



Short bios of speakers in Plenary 2

Ms. Anupama Rao Singh (Chair)

Ms. Singh assumed her position as UNICEF Regional Director for East Aand the Pacific on 1 November 2004.

Prior to her appointment, Ms. Singh served as Deputy Director, Programme Division, UNICEF Headquarters in New York, a position she held from January 2001. In this capacity she was responsible for the oversight of UNICEF's engagement in and contribution to the UN reform and the global strategic programme support to regional and country offices. In addition, Ms. Singh has undertaken a number of special assignments for the UN system, including the co-ordination of the needs assessment for reconstruction in Iraq and Deputy Humanitarian Co-ordinator *ad interim* for the Darfur crisis in Sudan.

Ms. Singh attended the Lady Irwin College in New Delhi, India, where she obtained her Bachelor's degree in Home Economics in 1970. She also obtained a Bachelor's degree in Education in 1971 and a Master's degree in Child Development in 1973 with academic distinction.

Mr. Simeon Athy

Mr. Simeon Athy worked at the Reserve Bank of Vanuatu from 1991-2003 and served as Director of the Research Department. Mr Athy joined the public service in Oct 2003 as Director General of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management. He moved to the Office of the Prime Minister in June 2008 as Director General of the PMO –a position held to this day.

Mr. Athy has also served as Chairman of the MCA-Vanuatu Steering Committee that drives the US Government funded infrastructural projects through the Millennium Challenge Corporation. He was Chairman of the Air Vanuatu (since Oct 2009), was an Advisory Committee Member to newly established Vanuatu Agricultural Bank of Vanuatu and a Board Member of the Vanuatu Financial Services Commission.

Mr. Simeon Athy holds a Bachelors Degree in Economics from the University of PNG.

Honourable Niko Lee-Hang

Mr. Niko Lee-Hang has been the Honourable Minister for Finance for the Government of Samoa since April 2006. The Minister is also a Governor to the ADB Institution.

Hon. Lee-Hang was the Associate Minister of Justice for 4 years prior to his Ministerial appointment. He has also served as the Deputy General Manager for the Samoa Life Assurance Corporation and as Chief Executive Office for the Samoan Public Trust Office.

Hon. Lee Hang holds a Masters Degree in Management and a Financial Management Degree. He is also a member of both the Australian and Samoan Societies of Accountants.

Mr. Ben Graham

Mr. Ben Graham is a private consultant and occasionally serves as an adviser to the Marshall Islands government on a range of reform and development issues, including the response efforts to the global economic crisis. He has consulted for a number of regional and international organizations on issues such as MDGs, TVET, energy, social protection, and public sector reforms.

He holds an Economics degree from University of Hawaii, an MBA from Georgetown University, and is currently completing a second master degree at the Crawford School of Economics and Government, Australia National University.