THE BOARD MEMBERS



Martha Helena Lopez is the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management at the United Nations. She is responsible for the strategic leadership and direction of the UN's human resources organization, leading talent management and implementing management initiatives.

Ms. Lopez brings with her a wealth of senior-level international experience

in human resources management. Since 2015, she has served as Director of Human Resources at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Previous to that, she was Director of the Strategic Planning and Staffing Division, Office of Human Resources Management, Department of Management at the United Nations. She also held the positions of Chief of the Human Resources Policy Service (2006-2009) and Chief of the Staff Development Service (2004-2007) at the United Nations. Ms. Lopez previously served with UNDP as Chief of the Policy Unit, Office of Human Resources, Bureau of Management (2001-2004) and with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Division of Human Resources, as Human Resources Officer, Policy (1997-2001), and Human Resources Officer (1994-1997). Ms. Lopez began her career as a national staff member in her native Colombia where she worked with both UNICEF (1989-1994) and the World Food Programme (WFP) (1984-1989).

Ms. Lopez holds a Law Degree with specialization courses in socioeconomics from Xaveriana University in Bogota, Colombia. She is fluent in Spanish, English and French.





Dr. Jillann Farmer is the Director of the Medical Services Division of the United Nations, based at the headquarters in New York. Prior to this, she was the Medical Director of the Patient Safety Centre in Queensland Health, and the inaugural Director of the Clinician Performance Support Service.

Dr. Farmer worked for the Medical Board of Queensland, building the Health Assessment and Monitoring Program for management of registrants with illnesses that impact on their ability to practice.

She also lead a program of national reforms to the way Medicare Australia interacted with Practitioners whose practice had been identified as significantly different to Peers. She has been a Director of Medical Services at a mid-size acute Hospital, and a Senior Medical Officer Emergency Medicine. She holds fellowships of both the RACGP and the College of Medical Administrators.

In her current role, which she took up in October 2012, Dr Farmer has overarching responsibility for the UN's internal healthcare system, which involves care for UN Personnel dispersed throughout the world, sometimes in difficult and dangerous locations. This includes over 400 healthcare services, ranging from primary care clinics, military forward medical services, to Level 3 hospitals. She is also the Chair of the UN interagency network of Medical Directors, the peak body for Occupational health in the UN system. During 2014, she led the UN's internal response to Ebola, allowing the safe deployment of UN personnel into the Ebola Outbreak area, and ensuring delivery of healthcare services to them throughout the crisis. Her current areas of priority focus are peacekeeping health reform, rollout of a UN Occupational Safety and Health Framework, and implementation of the recently endorsed UN system Mental Health Strategy.





Tanya Quinn-Maguire is the co-Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Security and Occupational Health and Safety for the Federation of International Civil Servants Associations (FICSA).

Through this role she has been actively championing issues related to staff mental health and wellbeing for over five years. Ms. Quinn-Maguire is also a staff member for UNAIDS, where she has been working, for almost ten years, for the UNAIDS Secretariat Staff Association. She has over twenty years, on and off, experience in the UN system and is a mother to two daughters.



Fikerte Assefa Ezezew is the General Secretary of the Federation UNISERV and a Vice Chair of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPA/ UNWOMEN Staff Council. She is also a staff member working in UNDP since 1989, specialized in Results-based Management of Programme/Project, Financial Resource Management, including budgeting, financial planning and forecasting, performance evaluation, quality assurance, monitoring and reporting, as well as knowledge management and the dissemination of lessons learned. Ms. Ezezew has served both in HQ and in the Country Office.

Ms. Ezezew holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental

Economics and Environmental Management from York University, UK and Brevet de Technicien Supérieur BTS in Computer Sciences from Ecole Technique "La Plaine Monceau", Department of Computer Sciences, Paris.

Ms. Ezezew speaks Amharic / Tegrenga (mother tongue), English & French (fluent) .



Henrietta De Beer is a national of Zimbabwe with over 30 years' progressive managerial experience in Human Resources Management (HRM) within the public sector and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). This includes over 25 years of successful leadership in diverse, multi-cultural and politically sensitive environments. She is currently serving in UNDP as the Chief, Human Resources Policies and Compensation. She also serves the UN Common System as Chair of the CEB/HR Network Standing Committee on Field Duty Stations (the Field Group).

Her position as a member of the MHS Board will be supported by the above roles that are fully representative of key UN Common System HR policy reform initiatives, including the UN Staff Regulations, Rules and HR policy frameworks. Her leadership role in UNDP's medical insurance policies plans and policies will also leverage my position as a champion of the MHS, in ensuring minimum standards of access to healthcare. Her current role as Chair of the Field Group positions interfaces with the field as a first line responder where rapid HR responses to situations of safety and security affecting UN personnel are critically needed. In these two roles she manages a variety of special projects and initiatives that have an impact on staff support and wellbeing, in close partnership with a diverse team of technical and practice experts, within the common system and other partners that we collaborate with for best practice.



Nana Taona Kuo is a development economist and public policy specialist by training, with over 15 years' experience in global health, rural development, HIV and public health. She is currently the Senior Health Adviser in the Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General (EOSG), United Nations, New York. She provides policy and technical advice on global health, food security and nutrition issues within the Sustainable Development Unit of the EOSG.

From 2013-2018, she led the Every Woman Every Child team in the EOSG. The EWEC movement, led by the UN Secretary-

General, aims to intensify national and international action to ensure the health and well-being of women, children and adolescents everywhere.

The EWEC movement has mobilized over 60 countries and 150 multi-stakeholder commitments totaling over US\$27 billion to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Prior to joining the UN Secretary-General's Office, she was the UNAIDS Country Director in China and spent almost ten years working with UNAIDS in the Asia and Pacific region.

Ms. Kuo is a British citizen of Chinese origin. She received her formal education in the United Kingdom in Economics and Public Policy and has a post graduate degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) in Development Management.



Jan Weidmann is currently working as an HR Policy Specialist at UNFPA. Prior to this, he was the Special Assistant for the HR Director, first at UNFPA and then at UNDP. Before moving to New York, he worked with WHO in their Geneva Headquarters for two years as a lawyer focusing on HR matters. Before joining the UN System, he worked as a Public Prosecutor in his home country, Germany. He is a lawyer by training and has completed his degrees at the Appellate Court Berlin as well as the Humboldt-University Berlin, King's College London and Heidelberg University.



Patricia Nemeth has been serving as the First Vice President of the New York Staff Union as well as the Vice President for Conditions of Service of the Coordinating Committee of International Staff Unions and Associations (CCISUA). She has also served in three different peacekeeping missions (UNTAET, MINURSO and MFO) prior to her assignment at the UNHQs. She holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Global Affairs from Rutgers State University, NJ, a Masters in Public Administration (Inspector General Program) from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, NY and BSc in Economics from Hungary.



Mark van Ommeren, PhD, is Coordinator of the MER team (Evidence, Research and Action on Mental Health and Brain Disorders and Substance Abuse) in the WHO Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse. The objectives of the MER team are to assist countries to develop integrated services across the continuum of promotion, prevention, and management through evidence-based advocacy, guidance and tools.

Over the last 15 years Mark van Ommeren played a key role in the initiation and development of widely used mental health

and psychosocial support (MHPSS) guidance in humanitarian settings, including the IASC (2007) Guidelines on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings and relevant mental health and psychosocial text in last 3 editions of the Sphere Handbook (2004, 2011, 2018), and associated implementation tools including the mhGAP Humanitarian Intervention Guide and Psychological First Aid: Guide for Field Workers. He coined the now widely used term mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) to bring different fragments of the field together.

Mark van Ommeren's work and interests include: developing, testing and disseminating scalable psychological interventions; "building back better" mental health services across different levels of the health system after emergencies; and development of MHPSS emergency policy with linked implementation tools.



Mira Celin is an HR Partner at the International Labour Organisation, for almost a decade, working closely with staff and managers on all HR issues with a very personalised approach. Holding a Masters degrees in Public Administration, International Economics and now completing a degree in Psychology, she has maintained a wide spectrum of interests. She previously worked at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and at the European Union (European Personnel and Selection Office), always as an HR professional. Before that, she worked as a labour market researcher which enabled her to view

labour market issues from a global perspective.



Michele Strudwick-Alexander is a Staff Counsellor at UNICEF NYHQ, who's core responsibilities include contributing towards the development of UNICEF's corporate framework for staff wellbeing and providing psychosocial support for teams and individuals. She is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist, with 10 years' experience providing mental health services for individuals and organisations, including support for staff in the international humanitarian sector. She has a PhD in Clinical Psychology and is a graduate of the Harvard Medical School, Global Mental Health: Trauma and Recovery Certificate Program. Ms. Strudwick-Alexander is a

former HR professional with an MA in Managing Human Resources, MCIPD certification and 6 years of organizational development experience from a Big 5 consulting firm. This unique blend of training and experience allows for a conceptualization and understanding of mental health issues from both a clinical and an organizational perspective.



Anna Eliatamby is the IOM Staff Welfare Officer based in Geneva. She works within the Human Resources Division and oversees, with colleagues, the implementation of the IOM Mental Health Strategy. Ms. Eliatamby was part of the wider steering group who supported the creation of the UN Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy. She is a chartered clinical psychologist and has worked in a variety of settings including Afghanistan and Darfur as well as in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Maldives supporting the revision and implementation of the IFRC Asian Tsunamis Strategy.



Michael Emery is currently the Director of Human Resources at the International Organization for Migration, the UN Migration Agency. He brings a wealth of experience to the role including in areas such as talent management, recruitment, HR services and career development, in geographically diverse contexts including West Africa, the Balkans, East Timor and at Headquarters in both Geneva and New York. Mr. Emeryi has a great track record of HR innovation in the UN system, and is currently the architect of the International Organizations Career Development Roundtable – the largest human resources event on the multilateral calendar.

Prior to joining the IOM, Mr. Emery served in various HR leadership roles including most recently the Director of Human Resources at the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Director of Human Resources at IOM, and Chief of Recruitment at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and in several roles over 13 years with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO).



Francisco Espejo is a Chilean Medical Doctor, Psychiatry, MSc. He is a qualified mediator by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, UK and member of the International Ombudsman Association. He started his international career in 2005 at the United Nations World Food Programme, first as Chief of School Feeding Services in Roma then as Regional Programme Advisor in Panama. In 2011, he was appointed as WFP Ombudsman. In 2015, he became the UN Regional Ombudsman for Latin America and the Caribbean. This work includes facilitating conflict resolution through mediation, coaching and diplomacy; also training in

strategies related to conflict resolution. Mr. Espejo's experience has inspired his approach to conflict resolution in support of managers and employees. He is based in Santiago, Chile.



Dr. Alison Schafer is trained in clinical psychology. She currently works for World Health Organization's (WHO) Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse as a Technical Officer. She is presently focused on developing a platform to improve the quality and competency of non-specialist providers of brief psychological interventions in low resource settings (project name EQUIP). Prior to WHO, Dr. Schafer worked for over 15 years in international humanitarian aid and development with World Vision Australia and World Vision International's Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs teams. She concluded her time with World Vision as their

global Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Technical Specialist for more than 7 years. Her field experiences include humanitarian responses and support to mental health programs in Sierra Leone's Ebola crisis, the protracted Syria conflict, the occupied Palestinian territories of West Bank and Gaza, Haiti, Sri Lanka, Darfur, China, Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia.

Her PhD research focused on cross-cultural mental health issues facing people in South Sudan, where she also spent 6 years traveling and supporting programs there. Dr. Schafer is regularly engaged in international research and publication initiatives including Psychological First Aid, Interpersonal Psychotherapy Groups and Child Friendly Spaces. She led World Vision's partnership with the University of NSW, WHO and Kenya Ministry of Health to successfully run the randomized control trial for WHOs Problem Management Plus (PM+) psychological intervention. Work on PM+ continued in Kenya, exploring scale up approaches and utilisation of mental health care for men, which is showing promising results to reduce or prevent harmful alcohol use and intimate partner violence.

Dr Schafer has published in several international peer review journals and been acknowledged as a contributor to various humanitarian publications, including with the IASC MHPSS Reference Group. In other work, she is a Board Director assisting in the growth and development of a Southern Africa non-government organisation, called REPSSI, who are working towards being specialist responders to children's psychosocial needs in Africa. As a clinician in Australia, Dr. Schafer has worked in private practice, community and family mental health services and spent more than 5 years working with Lifeline Melbourne as a crisis and suicide telephone counsellor and trainer.



Dr. Stuart Fisher, trained as a clinical psychologist, has been the senior psychologist and head of the World Bank Group's Counseling Unit since 2012. In that capacity, he coordinates the delivery of counseling and psychosocial support, and domestic abuse prevention, services worldwide to the staff of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund. He serves on the United Nations Staff and Stress Counselors (UNSSC) group's steering committee as well as the UNSSC/UN Medical Director's liaison committee.

Before joining the World Bank Group, he served as the head

of Behavioral Health for the US Navy's northeast region where he oversaw the delivery of all mental health, substance use disorder, traumatic brain injury, and primary behavioral health care services throughout the region. Prior to that, he maintained an independent practice of psychology for 17 years; served as the clinical director of a community mental health center; and was a psychologist in the US Navy after completing his internship at the Naval Hospital in Bethesda, MD (US). He was awarded his doctoral degree by Fairleigh Dickinson University, and resides in Essex, CT and Washington, DC.