



联合国
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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

E

CONFERENCE

Forty-second Session

2021

Appointment of the Independent Chairperson of the Council

Executive Summary

At its 165th Session (December 2020), the Council decided that, in accordance with Rule XXIII.1(b) of the General Rules of the Organization, nominations for the office of Independent Chairperson of the Council should be communicated to the Secretary-General of the Conference and Council by 12.00 hours on Monday 5 April 2021.

By the date prescribed three nominations had been received, namely from the Dominican Republic, Hungary and the Netherlands.

Copies of the *Curricula Vitae* of the nominees and the transmittal communications are given in appendix as follows.

Appendix A: Mr Mario Arvelo Caamaño (Dominican Republic)

Appendix B: Mr Zoltán Kálmán (Hungary)

Appendix C: Mr Hans Hoogeveen (Netherlands)

Queries on the substantive content of this document may be addressed to:

Rakesh Muthoo
Secretary-General of the Council and the Conference
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Appendix A

Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to
the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
(FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development
(IFAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP), Rome

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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

4 April 2021-Conference-42-ICC-001

The Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic presents its compliments to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – Governing Bodies Servicing, Secretariat of the Conference and the Council — on the occasion of the nomination of Ambassador Mario Arvelo, Permanent Representative to FAO, IFAD and WFP, for the office of Independent Chairperson of the Council for the period 2021-23, due to be elected at the 42nd Session of the Conference in June 2021. His curriculum vitae is attached.

The Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic takes this opportunity to renew to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – Protocol Services branch – the assurances of its highest consideration.

Rome, 4 April 2021

[signature]

[stamp] DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

FAO – IFAD - WFP

Mario Arvelo (Santo Domingo, 1 January 1970)**• DIPLOMATIC POSTS¹**

- Since 2004* Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the Rome-based United Nations agencies (Food and Agriculture Organization, International Fund for Agricultural Development, and World Food Programme)
- 2002-04* Ambassador, Alternate Representative to FAO, IFAD, and WFP (Dominican Embassy in Italy)
- 2001-2002* Minister Counsellor and Deputy Chief of Mission of the Dominican Embassy in Chile
- 1999-2001* Counsellor and Chargé d’Affaires *ad interim* of the Dominican Embassy in Japan
- 1997-1999* First Secretary, Alternate Representative of the Dominican Republic to the Organization of American States in Washington DC

• RESPONSIBILITIES AS A DIPLOMAT (in Rome, otherwise noted)

- 2021-22* Member, World Food Programme’s Executive Board
- 2020-22* Rapporteur, 36th FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (Managua)
- Since 2019* Member, Bureau of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)
- Since 2014* First Alternate Chair, Appeals Committee of FAO and WFP
- 2015-21* Member, Executive Board of the International Fund for Agricultural Development
- 2020* Chair, Group of Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC) in Rome
- Since 2018* Member, Steering Committee of the UN Decade on Family Farming
- Since 2014* Member, Steering Committee of the World Banana Forum
- 2017-19* Chair, Committee on World Food Security
- 2014-15* Commissioner-General for the Universal Exposition Expo Milano 2015 (Milan)
- 2012-14* Chair, FAO Committee on Agriculture
- 2012-14* Vice-Chair, 32nd FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (Buenos Aires)
- 2013* Chair, Global Soils Partnership (Founding Chair of the GSP)
- 2012* Chair, negotiation of the International Code of Conduct on Pesticides Management
- 2008-2010* Vice-Chair, 30th FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (Brasilia)
- 2009* Chair, Group of 77
- 2009* Co-Chair, High-Level Meeting FAO/Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development: Investing in Food Security in a Global Economy (Paris)
- 2008* Assistant Vice-Chair and Chair of the Closing Session, High-Level Conference on World Food Security: the Challenges of Climate Change and Bioenergy
- 2007* Chair, FAO Conference Second Commission (Budget, Programmes, and Reform)
- 2007* Chair, International Technical Consultation on e-Agriculture, Agricultural Information, and Knowledge Management
- 2006* Acting Chair, FAO Programme Committee
- 2004-2007* Vice-Chair, FAO Programme Committee
- 1997-1998* Deputy to the Chair, OAS Commission on Juridical and Political Affairs
- 1997* Deputy to the Chair, OAS Permanent Council

