

Health financing for a safe and sustainable economy: towards a Sevilla health financing agenda for action

A Special Event on Health Financing at #FfD4



FIBES 1, Special events room. Wednesday 2nd July 2025, 14:30 to 16:00 pm

Cosponsored by:



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AfricaCDC
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Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the vulnerability of the planet and the global economy to the disruptions of a health crisis. Health systems were suddenly a matter of maximum priority, but the right to health is not real for billions.

Before Covid, 2 billion people already experienced catastrophic health spending due to out-of-pocket (OOP) payments on health, the largest source of health financing in Africa, and only one third of the 68 poorest countries are set to see their health investments grow above pre-Covid levels by 2027. At the 78th World Health Assembly, the Pandemics Agreement was approved, as well as the “Strengthening Health Financing Globally” Resolution, offering a platform for driving more sustainable financing for UHC.

Dramatic ODA reductions underway in 2025 are a major shock to health systems and services, including for humanitarian and outbreak responses. These are affecting national responses that remain highly reliant on international funding, such as HIV, bringing back risks of epidemic resurgence and making programmatic transformation even more urgent.

42 countries in Africa and South Asia have public spending on health below \$30 pppa, lower the \$80-90 pc required to support necessary workforce and essential commodities.

This is a year especially relevant for the continued financing of important parts of global health through the replenishments of GAVI, for vaccines, and The Global Fund, for HIV, Malaria and TB, and health systems, all in the context of pressures on ODA budgets critical for the health of millions, especially in lower income contexts.

Developing countries are facing slow economic growth, flat revenue collection, excessive debt repayments as a result of the high costs of borrowing, and the impact of illicit financial flows (with up to US\$ 89bn lost per year only in Africa). Funding for scientific research that drives innovation and development of vaccines, treatments and diagnostics is also threatened but remains essential for areas such as child survival and the fight against infectious diseases.

In the context of this polycrisis, there are significant opportunities - through the research - production - commercialization of medicines cycle and through

improved and consolidated regional procurement systems that can drive regional production, and attract additional investments to lower income contexts, supported by MDBs and DFIs. There is also a need to prepare responsible transitions and protect essential services where threatened without burdening impoverished users, including through multistakeholder partnerships that can help de-risk investments for regional and national sustainability. There is an opportunity to rethink global health financing models towards global safety nets to protect specially vulnerable settings from pandemics or natural events.

Securing universal access to health in a sustainable and incrementally self-reliant environment will require a greater focus on domestic revenue mobilization and the use of diversified financing mechanisms, while understanding that there will continue to be a critical need for ODA especially in lower income, vulnerable and crisis-affected contexts. This includes:

- a. Securing more and better spending by domestic governments, -increased revenues, and allocations to health, better tax administration and prevention of tax avoidance, stronger Public Financial Management (PFM), pooled procurement systems and health integration. It also includes strengthening how donor resources are to be channeled through country systems, that need to be strengthened and integrated at the fastest possible pace.
- b. The use of blended and diversified financing instruments is set to strengthen resource mobilization and improve coordination. Grants can support more concessional borrowing for health and leverage other tools. Health taxes for tobacco, alcohol or sugary beverages and debt swap operations can raise resources for the health sector, and dedicated funding for health from mechanisms such as new SDR issuances or debt relief operations could expand available resources.

The special event intends to highlight the most relevant elements of the context, challenges and opportunities for action including the resources and mechanisms needed to engineer the two components of successful transitional financing towards sustainable national health systems. Governments, multilateral actors, civil society and private sector are called to participate in the deliberations to ensure that we advance towards a more agile and coordinated global health ecosystem that considers global, regional and national levels, and secures a strong health financing agenda going forward, driven by the Sevilla FFD agreements. The event will also be an opportunity for the Spanish government to introduce its global health strategy approved in May 2025.

Agenda

1. Welcome and opening remarks:

Minister Monica Garcia, MoH, Spain

On the essential role of publicly financed health systems to fulfil the right to Health, and the need to converge on future financing models combining local, regional and global.

