

**CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA (CCA)**  
**THE TRANSITION JOURNEY AND THE ROAD AHEAD**  
**IMF, EBRD, Switzerland, and National Bank of Kyrgyz Republic**  
**Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, May 19–21, 2013**

**Biographical Information**

**Speakers and Panelists**

*(in alphabetical order by last name after President Atambayev)*

**Almazbek Atambayev**



H.E. Almazbek Atambayev is President of the Kyrgyz Republic. Mr. Atambayev was elected in November 2011 and inaugurated on December 1, 2011. He was Prime Minister during March–November 2007 and December 2010–December 2011. President Atambayev served as Chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Kyrgyzstan from 30 July 1999 to 23 September 2011.

**Zina Asankojoeva**



Zina Asankojoeva is Chairperson of the National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic (NBKR). She was appointed in June 2011. Ms. Asankojoeva joined the NBKR as deputy chairperson in March 2011. Previously, she spent 15 years working in the Offices of the Kyrgyz Prime Minister and President. Ms. Asankojoeva is the Governor of the Kyrgyz Republic for the IMF.

**Peter Bekx**

Peter Bekx is Director of International Economic and Financial Affairs in the European Commission's Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs. Prior to that, Mr. Bekx was Director of Business Statistics in Eurostat. Mr. Bekx graduated in Economics from the Free University of Brussels (VUB), where he also obtained a M. Sc. in Statistics and Econometrics and a doctorate in Economics. He was Professor of Economics at the Free University of Brussels for six years. Mr. Bekx joined the European Commission in 1985 and held a number of posts in the

Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs, including a four-year period as the Head of the Economic and Financial Section of the EC Delegation in Washington, DC. From 2002 to 2006, Peter was the deputy head of cabinet of the Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs. Mr. Bekx has published extensively on various topics related to monetary integration, exchange rate regimes, and econometric modelling.

### **Erik Berglöv**

Erik Berglöv is Chief Economist and Special Adviser to the President of the EBRD. He is a widely-published and internationally-respected specialist in transition economics, financial contracting, corporate governance, financial development, and EU reform. He regularly provides advice to national governments and international institutions including the IMF, the World Bank and the OECD. Prior to joining the EBRD in 2006, Mr. Berglöv was Director of the Stockholm Institute of Transition Economics (SITE) and Professor at the Stockholm School of Economics. He was previously Assistant Professor at the Université Libre de Bruxelles and has held visiting positions at Harvard, Stanford and MIT. He was founder and President of the Centre for Economic and Financial Research (CEFIR) in Moscow and Programme Director at the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) in London. Currently, he is Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., Board Member and Research Fellow of the European Corporate Governance Institute, Board Member of the New Economic School in Moscow, Board Member of the Institute for New Economic Thinking in New York, and Trustee of the Bianca Jagger Human Rights Foundation. In 2013 he was awarded the Leontief Medal "for contributions to economic reform".

### **Marek Dabrowski**

Dr. Marek Dabrowski was co-founder, Chairman of the Supervisory Council, and President of CASE – the Center for Social and Economic Research. He is currently CASE Fellow and member of the Scientific Council of the E.T. Gaidar Institute for Economic Policy in Moscow. Mr. Dabrowski served as First Deputy Minister of Finance of Poland (1989-1990), Member of the Polish Parliament (1991-1993) and Member of the Monetary Policy Council of the National Bank of Poland (1998-2004). Since the end of 1980s, Mr. Dabrowski has been involved in policy advising and policy research in Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Egypt, Georgia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Moldova, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Syria, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Yemen, as well as in a number of international research projects related to monetary and fiscal policies, growth and poverty, currency crises, international financial architecture, EU and EMU enlargement, perspectives of European integration, European Neighborhood Policy and political economy of transition. He is a consultant to the World Bank and UNDP, author of several academic and policy papers, and editor of several book publications.

