



**Interactive panel: "Sustainable urbanization in Africa"**  
**ECOSOC Chamber**  
**Wednesday, 28 May 2014; 3:00 pm -6:00 pm**

**Bios for Panellists**

**H.E. Mr. Akwasi Opong-Fosu, Minister for Local Government and Rural Development, Ghana**

**Profile:**

His Excellency Hon Akwasi Opong-Fosu is a Member of Parliament for Amenfi East in the Western Region of Ghana.

As a Local Government Practitioner, his career in the field spans almost 32 years of practice: first as a Mayor, Deputy Minister and currently Minister for Local Government. He has held positions in Local Government organisations including, President of the Africa Union of Local Authorities and also a member of the UN Advisory Committee on Local Authorities. His areas of interest include decentralised local governance, urbanisation and local economic development.

Hon Opong-Fosu is a product of the University of Ghana and University of London School of Oriental and African Studies.

**H.E. Mrs. Jacqueline Moustache-Belle, Mayor of Victoria,  
Seychelles**

**Profile:**

Mrs. Jacqueline Moustache-Belle is the Mayor of Victoria, Seychelles. She is also the President of the Association of the Districts of Victoria since 2012.

Jacqueline Moustache-Belle studied journalism, radio and television production in France, in the United States and in Mauritius. She has worked in the Ministry of Planning and Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Tourism and Transport, Seychelles

Broadcasting Company and National Arts Council. She was elected as one of the four co-presidents of the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) for the period 2013-2016. Mrs Moustache-Belle, representing the region of Africa, is the first woman ever elected to this post since the international municipal movement, known as UCLG today, was established over a century ago.

### **H.E. Amiri Nondo, Mayor of Morogoro, Tanzani**

Mr. Amiri Nondo is the Mayor of Morogoro, Tanzania. Besides being Lord Mayor of Morogoro, Mr. Nondo is also a board member of the Association of Local Authorities of Tanzania (ALAT). From 2005 to 2010, he was Deputy Mayor of Morogoro.

In May 2013, he was designated as local government development cooperation champion by the UCLG CIB Working.

Mr Nondo holds a Bachelor degree in Political Science and Public Administration and a Master degree in Human Resources Group.

### **H.E. Mr. Abouhani Moulay Abdelghani, Director General of Urbanization, Architecture and Planning, Morocco**

#### **Profile**

(biography requested)

### **H.E. Ambassador Lazarous Kapambwe, Special Advisor on Economic Affairs to the Chairperson of the African Union Commission**

His Excellency Lazarous Kapambwe is the Special Advisor on Economic Affairs to the Chairperson of the African Union Commission. He was elected sixty-seventh President of the Economic and Social Council on 18 January 2011 and was Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations in New York from 2007 to 2011.

Mr. Kapambwe served as co-facilitator of the Ad-Hoc Open Ended Working Group of the General assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis in 2009-2010.

Prior to the United Nations, he served as Zambia's Ambassador to Ethiopia and the African Union, from June 2003 to June 2007. He was concurrently accredited as Ambassador of Zambia to Sudan, Yemen, Djibouti and Somalia. Before holding that post, he was Permanent Secretary of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs from 2002 to 2003, after serving as Deputy Permanent Secretary responsible for Asia, Africa and the Middle East from 2000 to 2002. He was the Director for Africa and Organization of African Unity Affairs from 1996 to 2000, after two months as Director for European Affairs from June to August 1996.

During his career, Mr. Kapambwe represented Zambia in major multilateral and regional meetings of the United Nations, Organization of African Unity, African Union, Southern African Development Community (SADC), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Great Lakes region and the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD).

<p><b>Dr. Susan Parnell, Professor of Environmental and Geographical Sciences, University of Cape Town, South Africa</b></p>
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Dr. Susan Parnell is an urban geographer in the Department of Environmental and Geographical Sciences at the University of Cape Town (UCT) and is on the Executive of the African Centre for Cities at UCT. She has held previous academic positions at Wits University and the University of London (SOAS) and visiting research fellowships from the LSE, Oxford University, Durham University, the British Academy and was a Leverhulme Visiting Professor at University College London. She is the author of over 100 academic papers, 8 edited volumes and 2 co-authored books. She has been on the Editorial boards of many ISI ranked academic journals dealing with urban and development issues.

Her early academic research was in the area of urban historical geography and focused on the rise of racial residential segregation and the impact of colonialism on urbanization and town planning in Sub-Saharan Africa. After 1994 and democracy in South Africa her work shifted to more issues of contemporary urban transformation (local government, welfare and urban environmental justice). By its nature this research is not been purely academic, but has involved liaising with local and national government and international donors. Sue has also served on the boards of several local NGOs concerned with poverty alleviation, sustainability and gender equity in post-apartheid South Africa. As an urban specialist, she serves on a number of national and international advisory research panels.