



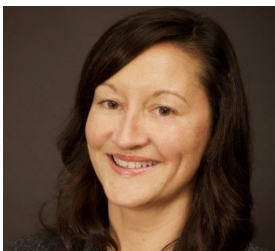
## **Accelerating climate-smart trade and investment for sustainable development:**

### **Global Launch of Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report 2021**

**11 October 2021**

**Hybrid mode: Room W, Geneva, Switzerland & virtual link**

## **Discussants: Panel discussion on accelerating climate-smart trade and investment**



**Ms. Clare Kelly**

Ms Kelly, currently serving as Assistant Secretary of the Trade and Economic Group at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, has had an extensive career in foreign policy and trade negotiation. She has served as Ambassador to Mexico and accreditations in Central America and the Caribbean and has had previous postings to Chile and the Permanent Mission to the WTO.



**Pimchanok Vonkorpon Pitfield**

Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Thailand to the World Trade Organization and the World Intellectual Property Organization Geneva, Switzerland

Pimchanok Vonkorpon Pitfield has been Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand to the WTO and WIPO since March 2021. Prior to this, she was Director-General of Trade Policy and Strategy Office (TPSO) at the Ministry of Commerce, Thailand. TPSO was established in 2015 to be the “Think Tank” agency of the MOC with Pimchanok leading the Office since its beginning and steering it to become one of the leading and respected economic agencies in Thailand today. She introduced several projects that brought TPSO into the “New Economy” era such as Trade Intelligence System (TIS) or “Big Data” unit for the Ministry, “Tracethai.com” - a traceability system for organic rice using Blockchain and a first-ever comprehensive data unit for Thai logistics operators. Pimchanok’s early career was focused on trade negotiations particularly on services, investment, environment, labour and e-commerce. Her negotiations experiences spanned from

multilateral- (WTO), regional- (ASEAN and APEC) to bilateral-level (FTA), built through her works in Thailand and postings in Geneva and Brussels. In recent years, she has expanded her expertise on global economic analysis, strategic thinking and the new technology such as blockchain, platform and digital economy while retaining her keen interests on sustainability issues. Pimchanok was educated in New Zealand and Japan and attended training courses at WTO, Harvard Kennedy School and I'ENA. She was Spokesperson of the Ministry of Commerce, Representative on the Thai National Wage Committee and Advisor to numerous committees at Thai Senate and the private sector's trade and industry associations.



**Noor Md. Mahbubul Haq**

Mr. Noor Md. Mahbubul Haq is an Additional Secretary to the Government of Bangladesh, currently heading the Foreign Trade Agreement (FTA) Wing of the Ministry of Commerce. He is responsible for negotiating, signaling and management of all bilateral FTA/ PTA/ CEPA etc. and also responsible for all the international organizations, RTAs, trade blocks and economic unions. He has twenty-seven years of experience on trade and trade related issue. He also worked as the head of commercial representation in the Bangladesh Embassy in Moscow responsible for trade promotion in the Russian Federation and concurrently accredited to Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. He Graduated in Chemical Engineering from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and received his Master of Business Administration degree from the Institute of Business Administration of University of Dhaka. He is a well-traveled person around the world.



**Charles (Bud) Darr**

Executive Vice President, Maritime Policy and Government Affairs, MSC Group

An experienced global maritime leader in the areas of policy, government, and related law, Bud Darr is Executive Vice President, Maritime Policy and Government Affairs of MSC Group.

Bud began his education in Submarine Nuclear Engineering and later obtained his formal undergraduate education at the US Merchant Marine Academy, where he was trained as a Deck Officer. During his subsequent career with the US Coast Guard, he studied law at the George Washington University Law School. He most recently led the Maritime Policy efforts of the Cruise Lines International Association prior to joining the MSC Group in 2017.

Today, Bud is engaged across MSC's Cargo and Passenger divisions, developing the company's central Government Affairs function, based at the Group's headquarters in Geneva.

He serves on the Boards for the UK Chamber of Shipping, BIMCO, International Chamber of Shipping, Liberian Shipowners' Council, and Society for Gas as a Marine Fuel.

**Shamika N. Sirimanne**

Shamika N. Sirimanne is the Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). She leads UNCTAD's trade logistics programme, including the work on trade facilitation, maritime transport, port management, and e-commerce and the digital economy. She also supervises UNCTAD's largest technical cooperation programme, ASYCUDA—the Automated System for Customs.

Ms. Sirimanne has extensive experience in development policy, research and technical cooperation gained from international organizations, national governments, think tanks and universities. Prior to UNCTAD, she served as the Director of the ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), where she spearheaded major regional cooperation programmes such as the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative, and Regional Drought Monitoring Mechanism.

During her tenure with ESCAP, Ms. Sirimanne also headed the trade facilitation programme, and led the macroeconomic policy work and ESCAP's flagship publication, Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific. Prior to that, Ms. Sirimanne was with the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), where she led the economic policy team and the Economic Report on Africa, the flagship publication of ECA. She has also worked for the Canadian Ministry of Finance and the World Bank. Ms. Sirimanne holds a PhD in Economics.

**Steven Stone**

Steven Stone is Chief of UN Environment's Resources & Markets Branch (R&M). He holds a PhD in Resource Economics from Cornell University and has more than 20 years of professional experience in environmental and natural resource management.

As Chief of Branch, Steven directs a team dedicated to furthering the knowledge base and outreach and support to countries on environmental and resource economics as key components of economic, trade and investment policy. Some of the key flagships he has helped to incubate include the Green

Economy Initiative, the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB), and the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE).

Prior to joining UN Environment, Steven worked at the Inter-American Development Bank, serving in a number of capacities from Resource Economist in Washington to Environmental Specialist in the Bank's offices in both Jamaica and Ecuador, to Country Representative in Honduras. Before joining IDB, Steven led field research in Brazil as part of the team at the Instituto do Homem e Meio Ambiente in Belem, Para State, for a number of years. He has also worked at the World Bank on resource and agricultural economics with Uma Lele (an independent scholar and development economist), among others.

Steven earned an MSc and PhD in Resource Economics from Cornell University, following his BA with Honors from Swarthmore College (USA). He has authored and co-authored numerous journal articles and blogs in the field of environmental and resource economics, and in addition to his ongoing responsibilities at UN Environment also serves on the Advisory Board of the Center for International Environmental Studies at the Graduate Institute in Geneva.