2. Opening session: Keynote & setting the scene

Moderator:

H.E. Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, former president of Mauritius

Keynote

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO

A converging agenda to make sustainable what today are underfinanced health systems for UHC.

Setting the scene:

Joseph Stiglitz

The FFD conference, and the necessary macro global reforms to enable a path towards a sustainable financing for health.

Mariana Mazzucato

Reorienting global economic governance for a fit for purpose people and planet that secures sufficiently financed health for all.

Nadia Calviño

Blended financing for health: the role of DFIs and MDBs.

3. PANEL 1. The priority of growing domestic revenues and allocations to health and related investments.

Moderator: Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli, The One Campaign

Jean Kaseya, Africa CDC

The role of regional institutions to advance the African health financing agenda

Winnie Byanyima, UNAIDS

A multisectoral agenda for health sustainability: social determinants, human rights, protecting vulnerable populations and intellectual property rights.

Peter Sands, The Global Fund

The continued need of global solidarity for impact and to strengthen national health systems.

Mary-Beth Goodman, OECD

Sustainable financing and health reforms for impact.

4. PANEL 2. Towards a diversified financing framework for the health systems of the future, that protects health and advances science as a global public good.

Moderator: Quique Bassat, ISGlobal

Sania Nishtar, GAVI

Creating Innovative Instruments and Partnerships for Sustainable Immunisation Financing

Jarbas Barbosa, PAHO

From Challenge to Change: Financing Universal Health in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Thani Mohamed Soilihi, France

France's vision and contribution to global health financing.

Row 0:

Dr Anne Aly, Australia

Omar Touray, ECOWAS

Erica Gerretsen, European Commission

Marisol Touraine, UNITAID

5. CLOSING

Minister of Finance and planning Murangwa Yusuf, Rwanda

The importance of country leadership, and the challenges for the future of health financing. African leadership in the future of health.

Minister Jose Manuel Albares, MOFA, Spain

The need for a renewed approach to health financing and a Sevilla framework for action at global, regional and national level

Speaker biographies



Monica García

Minister of Health, Spain

Mónica García Gómez is an anaesthesiologist and politician, current coordinator and spokesperson of the political party Más Madrid in the Madrilenian Assembly. She was an elected deputy during the X legislature of the Madrilenian Assembly under the Spanish political party Podemos, and is currently a deputy in the XI legislature as part of Más Madrid. Since 2015, García has combined her political work with her job in health care, with a 50% reduction in working hours. She was appointed Minister of Health in the third government of Pedro Sánchez following the 2023 Spanish general elections.



Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Director General, WHO

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus was elected WHO Director-General for a five-year term by WHO Member States at the Seventieth World Health Assembly in May 2017. In doing so, he was the first WHO Director-General elected from among multiple candidates by the World Health Assembly, and was the first person from the WHO African Region to head the world's leading public health agency. Dr Tedros graduated from the University of Asmara with a Bachelor of Biology, before earning a Master of Science (MSc) in Immunology of Infectious Diseases from the University of London, a Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) in Community Health from the University of Nottingham and an Honorary Fellowship from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Following his studies, Dr Tedros returned to Ethiopia to support the delivery of health services, first working as a field-level malariologist, before heading a regional health service and later serving in Ethiopia's federal government for over a decade as Minister of Health and Minister of Foreign Affairs. As Minister of Health from 2005 to 2012, he led a comprehensive reform of the country's health system, built on the foundation of universal health coverage and provision of services to all people, even in the most remote areas. Under his leadership, Ethiopia expanded its health infrastructure, developed innovative health financing mechanisms, and expanded its health workforce. A major component of reforms he drove was the creation of a primary health care extension programme that deployed 40 000 female health workers throughout the country. A significant result was an approximate 60% reduction in child and maternal mortality compared to 2000 levels. As Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2012 to 2016, he elevated health as a political issue nationally, regionally and globally. In this role, he led efforts to negotiate the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, in which 193 countries committed to the financing necessary to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Prior to his election as Director-General of WHO, Dr Tedros held many leadership positions in global health, including as Chair of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, Chair of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, and Co-chair of the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Board.



