



# World Family Summit 2019

13 - 15 May | Lisbon | Portugal

**Celebrating**

**THE INTERNATIONAL FAMILY DAY**

**MAY 15, 2019**





13 – 15 MAY | LISBON | PORTUGAL

## Photo Album



**NO FAMILY LEFT BEHIND...**



## Our Partners



World Family Organization



UN ECOSOC  
Office for Support and Coordination



National Union of the Associations of Protection  
of Maternity, Childhood and Family of Brazil



Development Partners



WFO's Office of Communications and Marketing

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## WORLD FAMILY SUMMIT 2019

### 13 – 15 MAY | LISBON | PORTUGAL

#### Vision:

Humankind has achieved unprecedented social and economic progress over the past several decades. However, the progress have been uneven. Everywhere, some individuals and groups confront barriers that prevent them from fully participating in economic, social and political life, leaving them behind. The focus of the Agenda 2030 and the core aspiration of the World Family Summit 2019 is to highlight the inclusion of the family in the process of development with No Family Left Behind, by strengthening local authorities and families to build cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

#### Objetives:

- Provide substantive information on the Sustainable Development Goals 4, 11 and 17 and its respective targets;
- Discuss the positive impact of strengthening the partnership between local authorities and families for the implementation of the SDGs 4, 11 and 17 at local level.
- Promote the integration of a family-focused perspective of the SDGs 4, 11 and 17 into policy-making and service-delivery at the local level.
- Provide participants with expert analysis on means to include and implement the targets of the SDGs 4, 11 and 17 into family-friendly local policies and services delivery, contributing to build strong communities with No Family Left Behind.

#### Expected Results

- Reach a consensus among participants on the benefits of supporting and demanding the inclusion and implementation of the SDGs 4, 11 and 17 and its respective targets into local family-friendly public policies formulation and services delivery, building strong communities and healthy families.
- Address mechanisms and processes for an enhanced collaboration between local governments and families for the SDGs 4, 11 and 17 implementation.
- Outline possible new collaboration models between local governments and family organizations to provide partnership schemes addressing the implementation of the SDGs 4, 11 and 17.
- Draft and approve conclusions and recommendations to the World Family Summit 2019 Declaration to be sent to the 2019 UN ECOSOC HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM.



## Guest of Honor

### Maria do Céu da Cunha Rêgo



Maria do Céu da Cunha Rêgo is a Portuguese jurist - University of Lisbon School of Law. She is a member of the Advisory Council of the Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality (CIG) - the governmental body responsible for the promotion of equality between women and men in Portugal - of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Gender Studies (CIEG) - Institute of Social and Political Sciences, University of Lisbon -, and of NGO, namely the Portuguese Association of Women in Legal Careers (APMJ) and the Portuguese Women's Studies Association (APEM).





## **Mr. Nikhil Seth**

Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations, Executive Director  
United Nations Institute for Training and Research



