

THE FUTURE OF DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

Charting strategic directions

11-12 May 2026 | OECD, Paris



Conference session note – 12 May 2026, 16:00-17:00

Commitments to action: advancing renewed purpose and maximising impact

Description

This session will focus on action and how the proposals from this OECD conference will inform the forthcoming OECD flagship report on the future of development co-operation (October 2026). It will also consider how proposals can feed into dialogue and decisions at upcoming international events and reform processes, including the UK Global Partnerships Conference, the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Review, Accra Reset, the 2026 G7 Leaders' Summit, the Hamburg Sustainability Conference, as well as future G7 and G20 rounds, and UN processes.

Additional background material can be found on the [Resources page](#).

Key takeaways

- **What a credible forward-looking agenda looks like**, drawing on the bold proposals and trade-offs surfaced across the two days of conference dialogue.
- **Bold commitments carrying conference insights into key outputs, processes and moments**, such as the OECD International Development Co-operation Outlook, the DAC Review, the G7 Summit, the UK Global Partnerships Conference, the Hamburg Sustainability Conference and the Accra Reset

Speakers

- Éléonore Caroit, Minister for International Development, France (tbc)
- Baroness Chapman of Darlington, Minister of State for Development and Africa at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, United Kingdom
- Wook-jin Chang, Deputy Minister for Multilateral and Global Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea
- Zane Dangor, Director General of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation, South Africa
- Arancha Gonzalez Laya, Co-Chair, Future of Development Co-operation Coalition
- Nancy Lindborg, President and CEO, The David and Lucille Packard Foundation
- Birgit Pickel, Director General for Sustainable Development and Climate, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
- Carsten Staur, DAC Chair
- Gunjan Veda, Global Secretary, The Movement for Community Led Development

Moderator

- Pilar Garrido, Director of Development Co-operation, OECD

Speaker Bios



Éléonore Caroit is France's Minister Delegate for Francophonie, International Partnerships and French Nationals Abroad. Before her current appointment, she served as a member of the National Assembly, representing the second constituency of French citizens living abroad.



Baroness Chapman was appointed Minister of State (International Development and Africa) in the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) in September 2025. Baroness Chapman has held previous senior roles in the FCDO. On 28 February 2025 she was appointed Minister of State (International Development, Latin America and Caribbean). Before that she was Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office between 18 July 2024 and 28 February 2025.



Zane Dangor currently serves as the Director-General (DG) of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO). Before being appointed to serve in this capacity from 1 April 2022, he was a Special Adviser to the current and former Ministers of International Relations and Cooperation. Before joining DIRCO, he worked as the Chief Operations Officer at Soul City. Mr Dangor worked at the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) as its interim representative to the African Union and Economic Commission for Africa in 2017. Before joining the UNFPA, he served as DG of the Department of Social Development.



Arancha González, Co-Chair of the Future of Development Co-operation Coalition is the Dean of the Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA) at Sciences Po and the first woman to lead the world's third school for Politics and International Studies. In 2024 she was elected President of APSIA, the association that brings together the world's leading schools of international affairs and diplomacy. Prior to joining PSIA, Ms. González served as Spain's Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation (2020-2021). She previously was Assistant-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director of the International Trade Centre (2013-2020). Between 2005 and 2013 she served as Chief of Staff to the Director-General of the World Trade Organization.



Nancy Lindborg is president and CEO at The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, which awards national and global grants to improve the lives of children, families, and communities, and to restore and protect our planet. Ms. Lindborg's career has focused on democracy, conflict and humanitarian action. She previously served as the president and CEO of the U.S. Institute of Peace, as assistant administrator for the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA) at USAID and as president of Mercy Corps. Ms. Lindborg holds master's degrees from Stanford University and Harvard University.



Wook-Jin Chang is the Deputy Foreign Minister for Multilateral Diplomacy and Global Issues of the Republic of Korea. He leads Korea's multilateral diplomatic strategies, overseeing key portfolios including international organizations, development cooperation, international law, and emerging global challenges. A seasoned diplomat with over 30 years of experience, Mr. Chang has built a distinguished career at the intersection of bilateral and multilateral diplomacy. Before his current appointment, he served as the Chief of the NGO Branch at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) from 2022 to 2025. His expertise in international governance is further underscored by his tenure as Special Assistant and Chief of Office to the 8th UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon (2014–2016). Within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Chang has held high-level leadership positions, including Director-General for International Organizations and Director of the North America Division. His overseas assignments include serving as Minister-Counsellor (Political Coordinator) at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the UN, with additional postings in Washington, D.C., Costa Rica, and Saudi Arabia. Mr. Chang holds a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology from Seoul National University and a Master's in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.



Birgit Pickel is Director-General for Africa in the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). She has more than 20 years of experience in development policy and cooperation, including 11 years in management positions. Her regional focus is on West- and Southern Africa, thematic focus is on global health, governance, and sustainable economic development, including skills development, civil society, civic engagement, and international volunteering. Mrs. Pickel has lived and worked in the USA, South Africa, Zambia, and Yemen, and short-term missions to Benin, Ghana, Nigeria, Togo, Cameroon, and Bangladesh. She holds an MA in Political Science and a postgraduate certificate in Development Studies.



Carsten Staur took up his position as Chair of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in March 2023. Prior to this, he was Denmark's Ambassador to the OECD and UNESCO in Paris from 2018 to 2023. During a career of more than forty years in international diplomacy and development, Mr. Staur has served as Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations in Geneva (2013–2018) and New York (2007–2013) and as State Secretary for International Development Cooperation (2001–2007). He has also been Director for Development Policy and Planning in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador of Denmark to Israel, Under Secretary for Administrative Affairs, and Under Secretary for Bilateral Development Cooperation.



Gunjan Veda is the Global Secretary of The Movement for Community Led Gunjan is passionate about elevating the voices of grassroots leaders and is currently one of the leading advocates for Community-led Development, Locally-led Development and Decolonization. Gunjan began her career as a journalist, and subsequently worked with the Planning Commission of the Government of India, to evaluate and create policies around health, nutrition, marginalized communities, gender and child rights.



María del Pilar Garrido Gonzalo is the OECD Director for Development Co-operation. Before joining the Organisation, between May 2018 and May 2022, Mrs. Garrido was the Minister of Planning and Economic Policy in Costa Rica, responsible for the areas of climate-resilient development, sustainable public investment, public sector reform, and development co-operation policy. Also, in office, she has served as the Deputy Minister of Planning and Economic Policy, and as Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor of the Technical Secretariat of the 2030 Agenda. Prior to this, she worked for 13 years at the country level on locally led sustainable development

cooperation projects in Costa Rica, Central America and the Caribbean, and the Latin American region for UNDP, the European Union and the Diputació de Barcelona. She has also worked for NGOs on multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development, particularly engaging with the private sector and civil society organizations. Mrs. Garrido is both a Spanish and a Costa Rican national, holds a BA in Political Science from the University of Costa Rica, a MSc in Economics from Trinity College and a MA in Political Science with an emphasis on democratic governance and public policy from University of Costa Rica.