### **Cavit DAĞDAŞ**



Mr. Cavit Dağdaş is Deputy Undersecretary of the Undersecretariat of the Treasury of the Republic of Turkey, responsible for public finance, foreign economic relations and economic research. Before joining the Undersecretariat of Treasury in 2003, he worked as advisor to the Governor of the Central Bank of Turkey in 2002-03. From 1986 to 2002, he worked in the State Planning Organization (SPO) of Turkey. In 1994, he was appointed as Head of the Financial Markets Department in the General Directorate of Annual Programs and Conjunctural Evaluations in the SPO. In 1998, he was appointed as Deputy Director General in the same General Directorate; and in 1999, he became the Director General of Annual Programs and Conjunctural Evaluations. Mr. Dağdaş graduated from the Department of Mathematics of Boğaziçi University in 1980. He received a Master's degree in Applied Statistics in 1986. In 1990–92, he studied at Western Michigan University, and earning a Master's degree in Economics.

### **Bozidar Djelic**



Bozidar Djelic is a Member of the Serbian Parliament and a Member of the Assembly of the city of Belgrade. He works as an independent consultant, including to the World Bank on knowledge economy issues and to Serbian and foreign companies on investment, financing, and M&A issues. He is an advisor to the Board of the Bank of Georgia. During 2007–11, Mr. Djelic served as Deputy Prime Minister of Serbia for European Integration and Minister of Science and Technological Development. He was Serbia's chief negotiator for entry in to the EU and led the elaboration of the "Serbia 2020" strategic plan. Mr. Djelic has served as Governor for Serbia of the World Bank Group and Deputy Governor of the EBRD, Group Director for Eastern Europe for Credit Agricole, Minister of Finance and Economy, Partner at McKinsey & Company (1993–2000), and Advisor to the Russian and Polish governments. He holds a Harvard Business School MBA, a Harvard Kennedy School of Government MPA, an MA from the Ecole des Hautes en Sciences Sociales in quantitative economics, as well as HEC and Institute of Political Science diplomas.

### **Ahmed Eiweida**

Mr. Ahmed Eiweida is the Sector Leader of the World Bank responsible for the Sustainable Development Program in the South Caucasus Region (Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan). Ahmed is an Egyptian national and has 24 years of professional experience on urban and regional development. He entered the World Bank in 2000 as a Young Professional and has since been working in 12 countries in East Europe, Central Asia and the Middle East. He is currently based in Tbilisi, Georgia.

Mr. Eiweida is specialized on urban sector strategies, municipal and regional development, city development strategy (CDS), local economic development (LED) through tourism and cultural heritage development, municipal finance and infrastructure, housing and urban renewal policies. He assisted a large group of cities in preparing CDSs/LEDs and design schemes to finance their high priority infrastructure and municipal service projects. Mr. Eiweida holds MSc. and Ph.D on Urban Development from University of Glasgow, the UK.

### **Vache Gabrielyan**

Vache Gabrielyan is Chief of Staff, designate of the Government of the Republic of Armenia (appointed May 2013). He served previously as Minister of Finance (2010-2013), Vice Chairman of the Central Bank of Armenia (2008–10) and Board Member of the Central Bank of Armenia (1999–2008). Mr. Gabrielyan holds a Ph.D. in Public Administration from Rutgers University, 1998.

### **Laurent Guye**

Laurent Guye is Ambassador of Switzerland to the Kyrgyz Republic. He has been an Executive Director at the African Development Bank and the EBRD. Previously, Mr. Guye served as Head of Operations of the Economic Cooperation Department at the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) in Berne, and Resident Representative of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation in India and in Peru. Mr. Guye holds a Master's degree in Political Sciences from the Graduate Institute for International Studies in Geneva.

### **Werner Hermann**

Werner Hermann is a Director of the Swiss National Bank (SNB), in charge of central bank cooperation. Since he joined the SNB over twenty-five years ago, Mr. Hermann has been involved in macroeconomic research, banking and financial market issues, and international relations, and has travelled to financial centres, as well as to Central Asia on a regular basis. He has served in several groups at the Bank for International Settlements (BIS). Mr Hermann was a visiting scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Prior to joining the SNB, Mr. Hermann taught at the University of Basel and was a member of the Basel Business Cycle Research Group (BAK, now BAK Basel Economics AG). He received a doctorate in economics from the University of Basel.