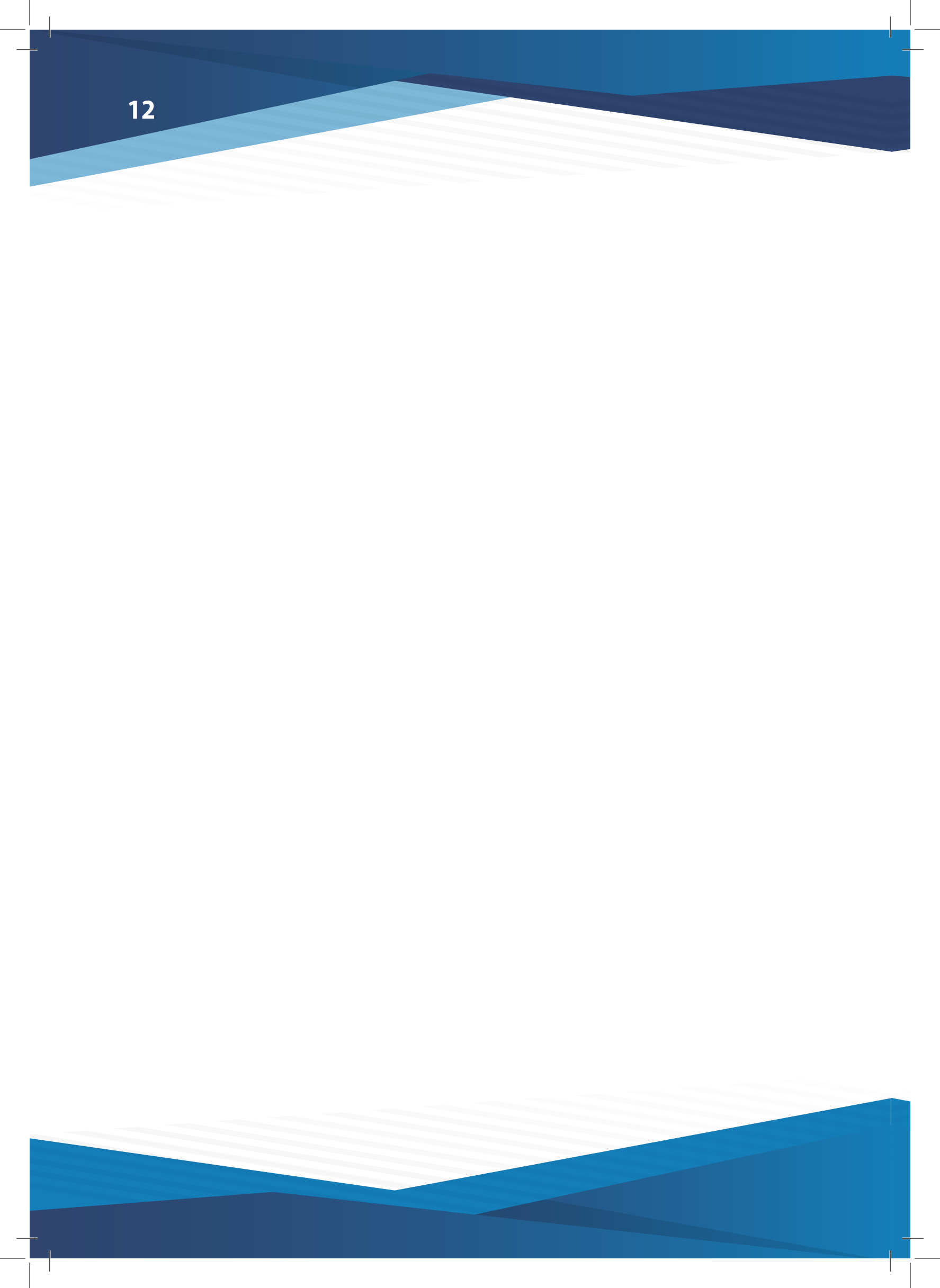
## **Ms. Daniela Bas**

Director Division for Inclusive Social Development of the United Nations Department of  
Economic and Social Affairs (DISD/UNDESA)



## **Mr. Navid Hanif**

Director, Financing for Sustainable Development Office, Department of Economic and  
Social Affairs, United Nations







### **Mrs. Joana Rabaça Gíria**

President of the Commission for Equality in Labour and Employment (CITE) of the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security.



### **Mr. Isidro de Brito**

Vice President for Legal and Administrative Affairs of World Family Organization  
ANJAF – Associação Nacional para a Acção Familiar - President of Executive Board  
MMRP Beleza por uma causa Associação - President of Executive Board





## **World Family Organization**

Dr. Deisi Noeli Weber Kusztra

President



## **Mrs. Hanifa Mezoui, PhD**

AICESIS – New York Representative

IGO In Observer Status with ECOSOC



## World Family Organization | **Executive Board**

### 19th Constitutional Mandate - 2018-2021



### Executive Board Members

President: **Dr. Deisi Noeli Weber Kusztra – Brazil**

Vice-Presidente for Legal and Administrative Affairs: **Mr. Isidro de Brito – Portugal**

Vice-President for Financial Affairs: **Mr. Bruno Lopes – Canada**

Vice-President for Policy and Programs Implementation: **Mrs Lara Hussein – Jordan**

Advisor: **Mr. Eric De Wasch – Belgium**

Advisor: **Dr. Elie Mekhael – Lebanon**

Advisor: **Mr. Mahmoud Mefteh – Tunisia**

Director for Coordination and Outreach: **Mrs Rachel Aird – South Africa**

Regional Focal Point for Africa: **Dr. Amany Asfour – Egypt**

Regional Focal Point for Americas: **Dr. Viviane Weingärtner - Brazil**

Regional Focal Point for Arab States: **Dr. Jamila Khanji – United Arab Emirates**

Regional Focal Point for Asia-Pacific: **Dr. Anjli Doshi – Malaysia**

Regional Focal Point for Europe: **Mrs Sofia Silva – Portugal**

# THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development







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# Celebrating


THE INTERNATIONAL FAMILY DAY

MAY 15, 2019



# WORLD FAMILY SUMMIT 2019

Theme: No Family Left Behind: Families and Local Authorities working together to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.





