

# United Nations Conference on Space Law and Policy 2020

## Virtual, 8-10 December 2020

### Biographies of Presenters

#### **Ms. Simonetta Di Pippo**

Simonetta Di Pippo is Director of UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), a position which sees her lead the Office's strategic, policy and programmatic activities and advising the UN Secretary-General on space affairs. Prior to joining UNOOSA, she served as Director of Human Spaceflight at the European Space Agency, and previously also as Director of the Observation of the Universe at the Italian National Space Agency, ASI. She is an Academician of IAA and a member of WEF Global Future Council on Space Technologies since 2016 and its co-chair since 2020. She co-founded Women in Aerospace Europe in 2009 and in 2017 became a UN International Gender Champion. She holds a Master's Degree in Astrophysics and Space Physics from University "La Sapienza", and Honoris Causa Degree in Environmental Studies, and an Honoris Causa Degree of Doctor in International Affairs. Ms. Di Pippo was knighted by the President of the Italian Republic in 2006 and, in 2008, the International Astronomical Union assigned the name "dipippo" to asteroid 21887 in recognition of her efforts in space exploration. She was also featured in a publication HERstory: A Celebration of Leading Women in the United Nations, a tribute to women's participation in the development of the UN. Among other awards, she was awarded the Hubert Curien Award in 2018 as the first woman laureate.

#### **Mr. Oliver Chinganya**

Oliver Chinganya is the Director at the African Centre for Statistics of UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). He also coordinates the ECA digital Centre for Excellence. He is Chartered Statistician with wide experience and knowledge of statistical practice across Africa at both national and international levels. Has a wealth of experience in delivering statistical development results for Africa. A Strong believer in the effectiveness of partnerships, coordination at country, regional and international levels for effective and sustained development programs. During the period 2018- 2020(Feb), was also Acting Director for the Technology, Climate Change, and Natural Resource Management division at UNECA, which focuses in supporting efficient management of the continent's natural resource endowments, reducing the negative impacts of climate. Prior to joining UNECA in 2016, he held senior leadership roles, at African Development Bank as Manager for the Statistical Capacity Building Division; at IMF as Regional Advisor, and at the Zambia Statistical Office as Deputy Director respectively. Oliver is also Vice-President elect of the International Statistical Institute, a prestigious global body of statisticians.

#### **Mr. Mahama Ouedraogo**

Mahama Ouedraogo currently serves as the Director of the Department of Human Resources Science and Technology (HRST), of the African Union Commission. In these capacities he oversees the implementation of various African Union decisions on science and technology, including the Science Technology and Innovation strategy for Africa (STISA-2024), the African Space Policy and Strategy, and the Pan African University among other responsibilities. He also served as Head of Science and Technology Division and Executive Secretary of the African Union Scientific Technical and Research Commission. Prior to joining the African Union Commission in Addis, he served as the acting Director of the Semi-Arid Food Grain Research & Development, he has been actively involved in science, technology and innovation programmes of the African Union. Dr. Ouedraogo holds a Doctorate in plant breeding from Texas A&M University.

### **Mr. Abdissa Yilma Tiky**

Abdissa Yilma Tiky holds PhD Candidate, Technology Management, Economic and Policy Seoul National University, Republic of Korea; PhD Candidate, Technology and Innovation Management Adama Science and Technology University, Ethiopia; MSC, Technology Management, Economic and Policy Seoul National University, Republic of Korea, August 2016; Post Graduate Diploma, Compute Science Hilcoe School of Science & Technology, Ethiopia, February 2006; and BSC, Physics Dilla University, Ethiopia, July 2000. He serves as Director-General, Ethiopian Space Science and Technology Institute since September 2020 to present. He was Deputy Director-General, Ethiopian Space Science and Technology Institute (Nov 2016- Sept 2020); Technology Adviser to the Minister of Ministry of Science & Technology (July 2010- Aug 2014). His major contributions at National Level include Development of Ethiopian STI Policy (2012); development of University Industry Linkage Guideline (2014); development of the first Ethiopian Space Policy (2018); and translation of FDRE Digital Transformation Strategy (April 2020)

### **Mr. Michael Newman**

Michael Newman works as a Legal Officer with the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), Committee, Policy and Legal Affairs Section. In addition, he has worked as Assistant Corporate Secretary for the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and as a Consultant for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO). He holds a Juris Doctor (JD) in Law from California Western School of Law, a Master of Laws (LL.M) in International Air and Space Law from Leiden University. He also holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA) specializing in Finance and Controlling from the Vienna University School of Economics and Business, and a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in History from the University of North Texas. Mr. Newman is licensed to practice law in the States of New York and California.