### **Masaru Honma**

Masaru Honma joined the EBRD in August 2002 as Director for Central Asia, based in London.

After his graduation from Kyoto University, Mr Honma joined the Ministry of Finance of Japan where he dealt with economic policy, banking supervision, taxation and state property

management. Later, he held various positions relating to transition economies, including that of a Councillor and Head of Economic Section at the Japanese Embassy in Hungary; Advisor to the Minister of Finance of Poland and Head of Outreach Unit for Financial Sector Reforms in the OECD.

During the height of the Japanese financial crisis, 1998 to 2002, Mr Honma was engaged in financial supervision including as Director for Inspection Division and Chief Public Relations Officer of the Financial Supervisory Agency and Director General in charge of strategic planning, budget, human resources and international affairs of the Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Mr Honma published several books and numerous articles on banking supervision, bank failure resolution and those on transition economies. The books include “Deposit Insurance and Bank Failure Resolution: International Comparison” (Toyo Keizai Publisher, 2002), “Financial Sector Reforms in Eastern Europe and Russia” (Toyo Keizai Publisher, 1998) and “Economic Reforms in Central and Eastern Europe” (Ministry of Finance, Japan, 1995).

Apart from his native Japanese, Mr Honma also speaks English and Russian, and can read Chinese.

### **Mark Horton**

Mark Horton, conference organizer from the IMF, is an Assistant Director of the Middle East and Central Asia Department (MCD) and Division Chief for MCD Division G, which covers Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Turkmenistan. He is the IMF’s mission chief for Armenia and coordinates IMF TA for the MCD countries. Mr. Horton previously served as a division chief in the Fund’s Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD), where he helped launch the flagship Fiscal Monitor publication, undertook research on public debt issues, coordinated FAD’s work on G-20 surveillance issues, and led TA missions on macro-fiscal and public financial management issues. He was also responsible for reviewing fiscal policy issues in the IMF’s surveillance and program work on countries in the Western Hemisphere, the Middle East and Central Asia, and Anglophone Africa. During 2002–05, he served as fiscal economist on IMF teams working on South Africa and Turkey, and during 1996–2002, he was IMF resident representative in Moldova, Lithuania and Belarus. Mr. Horton studied at the University of Colorado and Harvard University.

### **Paul Inderbinen**

Paul Inderbinen is Deputy Head of Multilateral Affairs and Head of the International Financial Institutions Section at the Federal Department of Finance of Switzerland. He previously served as Head of the International Finance and Monetary Policy Section, and Advisor to the Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund for the constituency of countries led by

Switzerland. Mr. Inderbinen has also held positions at the University of Fribourg and UBS Zurich. He has a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Fribourg.

### **Marie-Gabrielle Ineichen-Fleisch**

Marie-Gabrielle Ineichen-Fleisch is State Secretary of the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO). From 2007, Ms. Ineichen-Fleisch was Federal Council Ambassador and Delegate for Trade Agreements, Switzerland's chief negotiator at the World Trade Organization (WTO), as well as member of the SECO Board of Directors. She was responsible both for WTO and the OECD and free trade agreements. From 1999 to 2007, Ms. Ineichen-Fleisch was head of the WTO sector and from 1995, head of section in the WTO section of the Federal Office of Foreign Economic Affairs (FOFEA). In 1992-93, Ms. Ineichen-Fleisch worked at the World Bank as assistant to Switzerland's Executive Director. From 1990 to 1995, she was scientific adviser in the Legal Service and International Investment and Technology Transfer Service in the FOFEA. She earned an MBA from INSEAD in 1989 and was Junior Consultant at McKinsey in Zurich in 1988. In 1987, Ms. Ineichen-Fleisch received a law degree at the University of Berne.