## May 13 | Official Welcome

8:30 Registration

9:00 Opening Ceremony

The Pale Blue Dot... the only home we have known...

Pálido Ponto Azul... o único lar que nós conhecemos... by Carl Sagan

Welcome addresses of Representatives of the Portuguese Government

Welcome addresses of Representatives of United Nations

Welcome addresses of Representatives of the World Family Organization

Welcome addresses of Representatives of National Parliaments

Welcome addresses of Representatives of Local Authorities

Welcome addresses of Representatives of Families of the World

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## Registration



## Opening Ceremony















































Coffee break







9:30      Electronic Session 1 – Understanding the Dimensions of Sustainable Development.

**Authorities Panel – Family, Education and Development in an interconnected world.**

Education plays a key role in building sustainable, inclusive and resilient societies and has reciprocal linkages with almost all other goals in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As we are living in an increasingly interconnected and interdependent world, new levels of complexity, tensions and paradoxes are rising. Families' vulnerability, inequalities and exclusion. This Panel will discuss the reciprocal linkages between education and development and the potentialities to offer new knowledge horizons and opportunities for Families with strengthened solidarity in our collective endeavour for inclusive and sustainable human and social development.

**Moderator:**      Dr. Deisi Kusztra – World Family Organization President

<b>Panelists:</b>	Mr. Miguel Cabrita	State Secretary of Employment - Portugal
	Mrs. Daniela Bass	Director of Division for Inclusive Social Development – UN DESA New York
	Mr. Navid Hanif	Director of Financing for Sustainable Development Office – UN DESA New York
	Mrs. Mihoko Kumamoto	Director of Hiroshima Office – UNITAR Geneva
	Ambassador Edrees Mohamed	Permanent Representative UN Mission of Egypt
	Mrs. Mafalda Troncho	Director of ILO Office – Portugal
	Mr. Ricardo Barros	Federal Parliamentarian, Líder of Local Authorities Movement - Brazil

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11:00      Electronic Session 2 – Transforming Our World: Quality Education

11:05      Plenary Session I – Education and the 2030 Agenda: Strategies for  
Family empowerment, equality and inclusiveness.

The 2030 Agenda is universal, holistic and indivisible, with a special imperative to leave no one behind. Within the Sustainable Development Agenda, meeting the education goals is regarded as a key for progress of all other SDGs. This Panel will focus on the challenges and strategies to overcome persistent barriers for vulnerable and marginalized families, excluded from equal education opportunities on the grounds of gender, ethnicity, ability, socio-economic status or other parameters. It also aims to highlight innovative and promising educational policies and strategies to reach all learners, respecting their diverse needs, abilities and characteristics and to eliminate all forms of discrimination in the learning environment.

Moderator:      Dr. Anjli Doshi – World Family Organization Regional Focal Point for Asia – Malaysia

Keynote Speaker I –      Empowering Families: ensuring inclusiveness and equality of educational opportunities:  
Mrs. Ana Maria Bettencourt, Ph.D – President of the General Council of the Lisbon Polytechnic Institute - PORTUGAL

Keynote Speaker II –      Empowering Teachers: rethinking the role of teachers and educators in the new educational landscape in shaping the success of future generations:  
Prof. Ameer Ahmad Jeridi - Secretary General of the Tunisian Organization for Family Education – Tunisia

Keynote Speaker III –      Financing quality education for all: mobilizing, distributing, utilizing and managing resources effectively.  
Mr. João Casanova de Almeida – Former State Secretary of Education – Portugal

12:00      Discussions and Recommendations

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## May 13 Afternoon

14:00 Electronic Session 3 – SDG4 – Quality Education for Children

14:05 Plenary Session II – Ready to Learn: The promise of meeting the target for universal quality pre-primary education and youth development education.

