

Second World Summit for Social Development

Doha, November 2025



Thursday, 6 November 2025

Room 105 | Qatar National Convention Centre



Speaker Biographies

Policy Meets the Pitch: Integrating Sport Into Social Inclusion Agendas

Introduction

15:00 - 15:03

Mr. Mohammed Saadoon Al-Kuwari, Sports News Presenter, Bein Sports **TBC**

Welcome Remarks

15:03 - 15:09

H.E. Isabelle Picco, Permanent Representative of the Principality of Monaco to the UN

H.E. Alya Ahmed bin Saif Al-Thani, Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the UN

Opening Remarks

15:09 - 15:20

Mr. Li Junhua, Under-Secretary-General, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

H.E. Ms. Sima Sami Bahous, Executive Director of UN Women **TBC**

Mr. Joël Bouzou OLY, President and Founder of Peace and Sport

Ms. Kirsty Coventry, President, International Olympic Committee **{video message}**



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Panel Discussion

15:21 PM - 16:01

- **Mr. Mutaz Barshim**, 4x Olympic medalist, high-jump world champion and Champion for Peace, Qatar
- **Mr. Mikaël Silvestre**, former footballer, Manchester United and French national team
- **Ms. Tegla Laroupe**, former Kenyan long-distance runner, President & Founder, Tegla Laroupe Peace Foundation
- **Ms. Katia Mascagni**, Associate Director of Public Affairs, International Olympic Committee
- **Mr. Michael Cacich**, Technical Head, East and Southern Africa, Education Above All Foundation

Interactive Q&A

16:01 PM - 16:11

Closing Remarks

16:11 PM - 16:15



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Sport-driven initiatives promoting equality, inclusion and social integration / Strengthening investment in sport as a catalyst for social and economic development

Objectives:

- Highlight opportunities to strengthen and scale existing low-cost, high-impact sport-based initiatives, partnerships and financing models that generate social and economic returns for all, especially disadvantaged communities.
- Challenge current systems by addressing investment gaps, advocating for equitable funding, and presenting policy changes necessary to drive systematic reform.
- Foster dialogue and encourage multilateral partnerships to strengthen inclusive social and economic development through sport, aligned with WSSD2 and the Copenhagen Declaration.

Focus:

- How to develop and support initiatives, policies and financing models to scale and sustain the low-cost, high-impact sport-based interventions for social inclusion, integration, mental and physical health, urban development, nutrition, education and sustainable livelihoods.



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Background:

- Member states have reiterated through Copenhagen Declaration, Agenda 2030, Pact for the Future and the Doha Declaration (tbc) how sport can serve as a powerful vehicle for social inclusion, integration, physical and mental health, gender equality, education and youth empowerment, denoting it as an important enabler, and integral component of sustainable development, including for disadvantaged communities.
- A parallel event to the Second World Social Summit for Social Development (WSSD2), the session on sport-driven initiatives promoting equality, inclusion and social integration / strengthening investment in sport as a catalyst for social and economic development, showcases ongoing sport-based initiatives, partnerships and financing models, and explores how to scale the returns and impact through policy action, innovative financing, and multi-stakeholder approaches. From community-based programs to multi-sectoral consortia, and global financing and policy development initiatives, this event highlights how sport-based interventions can create scalable impact and inclusive social and economic development opportunities — particularly for disadvantaged and underrepresented stakeholders, including women and girls, young people, ethnic minorities, refugees and displaced people, and people with disabilities. This approach is reinforced by the 2024 Secretary-General's report on sport, which highlights the transformative power of sport in advancing the 2030 Agenda through the Sport for Development and Peace mandate.

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- This session aligns with the overarching goals of the Second World Social Summit for Social Development (WSSD2). It contributes directly to the Summit's three core pillars: poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social inclusion. These core pillars also closely reflect key Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), such as SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 3 (Good Health & Wellbeing), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), reinforcing sport's role in advancing sustainable development.
- Moreover, the session will build on the foundation laid by the 1995 Copenhagen Summit, particularly Commitment 4 of the Copenhagen Declaration, which calls on Member States to promote social integration and foster stable, just, and inclusive societies. Member States further reaffirm their collective commitment in the Political Declaration of the WSSD to foster sustainable, inclusive, and cohesive societies by advancing the role of culture and sport in contributing to social integration, integrating culture and sport into economic, social and environmental development policies and strategies, ensuring adequate public investment in the protection and promotion of culture, sport and intercultural dialogue. In line with the Political Declaration of the WSSD, as well as the 2030 Agenda, the session will therefore highlight the role of culture and sport in promoting social integration, cohesion, and sustainable development through life-long learning, quality education, inclusive policies and public investment. Furthermore, it recognizes Action 11 of the Pact of the Future, in which sport is emphasized as an integral component of sustainable development and social inclusion, following its recognition as an important enabler of sustainable development in the 2030 Agenda.

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- Based on the pillars of the Summit, this 'Solutions Session' will provide a space for dialogue between sport and social development stakeholders, including implementing organizations, government representatives, and development banks to strengthen multi-sectoral, practical, and most importantly - scalable solutions in advancing social and economic development through sport. It will focus on the ongoing sport-based interventions and encourage as a call to action the scaling of these efforts through investment in policy action, multistakeholder initiatives, and financing models.



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