### **Oraz Jandosov**

Oraz Jandosov has served as Director of the RAKURS Center for Economic Analysis in Kazakhstan since 2008. He is also advisor to the Board of the Atameken National Business Chamber. Mr. Jandosov previously served in the government and National Bank of Kazakhstan (NBK), including First Deputy Prime Minister (1998-99), Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (1999), Deputy Prime Minister (2000-01), and Governor of the NBK (1996-98). He was an Assistant to the President of Kazakhstan (2003) and Chairman of the Agency for Regulation of Natural Monopolies and Protection of Competition (2003-04). Mr. Jandosov studied at Moscow State University.

### **Saroj Kumar Jha**



Saroj Kumar Jha took up the position of the World Bank Regional Director for Central Asia on February 1, 2012. He is based in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Previously, Mr. Jha worked as the World Bank's Global Manager for Disaster Risk Management Practice and Head of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR). He played a major role in establishing a disaster risk management global practice. Mr. Jha worked with donors, governments, UN, and civil society organizations to establish GFDRR in 2006 which is now world's largest global fund for disaster prevention and post-disaster recovery operations. He has led the international response to many catastrophic disasters around the world. Mr. Jha, an Indian national, joined the World Bank in 2005 as a Senior Infrastructure Specialist in the Sustainable Development Network, after significant

experience with the Government of India and UNDP in public sector management, infrastructure finance, natural resources management, natural disaster prevention, and sustainable environment. He is credited for innovations in regional cooperation, social safety nets, and grievance redressal mechanisms in various countries of the world. He holds dual degree in civil engineering and development economics from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur, India. Mr. Jha speaks Hindi, English, Arabic, French, Maithili, Oriya, and Urdu.

### **Juha Kähkönen**



Juha Kähkönen is Deputy Director of the Middle East and Central Asia Department (MCD) of the International Monetary Fund and oversees MCD's work on Egypt and the CCA (Caucasus and Central Asia) countries. In the IMF since 1986, Mr. Kähkönen previously worked in the IMF Research, Asian, Policy Development and Review, and European Departments. Past assignments include IMF Resident Representative in India, work on advanced and emerging market countries in Asia (Japan, Singapore, Poland, and Thailand), heading IMF missions to Albania, Bulgaria, Turkey, and more recently Germany and Russia, and reviewing IMF work on some 50 countries representing all continents. Prior to joining the IMF, Mr. Kähkönen worked as assistant professor at New York University (1982–86), associate professor and professor at Helsinki School of Economics, and research advisor at the Bank of Finland. He received a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Michigan in 1982

### **Henry Kerali**



Mr. Henry Kerali was appointed World Bank Regional Director for the South Caucasus in July 2012. Mr. Kerali has worked in Latin America, Africa, East Asia, South Asia, and Europe and Central Asia (ECA). His prior appoint at the World Bank was Sector Manager for Transport overseeing the Banks' transport program in the ECA Region. Prior to joining the Bank in 2003, Mr. Kerali was a Professor at the University of Birmingham, England, specializing in the management and financing of transport infrastructure. He led a team that developed economic cost-benefit models for assessing the feasibility of infrastructure investments. Mr. Kerali, a dual Ugandan and UK national, studied Civil Engineering in Uganda and holds an MSc and a PhD from the University of Birmingham in England. He has over 100 publications in various books, journals and Bank reports.

### **Johannes F. Linn**

Johannes F. Linn is a Resident Senior Scholar at the Emerging Markets Forum in Washington, D.C., and a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution. From 2005–10, he served as Director of the Wolfensohn Center for Development at Brookings. Prior to joining Brookings