A child's most important steps happen before they set foot in a primary school. By their fifth birthday, their brain is 90% developed and the foundations for success at school and in later life are in place. Quality early learning opportunities prior to entering school level, prevent learning inequalities, improve learning outcomes and strengthen chances for success in life. Young people are, by right, a legitimate stakeholder group in any development efforts that aspires to be relevant, efficient and inclusive. Technical and vocational skills development is a key mechanism to support lifelong learning and youth employment. This Panel will discuss the international, national, sub national and local commitment to provide access to quality early childhood development, youth development education and affordable quality technical and vocational education and training and skills relevant for youth employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.

Moderator: Mrs. Leena Raman, Coordinator for Child Labor Program – ILO Syria

Keynote Speaker I – Empowering Children: reinstating the urgency and importance of investing in quality pre-primary education as an indispensable part of a child's learning process. Mrs. Cristina Fangueiro - Chairwoman of the Board of Directors of Casa Pia de Lisboa – Portugal

Keynote Speaker II – Empowering Youth: Applying a youth development lens on education 2030 from a life-course perspective, from an education perspective and from a stakeholder perspective.  
GLOBAL COMPACT YOUTH PROGRAM

Keynote Speaker III – Youth Employment – Challenges, gaps and opportunities to 2030: the contribution of technical and vocational skills development to reduce youth income inequality, offer better revenues through decent jobs.  
GLOBAL COMPACT YOUTH PROGRAM

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14:45 Discussions and Recommendations

15:05 **Plenary Session III – Civil Society Perspective: the bottleneck and ways forward in SDG4 implementation.**  
Electronic Session IV – Working as one for Education

The Education 2030 Framework of Action recognizes the important role of civil society organizations play in advancing SDG4 and called for CSOs engagement at all stages from planning to implementation to monitoring to evaluation. The CSOs efforts within these processes to guarantee attention to issues of equity, non-discrimination, building effective implementation, accountable and inclusive institution at all levels and participatory decision making, are decisive for good governance. This Panel will discuss the experiences and bottlenecks of CSOs in different levels, performing different actions to advance SDG4.

**Moderator:** Amany Asfour – World Family Organization Regional Focal Point For Africa

**Keynote Speaker I –** Civil Society Perspectives: Promoting mobilizations and raising public awareness, enabling the voices of citizens to be heard in Policy development.  
Mrs. Emily McGlone - Director of Peace Boat

**Keynote Speaker II –** Keynote Speaker II – Civil Society Perspectives: Developing innovative and complementary approaches that help advance the right to education, specially for the most excluded families.  
Mr. Edmundo Martinho – Provedor da Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa – Portugal

**Keynote Speaker III –** Civil Society Perspectives: Documenting and sharing evidences from practices, from citizens assessments and from research to inform structured policy dialog holding governments accountable for service delivery.  
Mrs. Marie Claude Machon – President of UNESCO NGO LIAISON COMMITTEE – France

15:45 Discussions and Recommendations

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16:30

Eletronic Session 5 – Building Peaceful and Inclusive Societies

16:35

Plenary Session IV

Success Story I – Citizenship Factory - presented by Mr. Diogo Costa Ferreira  
– Portugal

Success Story II – Afel-Restoring Lebanese Childhood – presented by Mrs.  
Amal Farhat - Lebanon

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## FÁBRICA DE CIDADÃOS

*To make citizens, To boost citizenship*





20:30

Gala Diner – National dressing welcome!





















































## May 14 – Morning

- 9:00            Opening – Electronic Session 6 – Sustainable Development begins with Education
- 9:05            Plenary Session V – Opening Doors to Refugees and Migrant Families: Teaching and Learning respect for cultural diversity.

Leaving no one behind is among the most aspirational and often cited global commitments of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Migration and displacement are two global challenges the agenda needs to address in achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Families affected by migration and displacement include those who move, those who stay and those who host immigrants, refugees or other displaced populations and interact with education in many ways. In a global context, marked by the rise of new and continued threats to global peace, democracy, justice and human rights, the global community is increasingly struggling with the notion of what it means to “respect cultural diversity” as well as “teach and learn” about respect for cultural diversity in a complex and globalized world. This session will focus on the importance of promoting an appreciation of cultural diversity and the challenges to ensure that policy commitments to cultural diversity are aligned with education policies and practices that support peace, justice and social inclusion.