Mariana Mazzucato

Professor, University College London

Mariana Mazzucato is Professor in the Economics of Innovation and Public Value at University College

London, where she is Founding Director of the UCL Institute for Innovation & Public Purpose (IIPP). Her previous posts include the RM Phillips Professorial Chair at the Science Policy Research Unit at Sussex University. She is a member of the UK Academy of Social Sciences (FACSS), the Italian Academy of Sciences Lincei, and the US Council on Foreign Relations. She holds honorary doctorates from 9 top rated global universities. In 2021 she received from the Italian government the title of Grande Ufficiale Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana, Italy's highest civilian honour. Most recently, Pope Francis appointed her to the Pontifical Academy for Life for bringing 'more humanity' to the world. She is a winner of international prizes: the 2024 Public Value Award, the 2020 John von Neumann Award, the 2019 All European Academies Madame de Staël Prize for Cultural Values, and the 2018 Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought. She has been listed as one of Fast Company's Most Creative People in Business; GQ's Top 50 most influential people in Britain; Wired's 25 leaders shaping the future of capitalism and by the New Republic as one of the 3 most important thinkers about innovation. She is the author of *The Entrepreneurial State: debunking public vs. private sector myths* (2013), *The Value of Everything: making and taking in the global economy* (2018), *Mission Economy: a moonshot guide to changing capitalism* (2021) and *The Big Con: How the Consulting Industry Weakens our Businesses, Infantilizes our Governments and Warps our Economies* (2023). She advises policy makers around the world on innovation-led inclusive and sustainable growth. Her roles have included for example Technical Expert to South Africa's G20 Presidency and Special Representative of President Ramaphosa to the G20 Taskforce 1 on Inclusive Economic Growth, Industrialization, Employment, and Reduced Inequality, Co-Chair of the Group of Experts for the G20 Taskforce on a Global Mobilization against Climate Change, Chair of the World Health Organization's Council on the

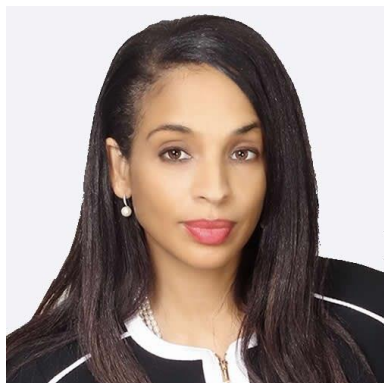
Economics of Health for All, Co-Chair of the Global Commission on the Economics of Water, Co-Chair on the Council on Urban Initiatives, Commissioner for the Jubilee Report on Addressing the Debt and Development Crises in Countries from the South, and member of the South African President's Economic Advisory Council. Previously, through her role as Special Advisor for the EC Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation (2017-2019), she authored the high-impact report on Mission-Oriented Research and Innovation in the European Union, turning "missions" into a crucial new instrument in the European Commission's Horizon innovation programme, and more recently, authored a report with the UN's Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) on Transformational Change in Latin America and the Caribbean: A mission-oriented approach.



Joseph Stiglitz

Professor, Columbia University

Joseph E. Stiglitz is a renowned American economist and University Professor at Columbia University. He is also Co-Founder and Co-President of the Initiative for Policy Dialogue and Chief Economist of the Roosevelt Institute. In 2001, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics for his pioneering work on markets with asymmetric information. A former Chief Economist and Senior Vice-President of the World Bank (1997–2000), Stiglitz previously served as Chair of the U.S. Council of Economic Advisers under President Clinton. He has held academic positions at Yale, Princeton, Stanford, MIT, and Oxford, and has played key roles in global economic policy discussions, including chairing commissions for the UN, OECD, and French government. His work helped establish the field of Information Economics, introducing influential concepts such as adverse selection and moral hazard. He has also contributed to macroeconomics, development economics, trade theory, and the economics of R&D. Stiglitz is a leading voice on inequality, globalization, and economic reform, with several best-selling books including *Globalization and Its Discontents*, *The Price of Inequality*, and *People, Power and Profits*.



Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli

President and CEO, The One Campaign

With over 25 years of international development experience, Ndidi has been deeply involved in fostering impactful solutions in the global social innovation landscape, with a focus on Africa. Ndidi started her career at McKinsey & Company's Chicago office and returned to Nigeria in 2000 to serve as the pioneer Executive Director of the FATE Foundation. She is the founder of LEAP Africa, a non-profit committed to developing dynamic, innovative, and principled African leaders and African Food Changemakers, which provides support for African entrepreneurs to start and scale resilient and sustainable agribusinesses. She is also the so-founder of Sahel Consulting Agriculture & Nutrition Ltd. and AACE Food Processing & Distribution Ltd. Ndidi serves on the boards of the Rockefeller Foundation, Stanbic IBTC Group, the Young Global Leaders of the World Economic Forum, and the Bridgespan Group. Ndidi holds an M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School and an undergraduate degree with honors from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. She was a Senior Fellow at the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business & Government at the Harvard Kennedy School, a visiting Scholar at Max Bell School of Public Policy at McGill University, an Aspen Institute New Voices Fellow, and an Eisenhower Fellow. Ndidi is a TED speaker, and has been recognized internationally for her contributions, including as a Schwab Fellow and a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum and receiving a National Honor by the Nigerian Government and the Harvard Business School Distinguished Alumni Award. She is also a published author on topics related to entrepreneurship, social innovation, and resilient agriculture businesses in Africa.



Winnie Byanyima

Executive Director, UNAIDS

Winnie Byanyima is the Executive Director of UNAIDS and an Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations. A passionate and longstanding champion for social justice and a global leader on inequality, Ms Byanyima leads the United Nations' efforts to end the AIDS pandemic by 2030. Ms Byanyima believes that health care is a human right, and she is the co-founder and co-chair of the People's Medicines Alliance, advocating for equitable access to medical technologies that help to prevent and respond to current and future pandemics. Before joining UNAIDS, Ms Byanyima served as the Executive Director of Oxfam International. Previously, Ms Byanyima was elected for three terms in the parliament of her country, Uganda, where she led the first parliamentary women's caucus, championing ground-breaking gender equality provisions in the country's 1995 post-conflict constitution. Ms Byanyima led the establishment of the African Union Commission's Directorate of Gender and Development and served as Director of Gender and Development at the United Nations Development Programme. She founded the Forum for Women in Democracy, a Ugandan nongovernmental organization, and has been deeply involved in building global coalitions on social and economic justice. Ms Byanyima has co-chaired the World Economic Forum and served on Prime Minister Trudeau's Gender Advisory Council during Canada's G7 Presidency. She has also served on the Global Commission on Climate Adaptation, the International Labour Organization's Global Commission on the Future of Work and the World Bank's Advisory Council on Gender and Development. She holds a master of science degree in mechanical engineering from Cranfield University and a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering from the University of Manchester. Ms Byanyima is the recipient of numerous global and national awards, including the 2023 Hall of Femme Award bestowed by IWFS (International Women's Forum South Africa). She has been awarded 4 honorary doctorates from the universities of Manchester (UK), Mount Saint Vincent's (Canada), Cranfield (UK), and Free State (South Africa).