in 2003, Mr. Linn worked for three decades at the World Bank in various capacities. After eight years of research on urban development issues, he was country economist and economic advisor in the Bank's East Asia Region. In 1987–88, Mr. Linn was Staff Director of World Development Report 1988, and then served in various managerial functions in the Bank's research department. In 1991, Mr. Linn became the Bank's Vice President for Financial Policy and Resource Mobilization. From 1996 to 2003, Mr. Linn was the Bank's Vice President for Europe and Central Asia. During 2007–2010 Mr. Linn served as Special Advisor to the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Forum (CAREC). During 2011 he was the External Chair of the 9<sup>th</sup> IFAD Replenishment. Mr. Linn has published extensively on development and global governance issues, including a book jointly edited with Werner Hermann on [Central Asia and the Caucasus: At the Crossroads of Eurasia in the 21st Century](#) (Sage, 2011). He served as the project director and principal author of the Central Asia Human Development Report (2005). His current research interests and recent publications are in the areas of aid effectiveness (with a special focus on scaling up successful development interventions), on global governance reform, and on regional cooperation (with a special focus on Central Asia). Mr. Linn holds a BA degree from Oxford University (1968) and a doctorate in economics from Cornell University (1972).

### **Archil Mestvirishvili**



Archil Mestvirishvili is Vice President and Member of the Board of the National Bank of Georgia (NBG). Mr. Mestvirishvili has worked for the Georgian Parliament Budget Office, as a leading specialist; for the NBG as Economist-Researcher; for the Administration of the President of Georgia as Head of Monetary, Fiscal and Economic Policy Department; for Tbilisi City Hall, as a Head of Economic Policy Department. In recent years, he occupied position of Head of Macroeconomics and Statistics Department of the NBG.

Mr. Mestvirishvili graduated from Tbilisi State University, Department of Mathematics and Mechanics, in 1994. He graduated from Temple University (2000–02), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 2002, with an MS in Economics.

### **Evgenij Najdov**

Evgenij Najdov is a senior economist with the World Bank Regional Office in Almaty, focusing on issues of regional trade and cooperation in Central Asia. He is World Bank Country Economist for the Kyrgyz Republic. Previously, he was World Bank Country Economist for Macedonia, covering policy dialogue on macroeconomic and structural policies, and leading the preparation of budget support operations (loans and guarantees). Mr. Najdov's additional country experience includes Turkey, Serbia, Montenegro, and Albania, with a focus on public finances and fiscal and external sustainability. He has contributed to number of World Bank reports, including the Southeast Europe Regional Economic Reports. Before joining the World Bank,

Evgenij Najdov was with the Research Department of the National Bank of Macedonia. Mr. Najdov holds an M.Sc. in Economics from the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, and a B.A. in Economics from Bosphorus University in Istanbul, Turkey.

### **John Odling-Smee**

John Odling-Smee was Director of the European II Department of the IMF, with responsibility for former Soviet Union countries, from 1992 to 2003. He was an economic adviser to President Akaev in 2004 and to President Rakhmon in 2004 and 2005. Before joining the IMF in 1990, Mr. Odling-Smee taught economics at universities in the United Kingdom from 1964 to 1975, was economic adviser to the Prime Minister of Ghana in 1971-72, and held positions in the U.K. Cabinet Office and the U.K. Treasury from 1975 to 1990.

### **Djoomart Otorbaev**



Djoomart Otorbaev is First Deputy Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic. Mr. Otorbaev served as Deputy Prime Minister during 2011-12 and previously held the same post in 2002–05. Before his appointment as Deputy Prime Minister in 2011, Mr. Otorbaev was senior advisor at the EBRD in London. He is the Governor for the Kyrgyz Republic for the World Bank.

### **Alexander Plekhanov**

Alexander Plekhanov is a senior economist in the Office of the Chief Economist of the EBRD in London. His main responsibilities include country work on Central Asia, Mongolia and Russia, trade policy analysis and enterprise survey analysis. Mr. Plekhanov joined the EBRD in October 2007. Previously, he worked as an economist at the International Monetary Fund in Washington, DC, in the Western Hemisphere and Fiscal Affairs Departments. Mr. Plekhanov holds an M.Phil. degree in Economics and Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Cambridge and a Diploma in Mathematical Economics from St. Petersburg State University. He has written papers on fiscal decentralization, financial deepening, commodity-based development and economic diversification.