Moderator:            Mrs. Rachel Aird – World Family Organization Director for Co-ordination and Outreach – South Africa

Keynote Speaker I –    Open the doors: Ensuring the rights to education for migrants, refugees and other displaced families in national and local education systems.  
Prof. Raimundo Chaves Neto – Faculty of Family Law – European University – Portugal

Keynote Speaker II –    Global Citizenship Education: Developing attitudes of empathy, solidarity and respect for cultural differences and diversities.  
Mr. Pedro Calado – High Commissioner for Migration and CEO Choices Program – Portugal

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Keynote Speaker III – No family left behind and reach the furthest behind first:  
Efforts to readily validate migrants and refugees prior learning and qualifications allowing them to find work consistent with their skills.  
Mrs. Michelle Breslauer – Senior Manager on Peace and Governance UN Global Compact - USA

10:00 Discussions and Recommendations

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10:30

Coffee Break



- 10:35      Electronic Session 7 – Cities and Local Authorities Learning about SDG4
- 10:40      Plenary Session VI – Skilling and Reskilling for Life and Work: Learning throughout life and through multiple pathways.

Our world today is characterized by accelerated and unprecedented pace of change. Globalization, new technologies, migration, changing labour markets, and transnational environmental and political challenges will demand new skills and knowledge needed for work, citizenship and life in the twenty-first century.

Technological development, particularly digitization, deserves increasingly attention. Due to automation, new occupations are emerging while others are no longer in demand. The digital economy itself is also bringing-in new types of informality and vulnerability. At a time when millions of families will need the set of skills that is required for work and life, the challenge for all countries is to develop and implement effective education, lifelong learning and training policies that include a focus on re-skilling and upskilling. This Panel will focus on the policy measures and solutions that can simultaneously equip the current and next generation of workforce with the skills they need for a not-yesterday- imagined future.

Moderator:              Mr. Elie Mekhael, Consultant on social development for several international and Lebanese NGO S.

Keynote Speaker I –      Skilling and reskilling: The global challenges of all countries to develop and implement effective education, lifelong learning and training policies that includes all forms of learning and provision of multiple entry points.  
Mr. António Valadas da Silva – Institute for Employment and Professional Education

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Keynote Speaker II – Realizing the potential of lifelong learning: Investing in learning throughout life improves people's health and well-being, makes families and communities more resilient and fosters democratic citizenship.  
Mrs. Mihoko Kumamoto – Director of Hiroshima - UNITAR Office Japan

Keynote Speaker III – Learning Cities Approach: A people-centred and learning-focused approach, providing collaborative and action oriented framework, enhancing families access and participation on a healthy, equitable and inclusive living environment.  
Mrs. Claudia Vieira – Adviser to the Mayor of the Gondomar Municipality - Portugal

11:15 Discussions and Recommendations

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11:30 Electronic Session 8 – The SDGs and Business

11:35 Plenary Session VII

Success Story – Saving lives of Cancer suffering Children – presented by  
Mrs. Ilda Peliz - Brazil

This presentation is about the partnership between the World Family Organization, the ABRACE – Brazilian Association for Assistance of Families With Children with Cancer and the Brasilia City Government to build a hospital to better assist these children.

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## May 14 – Afternoon

- 14:00      Opening – Electronic Session 9 – Rethinking Education – Spoken Word!
- 14:05      Plenary Session VIII – Higher Education, Technology, Innovation and Future of Learning: The connection between a rapidly changing world of work impacted by the digital revolution, evolving demand for generic competencies and technical skills and a changing role of providers, with an emphasis on lifelong learning.

The Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development aims to “leaving no one behind”. Access, insertion, permanence, and completion of quality higher education is of great interest for society. There has been a growing recognition of the need to rethink education and better understand its capacity to achieve transformation, not only at the individual level, but also at the family and societal level, promoting another more just and sustainable model of development. Greater attention to inclusion will contribute to strengthening the relationship between social integration and education, which is fundamental to the goals of development, democracy and peace. Countries must rethink social and human development and design from there the future that we want for all, including the relationship between higher education and the world of work. This Panel will discuss how higher education will be affected by and contribute to a fast-changing learning and work environment while increasing inclusive access and enhancing equal opportunities of success.