¹ Career Diplomat since 2012. Recipient of the Dominican Republic’s Award for Excellence in Diplomacy, in its only issuance (2015)

• OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1996-97 Coordinator of the Public Defenders Project, Fundación Institucionalidad y Justicia/USAID (Santo Domingo)
- 1996-97 Professor of International Relations and Assistant Professor of Labour Law, Law Department of the Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra (PUCMM, Santo Domingo)
- 1994-96 Teaching Assistant, Northeastern University's Political Science Department (Boston)
- 1993-94 Corporate Lawyer, Compañía Dominicana de Teléfonos (Santo Domingo)
- 1991-92 Corporate Lawyer, Banco Popular Dominicano (Santo Domingo)
- 1988-91 Co-Editor of the Law Review Journal, PUCMM

• EDUCATION

- 1996 Master of Arts. Political Science with majors in International Relations and Comparative Government & Politics, and minor in Political Theory. Northeastern University, Boston (*Fulbright Scholar*)
- 1991 Licenciado en Derecho [Law degree]. Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra, Santo Domingo. Outstanding Alumnus Award for Graduates in the Public Sector (2020)
- 1986 Bachiller en Ciencias y Letras [Baccalaureate in Science and Literature]. Loyola High School, Santo Domingo

• PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCES

- El mejor alimento del mundo* [The World's Best Food] (on the history and cultural anthropology of quinoa)
- El modelo de desarrollo agroalimentario dominicano* [The Dominican Model for Developing Agriculture and Food Production] (editor)
- La primera tierra* [The First Earth] (essays on modern and contemporary history; Shortlisted for the Book of the Year Award 2000, Ministry of Culture of the Dominican Republic)
- Las teologías del hambre* [The Theologies of Hunger] (essay on anthropology/theology in *Conferencias Magistrales 2011* [Scholastic Lectures 2011], edited by León Félix Batista and Eulogio Javier)
- No desperdiciarás los alimentos* [Thou Shall Not Waste Food] (analysis on the sustainable processes of food production, and on food waste)
- Somos agua* [We Are Water] (conference on water as an essential component of food production)
- Suelos de vida* [Soils of Life] (conference on the sustainable use of soils as a key to food security)
- Todas las luces* [All the Lights] (essays on geopolitics, illustrated with the author's photographs; Shortlisted for the Book of the Year Award 2003, Ministry of Culture of the Dominican Republic)
- Transforming the food system to fight non-communicable diseases* (scientific article in *The British Medical Journal* with F. Branca, A. Lartey, S. Oenema, V. Aguayo, G. Stordalen, R. Richardson, and A. Afshin)
- Una crónica sobre alimento y hambre* [A Chronicle of Food and Hunger] (essay and audio-visual presentation on cultural anthropology)
- Volatilidad en los precios de los alimentos y el papel de la especulación* [Price Volatility in Food Commodities and the Role of Speculation] (editor)

• LANGUAGES

Spanish (mother tongue); English (second language); Italian (thorough knowledge); French (basic)

(Further information and details are available at www.marioarvelo.com)



EMBASSY OF HUNGARY
ROME

Nota Verbale 62/2021/HUEMB/ROM

NOTE VERBALE

The Embassy of Hungary in Rome presents its compliments to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and wishes to submit on behalf of the Government of Hungary *Ambassador Zoltán KÁLMÁN's nomination* to the position of Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC) of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), at the elections scheduled to take place at the 42nd Session of the FAO Conference, to be held in 2021.

Hungary, since joining the United Nations in 1955, has been actively contributing to the achievement of the goals of the United Nations, deepening its relations with the organs, specialized institutions and related bodies of the UN family, and supporting the operation of the Organization with key experts.