Quique Bassat Orellana

Director General, ISGlobal

Quique Bassat Orellana is the Director General of the Barcelona Institute of Global Health (ISGlobal) since January 2024. He leads a team of nearly 600 people committed to improving global health and promoting health equity through excellence in research and the translation and application of knowledge. He is also ICREA Research Professor, and former Head of the Malaria and Neglected Parasitic Diseases Programme. As a pediatrician with special interest in infectious disease epidemiology and public health, Dr. Bassat has attempted to combine his clinical work with biomedical research in those diseases that most affect the poor and vulnerable. His main area of interest has been the prevention and treatment of malaria in childhood, with a particular focus on understanding the clinical overlap of malaria and other common pediatric conditions. His research has also covered the new paradigm of malaria eradication, with a particular interest in evaluating the role of drugs in elimination strategies. He has also conducted work on the description of the epidemiology and etiology of respiratory infections (viral and bacterial), diarrheal diseases, and neonatal infections in places such as Mozambique, Morocco or Bhutan. He has also studied Yaws, a neglected tropical skin disease, advancing on the science of its potential eradication. Currently, his main interests are related to the validation and implementation of Minimally Invasive Autopsy (MIA) tools for the post-mortem investigation of causes of death in the developing world. He is also very interested in the validation and evaluation of technological devices for global health purposes.



Peter Sands

Executive Director, The Global Fund

Peter Sands became Executive Director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in March 2018.

Sands joined the Global Fund after a distinguished career in banking, most notably as Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered PLC from 2006 to 2015. Under his direction, Standard Chartered focused its corporate responsibility initiatives on health issues, including avoidable blindness, AIDS and malaria. During this time, Sands served on the board of the Global Business Coalition on AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and was lead non-executive director on the board of the United Kingdom's Department of Health.

After stepping down from Standard Chartered in 2015, Sands became a research fellow at the Harvard Global Health Institute and the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government at Harvard Kennedy School, where he worked on a range of projects at the interface of global health and international finance, publishing papers in the New England Journal of Medicine and The Lancet. In 2015-16, Sands was chair of the U.S. National Academy of Medicine's Commission on a Global Health Risk Framework for the Future, which published the influential report "The Neglected Dimension of Global Security: a Framework to Counter Infectious Disease Threats" in January 2016. In 2016-2017, he chaired the International Working Group on Financing Pandemic Preparedness at the World Bank and from 2017-2023 was also a member of the U.S. National Academy of Science's Forum on Microbial Threats.

Sands has served on numerous boards and commissions, including as a governor of the UK's National Institute for Economic and Social Research, a member of the International Advisory Board of the Monetary Authority of Singapore, a board director of the Institute of International Finance, and a director of the World Economic Forum.

Sands is currently Chair of the Board of Cera, a digital-first home healthcare company based in the UK. Sands was educated in the UK, Canada and

the U.S. He graduated from Brasenose College, Oxford University with a First-Class degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics. He also received a Master's in Public Administration from Harvard University, where he was a Harkness Fellow.



Mary Beth Goodman

Deputy Secretary-General, OECD

Mary Beth Goodman took up duties as Deputy Secretary-General on 4 April 2024, bringing her extensive expertise and leadership experience in economic development, trade, anti-corruption, and democratic governance around the world. As Deputy Secretary-General, Ms Goodman is responsible for the environment, public governance, and development portfolios of the OECD. This includes responsibility for sustainable development, climate finance and anti-corruption as well as the Blue Dot Network. From 2021 to 2023, she was the United States Coordinator for Global COVID Response and Health Security, having previously served as Special Assistant to President Barack Obama and Senior Director for Development and Democracy at the US National Security Council. Ms Goodman has also been a leader in civil society, co-founding an organisation to investigate links between corruption, kleptocracy, and human rights abuses in Africa. Prior, she had a distinguished career in the Foreign Service, serving in diplomatic roles in Pakistan, Mali, and Washington, D.C. Before her diplomatic career, she practiced international trade law, participating in free trade agreement negotiations and advising on trade compliance matters.