Moderator:              Mrs. Cristina Archer - Responsible for the new Inclusion at IBM group

Keynote Speaker I –      Higher Education Institutions: Actors within evolving lifelong learning systems and tools necessary to enable the changing nature of the world of work and a change of skills demand.  
Mrs. Clara Raposo, PhD – President of Lisbon School of Economics Management – Portugal

Keynote Speaker II –      Technology and Innovation in Schools: Increasing access to quality education, providing adequate learning resources and innovative education provision approaches.  
Prof. Millad M SAAD, PhD – Education Technology – Lebanese University – Lebanon

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- 15:00      Electronic Session 10 – Equal jobs = Equal pay
- 15:05      Plenary Session IX
- Success Story I - presented by Mrs. Alexandrina-Liana Kiss - Romania  
Foundation for People Development: The Pata Rat Program -  
Education changes life.
- Success Story II – presented by Mrs. Giulia Meschino - Belgium
- NIK - Newcomers In the Kitchen - Promoting integration of migrants and refugees and theirs families in the communities through training in the kitchen sector.
  - SOLITY - VET Social Utility Monitor / NIK - Newcomers In the Kitchen, promoting the integration of migrants and refugees and their family
- 15:45      Discussions and Recommendations

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- 16:30      Electronic Session 11 – Ten Targets of Sustainable Development Goal 4
- 16:35      Plenary Session X – Negotiations for the Declaration

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## May 15 – Morning

9:00      Opening: Electronic Session 12 – Learning to Live Together in Peace  
Through Citizenships Education

9:15 Declaration Presentation and Approval

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## May 15 – Morning

10:00

Awarding Ceremony

Lisboa – A Capital Mundial das Famílias 2019

1. Guest of Honor  
Mrs Maria do Céu da Cunha Rego
2. Câmara Municipal de Lisboa
3. CITE – Comissão para a Igualdade no Trabalho e Emprego
4. Santa Casa de Misericórdia de Lisboa
5. Instituição Particular de Solidariedade Social – SIC Esperança
6. Associação Nacional para a Acção Familiar - Anjaf

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Guest of Honor

Mrs Maria do Céu da Cunha Rego





















## Santa Casa de Misericórdia de Lisboa





























## Closing Ceremony

### "Celebrations of the International Day of Families"



































































# World Family Summit Declaration

United Nations

E/2019/NGO/16



**Economic and Social Council**

Distr.: General  
12 June 2019

Original: English

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**2019 session**

26 July 2018–25 July 2019

Agenda item 5

**High-level segment**

**Statement submitted by World Family Organization, a  
non-governmental organization in consultative status with the  
Economic and Social Council\***


The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

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\* The present statement is issued without formal editing.

19-09578 (E) 140619



Please recycle 



## Empowering people to build equal and inclusive societies

Taking this year's ECOSOC theme of "Empowering people to build equal and inclusive societies," the World Family Organization (WFO) is fully engaged in ongoing action aimed at implementing the 2030 United Nations Agenda and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to keep the promise of no one left behind. WFO contributes to the work of the United Nations in the area of peace, human security, social and sustainable development through policies, programs and projects focused on the well-being of the family, which includes organizing international congresses, conferences and study sessions. This further enhances the ability of the United Nations to ensure inclusiveness and provide families of all backgrounds with equal opportunities to improve their lives and to build more stable, peaceful and inclusive societies around the world.

Founded in 1947, WFO, is a non-profit organization based in Paris, which represents families of the world, at all levels, working to defend their interests, acting with them and for them vis-a-vis governments and the international community, including at the United Nations. Its mission, among others, is to promote the means and opportunity for women and men to assume their roles and functions within the family and society, under conditions of freedom, equality, security and human dignity. WFO promotes policies and actions to bring about better living conditions for all families regardless of their economic and cultural diversity. It contributes to social protection of families, works towards crime prevention and rig control, and aims to combat domestic violence and all kinds of discrimination.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states in Article 16, "the family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and State." As such, families exist in every society as the most universal and interconnected expression of social reality, performing essential functions for society by serving as a source of stability, continuity and development. The SDGs aim to be universal, holistic, and applicable to all countries, embodying a universally shared common vision of progress towards a safe, just and sustainable space for all human beings on the planet. It is abundantly clear that supporting families must go hand in hand with the realization of the SDGs, from supporting education, promoting gender equality, to health, social peace and sustainable cities. WFO has already brought synergies into the implementation and strategy of the 2030 Agenda.

With regard to the United Nations Agenda 2030, WFO fully recognizes the need to focus on all 17 SDGs in order to bring about the desired changes and to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. However, under the 2019 ECOSOC HLPF cross-cutting theme, the priority is given to the following six SDGs - quality education (SDG4), inclusive growth and decent work (SDG8), reducing inequalities (SDG10), climate action (SDG13), peaceful societies (SDG16) and global partnerships (SDG17), all of which interact one way or another with the role of families in today's world.