Ambassador Zoltán KÁLMÁN, the candidate of Hungary, during his professional career contributed to the work of the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization in several aspects. He had the privilege to serve at the Permanent Representation of Hungary to FAO 15 years in Rome in 3 cycles. He was honoured to be the President of the World Food Programme Executive Board in 2018 with the high recognition of the Member States. As Member of the Advisory Committee of the United Nations Food Systems Summit, he has an outstanding role in the preparation of the high-level event dealing with food systems expected to take place on the margins of the High Level Week of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The Hungarian candidate as the Chairman of the Independent Council of the FAO would follow the principles of independence, neutrality, impartiality and inclusivity and serve the interest of the Member States, building trust and mutual understanding to ensure better ownership of governance and make joint efforts to improve the efficiency and the effectiveness of the Council. During his mandate, he would facilitate inclusive discussions at Council and any consultations as appropriate, to achieve consensus among Members, “build bridges” in particular on contentious issues.

Mr. Zoltán KÁLMÁN's professional background, as well as his experience and extensive knowledge enable him to be an excellent candidate for the post who can effectively contribute to the work of the FAO Council. The Curriculum Vitae and the vision of the Hungarian candidate are attached herewith for reference.



EMBASSY OF HUNGARY
ROME

The Embassy of Hungary avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration. 

Rome, 22 March 2021

**To the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Budapest**



Curriculum Vitae of Ambassador Zoltán Kálmán

Date of birth: 29 September 1956

Nationality: Hungarian

Contacts

email: HUcandidate_FAO_ICC@am.gov.hu

cell phone and whatsapp: +393425431003; +36309775149



Mr Zoltán Kálmán has had **15 years experience working with FAO at the Permanent Representation of Hungary to FAO in Rome in 3 cycles**. This has made it possible for him to be testimony of developments of this organization under the leadership of **4 Directors-General**.

At present (until 31st March 2021) Ambassador Kálmán has been serving as Permanent Representative of Hungary with accreditation to the 3 Food and Agriculture Agencies of the UN in Rome (FAO, IFAD, WFP) since his appointment in 2014. He had smooth and fruitful relationship both with José Graziano da Silva the previous, and with Qu Dongyu, the present FAO Director-General. During his term he has been actively and constructively involved in the policy discussions shaping FAO's future directions.

In 2015 Ambassador Kálmán was Chairperson of the European Regional Group of FAO Permanent Representatives. He served also as Member of the International Steering Committee (ISC) of the International Year of Pulses (2016) and of UN Decade of Family Farming (since 2019), and Chair of the ISC of UN World Pulses Day in 2020. He has been actively engaged in the discussions at the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). He has been serving as Member of the Advisory Committee of the UN Food Systems Summit, appointed by Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the UN.

He represented Hungary in the WFP Executive Board between 2015 and 2020, he was President of the WFP Executive Board in 2018 with the high recognition of the Members of the Board. He participated in WFP field visits to Ecuador (2016), led the WFP EB delegation in the field visit to Turkey and Lebanon (2018) and in the joint UN field visit to Uganda (2018). He Co-Chaired the 2nd Joint Informal Meeting of the Rome-Based Agencies (FAO, IFAD, WFP) and the Joint Meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP in New York in 2018.

Mr Kálmán was Permanent Representative of Hungary also between 2003-2008 and he attended all sessions of FAO and WFP governing bodies and technical committees. He was involved in the process of the first-ever Membership-driven Independent External Evaluation (IEE) of FAO in 2006-2007, commissioned by the FAO Council. He was actively engaged in the negotiations related to the establishment of the Regional Office and a Shared Services Centre in Budapest, in line with the decentralisation concept of Director-General Jacques Diouf. He played a constructive role in the finalisation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Right to Food adopted by the FAO Council in November 2014.

