



## **Convergence: Philanthropy as a Partner in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals Ford Foundation | September 21, 2016 Panelist Bios**

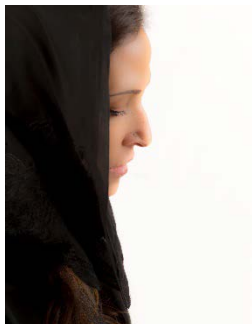
### **Darren Walker, President, Ford Foundation**



Darren Walker is President of the Ford Foundation, the nation's second largest philanthropy, and for two decades has been a leader in the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors. He led the philanthropy committee that helped bring a resolution to the city of Detroit's historic bankruptcy and chairs the U.S. Alliance on Impact Investing.

Prior to joining Ford, he was Vice President at the Rockefeller Foundation where he managed the rebuild New Orleans initiative after Hurricane Katrina. In the 1990s, as COO of Harlem's largest community development organization, the Abyssinian Development Corporation, Darren oversaw a comprehensive revitalization program resulting in over 1,000 new units of housing, Harlem's first commercial development in twenty years and New York's first public school built and managed by a community organization. He had a decade long career in international law and finance at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton and UBS. He serves as a trustee of Carnegie Hall, New York City Ballet, the High Line and the Arcus Foundation. Educated exclusively in public schools, Darren received the "Distinguished Alumnus Award," the highest honor given by his alma mater, the University of Texas at Austin. In 2016, TIME magazine named him to its annual list of the "100 Most Influential People in the World." He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the recipient of ten honorary degrees.

### **H.E. Princess Lamia Al Saud, Secretary-General, Alwaleed Philanthropies**



HRH Princess Lamia M. Al Saud is the Secretary General and member of the Board of Trustees at Alwaleed Philanthropies.

She was appointed Secretary General on 1 April 2016, having previously served as Executive Manager of Media & Communication at the foundation.

For over 35 years, Alwaleed Philanthropies has supported and initiated projects in over 120 countries regardless of gender, race, or religion. The foundation

collaborates with a range of philanthropic, government, and educational organizations to combat poverty, empower women and youth, develop communities, provide disaster relief and create cultural understanding through education. Working with its partners, Alwaleed Philanthropies seeks to build bridges for a more compassionate, tolerant, and accepting world.

### **Peter Laugharn, President, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation**



Peter Laugharn (pronounced LAW-harn) serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation. Peter is a passionate leader with 25 years of foundation and nonprofit experience internationally, with a focus on improving the well-being of vulnerable children. Previously, he was executive director of the Firelight Foundation, which identifies, funds, and supports promising African nonprofits serving vulnerable children and families in the areas of education, resilience, and health. Prior to Firelight, Peter served as executive director of the Netherlands-based Bernard van Leer Foundation, whose mission is to improve opportunities for children up to age 8 who are growing up in socially and

economically difficult circumstances. Peter began his career at Save the Children, where he worked in a variety of roles.

A graduate of Stanford and Georgetown Universities, Peter holds a Ph.D. in education from the University of London. He was a Peace Corps volunteer in Morocco from 1982 to 1984. Peter was a co-founder of the International Education Funders Group and the Coalition for Children Affected by AIDS, and he is a member of the National Advisory Board of the Haas Center for Public Service at Stanford University.

### **H.E. Mr. David Donoghue, Ambassador of Ireland to the United Nations**



During a career that spanned many years in the diplomatic service of his country, Mr. Donoghue's latest posting, since 2009, was as Political Director of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Dublin. Previously, he was Ireland's Ambassador to Germany, from 2006 to 2009, and prior to that, from 2004 to 2006, Ambassador to Austria and the Vienna-based United Nations agencies. Mr. Donoghue was Ambassador to the Russian Federation, with side accreditations to Belarus, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, from 1999 to 2001. He was named Director-General of the Irish Government's development cooperation programme, known as Irish Aid, in 2001.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, Mr. Donoghue had postings to the Irish Embassies in the Holy See (1977-1978) and Germany (1978-1983), as well as the Irish Permanent Mission to the United Nations (1987-1988). He was seconded to the French and Italian Foreign Ministries (1984-1985) as part of a support service for what is today the European Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy.