### **G rard Roland**

G rard Roland is the E. Morris Cox Professor of Economics and Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley where he has taught since 2001. Professor Roland was Chair of the Economics Department during 2008–11. In 1998–99, he was a fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies in Behavioral Sciences at Stanford. He has received many honors, including an honorary professorship from the Renmin University of China in Beijing in 2002. He is currently editor of the *Journal of Comparative Economics* and is author of over 150 journal articles, chapters in books, and books, including publications in leading economics journals.

Professor Roland's research has covered many areas in the field of transition economics, including political economy aspects of transition as well as financial reform, privatization, restructuring and macroeconomic issues. He wrote the leading graduate textbook on the subject, *Transition and Economics*, published in 2000 by MIT Press (and translated in various languages, including Chinese and Russian). Professor Roland co-organized with Olivier Blanchard a Nobel symposium on the transition economies in 1999. He is working on scenarios for mark transition of the North Korean economy. Professor Roland has been very active in recent years in the field of political economy, where he has undertaken seminal work on the economic effects of different political institutions around the world and on the institutional structure of the EU. His book, *Democratic Politics in the European Parliament*, with Simon Hix and Abdul Noury received the *Richard F. Fenno Prize for the Best Book in the Field of Legislative Studies in 2007*. His research has broadened to developing economies, where he tries to understand the links among institutions, institutional change, and economic development. He just finished a new undergraduate textbook, *Economics of Development* (2013, Pearson Addison-Wesley). Professor Roland has been a regular consultant to the IMF, World Bank, EBRD, European Commission, and the Inter-American Development Bank.

### **Monica Rubiolo**

Monica Rubiolo has served as Head of the Macroeconomic Support Division of the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) since March 2009. Ms. Rubiolo entered SECO in 2003, working on issues related to public financial management and financial sector support. Previously she worked in Taipei, Taiwan, with the European Institute of Latin American Studies (IRELA) in Madrid and the Zürich Insurance Group. She was Assistant Professor at the Catholic University in Cordoba (Argentina) and has also taught at the Universities of Tübingen (Germany) and Bilbao (Spain). She has a Ph.D. from the University of Tübingen,

### **Hossein Samiei**



Hossein Samiei is a Division Chief at the IMF's Middle East and Central Asia Department. He is also IMF Mission Chief for Kazakhstan. Prior to his current assignment, he was in charge of the Portugal team in the IMF's European Department. During his career at the IMF, he has also been IMF's Senior Resident Representative in Turkey (2007-10); head of the IMF's Energy and Commodities Surveillance Unit (2004-07); and mission chief for Latvia and Albania (2002-04). Before joining the IMF, Mr. Samiei was a teaching fellow at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge University, England. He has a B.Sc. (First Class Honours) and M.Sc. in Economics from the London School of Economic; and a Ph.D. from Cambridge University. Mr. Samiei has academic publications, including in the areas of exchange rate and international economics; non-linear econometrics; oil and commodity markets; and determinants of savings. He has dual Iranian/British nationality.

### Temir Sariev



Temir Sariev has served as Minister of Economy and Antimonopoly Policy of the Kyrgyz Republic since 2011. Previously, he was minister of finance in the interim government in 2010 and Member of Parliament during 2000-07, including member of the parliamentary budget committee. Mr. Sariev worked in the private sector and organized the first Kyrgyz mercantile exchange in 1991. He is chairman of the political party “Akshumkar.”

### Min ZHU



Mr. Min Zhu is a *Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund IMF*. Previously, Mr. Zhu served as Special Advisor to the Managing Director of the IMF from May 2010 to July 2011. Mr. Zhu, a native of China, was a Deputy Governor of the People’s Bank of China. He was responsible for international affairs, policy research, and credit information. Prior to his service at China’s central bank, he held various positions at the Bank of China, including Group Executive Vice president responsible for finance and treasury, risk management, internal control, legal and compliance, and strategy and research. Mr. Zhu also worked at the World Bank and taught economics at both Johns Hopkins University and Fudan University. Mr. Zhu received a Ph.D and an M.A. in economics from Johns Hopkins University, an M.P.A. from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, and a B.A. in economics from Fudan University.