**Moderator:**

H.E. Ms. Ruchira Kamboj

Ms. Ruchira Kamboj, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations, is the Chair of the Commission for Social Development. Prior to her appointment, Ms. Kamboj served as Ambassador to Bhutan, beginning in 2019. Between 2017 and 2019, she was the High Commissioner of India to South Africa with concurrent accreditation to Lesotho. From 2014 to 2017, she was Ambassador to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). She served as India’s Chief of Protocol from 2011 to 2014.

In 2009, she was the Deputy Head of the Office of the Secretary-General at the Commonwealth Secretariat in London. Between 2006 and 2009, she was India’s Consul General in South Africa. She also served as Counsellor at India’s Permanent Mission to the United Nations from 2002 to 2005. While there, she doubled as the Mission’s Head of Chancery.

From 1999 to 2002, she served as Deputy Secretary, and later, as Director in charge of Foreign Service Personnel and Cadre at the Ministry of External Affairs. Between 1996 and 1999, she was First Secretary (Economic and Commercial), as well as Head of Chancery at the Indian High Commission in Mauritius. She also worked as Under Secretary in the Europe West Division of India’s Ministry of External Affairs from 1991 to 1996. She began her career as Third Secretary in India’s Embassy to France from 1989 to 1991. She is fluent in Hindi, English and French.
Johannes Rauch was appointed Austria's Federal Minister for Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection in March 2022.

He was born in 1959, and grew up with five siblings in Rankweil, Austria. In his early career he spent four years as a bank clerk. Youth work followed, then the completion of a social work diploma and many years of social work, before he embarked upon the management of a socioeconomic enterprise.

A member of the Green Party since 1985, he entered politics part-time in 1990, which this became a full-time job from 2014. His main areas of political focus are the following: nature conservation, transport and spatial planning, social and health policy, budget and tax policy, and labour market policy.

Minister Wellington Dias is the Minister of Development and Social Assistance of Brazil. He studied Literature at the Federal University of Piauí (1982) and Public Policy and Government at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (1998). During his career, he worked at Banco do Nordeste do Brazil (Northeast Bank of Brazil), Banco do Estado do Piauí (State Bank of Piauí) and Caixa Econômica Federal (Brazil's Federal Savings Bank).

He joined the Worker's Party (PT) in 1985 and began trade union activities as a member of Unified Workers' Central (CUT) - Brazil's main national trade union center - , and as president of the Caixa Econômica Federal Staff Association (Apcef), between 1986 and 1989.

Since 2006, Minister Dias has been elected congressman, both on local (1994) and national (1998) levels, and governor of the state of Piauí (2002, 2006, 2014 and 2018). In 2022, Wellington Dias became national coordinator of the Brazilian Governors' Forum. That same year, he was elected senator, in addition to acting as national coordinator of Lula's campaign for the presidency.
Ana Mendes Godinho is the Minister of Labour, Solidarity, and Social Security of Portugal. She has a Law degree from the University of Lisbon School of Law.

She was Secretary of State for Tourism in Prime Minister António Costa’s first Government, from 2015 to 2019. She was Minister of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security of Prime Minister António Costa’s 2nd Government. She was Director of the Services to Support the Inspection Activity of the Labour Condition Authorities and Coordinator of the Postgraduate course in Tourism Law at the Lisbon School of Law.

She was Vice-President of Turismo de Portugal, I.P. Tourism Board, and Vice-President of the General Board of the Special Real Estate Fund to Support Companies. She was Portugal’s representative in the ISO / Tourism Technical Committee. She was Administrator of Turismo Capital, SCR, SA., Administrator of Turismo Fundos, SGFII, SA., and member of the Inatel Foundation Advisory Board. Chief of Cabinet of the Secretary of State for Tourism in the 17th Government. Labour Inspector. Legal consultant for the Tourism Directorate-General.
Hon. Amongi Betty Ongom is a human rights, democracy and justice enthusiast who has worked hard to defend the rights of women in Uganda including spearheading the campaign advocating for the scraping of refund of bride price in Uganda.

Through her work with global parliamentary associations; the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the Inter Parliamentary Union, where she has been serving as an executive member, Hon. Amongi has travelled widely to Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, Japan, Myanmar, Samoa, Tonga, Oman, Yemen, Gambia and Saudi Arabia to meet government officials in the campaign for inclusion of women in Parliament.

She has also been involved in global campaigns on Peace and Security. Through her work in Somalia, the Clan Leaders who were opposed to a constitutional provision of including women representation in Parliament had accepted to progressively adopt a quota system for women. She is an expert trainer of trainees for Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and IPU and serves as a Gender expert for the Uganda Gender partnership Donor group to help shape donor priorities in the areas of women's empowerment. She is a trained professional in International Relations and Diplomatic Studies, Political Science and Gender and Development Studies. She served as Minister of Lands, Housing and Urban Development before being posted to her current portfolio of Gender, Labour and Social Development.

Mr. Alejandro Solano Ortiz is currently the Vice Minister for Multilateral Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica. He has been in the Foreign Service since 1994. He is an Attorney at law and has studies in International Affairs and Aeronautical and Space Law.

From 2018 to 2023, he served as Ambassador of Costa Rica to Austria and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office in Vienna. From 2014 to 2018 he was the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, and before that, from 2008 to 2010, he served as Director General of Foreign Policy in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in San José. Mr. Solano Ortiz has also served in Belgium, Switzerland, and Argentina during his Diplomatic career. Ambassador Solano speaks English, French, Italian and Portuguese.