

## **UNU Book Launch & Panel Discussion:**

**Coping with Global Environmental Change, Disasters and Security – Threats, Challenges, Vulnerabilities and Risks**

**1:15pm to 2:30pm | Wednesday, 23 March 2011**

**Conference Room 8, UN Headquarters**

## **Biography of the of Speakers (in order of appearance)**

**Dr. Jean-Marc Coicaud, Director of the United Nations University Office at the United Nations in New York (UNU-ONY)**

He was Senior Academic Officer at UNU in Tokyo (1996-2003), a speechwriter for Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali (1992-1996), a fellow at Harvard University (1986-1992), Cultural Attaché with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Legislative Aide with the European Parliament, Associate Professor at the University of Paris, and Visiting Professor at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris and taught at the New School for Social Research (New York). He was a Senior Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace (Washington, D.C.), and a Global Research Fellow at New York University School of Law. He holds a Ph.D. in political science-law from the Sorbonne and a Doctorat d'État from the Institut d'Études Politiques of Paris. In addition, he holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in literature. and linguistics. He is the author of many



books in French and English that were translated into Japanese, Chinese and Arabic on issues of political philosophy and international law, most recently: *Beyond the National Interest and Limits of the UN/Future of the UN*.



**H.E. Amb. Dr. Joy Ogwu, Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations and former Foreign Minister of Nigeria**

Prior to her appointment as Nigeria's Foreign Minister, she served as the first female Director-General of Nigeria's Foreign Policy Think-Tank – the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA). In this period, she concurrently served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Centre for Advanced Social Science (CASS) and Member of the United Nations Secretary General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, culminating in her appointment as the first African female Chairperson of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board for 2006. A Professor of Political Science and International

Relations since 1993, she lectured at the Command and Staff College, Jaji, National War College and the Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS). In her academic studies she focused on Latin America and on possibilities of an intensified South-South relationship between Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America. In her public service as a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on International Relations she made valid contributions to the development of Nigeria's foreign policy. Her publications include: (Ed.): *Nigerian Foreign Policy: Alternative Futures* (Macmillan 1986); (Ed.): *Nigeria's International Economic Relations; Dimensions of Dependence and Change* (1988, Rev. 2005); *The Economic Diplomacy of the Nigerian State* (1992, 2001); *The Nigerian Navy and the South Atlantic* (1995); (Ed.): *New Horizons for Nigeria in World Affairs* (2005). She has published

extensively in scholarly journals and books and lectured on South-South and Latin America's foreign relations. Several publications appeared in Portuguese, Spanish, French.

**H.E. Amb. Dr. Peter Wittig, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations**

Ambassador Dr. Peter Wittig, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations since December 2009. He joined the German Foreign Service in 1982. Ambassador Wittig served in Madrid, New York, Bonn (as private secretary to the Foreign Minister) and as Ambassador to Lebanon. While Ambassador to Cyprus he also acted as Special Envoy of the German Government for the Cyprus Question. In 2002 Dr. Wittig was appointed Ambassador in the Directorate-General for the United Nations and Global Issues in the Foreign Office in Berlin and became Director-General in 2006.



After reading History, Political Science and Law at Bonn, Freiburg, Canterbury and Oxford Universities, he taught as an Assistant Professor at the University of Freiburg. Ambassador Wittig has written articles on the history of ideas and on foreign policy. Dr Wittig is married to journalist and writer Huberta von Voss-Wittig and they have 4 children.



**Mr. Jorge Laguna-Celis, Delegate to the Second Committee, representing the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations**

Prior he was working in the Embassy of Mexico in Kenya (2006-2010) with the Permanent Mission of Mexico as Deputy Head of the Mission, Deputy Permanent Representative to UNEP and to UN Habitat and in the Foreign Ministry of Mexico with the Instituto de los Mexicanos en el Exterior and with the Mexican Diplomatic Academy (2005-2006). He obtained an MA in International Trade and Sustainable Development Policies from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques, Paris (2000-2002) and a BA in International Relations from El Colegio de México, Mexico City (1996-2000).

**PD Dr. Hans Günter Brauch, FU Berlin, UNU-EHS; AFES-PRESS chair; Editor, Hexagon Book Series, Springer Publishers**

Adj. Prof. (Privatdozent) at the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences, Free University of Berlin; since 2005 fellow at the Institute on Environment and Human Security of the United Nations University (UNU-EHS); since 1987 chairman of Peace Research and European Security Studies (AFES-PRESS). He was guest professor of international relations at the universities of Frankfurt on Main, Leipzig and Greifswald and at the teachers' training college in Erfurt. From 1976-1989 he was research associate at Heidelberg and Stuttgart universities, a research fellow at Harvard and Stanford University and he was also teaching at the universities of Darmstadt, Tübingen, Stuttgart and Heidelberg.



Coeditor of: *Security and Environment in the Mediterranean* (2003); *Globalization and Environmental Challenges* (2008); *Facing Global Environmental Change* (2009); *Coping with Global Environmental Change, Disasters and Security* (2011). He is editor of two peer-reviewed book series published by Springer-Verlag (Heidelberg – Berlin – New York) of the *Hexagon Series on Human and Environmental Security and Peace* (HESP) and of the new *Springer Briefs on Environment, Security, Development and Peace* (ESDP).



**Prof. Dr. Ursula Oswald Spring, UNAM-CRIM, Cuernavaca, Mexico,  
1st Munich Re Chair on Social Vulnerability, UNU-EHS**

Research professor at the National University of Mexico (UNAM) in the Regional Multidisciplinary Research Center (CRIM). Professor Oswald was General Attorney of Ecology in the State of Morelos (1992-1994) and National Delegate of the Federal General Attorney of Environment from 1994-1995. She was President of the International Peace Research Association (1998-2000); General Secretary of the Latin-American Council for Peace Research (2002-2006). For her scientific work she received the

Price Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz (2005), the Environmental Merit in Tlaxcala, Mexico (2005, 2006); the Price of Development of the UN in Geneva. She was recognized as Women Academic in UNAM in 1990 and 2000; Women of the Year 2000. She works on non-violence and sustainable agriculture with peasants and women and with Diverse Women for Diversity.

Coeditor of: *Globalization and Environmental Challenges* (2008); *Facing Global Environmental Change* (2009); *Reconceptualizar la Seguridad en el siglo XXI* (2009); *Coping with Global Environmental Change, Disasters and Security* (2011); *Water Resources in Mexico* (2011).