In his **first assignment in Rome between 1985-1989** he was Assistant to the Permanent Representative of Hungary to FAO. He attended sessions of technical committees and governing bodies of FAO and prepared reports, kept contacts with FAO and WFP staff. He could witness - amongst others - the development of the FAO Technical Cooperation programme (TCP) during the period when Edouard Saouma was the DG. At that time Hungary had a position of beneficiary of FAO TCP projects and later the country could transfer its transition experience and related technical knowledge to other, less developed countries of the region. This long experience and "historic" view of FAO would definitely help Ambassador Kálmán in fulfilling the role of ICC.

Between his last two assignments in Rome Mr Kálmán worked as Head of Department in the Ministry of Agriculture in Budapest (2009-2014), supervising all international (bilateral and multilateral)

activities of the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture. He had active role during the Hungarian Presidency of the European Union, he chaired the FAO Agri Working Party. He assisted and promoted the accession of Hungary to IFAD and he was the first Governor of Hungary in IFAD. Among his various responsibilities, he was the Head of a Team organizing the “*Global Forum and Expo on Family Farming*” held in Budapest in March 2014.

Mr Kálmán has gained experience working in the private sector as well. He was managing director of small-medium sized food processing companies between 1990 and 2003. He was responsible for the overall management, including HR, finance and administration. He supervised procurement, production technology, coordinated product development and marketing, sales and promotion activities. Working in the field of consultancy, he was involved in business promotion and foreign trade in the agriculture and food sector.

He holds Master degree from the University of Agriculture in Gödöllő (Hungary) and has worked at the same University as assistant lecturer for 3 years in the field of agricultural economics.

Ambassador Kálmán has specific knowledge and experience in multilateral diplomacy, international relations, food security and nutrition, sustainable agriculture and related environmental and socio-economic issues, inclusive rural development and food systems transformation. Some of his recent publications are available here: <https://www.ipsnews.net/author/zoltan-kalman/>

SUMMARY OF WORK EXPERIENCE

10-2014 – 03-2021 Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Hungary to RBAs

12-2008 – 09-2014 Head of Department, Ministry of Rural Development, Budapest

10-2003 – 12-2008 Permanent Representative of Hungary to FAO - Rome

**1995 – 2003 Managing director of small-medium sized food producing companies in Hungary
(Thallo-Food Kft. 1997-2003, Tortellino Kft. 1995-97.)**

1990 - 1995 Director at East Development Cooperation srl., and Promital Kft. , Budapest (Hungary)

1985 - 1989 Assistant to Permanent Representative of Hungary to FAO - Rome

1982 - 1985 Assistant lecturer at Szent István University (Hungary)

1981 - 1982 Junior farm management expert at Vácszentlászló Cooperative Farm in Hungary

LANGUAGE SKILLS: Hungarian (Mother tongue), English, Italian, limited Russian

AWARD: “*Knight of Cross from the Order of Merit of the Hungarian Republic*” in 2019.



Kingdom of the Netherlands

Ref: Rof-2021/010

NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the UN Organisations for Food and Agriculture in Rome presents its compliments to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and has the honour to inform the latter as follows.

The Permanent Representation would like to draw the FAO's attention to the decision of the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to nominate Dr Hans Hoogeveen as a candidate for the position of Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council for the July 2021 – June 2023 term. The election will be held during the 42nd session of the FAO Conference in July 2021.

Ambassador Hoogeveen's profile is enclosed with this note. He is currently the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the UN Organisations in Rome, where he also holds various related positions within the FAO network.

In the course of his career, Ambassador Hoogeveen has worked with FAO for more than 25 years. He has built an extensive international network in the areas of global food security and nutrition, development cooperation, natural resource management, climate change, food loss and waste, sustainable development and public-private partnerships. Besides being Chair of the FAO Programme Committee (4 years), he also chairs the Donors' Council of the Global Crop Diversity Trust, is co-founder and co-chair of the Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture, co-chair of the Champions 12.3 coalition, co-chair of the Board of the Blue Innovation Institute for Small Island Developing States and has chaired many formal and informal consultations within FAO.