Upon entering Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs in 1975, Mr. Donoghue spent time working at the Irish Embassy in London and as head of the Anglo-Irish Secretariat in Belfast. He spent a combined total of

17 years working on the Northern Ireland problem and Anglo-Irish relations. He was closely involved in the negotiation of both the Anglo-Irish Agreement and the Good Friday Agreement. Mr. Donoghue holds a Master of Arts degree in German from the National University of Ireland (NUI), as well as a Bachelor of Arts in French and German from the same institution.

### **Melissa Berman, President and CEO, Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors**



Melissa Berman is the founding President and CEO of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, an innovative nonprofit philanthropy service launched by the Rockefeller family in 2002. Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors' mission is to help donors create thoughtful, effective philanthropy throughout the world. Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors annually manages or facilitates about \$200 million in giving to more than 25 countries. It has offices in New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Chicago and will be opening in London by 2016. Ms. Berman has led Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors since its inception, building it into one of the world's leading philanthropic advisory, grantmaking, research and project management services. Under her leadership, RPA developed and published the "Philanthropy Roadmap" series of donor guides with support from the Gates Foundation. She developed and leads RPA's research initiative, "The Theory of the Foundation," and is the author of three reports in that initiative. A frequent speaker, Ms. Berman has been a guest lecturer at universities across the U.S., Europe and Asia including Harvard, Yale, and Stanford, Duke, IMD, Oxford, Sun-Yat Sen, and Beijing Normal universities. As a widely-recognized expert in philanthropy, Ms. Berman has been profiled in the New York Times and the Stanford Social Innovation Review.

Previously, she served as Senior Vice President, Research and Program Development at The Conference Board, a global nonprofit, independent business research organization. She oversaw all research and publications on management practices, including global corporate citizenship, governance, human resources, finance, and performance management. Ms. Berman is a director of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors and the Foundation Center. She is an adjunct Professor at Columbia University's Business School, where she also serves on the Advisory Board for the Tamer Center for Social Enterprise. Ms. Berman holds a B.A. from Harvard University and a Ph.D. from Stanford University.

### **Magdy Martinez Soliman, UNDP**



Magdy Martínez-Solimán is Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations, and UNDP's Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support. Prior to this appointment he was the Deputy Director, Bureau for Development Policy, UNDP.

He is a lawyer by training, a former practicing barrister and Assistant Professor of International Law. He has worked and written on Political Systems and provided legal counseling in Constitutional and Administrative Law.

In his professional career, he has been State Secretary for Youth in the Spanish

National Government, CEO of two public corporations and member of the Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games in Barcelona 92. He was also Deputy Minister of the Prime Minister's Office, in charge of relations with the Parliament of Andalusia, and elected member of the Municipal Council of his hometown Malaga, the fourth city of the country.

Mr. Martínez-Solimán has been working for the UN for 15 years, focusing on Institutional Development of Legislatures, the Judiciary, Electoral Legislation, Anti-corruption strategies, Accountability in Public Financial Management and Democratic Transitions & National Dialogue. He was posted in Burundi, Togo, Bangladesh and Senegal. He was UNDP's Senior Governance Adviser for the 18 West African countries from 2000 to 2003, and until 2006, he was the Practice Manager of UNDP's Democratic Governance Team. That year he was appointed by the UN Secretary-General as the first Executive Director of the UN Democracy Fund.

From January 2008 until February 2012, he was the UN Resident Coordinator in Mexico and UNDP's Resident Representative.

Mr. Martínez-Solimán initiated his Law Studies at the University Complutense of Madrid, holds a degree in Law (Juris Doctor) from the Universidad de Malaga and has been a Member of the Spanish Bar Association since 1984.