Sania Nishtar

CEO, GAVI, The Vaccine Alliance

Appointed by the Board of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance on 11 January 2024, Dr Sania Nishtar is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Dr Nishtar, most recently a Senator in her home country of Pakistan, joined Gavi as its CEO on 18 March 2024. A trained medical doctor, Dr Nishtar has built an outstanding career over 30 years as a national and global leader. In Pakistan's national government, she served between 2018 and 2022 as Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Social Protection and Poverty Alleviation, a role with the status of a Federal Minister. During this time, she founded a social protection programme and chaired the Council on Poverty Alleviation and the Benazir Income Support Program. In 2013, during Pakistan's Caretaker Government, she served as a Federal Minister with responsibility for re-establishing the country's Ministry of Health among other roles, winning acclaim for transparency and accountability during her time in office. During her career, Dr Nishtar has fulfilled several leadership positions in civil society and international organisations. She founded the non-profit NGO think tank Heartfile, which campaigns for health reform in Pakistan. She was the inaugural Chair of the UN Secretary-General's Independent Accountability Panel (IAP) for women's and children's health; and, among other roles, served as Co-Chair of the WHO Independent High-level Commission on Noncommunicable Diseases, WHO Commission on Ending Childhood Obesity, World Economic Forum Global Future Council on Health and Healthcare and US National Academy of Sciences' global study on health care quality in low- and middle-income countries. Dr Nishtar served as Chair of Gavi's Evaluation Advisory Committee from 2011 to 2014, and in 2016 served as an independent member of Gavi's Board. A prolific thought leader, she has co-authored dozens of academic papers and books, including Pakistan's first compendium of health statistics; and she has been published in many leading national and international newspapers. Dr Nishtar graduated from Khyber Medical College as the best graduate in 1986 and joined the Pakistan Institute of Medical

Sciences as a cardiologist in 1994. She worked at Guy's Hospital and studied Medicine, graduating in 1996 from King's College London – which awarded her a PhD in 2002 and an honorary Doctorate in Science, *Honoris Causa*, in 2019. She is listed among the notable alumni of King's College and in 2020 was among the BBC's 100 Women, a list of inspiring and influential women from around the world. Dr Nishtar has received many international awards for her work, including the European Association for Population Studies Award, Pakistan's prestigious Sitara-i-Imtiaz (Star of Excellence) and The Rockefeller Foundation's Global Innovation Award.



Jarbas Barbosa

Director, Pan-American Health Organisation

Dr. Jarbas Barbosa da Silva Jr., a national of Brazil, was elected Director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) by the Member States on September 28, 2022, and began his five-year term on February 1, 2023. From July 2018 until his appointment as Director, he served as PAHO's Assistant Director, leading the technical departments and PAHO's Revolving Fund for Access to Vaccines. In this position, Dr. Barbosa da Silva Jr. led the Organization's efforts to support Member States in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and reducing its impact on priority public health programs, serving as a key spokesperson for PAHO. Before rejoining PAHO in 2018, he held several positions in the Brazilian National Health System: Vice Minister for Health Surveillance, Vice Minister for Science and Technology, Deputy Minister of Health, and President of ANVISA, the national health regulatory authority. Dr. Barbosa da Silva Jr. has received several awards and recognitions and is an honorary member of the Brazilian National Academy of Medicine and an International Member of the American National Academy of Medicine. He has published numerous articles on global health, health systems management, disease surveillance, and digital transformation.



Jean Kaseya

Director General, Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention

Dr. Jean Kaseya was appointed Director-General of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa-CDC) during the thirty-sixth African Union Summit of Heads of State and Government in February 2023. Dr. Kaseya, a Congolese Medical Doctor with advanced degrees in Epidemiology and Community Health, brings to this position over 25 years of expertise in the field of public health, having held pivotal roles both at the national and international levels. As the Director-General of Africa-CDC, Dr. Kaseya oversees the organization's fundamental political, strategic, and technical functions. At the forefront of his agenda is his commitment to advancing a transformative "New Deal" for Africa CDC, with the primary objective of strengthening health security across the continent. This undertaking involves establishing sustainable and innovative financing mechanisms, enhancing robust governance structures, cultivating technical expertise, strengthening health systems, and efficient response to health crises. Under Dr. Kaseya's leadership, the Africa Centres for Disease Control (Africa CDC) demonstrated regional leadership by sounding the continental alarm for mpox and declaring the outbreak a Public Health Emergency of Continental Concern. His efforts facilitated accelerated regulatory approvals for vaccines and secured donation pledges from various countries. This progress was achieved by leveraging vaccine development during inter-outbreak periods, enabling a more agile and effective response to emerging health threats. Before assuming his role as Director-General of Africa CDC, Dr. Kaseya had a distinguished career, holding multiple significant roles. At the national level, Dr. Kaseya has been entrusted with significant responsibilities, contributing his expertise to the health initiatives of his home country. These roles have included serving as a Senior Adviser to President Laurent Desire Kabila at a ministerial level, where he played a vital role in shaping healthcare policies and strategies. Additionally, he has taken on roles such as the Head of Routine Immunization within the National Expanded Programme on Immunization,

showcasing his dedication to enhancing healthcare delivery at the grassroots level. On the international stage, he has worked with prominent organizations such as UNICEF, Gavi, CHAI, and the World Health Organization, where he has been instrumental in driving forward various health initiatives of continental significance.



Nadia Calviño

President, European Investment Bank

President Nadia Calviño is a Spanish economist and lawyer with a 30+ year career in public policy, economics and finance. She has held several prominent positions within the Spanish government and the European Commission. Ms. Calviño served as First Vice-President of Spain and Minister of Economy, Trade and Enterprise until December 2023. Prior to that role, she held various positions, including Second Vice-President and Minister for Economy and Digitalization (March-July 2021), Third Vice-President and Minister for Economy and Digitalization (2020-2021) and Minister for Economy and Business (2018-2020). Additionally, she chaired the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) of the International Monetary Fund from 2022 to 2023. Before joining the Spanish government, Ms. Calviño worked for 12 years at the European Commission, first as Deputy Director General for Competition and Financial Services, and later as Director General responsible for the EU Budget. Her earlier career in Spain encompassed different roles as a civil servant at the Ministry for Economy, focusing on areas such as macroeconomic analysis, economic policy, foreign trade and competition law. In addition to her public service, Ms. Calviño lectured at the Faculty of Economics of the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and has authored numerous articles in her areas of expertise. Her expertise and international leadership have garnered recognition through several prestigious awards, including the US Foreign Policy Association Medal, the Women and Technology Award, and the Master of Digital Award. Ms. Calviño holds a degree in economics from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and a degree in law from the Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia.



José Manuel Albares

Minister for Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Spain

José Manuel Albares Bueno is the Minister for Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of the Kingdom of Spain. He was appointed to the position on 10 July 2021 and ratified on 21 November 2023. On 17 August 2023, he was also elected Deputy for Madrid in the Spanish Parliament. A career diplomat, Albares has held several high-level roles throughout his career. He has served as the Spanish Ambassador to the French Republic and the Principality of Monaco, as well as Secretary-General for International Affairs, European Union, G20, and Global Security at the Office of the President of the Government. In this capacity, he acted as a sherpa to the President within both the European Union and the G20. His diplomatic postings have included assignments in Colombia, France, and at the Permanent Representation of Spain to the OECD. During his time at the OECD, he was elected Vice-Chairman of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC). Albares holds a Bachelor's Degree in Law from Deusto University, with a specialization in legal-economic matters. He also earned a Diploma in Business Science, a Diploma in National Defence from CESEDEN, and a Diploma in Cultural Management Abroad from Carlos III University, in collaboration with the Diplomatic School. In addition, he founded and coordinated the Circle for International Reflection. His distinguished service has been recognized through numerous national and international honors. These include the Commander by Number of the Order of Isabella the Catholic; the Grand Crosses of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Italian Republic, the Royal Order of the Pole Star of Sweden, the Order of the Dannebrog of Denmark, the Order of San Carlos and the Order of Boyacá of Colombia, the Order of Merit for Distinguished Services in Peru, and the Order of Orange-Nassau of the Netherlands; as well as the Medal of Yaroslav the Wise of Ukraine, the National Order of the Star of Romania (Grand Officer rank), and the Grand Cross of the Order of the Star of the Italian Republic.