In this time of multiple crises and increasingly complex challenges, the Netherlands believes Ambassador Hoogeveen brings indispensable qualities for the position of Independent Chairperson of the FAO Council. As the Council is the crucial link between political decision-making and the Technical Committees, it needs a chair who is strong in diplomacy, transparency and consensus-building: someone who acts as a catalyst between leaders from government and all other stakeholders, bringing together North, South, East and West, large countries and small.

This nomination reflects the Kingdom of the Netherlands' strong, ongoing commitment to FAO. The Dutch government would like to help it develop into an even more dynamic, inclusive, transparent, efficient and flexible organisation, for example by strengthening scientific, evidence-based approaches.

The Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the UN Organisations for Food and Agriculture avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

Rome, 10 March 2021

To the Secretary-General of the Conference and Council
of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Via delle Terme di Caracalla
Rome



Curriculum Vitae

Name Hans Hoogeveen
Nationality Netherlands
Year of birth 1959
Phone nr +39 065 740 306
Email hans.hoogeveen@minbuza.nl



Profile

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Hans Hoogeveen is duly acknowledged to be a respected professional and an expert on the agriculture sector. With an unwavering focus on stimulating and promoting sustainable agriculture, food security and safety globally, he has served in numerous international roles. He is political advisor to the World Bank. He serves on several boards, including the Yale University Governance, Environment, and Markets Initiative, and Forest Trends, a leading international NGO on innovative natural resource policy in Washington D.C.

He served as chair of the Seventh Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests Bureau, which under his leadership adopted an international instrument on forests deemed a landmark achievement by the UN Secretary-General after 15 years of stalled international negotiations. This noteworthy accomplishment within the forum earned Dr Hoogeveen a UN award. He is one of the founding members and a current co-chair of the Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture and the Global Action Network for Oceans and Blue Growth. In addition, he is a founding member and current co-chair of Champions 12.3, an international coalition of eminent commissioners and CEOs of companies, international organisations and NGOs, focusing on a 50% worldwide reduction on food losses and waste by 2030.

With respect for rules and procedures, Dr Hoogeveen's priorities lie in professionalism and collegial, respectful intercultural collaboration. Throughout his career he has displayed excellent diplomatic skills in navigating tough negotiations with empathy and this is reflected in his personal approach and careful choice of words. Feedback from others reveals appreciation and praise for his relentless energy. Introducing novel ideas, stimulating creative proposals and finding compromises by focusing on solutions rather than problems are crucial elements of his approach. In his role as chair, he will take a neutral stance and rely on in-depth and extensive knowledge of a wide range of issues, including antibiotics, forestry and fisheries, acquired through 25 years' experience in

his fields of expertise. Having worked in nearly all of the "UN Capitals" (Rome, New York, Nairobi and Geneva), he has a broad, well-maintained and highly regarded international network. Among his many initiatives is a long list of international events. Furthermore, he has experience in a variety of UN bodies other than FAO.

In the context of FAO, he has served as chair of the Programme Committee, chair of the Committee II of the FAO Conference, chair of informal consultations on the 10 Elements of Agroecology, the Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity and private sector strategy, vice-chair of the FAO Regional Conference for Europe, and chair of the European Region. In the context of WFP, he has served as List D Convenor, member and chair of a sub-working group of the joint Board/Management working group on harassment, sexual harassment, abuse of power and discrimination. In the context of IFAD, he has served as chair of the Governing Council (twice), chair of the Bureau and List A Convenor.

Early in his career he became well acquainted with various aspects of the food and agriculture policy field: the Brussels dimension, political current affairs and multiparty negotiations. He regards food and agriculture as the most comprehensive policy domain, with crucial implications for all life. He is fully dedicated to working towards ambitious goals in areas such as food security and poverty eradication, and believes that multilateral efforts are crucial to accomplishing certain pivotal objectives.