### **Mr. Tare Brisibe**

Tare Brisibe is in-house at global satellite operator SES, with responsibility for SES's government policy and regulatory activities in Asia-Pacific. Tare has two decades of aerospace experience in government, intergovernmental organizations and industry. Having served as Regulatory Information Officer for Inmarsat (London) and Director of Regulatory Affairs for SITAOnAir (Geneva). Added to private legal practice with law firms, he previously served as: Chair of the Legal Subcommittee, UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space; and Deputy Director (Legal), National Space Research and Development Agency of Nigeria. He holds multiple degrees, including a PhD in International law from Leiden University.

### **Mr. Peter Martinez**

Peter Martinez (Dr.) is the Executive Director of the Secure World Foundation. Prior to joining SWF, from 2011 - 2018 he chaired the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UN COPUOS) Working Group on the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities that negotiated a set of international consensus guidelines to promote the safety and sustainability of space operations. In 2012 and 2013 he was South Africa's representative on the United Nations Group of Government Experts on transparency and confidence-building measures for space activities. From 2010 – 2015 he was the Chairman of the South African Council for Space Affairs, the national regulatory authority for space activities in South Africa.

### **Mr. Bernhard Schmidt-Tedd**

Bernhard Schmidt-Tedd studied law in Cologne and Geneva and holds a doctorate of the University of Cologne. He joined the German Aerospace Center (DLR) in 1987 and is currently Senior Scientist in the Department UN-Affairs in the DLR Space Agency. Prof. Schmidt-Tedd is member of the German Delegation at UN COPUOS and at present Chair of the Working Group of Status and Application of the five UN treaties. As an author of a number of articles, he lectures space law at the Leuphana University

and the Institute of Space Systems in Stuttgart. He is Honorary Professor at the Leuphana University. With the Institute of Air and Space Law of the University of Cologne, he realized several legal space projects. He is co-editor of the Cologne Commentary on Space Law (CoCoSL). Membership: IAA, IISL, ECSL and DGLR.

### **Ms. Natercia Rodrigues**

Natercia Rodrigues is a Programme Management Officer with the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs. She has served with the Office since 1998, in various roles, including more than 10 years in the secretariat of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) and its subsidiary bodies. Natercia has also been substantively involved in the organization of the Office's series of workshops on space law, initiated in 2002, serving as the Team Leader for the workshops from 2003 to 2005. Presently she leads the team that serves the Office of the Director, which among other responsibilities includes the maintenance of the United Nations Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space under the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space and General Assembly resolution 1721 (XVI) B of 20 December 1961. She holds an LL.B and LL.M Degree.

### **Ms. Véronique Glaude**

Véronique Glaude is an ITU expert engineer in Radio Regulations for Space Services and ITU observer at COPUOS and its sub-committees since 2018. She joined the International Telecommunication Union in 1999 to deal with the processing of satellite networks filings: registration, coordination and notification examination. She now represents the Bureau and the ITU in several Committees of the United Nations system and coordinates system improvement projects within the Bureau. She continues to provide assistance and support to Member State administrations and actively participates in various ITU workshops, seminars and World Radiocommunication Conferences related to Space Services. She is one of the BR coordinators for the Network of Women for WRC23 initiative.

