



**Roundtable on Tajikistan's Millennium Development Goals-Based
National Development Strategy**

Monday, December 12th, 1:30PM to 4:30PM
The United Nations Secretariat, New York
Conference Room 2

PROGRAMME

Welcome

Mr. Zéphirin Diabré

Associate Administrator, United Nations Development Programme

Opening Remarks

Mr. Faizullo S. Kholboboev

President's State Adviser for Economic Development, Republic of Tajikistan
Chairperson

Remarks

Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs

Special Adviser to UN Secretary General on the Millennium Development Goals
Director of the United Nations Millennium Project
and

Her Majesty Queen Noor

Chair, King Hussein Foundation

Presentation of Tajikistan's Draft Outline of National Development Strategy

Mr. Faizullo S. Kholboboev

President's State Adviser for Economic Development, Republic of Tajikistan

Mr. Maruf Sayfiev

Deputy Minister of Economy and Trade, Republic of Tajikistan

Mr. Safarali M. Najmiddinov

Minister of Finance, Republic of Tajikistan

**Tajikistan's Experience of Millennium Development Goals Needs Assessment and
Progress in National Development Strategy Preparation**

Mr. William M. Paton

UNDP Resident Representative, Republic of Tajikistan

Remarks

Mr. George Soros

Chairman, Soros Fund Management LLC
Founder and Chairman, Open Society Institute

Panel Discussion

Moderated by Ms. **Marta Ruedas**

Deputy Director, UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS

Closing Remarks

Mr. Faizullo S. Kholboboiev

President's State Adviser for Economic Development, Republic of Tajikistan

Chairperson

and

Ms. Marta Ruedas

Deputy Director, UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS

Questions from the Press

Speaker Biographies

In alphabetical order

- Zéphirin Diabré** Zéphirin Diabré has had a distinguished career in government, business and academia in Burkina Faso, where he served as Economic Adviser to the President. He has also served as Minister of Finance, Economy and Planning in Burkina Faso and as Minister of Trade, Industry and Mines. The Associate Administrator Zéphirin Diabré is an alumni of Ecole Supérieure Commerce de Bordeaux. Soon after he completed his doctorate in Business Finance, Mr. Diabré took over as Head of the Business Department at the University of Ouagadougou. After serving as Member of Parliament and several ministerial positions in the government of Burkina Faso, he was appointed Visiting Scholar at the Harvard Institute for International Development and Fellow of the Weatherhead Centre for International Studies in 1997. Mr. Diabré's last assignment, before he took over as Associate Administrator of UNDP on 15 January 1999, was Economic Adviser to the President of Burkina Faso.
- Faizullo S. Kholboboiev** Faizullo Samadovich Kholboboiev is the State Adviser for Economic Policy to the President of Tajikistan since 2002. Mr. Kholboboiev began his career as a research assistant at the Academy of Science of Tajikistan in 1988. He has held various posts within the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, including Deputy Head of Economic Reform and Investment at the Office of the President. From 1999 to 2002, Mr. Kholboboiev was the Director of Institutional Building Technical Assistance Project at the World Bank in Tajikistan. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the Institute of Economic Forecasting at the Russian Academy of Science, as well as a Diploma of Economy from the Tajik State University.
- Safarali M. Najmiddinov** Safarali Mahsudonovich Najmiddinov is the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Tajikistan since 2000. Previously, he was Deputy Minister of Trade, a post he held from 1991 to 2000. Mr. Najmiddinov was the Head of the Trade Department, Municipality of Dushanbe, Tajikistan from 1982 to 1992, prior to which, he was Chief Accountant and Head of the Department of Finance at the State Committee of Statistic of Tajikistan. He holds a Diploma of Economy from the Tajik State University.
- H.M. Queen Noor** Her Majesty Queen Noor was born Lisa Najeeb Halaby, to an Arab-American family distinguished for its public service. After receiving a B.A. in Architecture and Urban Planning from Princeton University in 1974, Queen Noor worked on international urban planning and design projects in Australia, Iran, the United States, and Jordan.
- Since her marriage in 1978 to King Hussein, she has initiated, directed, and sponsored programs and institutions in Jordan to address specific national development needs in the areas of education, culture, women and children's welfare, sustainable community development, environmental conservation, human rights, and conflict resolution.
- The Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), founded in 1985 to consolidate and integrate the Queen's diverse development initiatives, has received international recognition for its institutions and programs, particularly in the areas of empowering women, community development and micro-finance. NHF programs have successfully advanced and modernized development thinking in Jordan by progressing beyond traditional charity-oriented social welfare practices to integrate social development strategies more closely with national economic priorities.
- Queen Noor also chairs the King Hussein Foundation (KHF), founded in 1999 to promote and build on King Hussein's humanitarian vision and legacy. The KHF fosters peace, development, and cross-cultural understanding through programs that promote education and leadership, poverty eradication, women's empowerment and democracy.
- Queen Noor is actively involved in a number of international organizations advancing global peace-building and conflict recovery, and currently serves as an Expert Advisor to the United Nations on these issues. She is president of the United World Colleges (UWC); Chair of the United Nations University International Leadership Institute (UNU/ILI); Chair of the international advisory committee for Women Waging Peace; and a trustee of the Aspen Institute, Refugees International (RI), World Wildlife Fund International (WWF), Conservation International (CI), and a member of the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP). She is patron of Landmine Survivors Network (LSN) and The World Conservation Union (IUCN), advisor to Seeds of Peace and the International Commission to Ban Landmines (ICBL), and Founding President & Honorary President Emeritus of BirdLife International.

In recognition of her efforts to advance development, democracy, and peace, Queen Noor has been awarded numerous international awards and honorary doctorates in international relations, law, and humane letters.

Her autobiography, *Leap of Faith: Memoirs of an Unexpected Life* (Miramax Books, 2003) was a *New York Times* bestseller

William M. Paton

William Paton is the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative, and UNFPA Representative to the Republic of Tajikistan, a post he has held since 2002. Previously, he was Special Adviser to the UNDP in Angola and Kenya, as well as UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator to the Republic of the Congo. From 1994-1996, Paton was the Deputy Head of Bureau for Africa and the Middle East at the International Organization for Migration in Geneva. He has also held other posts within the UN system beginning in 1993. Paton is the author of *Labour Export Policy in the Development of Southern Africa*. He holds a Ph.D. in development studies from the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, The Netherlands.

Marta Ruedas

Marta Ruedas is the Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Regional Director for the Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Ms. Ruedas' experience spans four of the five regions covered by UNDP: Asia and Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, and Eastern Europe and the CIS. In this last region, she has worked in Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, and most recently in Bulgaria, where she was UNDP's Resident Representative and UN's Resident Coordinator from 2001 to 2003. She has worked consistently on issues related to local governance and decentralization, lately linking it to transition issues. Ms. Ruedas was born in Madrid, Spain. She holds a Masters in International Political Economy from Columbia University. She is fluent in Spanish, Russian, English, French, and Portuguese.

Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs

Jeffrey D. Sachs is the Director of The Earth Institute, Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, and Professor of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University. He is also Director of the UN Millennium Project and Special Advisor to United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the Millennium Development Goals, the internationally agreed goals to reduce extreme poverty, disease, and hunger by the year 2015. Sachs is internationally renowned for advising governments in Latin America, Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Asia and Africa on economic reforms and for his work with international agencies to promote poverty reduction, disease control, and debt reduction of poor countries. He was recently named among the 100 most influential leaders in the world by Time Magazine. He is author of hundreds of scholarly articles and many books. Sachs was recently elected into the Institute of Medicine and is a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research. Prior to joining Columbia, Sachs spent over twenty years at Harvard University, most recently as Director of the Center for International Development. A native of Detroit, Michigan, Sachs received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees at Harvard University.

Maruf Sayfiev

Maruf Sayfiev is Deputy Minister of Economy and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan since 2001. From 1996 to 2001, he was Head of the Economic Reform and Investment Department at the Office of the President. Previously, he was Head of the Department of Foreign Investment at the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Tajikistan. Mr. Sayfiev holds a Diploma of Economy from the Tajik Agrarian University.

George Soros

George Soros is Chairman of Soros Fund Management LLC. He was born in Budapest in 1930. He survived the Nazi occupation and fled communist Hungary in 1947 for England, where he graduated from the London School of Economics. He then settled in the United States, where he accumulated a large fortune through an international investment fund he founded and managed. Mr. Soros has been active as a philanthropist since 1979, when he began providing funds to help black students attend Capetown University in apartheid South Africa. He has established a network of philanthropic organizations active in more than 50 countries around the world. These organizations are dedicated to promoting the values of democracy and an open society. The foundation network spends about \$450 million annually. Mr. Soros is the author of eight books including, most recently, *The Bubble of American Supremacy: the Cost of Bush's War in Iraq*. His articles and essays on politics, society, and economics regularly appear in major newspapers and magazines around the world.