

Online Side event

“Advancing the Copenhagen Declaration Commitments through Age and Disability-Inclusive Social Protection”

The online side event “[Advancing the Copenhagen Declaration Commitments through Age and Disability-Inclusive Social Protection](#)” will be held on Wednesday, February 12, 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM EST. The event will take place during the 63rd Session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD63).

Register [here](#).

Speakers and Moderator



Shaun Grech

*Global Technical Lead on Inclusive Social Protection-CBM
Christian Blind Mission*

Shaun Grech (Phd) is Global Technical Lead on Inclusive Social Protection with CBM Christian Blind Mission. He is also Affiliate Associate Professor in the department of International Relations, University of Malta; Honorary Associate Professor in the Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences at the University of Cape Town; Director of the Critical Institute (Malta); and editor-in-chief of the international journal, Disability and the Global South.

Aliye Talal Mosaad

Social Affairs Officer-UNDESA

Aliye Talal Mosaad, Social Affairs Officer, works in the Programme on Ageing Section at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) in New York. In this role, her work revolves around supporting and servicing intergovernmental processes of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, and the Commission for Social Development. She aims to expand the mainstreaming of ageing related issues across the UN system and with relevant stakeholders including civil society and the private sector. Previously at UNDESA, Aliye worked as an Associate Expert with the Programme on Youth Unit, also gaining relevant social development policy experience. Before joining the UN, Aliye cultivated extensive experience in Saudi Arabian diplomacy, undertaking roles in both the United Arab Emirates and the United States. While in



the United Arab Emirates, she conducted and published research on the diabetes epidemic, exploring its connection to demographic transitions, socio-economic trends, and policy impacts on healthcare systems. Aliye is currently a doctoral candidate in public health, working on her dissertation research at the State University of New York, Downstate Health Sciences University. Her research focuses on thermoregulatory stress and the ageing mind, focusing on environmental high heat exposure as a risk factor for dementia. Within academia, Aliye has many years of experience in research having worked as a research assistant focused on the epidemiology of ageing, and as a graduate teaching assistant focused on health policy. This work has deepened her understanding of the cumulative role of social determinants of health across the life course and the importance of using reliable data to inform policymaking. Aliye received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia, a Professional Graduate Certificate from Harvard University in Business Economics, and a Master of Public Health degree from the University of South Florida.



Silvia Quan

Independent consultant

Ms. Silvia Quan, national of Guatemala, feminist, expert on the rights of persons with disabilities. Holds degrees in Chemistry and in Mathematics; M.A. in Human Rights; post-diplomacy in Gender Studies. From 2003 - 2013 led the disability rights defense unit within the Ombudsman's Office in Guatemala. 2013 - currently: Has been an independent consultant for several INGOs: HI (former Handicap International), CBM, and the International Disability Alliance (IDA); collaborating advisor for the Disability Rights Fund (DRF), consultant for the Inter-American Institute on Disability and Inclusive Development (IIDD), Trickle-Up Guatemala, Save the Children, World Bank and IFAD, the Latin-American network of OPDs (RIADIS) and diverse national OPDs and NGOs. From 2011-2016 served as independent expert on the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, during its last two years 2015-2016 was its Vice-Chairperson. From 2017-2019 held the position as Senior Human Rights Advisor for the International Disability Alliance (IDA), office in Geneva. From 2019-2022 Senior consultant for the initiative on preventing and eliminating violence against women and girls with disabilities and their access to justice, co-implemented by LEGIS and Colectivo Vida Independiente de Guatemala. Currently: President of "Colectivo Vida Independiente de Guatemala" Member of the Board – Disability Rights International (DRI).

Rose Bukania

Social development officer working in the Government of Kenya



Rose Bukania has over a decade of experience in implementing social protection programmes with a demonstrated history of working in the government administration industry. She works on disability programmes and rehabilitative services focusing on inclusive policy development, disability inclusive awareness, and leads programmes on community-based inclusive development, economic empowerment, and assistive technology at the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection. She is also charged with fostering international cooperation in the development and implementation of disability programmes aligned to disability inclusive SDG and the CRPD.

Barbara Adams

Board Chair GPF New York

Barbara Adams was trained as an economist in the UK and served as Executive Director of the Manitoba Council for International Affairs from 1977–1979 in Canada. She served as Associate Director of the Quaker United Nations Office in New York (1981–1988), where she worked with delegates, UN staff and NGOs on issues of economic and social justice, women, peace and human rights. Barbara served as Deputy Coordinator of the UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service (NGLS) through the period of the UN global conferences and until 2003. From 2003–2008 she worked as Chief of Strategic Partnerships and Communications for the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).



Her recent experiences have included being a member of the President of UN General Assembly CSO taskforce for MDG 2010 Summit, the Coordinating Committee of Social Watch and the Civil Society Reflection Group on Global Development Perspectives.

During her career she has worked as a consultant to UNICEF, served on the board of directors for the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC) and has undertaken development work in Latin America, including on housing and settlement projects in Uruguay.

Barbara Adams has authored and co-authored many articles, reports and booklets on the UN, including *Accounting for Africa at the United Nations: A Guide for Non-Governmental Organizations*; *Putting Gender on the Agenda: A Guide to Participating in UN World Conferences*; *Climate Justice in a Changing World*; and, co-authored with Gretchen Luchsinger, *Reclaiming Multilateralism for People, Rights and Sustainable Development*.



Sylvia Beales

Director of BealesGelber Consult

Sylvia Beales is Director of BealesGelber Consult, an independent inclusive social development consultancy. She has extensive advocacy, programme, policy, advisory and evaluation experience in global ageing, human rights, disability, gender and inequality, working with the United Nations and the international NGO sector. Sylvia worked with Helpage International from 1999 to 2016, as Policy Manager and subsequently Head of Strategic Alliances. As founder and co chair of the Stakeholder Group on Ageing Sylvia was one of the five civil society representatives

selected to address the 2015 UN General Assembly. Sylvia is strategic partnerships advisor for the Africa Platform for Social Protection (APSP), is a founder and core group team member of the Global Coalition for Social Protection (GCSPF), and representative of and strategic advisor to Gray Panthers. Sylvia works closely with the Global Campaign Against Poverty (GCAP) on ageing, disability, inequality and migration issues. With Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD) Sylvia supported the development and roll out of its SDG monitoring toolkit and score card for the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs). She is a governing body member of EC RCEM, one of the 21 Major Groups and Other Stakeholders, and co focal point of the RCEM to the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (MGOS) Coordination Mechanism. Sylvia is a distinguished Fellow of the International Council of Social Welfare, trustee of Widows for Peace through Democracy (WPD) and Chair of Zovu, a platform which supports community and citizen driven action to shape a more just and sustainable future.

This event is co-organized by



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