





Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development

Mr. Navid Hanif was appointed as the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, effective 1 July 2022. As Assistant Secretary-General, Mr. Hanif assists the Under-Secretary-General in the overall strategic guidance of the Department, with particular focus on ensuring the quality and value-added of its thought leadership and analytical work, its support to the broader UN development system and its support to countries in special situations.

Mr. Hanif has more than 30 years of experience in national and international civil service, encompassing analytical work, policymaking, programme planning, capacity development, multilateral diplomacy and extensive knowledge of the United Nations system. He first joined UN DESA in 2001 until 2003, serving as Senior Policy Adviser in the Division for Sustainable Development and member of the team for the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in 2002.

He later joined the office of the Under-Secretary General for UN DESA and focused on departmental initiatives in various policy areas. He worked as the Chief of Policy Coordination Branch in the office for Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) support from 2004 to 2009. In 2005, he was sent on a special one-year assignment to work as a Principal Officer in the Office of the United Nations Secretary-General. He worked there as a member of the team for the 2005 World Summit. In 2010, he was appointed as Head of the newly established UN DESA Strategic Planning Unit. He later served as Director of the former Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination, from 2012 to 2018 and as Director of the Financing for Sustainable Development Office from 2018-2022.

Mr. Hanif holds a Master's in International Political Economy, from Columbia University, New York and a Master's in English Literature from Government College, Lahore.



Ms. Juliette Biao Koudenoukpo was appointed as Director of the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests in 2022.

She has a wealth of experience in international development and 32 cumulative years managing complex initiatives across Africa, in Latin America, and Canada with a focus on the environment, community livelihood and gender equality. She has worked with a range of international organizations developing, managing or mobilizing resources.

Prior to her appointment in UN DESA, Ms. Biao, worked in the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi, Kenya. She also worked in the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi, Kenya. She also worked in the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi, Kenya.















