traveled on the 2011 Summer Fellowship Program to Tanzania. She subsequently served in various roles, including being an IYLI volunteer, an IYLI board member, and an IYLI group leader (Brazil SFP 2013). She serves on several international and local boards, including her work as a Co-Chair of the UN DPI/NGO Youth Representative Steering Committee, and on the New York City Young Women’s Advisory Council which addresses policy issues that directly affect young women of color in New York City. She started her undergraduate education at age 16 as a Deans Scholar at New York University, where she majored in anthropology and double-minored in Social Entrepreneurship and Mandarin Chinese. Ms. Spencer is a born-and-raised Brooklynite, and recipient of several fellowships including StartingBloc, and has been recognized as one of 40 Under 40 Rising Stars in the NYC Non-Profit Sector by New York Nonprofit Media. She loves world travel, meaningful conversation, and disecting rap lyrics.

Ms. Ilene Rosenthal, CEO, White Space Marketing Group. Ms. Rosenthal is the CEO of White Space Marketing Group, a digital marketing consultancy that creates content marketing programs across the digital and traditional marketing landscapes. Her team of 15 marketers serves mid-market companies poised for growth by delivering marketing solutions to large and small companies for over 25 years. She is a hybrid marketer, trained in strategic marketing and planning over a 16-year career at a global marketing company, rounded out with digital marketing planning, creative development, and implementation in technology, healthcare, construction, financial services, and consumer goods. At Young & Rubicam she served as a training program mentor, and continues to mentor alumni of her alma mater, Clark University. White Space Marketing Group has hired and trained women who have had to take a hiatus from work to care for family members; their experience, maturity, and dedication, have shaped the unique profile of WSMG. She serves on two not-for-profit boards, and volunteers for organizations serving women, youth, and the progressive Jewish community. At Yonkers Partners in Education, she serves as a graduation coach for YPIE scholars as they approach the challenges of college prep and application. She also serves on the board of Congregation B’nai Jeshurun in New York City, focusing on the Jewish Home Project, a set of programs aimed at welcoming multi-heritage Jewish families. She and her husband have been host supporters of JFREJ (Jews for Racial and Economic Justice), and of the pluralist Jewish youth movement, Young Judaea.
Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship for the SDGs

Mr. Brendan Pastor is a Communications Associate at the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME), an initiative of the United Nations Global Compact. The UN Global Compact's PRME is dedicated to transforming business education in line with the SDGs. Prior to this, Mr. Pastor was a journalist at the United Nations focusing on issues around sustainable development, with an interest in the multi-stakeholder negotiations that led to the 2030 Agenda and the 17 Global Goals. He received a Master’s in International Political Economy from the University of Warwick, and a Bachelors in International Relations from the American International University in London.

Mr. Larry Goodin, Fairleigh Dickinson University United Nations Student Outreach Liaison and CORE Adjunct. Mr. Goodin can be best summarized as a millennial with high dreams for tailoring the beliefs of young people and transforming the way they experience the world. One of his most sincere aspirations is to launch a “State of the Youth” World Conference. He earned his Bachelor of Science Degree from Alcorn State University and holds a Mini-MBA from Rutgers Business School Executive Education. Mr. Goodin spent the earlier part of his career working as a front line leader for Kraft Foods. He was responsible for managing the manufacturing and packaging of OREO cookie products. He received the Values in Action Leadership Award for his commitment to operational excellence. In 2016, Mr. Goodin completed the FDU Executive Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership Program. In 2017, Vice Provost for Academic and International Affairs, Dr. Jason Scorza granted him an opportunity to join the Global Learning Team as the United Nations & NGO Student Outreach Liaison. Mr. Goodin devotes his life to mentoring youth and, through the Youth Coaching Institute, has attained his Youth Life and Leadership Coaching Credential. He has a special interest in issues related to youth outreach, STEM education, philanthropy and the Sustainable Development Goals. He leads a Ted Ed Club at Erasmus Hall College Prep Academy in Brooklyn, NY. He is the recipient of the 2018 New York City DOE Superintendent Partner Appreciation Award and a new member to the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY.

Ms. Tilottama Puri, International Lawyer & Policy Professional, Legal Analyst, UN Office for Project Services ('UNOPS'). Ms. Puri is currently working for the Legal Group of UNOPS in international administrative law and governance policy. In her previous role as the Research Analyst in the Office of the Director-General of the International Development Law Organization ('IDLO') in Rome, Ms. Puri acquired strategic insights into the IDLO’s programs, policies and projects regarding international law, policy and development. For the UN Human Settlements Programme ('UN-Habitat'), Ms. Puri recently launched the first global study on youth law and legislative framework affecting the urban youth within the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. She has also gained prior professional experience in the International Labour Organization, the World Bank, the International Organization for Migration, the International Court of Justice, and the Supreme Court of the State of New York. Ms. Puri is passionate about international law, policy and development. She holds Law LLB Honours (University of Warwick), Bar Vocational Course (BPP Law School, London) and LLM (Masters of Law) in Human Rights Law (University College London). She is a Barrister-at-Law, Honourable Society of the Inner Temple. She is Indian with an international background and currently lives in New York. Besides the US and the UK, she also lived in India, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands and Brazil. She is fluent in English, French and Hindi. She is an Indian classical dancer (Kuchipudi) and enjoys traveling and exploring different cultures and cuisines.

We thank our Co-Sponsors: UNA-USA Council of Organizations; Ms. Sheima Sweiss; Mediators Beyond Borders International; CoNGO; Huairou Commission; Youth for a Better World/MMUN; Global Family; ICW; Salvation Army; Global Family for Love & Peace; Peace Boat-US/NYO & Global Foundation for Democracy & Development.

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