### **Mr. Tidiane Ouattara**

Tidiane Ouattara received a PhD and a master's degree, both in Remote Sensing and Geographical Information System (GIS) from Sherbrooke University (Canada) respectively in 2001 and 1996. He also holds a master's degree in physical geography from Université de Cocody-Abidjan (Côte-d'Ivoire). Dr. Ouattara is currently Space Science Expert and Coordinator for GMES & Africa Programme. He has gained tremendous experience in international relations and business development, research and development (R&D), strategic policy development and program management issues related to environment, natural resources, and sciences and technology. Indeed Dr. Ouattara began his career in Canada as lecturer at Sherbrooke University from 1996 to 2001. He taught not only scientific courses, but also African geopolitics and sociocultural issues. After a brief stay with the private sector in Montreal, in 2002 Dr. Ouattara started working with the federal government of Canada. He successively occupied various positions: At the Canadian Space Agency (2004-2006), at the Department of Natural Resources Canada (2002-2004 and 2006-2010), and at the Department of Environment Canada (2010-2016): He presently works at the African Union Commission (2016-Present) as Space Science Expert leading the implementation of African Space Policy and Strategy as well as the development and implementation of the African Outer Space Programme. Is also hold the position as Manager and Coordinator of the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES & Africa) Programme.

### **Mr. Mohamed ElKoosy**

Mohamed ElKoosy (Dr.) is CEO of the Egyptian Space Agency. He Joined the Egyptian Space Program since year 2000 in The Egyptian Authority for Remote Sensing and Space science, chaired the management committee of EgyptSat-1 satellite, the first Egyptian Satellite for remote sensing that was

launched on the year 2007. In August 2019, according to a presidential decree, he was appointed as the first executive director of the Egyptian Space Agency.

#### **Mr. Anas Emran**

Anas Emran is Director of the African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education- in French Language (CRASTE-LF), affiliated to the UN. Professor in Remote Sensing in Mohammed 5 University in Rabat – Morocco since 1993. PhD degree in Remote sensing in Paris-Sorbonne University (France) – 1991. PhD degree in Earth Sciences in Mohammed 5 University in Rabat (Morocco) – 1997. Professional experience: Training coordinator - Member of the Scientific Commission of CRASTE-LF affiliated to the UN since 2000 - Currently Director; Coordinators of several technical workshops in Space Sciences and technologies in benefit of than 40 African countries; Expert from several international organizations: ICESCO, FAO, AIDMO, UNESCO, CRTEAN etc.; Member of several projects in space sciences; Design of modules for the benefit of several establishments, Design and accreditation of international Masters and Teaching - Book and Handouts - Lectures and field school.

#### **Mr. Ganiy Agbaje**

Ganiy I. Agbaje, PhD (Lancs), MPhil (Camb), BSc (Unilag), is a Space Scientist (geoinformation applications) and currently the Executive Director, UN-affiliated Regional Centre for Space Science, and Technology Education (Nigeria). He was former Group on Earth Observation (GEO)- GEO Principal for Nigeria (2010 – 2014) and served in the GEO Executive Committee [EXCOM], Institution & Development Board, and Data-Sharing Working Group of GEO, Geneva, Switzerland during the period.

#### **Mr. Andre Nonguierma**

Andre Nonguierma is currently the Chief of the Geospatial Information Section at the UN Economic Commission for Africa. He oversees the ECA's work in advancing holistic geospatial information management strategies and governance and providing assistance to African countries and regional entities in the development and implementation of spatial information infrastructures. Mr. Nonguierma brings more than 30 years of professional experience in the field of geospatial science and technology. His professional journey is highly focused on leveraging geospatial data, information, and analytics to support strategic decision-making and evidence-based policy analysis across a range of applications from the public sector to academia and the private sector.

#### **Mr. Juan-Carlos Villagran**

Juan Carlos Villagrán de León is a citizen of Guatemala and has a PhD. degree in experimental physics. After working in Central America for nearly a decade on the topics of disaster risk reduction and emergency management, he joined the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) in Bonn where he carried out research in these topics. At the beginning of 2009, he joined the UN-SPIDER programme of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, and since 2011 he has been the Head of the UN-SPIDER Office in Bonn. He oversees the UN-SPIDER knowledge Portal; and conducts efforts to enhance the use of space technologies in disaster risk management, early warning systems and disaster response efforts. He is the UN-SPIDER focal point for Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean.