Education (SDG 4) plays a key role in WFO's mission since education first occurs inside the family cluster. Education is vital for building sustainable, inclusive and resilient societies and has reciprocal linkages with almost all other goals in the 2030 Agenda. Without meeting the education goals, there will be no progress in any of the remaining SDGs. WFO focuses on ensuring inclusiveness and equality of educational opportunities, including for vulnerable and marginalized families of migrants, refugees and other displaced families in national and local education systems, as well as finding innovative way to finance quality education for all.

WFO fully supports universal quality pre-primary and youth development education in order to avoid educational inequalities, improve learning outcomes and



strengthen chances for success in life. A child's most critical development happens before they even set foot in a primary school. By their fifth birthday, their brain is 90% developed and the foundations for success at school and in later life are in place.

WFO stresses the importance of treating young people as a legitimate stakeholder group in any development efforts that aspire to be relevant, efficient and inclusive. With regard to accelerated and unprecedented pace of change of our world today, it is necessary to keep in mind that globalization, new technologies, migration, changing labour markets and transnational environmental and political challenges all require millions of families to adapt to a new set of skills and knowledge needed for work, citizenship and life in the twenty-first century.

WFO stands ready to support any effort aimed at developing and implementing effective education, lifelong learning and training policies at societal level. WFO urges countries to rethink social and human development with regard to quality higher education in the face of fast-changing learning and work environment to increase inclusive access and enhance equal opportunities of success for all.

With relation to the other SDGs that play a crucial role in 'empowering people to build equal and inclusive societies,' causal links are identified in both directions, from education to other goals and vice-versa when it comes to family matters. One of the most emphasized connections is between education and growth (SDG8) and reducing inequalities (SDG10). Promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all by providing education and employment opportunities is a necessary prerequisite for a quality and healthy family life. Lack of such opportunities, persistent poverty, as well as the growing gap and growing inequalities within and among countries represent particularly difficult challenges for families as they can have negative long-lasting effect on family well-being that can continue into subsequent generations.

WFO focuses on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development (SDG16). In many countries, political instability has resulted in protracted crises and is at the root of many conflicts that have severe effects on families. In time of political instability, the lack of trust in the future stability of the country causes fear in many families as they see themselves obligated to change their way of life or to adapt to new situations, such as the need to migrate. To foster political stability, peace and inclusive institutions is thus at the heart of WFO efforts to strengthen national policies on families in achieving the economic, social and cultural goals of sustainable development.

WFO addressed the HLS and the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) of ECOSOC every year, and now has members in over 180 countries in all continents and enjoys fruitful partnerships with various United Nations agencies. Given the importance of promoting global partnerships for sustainable development (SDG17), WFO maintains regular relations with numerous organizations and partners both within and outside the UN system to stress the need for promoting the 2030 Agenda and to raise awareness about challenges families have to face nowadays. Among our most important partners from the UN are, the Department for Social and Economic Affairs (UN DESA), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Global Compact. Successful initiatives aimed at promoting family rights and opportunities have been developed based on our yearly WFO Summit.

As we contribute every year to the HLS through our WFO Summit, we would like to highlight the one this year in Lisbon, Portugal from 13 to 15 May 2019. This Summit will bring together governors, delegates, eminent personalities, local

authorities, representatives of civil society, business sector entities and academia from around the world. The main focus of our deliberations will echo the theme of the 2019 ECOSOC High Level Political Forum (HLPF): “No Family left Behind: Families and Local Authorities Working Together to Ensure Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education and Promote Life Long Learning Opportunities for All.” This is a cross-cutting theme encompassing six SDGs: quality education, inclusive growth and decent work, reducing inequalities, climate action, peaceful societies and global partnerships - all of which, impact the family. A principal issue will be: “How does the family provide a bridge to achieve the SDG’s?” WFO certainly intends to play its full role in the action agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals with a view to “keeping the promise”!

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World Family Organization

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**MAY 15, 2019**

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## Photo Album organization

### Photos:

Maria Lúcia Carraro Smaniotto

Pedro José Amorim Smaniotto

### Photo Album organization:

Maria Lúcia Carraro Smaniotto

Associação de Amparo à Maternidade e Infância de Erechim/RS/Brasil