Hans Hoogeveen has authored a book on sustainable development diplomacy and a number of articles on sustainable development and natural resources policies. His academic posts include professor of practice in natural resource policy at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (Tufts University, US), visiting professor of sustainable development diplomacy at Wageningen University & Research (Netherlands) and lead lecturer in European policy at the Netherlands School of Public Administration. He holds a law degree from Leiden University (Netherlands), a Master's degree in public administration, and a doctorate from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and Wageningen University & Research.

Professional Experience

2016 – present

UN Food and Agriculture Organization, Rome, Italy
Ambassador / Permanent Representative

2014 – 2016

Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Netherlands
Director-General for Agriculture and Nature

2014 – 2015

Ministry of Economic Affairs
Acting Secretary-General

2008 – 2014

Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality
subsequently at integrated
Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation
Director-General for Agriculture

2007

Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality
Deputy Director-General

2001 – 2007

Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries

Various positions, including:

- *Director of International Affairs*
- *Head of the Executive Office*

Legal and Organisational Affairs Department

- *Head of the Veterinary and Phytosanitary Legislative Affairs Division*

Wageningen Research, the Netherlands

- *Privatisation Project Manager*

Netherlands Green Fund

- *Project Manager*

Education

2010

PhD Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (Tufts University), Boston MA and Wageningen University & Research, the Netherlands
Thesis: Transforming Sustainable Development Diplomacy

1989 – 1991

Netherlands School of Public Administration
Master's degree in Public Administration

1978 – 1983

Leiden University, the Netherlands
Master's degree in National and International Law

Languages

Dutch, English, French, German

Awards

- Commander of the Order of St Gregory, Holy See
- Commandeur de l'Ordre du Grand-Duché de la Couronne de Chêne, Luxembourg

Special International Events

FAO

- Organiser and vice-chair, FAO/Netherlands International Conference on Water for Food and Ecosystems, The Hague, 2005, organised in close cooperation with FAO
- Lead negotiator on behalf of EU (NL Presidency EU) in 2003; leading to adoption of the Right to Food Guidelines in 2004
- Head of Dutch delegation to World Food Summit (1996 and 2002)
- Organiser and vice-chair, FAO/ Netherlands Conference on the Multifunctional Character of Agriculture and Land, Maastricht, the Netherlands, 1999

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

- President, Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 2002 – 2004
- Organiser, Sixth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 2002

United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)

- Facilitator, establishment of UN Strategic Framework for Forests 2015 – 2030
- Co-chair, independent assessment of International Arrangement on Forests, UN, New York, 2015
- Chair, 7th Session of UN Forum on Forests, leading to adoption of UN Forest Instrument
- Lead negotiator on behalf of EU (NL Presidency EU) 2003 and 2004, leading to Proposals for Action Agreed by Intergovernmental Panel on Forests and by Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IPF/IFF)

CITES

- Organiser and alternate chair, 14th Conference of the Parties to the Convention, 2007, 'Call of the Wild', The Hague, the Netherlands

UN Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA)

- Co-chair, Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture, 2019 – 2021
- Founder, Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture, 2014, New York, USA
- Organiser and co-chair, UN Conference on Climate-Smart Agriculture, in cooperation with World Bank and FAO, Johannesburg, South Africa, 2013
- Organiser and co-chair, 2nd UN Conference on Climate-Smart Agriculture, in cooperation with World Bank and FAO, Vietnam, 2011
- Organiser and co-chair, UN Conference on Climate-Smart Agriculture, in cooperation with World Bank and FAO, The Hague, the Netherlands, 2010

Blue Growth / Oceans / Fisheries

- Board member, Global Institute for Blue Growth in Grenada, 2020 – 2024 Co-chair, International Network for Blue Growth, 2014 – 2017
- Organiser and alternate chair, UN Global Oceans Action Summit for Food Security and Blue Growth, 'A New Wave for the World', in close cooperation with FAO and World Bank, The Hague, the Netherlands, 2014

Food Loss and Waste

- Co-chair, Champions SDG 12.3, from 2020
- International Conference on Food Loss and Waste Reduction, in close cooperation with FAO and UNEP, The Hague, the Netherlands, 2015