#### **Ms. Magda Cocco**

Magda Cocco is Head of Practice Partner: Information, Communication & Technology and head of the Aerospace sector. Law Degree - Lisbon University Law School. Magda has been involved in various Space sector projects, including the negotiation of contracts for satellite construction and launch and for the installation of ground stations, and assisted Governments relating to the definition and drafting of Space-related strategies and legislation. She has in-depth knowledge and experience in the telecommunication and technology industries across several jurisdictions, and in this context has led multidisciplinary teams in different projects, and assisted Governments and Regulatory Entities in

connection with the definition of regulatory policies and legislative drafting. Nominated for the Financial Times' Legal Innovator of the Year award, along with the top ten most innovative European lawyers. Band 1 by Chambers Europe guide in TMT. Distinguished with the "Lawyer of the Year in technology" award in 2017 and recognized as "Telecommunication Law" and "Media Law" expert. She is VdA's representative at the International Astronautic Federation (IAF). She is responsible for liaising with The Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI).

### **Mr. Stewart Bernard**

Stewart Bernard holds a PhD in bio-optics and a MSc in Physical Oceanography from the University of Cape Town, South Africa, and a BSc Hons in Oceanography with Physics from the University of Southampton, United Kingdom. His key competencies are in the field of ocean colour, specifically in the bio-optical modelling and characterisation of phytoplankton and the development of new ocean colour methods to observe the phytoplankton community. He has also led the development of new regional capabilities for marine operational services for aquaculture, fisheries and water quality monitoring. He has played a strong role in international community building and was chair of the International Ocean Colour Co-ordinating Group from 2014 – 2017. Dr. Stewart Bernard was principal researcher at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) until August 2020. He is currently Chief Scientist at the South African National Space Agency (SANSA), lead of the GMES and Africa MarCoSouth Consortium and Chief Scientific Officer of the AIR Centre.

### **Ms. Yukiko Okumura**

Yukiko Okumura works at the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), Committee, Policy and Legal Affairs Section and is the Programme Officer of the Space Law for New Space Actors project of UNOOSA. She gained her expertise in space law and policy through her education in LL.M. from University of Vienna, Austria and LL.B., Master of Media and Governance, and Ph.D. from Keio University, Japan. Before joining the United Nations, Ms. Okumura served at the Legal and Compliance Office of Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and at the Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Nuclear Security of Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA) where she gained her expertise in designing and delivering capacity-building programmes and training courses. She also served as a Lecturer on Space Law/International Law in National Defense Academy of Japan and other universities.

### **Ms. Pontsho Maruping**

Pontsho Maruping's career spans both private and public sector at executive level as well as a working knowledge of various sectors. She is the Deputy Managing Director: Operations and Business Processes at South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO) where she is responsible for HR, Finance, Compute Infrastructure, Operations and Commercialisation. In addition to this Ms. Maruping is the chairperson of the Council for Space Affairs (SACSA) which is responsible for regulating space activities in South Africa. She was the former chair of the Science and Technical Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on Peaceful uses of Outer Space for 2018-2020. Prior to joining SARAO, she was an executive at the Technology Innovation Agency (TIA) responsible for Innovation Funding and Pre-commercialisation Support. Her other previous roles include as the CEO of the Mine Health and safety Council and a Chief Director for space science and technology at the department of Science and Technology where she spearheaded the establishment of the South African National Space Agency. Her educational qualifications include an Executive Masters in Business Administration (IMD, Switzerland), Masters in Space Systems Engineering (TUDelft, Netherlands), Bachelor of Science (Hons.) in Management of Technology (University of Pretoria), Bachelor of Science (Eng.) in Mineral Processing (University of Witwatersrand).

### **Mr. Andrzej Misztal**

Andrzej Misztal (Ambassador) is the Head of Division of Public International Law in the Legal and Treaty Department in the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was previously the Director of Legal and Treaty Department, Legal Adviser of Poland to the United Nations and representative of Poland in the 6<sup>th</sup> Committee of the United Nations General Assembly. He also served as the Deputy Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations Office in Geneva. He specializes in the international public law, including international humanitarian law, disarmament and outer space law. He is the Representative of Poland in the International Commission for the International Tracing Service in Bad Arolsen, and the Ambassador for the Arctic affairs. He participated as the representative of the Polish Government in various bilateral and multilateral negotiations, including in the United Nations system, the Council of Europe; he presided over one of the working groups in the Council of the European Union; he was also member of delegations during meetings and conferences, including COPUOS and Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings. He is former Chair of the Legal Subcommittee of COPUOS.

### **Ms. Tanja Masson-Zwaan**

Tanja Masson-Zwaan is Assistant Professor and Deputy Director of the International Institute of Air and Space Law at Leiden University, and President Emerita of the International Institute of Space Law (IISL). She is adjunct faculty at International Space University (ISU). Tanja advises the Dutch Government on space law issues and was co-founder of the Hague International Space Resources Governance Working Group. She co-authored the 4th edition of 'Introduction to Space Law' (Kluwer 2019) and serves on the Board of Editors of Kluwer's journal Air and Space Law. She is an elected full member of various professional associations, such as the International Academy of Astronautics, the International Law Association, and the Académie de l'Air et de l'Espace. Tanja is a Board member of several organizations, including Space Generation Advisory Council, the ASU Interplanetary Initiative, and Open Lunar Foundation. She was a Member of the Founding Boards of the European Centre for Space Law and of Women in Aerospace Europe. Tanja received several awards and is a Member of Honour of the Netherlands Space Society (NVR). In 2020 she received a Royal decoration for her work in the field of space law.

### **Mr. Steven Freeland**

Steven Freeland is Professor of International Law at Western Sydney University, specialising in Commercial Space Law, and previously the Dean of the School of Law. He also holds Visiting or Adjunct positions at various other Universities/Institutes in Copenhagen, Vienna, Toulouse, Hong Kong, Montreal, Kuala Lumpur and London. Prior to becoming an academic, he had a 20-year career as an international commercial lawyer and an investment banker. He is a Member of the Advisory Group of the Australian Space Agency and has been an advisor to several Governments on issues relating to national space legislative frameworks and policy. He has been appointed by UNCOPUOS to co-moderate scheduled informal consultations on the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources. He is a Co-Principal of specialised space law firm Azimuth Advisory and is also a Director of the International Institute of Space Law, and a Member of the Space Law Committees of both the International Bar Association and International Law Association.

### **Mr. Kai-Uwe Schrogl**

Kai-Uwe Schrogl (Prof. Dr.) is one of the key shapers of space policy. From 2007 to 2011, he was the Director of the leading European space think-tank ESPI (European Space Policy Institute in Vienna). Following that, he became the Chief Strategy Officer of the leading European space do-tank ESA (European Space Agency in Paris). There, he developed and implemented numerous concrete initiatives for ESA's corporate development, Member States engagement, space education and, above all, European strategy development (as the "ESA-EU Joint Statement on shared vision and goals for the future of Europe in space" of 2016). Currently, he is seconded to the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy to support the preparation of the German EU Council Presidency in 2020, where

directions for the next decade of Europe in space will be set. On the international scene, he became an initiator on the intergovernmental level (as the chairman of the Legal Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space with its 73 Member States) as well on the non-governmental level (as the President of the International Institute of Space Law with members from 50 countries). His influence on global issue-setting was highlighted as leader of studies on Space Traffic Management of 2006 and 2018, which by now is the most prominent topic of international space regulation. Besides this, he is a communicator by publishing, lecturing and contributing to institutions and movements like the World Economic Forum or Academies and institutes i.a. in Germany, France, Russia, China and Japan.

**Ms. Setsuko Aoki**

Setsuko AOKI is Professor of Law, Keio University Law School, Japan since April 2016. She specializes in public international law especially space law, arms control and export control. She obtained Doctor of Civil Law (D.C.L.) from McGill University, Montreal, Canada in 1993. She is the chair of the Legal Subcommittee of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) (2020-2021). She is a member of the Committee on the National Space Policy (CNSP), Cabinet Office of Japan since July 2012. Her recent publication in English includes: "Identifying the Scope of the Applicable International Law Rules towards Malicious Cyber Activities against Space Assets", in *Proceedings of the International Institute of Space Law 2018* (2019), pp. 687-699; "Domestic Legal Conditions for Space Activities in Asia" 113 AJIL (2019), pp. 103-108.

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