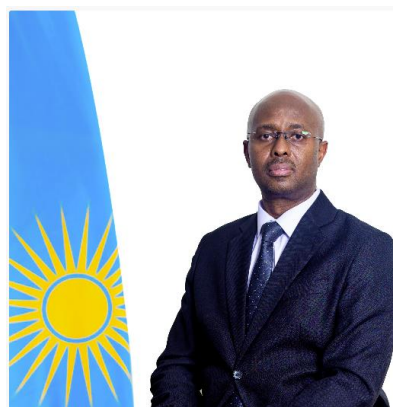


Ameenah Gurib-Fakim

6th President, Republic of Mauritius

H.E. Ameenah Gurib-Fakim was the first female president of Mauritius, serving from 2015 to 2018. Prior to the presidency, she was the Managing Director of the Centre International de Développement Pharmaceutique (CIDP) Research and Innovation as well as Professor of Organic Chemistry with an endowed chair at the University of Mauritius. Since 2001, she has served successively as Dean of the Faculty of Science and Pro Vice Chancellor (2004-2010). She has also worked at the Mauritius Research Council as Manager for Research (1995-1997). She earned a BSc in Chemistry from the University of Surrey (1983) and a PhD from the University of Exeter, UK (1987).

As a Founding Member of the Pan African Association of African Medicinal Plants, she coauthored the first ever African Herbal Pharmacopoeia. She has authored and co-edited 30 books, several book chapters and scientific articles in the field of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. She has lectured extensively across the world; is a Member of the Editorial Boards of major journals, has served on Technical and national committees in various capacities.



Murangwa Yusuf

Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Rwanda

Mr Murangwa Yusuf is a professional statistician and operational researcher with over 20 years of experience in official statistics, development and national economic development. He holds a Master's Degree in Applied Statistics and Operations Research from Cardiff University.

Until his appointment, he served as the Director General of the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda since 2009. He also served as the Chairperson Board of Directors of Rwanda Revenue Authority and the Chairperson Board of Directors National Identification Agency.

He has contributed to statistics development both at regional and global levels in various capacities including as the Chair of the Board of PARIS21 (Partnership for Statistics Development in 21st Century) at OECD.



Thani Mohamed-Soilihi

Minister Delegate for Francophonie and
International Partnerships, France

He graduated from the École du Centre Ouest des Avocats in Poitiers, and began working as a barrister at the Mayotte Bar in 1999, where he was President of the Bar from 2007 to 2010.

He was an opposition councillor in Sada between 2001 and 2008, and on 25 September 2011 he was elected Senator for Mayotte.

Selected as a candidate by the RDPI group of parties, he won the Senate elections in September 2017, following which he was appointed Vice-President of the Senate. He was the first member of parliament from overseas France to hold this position since Gaston Monnerville.

In 2023, he was re-elected for a third term.

In the Senate, he was a member of the Constitutional Acts, Legislation and General Administration Committee, where he focused in particular on matters relating to the overseas territories, human rights and decentralization. He also worked on education, health and economic issues, particularly of a social and solidarity-related nature, which are important in Mayotte.

As a full member of the Senate Delegation for Overseas France, he has carried out major work on land and property law.

Furthermore, he is a member of the Senate's Parliamentary Ethics Committee, tasked with ensuring compliance with the ethical principles applicable to senators, and with the Court of Justice of the French Republic, a specific French jurisdiction to try crimes and offences committed by members of government in the course of their duties.

Meanwhile, as part of his volunteer work with charities, Thani Mohamed-Soilihi co-founded the charity combating youth exclusion, TAMA (which means "hope" in Shimaoré), which he chaired from 2003 to 2017 (today called M'lési Maoré); chaired the first Family Council for Wards of the State of Mayotte from 2006 to 2009; co-founded the Chambre Régionale de l'Économie Sociale et Solidaire (regional chamber for the social and inclusive economy/CRESS) of Mayotte, which he

also chaired from 2014 to 2017; and chaired the Supervisory Board of Mamoudzou Hospital from 2014 to 2017, and of which he has been a member since 2010.

In September 2024, he was appointed Minister of State for Francophonie and International Partnerships, attached to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs.