

Accelerating towards the 2015 deal

Pre-Briefing für die 20. VN-Klimakonferenz im Auswärtigen Amt, 13. November 2014



H.E. José Antonio Meier Espinosa has been Ambassador of the Republic of Peru to Germany since 2012. He completed postgraduate studies in political science at the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz. In 1998 he was appointed Ambassador and from 2011 to 2012 he was Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. José Antonio Meier Espinosa has participated in numerous international conferences as a delegate and representative of Peru and was awarded the Grand Cross of the Order of "El Sol del Perú".



H. E. Patricia Espinosa Cantellano has been Mexican Ambassador to Germany since 2013, the second time she is holding this post (her previous term was between 2001 - 2002). She studied International Relations and International Law and entered the diplomatic service in 1981. In 2007 she was awarded with the Grand Gold Medal with Ribbon for Services to the Republic of Austria. She also presided over the 2010 UN Climate Change Conference in Cancún.



Dr Karsten Sach has been Deputy Director for International Cooperation at the Federal Environment Ministry since 2004. After graduating in law, he earned his doctorate in Berlin in 1993. From 1993 until 1997 Dr. Sach was Environmental Officer at the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the European Union. From 1999 to 2004, he was the Head of Unit for International Cooperation, Global Environmental Conventions, International Climate Protection" and he formed part of the German negotiating team at several COP summits.



Prof. Mojib Latif has been director of the Research Centre for Ocean Circulation and Climate Dynamics and the Research Unit on Maritime Meteorology at GEOMAR - Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research since 2004. Prof. Latif studied meteorology and completed his doctorate at the University of Hamburg. He was then a private lecturer at the Max Planck Institute in Hamburg. He is also deputy chairman of the German Climate Consortium and was a co-author of the IPCC reports in 2001 and 2007.



Dr Maggie Opondo is the Socio-economic and Cultural Studies Coordinator at the Institute for Climate Change and Adaptation (ICCA) at the University of Nairobi. She has researched and published widely on climate vulnerability and adaptation to the impacts of climate change; risk communication; smallholder agriculture; gender and labour rights in global supply chains; ethical trade and corporate social responsibility and trade policy. She is a coordinating lead author of Chapter 13 of the IPCC. Dr Opondo is also a founding member of the Institute for Climate Change and Adaptation (ICCA) at the University of Nairobi.



Prof. Ottmar Edenhofer is Deputy Director and Chief economist at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) and is currently leading Research Domain III focussing on the research on the Economics of Atmospheric Stabilisation. He is professor of Economics of Climate Change (appointed jointly with the Michael-Otto-Stiftung) at the TU Berlin and Co-Chairman of Workgroup III of the IPCC. In 2012 he was appointed director of the Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change (MCC) and jointly founded by the Mercator Foundation and the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research.



Stephan Steinlein studied theology at the Sprachenkonvikt in East Berlin. After completing his studies, he became the last Ambassador of the GDR to Paris in 1990. Following German reunification, Mr Steinlein entered the Foreign Service in 1991. Between 1999 and 2005, he worked as Press Spokesperson and then Head of the Office for the Head of the Federal Chancellery. From 2005 to 2009, during Foreign Minister Steinmeier's first term of office, he was Head of the Minister's Office at the Federal Foreign Office. Between 2009 and 2013 he was Head of the Office of the Chairman of the SPD Parliamentary Group. Stephan Steinlein has been State Secretary of the Federal Foreign Office since January 2014.



Achim Steiner was unanimously elected by the United Nations General Assembly as Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme in 2006. His mandate was recently extended up to June 2016. From 2009 to 2011, he was also Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON). His professional career has included assignments with governmental, non-governmental and international organisations. He works on the interface between environmental sustainability, social equity and economic development, and serves on a number of advisory councils and boards including as the International Vice Chair of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED).