

G20 Interfaith Forum 2019, Tokyo Program

Peace, People, Planet: Pathways Forward (draft, May 31)

Thursday, June 6

Arrivals at Hotel New Otani Makuhari

Friday, June 7

9-10:45 “Launching the 2019 G20 Interfaith Forum”

Chair: David Eades / Chief Presenter and Senior Broadcaster, BBC News; Management Team, Sport at the Service of Humanity

Introductions and Welcomes

W. Cole Durham Jr. / Founding Director, International Center for Law & Religion Studies

Haruhisa Handa / Chairman, Worldwide Support for Development (WSD)

Introductory presentations of main conference themes:

(a) Policy and Religious Leaders Working for Peace

Álvaro Albacete / Deputy Secretary General, King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Center for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID)

(b) People: Major Priorities for Human Development

Mustafa Ali / Secretary General, Global Network of Religions for Children (GNRC); Director of Arigatou International

(c) Planet: Addressing Climate Change with Vigor

Metropolitan Emmanuel of France / Exarch of the Ecumenical Patriarchate

(d) Urgent Issues that also belong on the G20 Agenda

Katherine Marshall / Executive Director, World Faiths Development Dialogue

Concluding Reflection

Enda Kenny / Former Prime Minister (13th Taoiseach) of Ireland; Patron of WSD

11:00-12:30 Working Sessions

Peace Working Session [1a]: “From Vile to Violence: Freedom of Religion and Belief and Peacebuilding”

Theme: “Violence and Religion: addressing root causes of violence linked to religious identities”

Chair: W. Cole Durham Jr. / Founding Director, International Center for Law & Religion Studies

Speakers:

Elizabeta Kitanovič / Executive Secretary for Human Rights & Communications, Conference of European Churches

Marie Juul Petersen / Senior Researcher, Danish Institute for Human Rights

Mohamad Abou Zeid / Senior Judge, Family Court of Saida [Sidon] in Lebanon

Kazuo Takahashi / President, Liberal Arts 21; Advisor at the Library of Alexandria

Liviu Olteanu / Secretary General, International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty

Hisae Nakanishi / Global Studies, Doshisha University, Kyoto

Addressing violence, especially when it is framed expressly in the name of religion, and its many dire consequences, is an imperative interreligious and inter-sectoral concern. Preventing violence while protecting the fundamental right to freedom of religion and belief (however disturbing, or “vile” its forms) has critical importance in cultivating just and peaceful societies. This session will explore specifically how efforts to promote freedom of religion and belief could feature more prominently on the G20 Leaders’ agenda. Links include the polarized extremes of conflicts linked to religious differences, the rise of populism that can link to religious norms and institutions, and violent extremists who use religious claims to tear societies apart. The session will explore creative leadership, religious and secular, to protect those who face discrimination and violence. The session’s aim is to gather insights on rebuilding societies, communities, and families devastated by conflict and violence and to link peacebuilding goals to the human right to freedom of religion and belief.

People Working Session [1b]: “Every Child Has the Right to a Childhood”

Theme: “Protecting and Nurturing Children in Today’s Challenging World: Actions worthy of the 30th Anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child”

Chair: Ganoune Diop / Director of Public Affairs & Religious Liberty, Seventh-day Adventist Church

Speakers:

Mustafa Ali / Secretary General of the Global Network of Religions for Children (GNRC);
Director of Arigatou International – Nairobi

Jean Duff / President, Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities

Nobuhiko Katayama / Executive Advisor, World Vision Japan

2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the 60th anniversary of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child. This session will explore progress made, and challenges still to overcome in ensuring that every child can truly develop physically, mentally, morally, spiritually and socially in a healthy environment and in conditions of freedom and dignity. Religious communities have the moral authority to challenge violence against children when it is justified and condoned in the name of religion but also more generally. The session will examine ways of protecting both the child and the nurturing environment of the family. It will highlight religious leadership and actions to protect children in the most vulnerable situations, and challenge the global community to continue the work of translating a commitment to end violence against children into action on critical issues facing children across the globe. Care for child victims of refugee and displacement situations, human trafficking, and poverty, are central to this challenge. The issue belongs centrally on G20 agendas.

Without addressing these urgent issues for children, the 2030 Agenda is unlikely to be achieved. Thus the 30th Anniversary of the CRC is an opportunity to take stock, celebrate, and renew the commitment to the realization of children's rights.

Planet Working Session [1c]: “Religious Calls to Protect Rainforests”

Theme: “No climate solution without tropical forests: A compelling call to action”

Chair: Juan G. Navarro Floria / Professor of Law, Pontificia Universidad Católica

Speakers:

Gunnar Stålsett / Bishop Emeritus of Oslo; Honorary President, Religions for Peace

Metropolitan Emmanuel of France / Exarch of the Ecumenical Patriarchate

Joshtrom Isaac Kureethadam / Director of the Ecology Department, Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development

“The climate crisis – like the nuclear threat – is today uniting science and religion, common sense and faith. Moreover, no other global issue has so genuinely unified religious leaders and faith communities on a shared platform. No other issue has so convincingly demonstrated a shared scientific and spiritual vision and a compelling ethical conviction. Within the response to the climate challenge, tropical forests - the rain forests - hold a unique and critical place.”

(Bishop Stålsett,, Vatican City, March 2019).

This session will explore how to expand the robust partnerships involving religious communities to protect rainforests and other ecosystems threatened by climate change, and relate approaches and ethical challenges to action agendas for the G20 Leader Summit. Approaches need to build on awareness and appreciation for the positive economic impact of promoting sustainable development, aligned realistically with global financial systems and policy agendas, but also reflecting clearly critical ethical and environmental considerations. The session will specifically draw on the Interfaith Rainforest Initiative, launched in June 2017 at the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo, Norway in a summit of Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Buddhist, Hindu, and Taoist religious leaders, climate scientists, rainforest experts, and indigenous peoples' representatives from Brazil, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Meso-America and Peru.

Urgent Issues Working Session [1d]: “Bringing Ethical and Religious Perspectives to the Challenge of Inequality”

Theme: “What next to translate talk about equity into practice?”

Chair: Lord Carey of Clifton / 103rd Archbishop of Canterbury

Speakers:

Daniela Muhaj / Research Fellow, Center for International Development

Rik Torfs / Former Senator, Belgian Federal Parliament

Mokhtar Omar Ibrahim / Senior Advisor to the Inter-Parliamentary Union Secretary General

Challenges around inequality, of opportunity and of outcome, color theological reflections, tense disciplinary debates about means and consequences, and common perceptions of what is fair and what is not. This panel will frame the issues, with the goal of linking the G20 Interfaith “red threads” that address human dignity and notions of fairness to broader global debates, including at the G7 August meetings in France.

12:30-1:30 Lunch

1:30-3:00 Working Sessions

Peace Working Session [2a]: “The Diplomacy of Religious Peacebuilding”

Theme: “What lessons and counsel can we draw from religious involvement in complex conflicts?”

Chair: Alvaro Albacete / Deputy Secretary General, KAICIID

Speakers:

Ahmad Dallal / Dean, Georgetown University Qatar

James Patton / President, International Center for Religion & Diplomacy

Ralph Cossa / President Emeritus and WSD-Handa Chair in Peace Studies, Pacific Forum

Melissa Nozell/ Program Officer for Religion and Inclusive Societies, US Institute of Peace

Mohamoud Fawzy / Vice-President of the State Council of Egypt; Head of the Legislative Research Unit of the IPU-UNODC-UNOCT Joint Programme on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism

Religious leaders and actors (men and women) bring special insights and skills to the challenges surrounding protracted conflicts, especially when they involve actual or perceived religious tensions. They can play important roles in preventing conflict, and also finding solutions that help end conflict and find resolution afterwards. This session will focus on broad lessons arising from experience in addressing complex conflicts and explore their policy implications in a range of settings round the world.

People Working Session [2b]: “Inclusion, Focusing on Challenges of Women’s Equal Rights”

Theme: “Why do differing religious perspectives on women’s equality and empowerment matter?”

Chair: Bani Dugal / Principal Representative of the Bahá’í International Community to the UN

Speakers:

Mari Miura / Professor of Political Science, Faculty of Law, Sophia University

Jasmina Bosto / Executive Officer for External Relations, KAICIID

Hind Kabawat / President, Tastakel Women’s Organization

Marie Juul Petersen / Senior Researcher, Danish Institute for Human Rights

The W20 has focused this year on women’s participation in economic life, seen as vital to gender equality and women’s empowerment. Broader agendas look to obstacles to women’s welfare and social and political participation, raising issues that include discrimination, domestic violence, and early marriage. All these issues have direct relevance for religious institutions. Extremist narratives focus on women’s bodies, and violence against women is often embedded in traditional practices and narratives. This panel will focus initially on obstacles and opportunities around economic and social participation and how differing traditions reflect and apply cultural and religious norms. Since leadership and dialogue needs to include women and men, religious leaders and religious communities, the aim is to highlight broad challenges. In looking to recommendations both to G20 Leaders and to religious bodies, the session will aim to highlight “best practices” that are most relevant to overcoming obstacles to gender parity.

Planet Dialogue Session [2c]: “Calling for Action on Climate - Disasters: Past, Present, and Future”

Theme: “Preparing for and meeting the realities of disasters and roles of religious communities”

Chair: Paul Morris/ Professor of Religious Studies, Victoria University; UNESCO Chair in Interreligious Understanding and Relations in New Zealand and the Pacific

Speakers:

Jonathan Duffy / President, Adventist Development and Relief Association (ADRA)

Atallah FitzGibbon / Policy & Strategy Manager, Islamic Relief Worldwide

Sir John Key / Former Prime Minister of New Zealand; Patron of WSD

Unexpected disasters test the moral fiber of communities, including core premises of faith. The Southern Africa cyclone crisis is a test in point – millions are affected by what many see as a harbinger of crises to come. Religious communities are responding to calls for action directly, and by raising the moral challenges at global and more local levels. Elsewhere the manmade crises we witness in Venezuela and its neighbors and Myanmar and Bangladesh highlight the scale and gravity of practical and moral challenges. This session will draw on the working sessions on June 7, focusing on these global challenges and on the major themes from Rainforest

Initiatives, challenges of extractive industries (mining, timber) and energy, and food and water that the G20 leaders should act upon.

Urgent Issues Working Session [2d]: “Combatting Corruption”

Theme: “Leadership in global and local efforts to fight corruption should be a religious forte: Combatting the cancers of corruption”.

Chair: Wayne Eagleson / Former Chief of Staff of the Prime Minister of New Zealand

Speakers:

Katherine Marshall / Executive Director, World Faiths Development Dialogue

Jónatas Machado / Professor of International Public Law and European Union Law, University of Coimbra

David Cohen / Director, WSD Handa Center for Human Rights and International Justice, Stanford University

Amer Bani Amer / Founder and Director, Hayat Center - RASED

Actual and perceived corruption undermines understandings of justice and faith in governments and other institutions worldwide. Corruption erodes public confidence, fueling tendencies towards violence, and impeding delivery of basic services. Combatting corruption is thus vital to the global agenda. This session will explore how religious communities can engage more actively in efforts towards honest governance and to deter corrupt conduct, offering insights into patterns and effects of poor governance and paths towards solutions. The goal is specific action ideas to build partnerships involving religious communities and their non-religious counterparts..

3:30-5:00 Working Sessions

Peace Working Session [3a]: “New Ways to Serve and Integrate Refugees and Forcibly Displaced Communities”

Theme: “Refugee challenges: addressing root causes of protracted refugee situations”

Chair: Enda Kenny / Former Prime Minister (13th Taoiseach) of Ireland; Patron of WSD

Speakers:

David Eades / Chief Presenter and Senior Broadcaster, BBC News; Management Team, Sport at the Service of Humanity

Jean Duff / President, Joint Learning Initiative on Faith and Local Communities

Atallah FitzGibbon / Policy & Strategy Manager, Islamic Relief Worldwide

Finding better ways to meet the challenges facing refugees and migrants are pressing issues on the global agenda. So are challenges resulting from the refugee crisis for the societies that host them. Ethical and practical leadership by religious communities can contribute in many ways, drawing on wide and varied experience in working with affected populations. This session will build on prior G20 Interfaith explorations of refugee and migration issues, highlighting the

religious experience of refugees and migrants themselves and of the communities that provide aid, both physical and spiritual, along their journey. It will explore implementation issues linked to the Global Compacts on refugees and migration, including on religious dimensions of the challenge to ensure the active involvement of local communities.

People Working Session [3b]: “Universal Health Coverage: Translating Global Goals into Action”

Theme: “Universal Health Coverage: Practical and ethical lessons from religious experience.”

Chair: Thomas Lawo / Senior Advisor, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), International Partnership for Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD)

Speakers:

Kevin O’Brien / Executive Director, The Handa Foundation

Somboon Chungprampree / Executive Secretary, International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB)

Jonathan Duffy / President, Adventist Development and Relief Association (ADRA)

Xin Hui Chan / Clinical Research Fellow, Mahidol-Oxford Tropical Medicine Research Unit (MORU)

The 2015 Global Goals expanded earlier targets that pinpointed specific disease and public health challenges to the bold objective of universal health coverage (UHC). That means reaching all who fall outside current policies and services and expanding understandings of decent health care. In the G20’s consideration of UHC, religious voices should be heard. Religious actors play vital roles in delivery of health services in many places and thus can and should be central partners in translating the ideals of UHC into practice. They also offer vital links to communities that are an essential part of health care. This dialogue session will highlight why religious experience belongs at the tables where UHC plans are designed and those where progress is reviewed.

Planet Working Session [3c]: “Ending Hunger, Water as Life”

Theme: “Food and Water: Resources for Life”

Chair: Elizabeta Kitanovič / Executive Secretary for Human Rights & Communications, Conference of European Churches

Speakers:

Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati / Secretary-General, The Global Interfaith WASH Alliance

Dinesh Suna / Coordinator of the Ecumenical Water Network, World Council of Churches

Timothy Appau / Staff Member, Asian Rural Institute; Pastor, All African Baptist Fellowship

Many of the deepest and most ancient religious teachings surround food and water, and contemporary religious communities are often optimally placed to understand scarcities and inequities for both. Over 820 million people suffer from hunger, 780 million have no access to an improved water source, and sanitation is poor for some 2.5 billion people. Food and water have especially critical importance to survival in times of crisis. Large if largely unmapped networks

of faith-inspired organizations work to address these problems but integration with broader strategies and financing systems is often poor. This session will build on prior G20 Interfaith exploration of faith in famine emergencies, looking to broader food security insights and highlighting the crucial issues around water and sanitation.

Urgent Issues Working Session [3d]: “Religious Cultural Heritage”

Theme: “Meeting of Worlds (in Sustainable Development) - Religious Cultural Heritage, Education, Intercultural Dialogue, and Sustainable Development”

Chair: Peter Petkoff / Director of Religion, Law and International Relations Programme, Regent’s Park College, Oxford and Brunel Law School

Speakers:

Naoto Yoshikawa / Former President, Hawaii Tokai International College; Professor, Department of International Studies, Tokai University, Japan
Katsuhiro Sasuga / Assistant Professor, Department of International Studies, Tokai University
Christian Morimoto Hermansen / Professor, School of Law and Politics, Kwansai Gakuin University,
Paul Morris/ Professor of Religious Studies, Victoria University; UNESCO Chair in Interreligious Understanding and Relations in New Zealand and the Pacific
Mohammed Abu-Nimer / Senior Advisor, KAICIID

Cultural heritage is a new frontier of sustainable development, even as it remains a setting in which religious conflict and reconciliation can be encountered. Freedom of Religion and Belief (FoRB) can be an important framework for work to protect religious sites, including through its links to protecting religious identities for many traditions. Cultural heritage shapes investment, national security, and development agendas and includes increasingly both tangible and intangible cultural heritage. With growing focus on tensions around cultural heritage of religious significance and through the process of recalibration of post-colonial cultural heritage agendas, policy makers and religious stakeholders face new challenges involving the interplay between cultural heritage, power, education, and development. The session will explore the important interdependence between cultural heritage, intercultural and interfaith dialogue, and education in the process of developing innovative approaches to the protection of shared and contested cultural heritage, developing heritage-focused civic cultures and cohesive societies.

Working Session [3e]: Youth Promoting Values for Peace

Sport at the Service of Humanity (SSH) links the principles of sport— respect, balance, joy in excellence—with core values such as compassion, love and enlightenment, shared by faith traditions and the framework of human rights. A team of young athletes, Handa fellows and their mentors will share ideas that answer the challenges facing planet, people, and peace. Specifically, the panel will discuss how the power of sport-based play can serve as an effective

platform to help communities overcome deep-seated prejudices, break down barriers and encourage conflict resolution. “Youth are not only a pivotal component of building peace, they are essential in passing it on – in making it lasting, sustainable, and meaningful in their communities.” These words from SSH Global Mentor and Generations for Peace Founder/Chairman, HRH Prince Feisal Al Hussein of Jordan serve as inspiration for this SSH-led panel discussion.

Chair: Jon Tibbs OBE / Chairman and Founder of JTA

Speakers:

Carlos Tapiero / Deputy-Director General and Director of Education, Maccabi World Union

Renata Simril / President & CEO, LA84 Foundation

Shahid Bishara / SSH Young Leader from Arab town, Israel

Martin Rojkes / SSH Young Leader from Argentina

Mpai Rampou / SSH Young Leader from South Africa

6-8 Dinner Reception Celebrating the Forum’s 6th Year

Moderator: Midori Miyazaki / Director, International Shinto Foundation

Cultural Performance: Haruhisa Handa / Chairman, Worldwide Support for Development (WSD)

Religious Greetings:

Lord Carey of Clifton / 103rd Archbishop of Canterbury

Carlos Tapiero / Deputy-Director General and Director of Education, Maccabi World Union

Nedžad Grabus / Grand Mufti of Ljubljana; Co-chair, Muslim Jewish Leadership Council (MJLC)

Sulak Sivaraksa / Founder, International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB)

Chris Ferguson / General Secretary, World Communion of Reformed Churches

Introduction:

Sir John Key / Former Prime Minister of New Zealand

Welcome Remarks:

David Cameron / Former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

Closing Greeting:

Graça Machel / Stateswoman, First Education Minister of Mozambique; Deputy Chair, The Elders; International advocate for women and children

Buffet Dinner

Saturday, June 8

9:00-10:15 Dialogue Sessions

Peace Dialogue Session [4a] “Peacebuilding in Practice”

Theme: “Peacebuilding in a fractious, culturally plural world”

Chair: Brendan Scannell / Former Irish Ambassador to Japan and Denmark

Speakers:

Nobuyuki Asai / Program Coordinator, Soka Gakkai International

Ralph Cossa / President Emeritus and WSD-Handa Chair in Peace Studies, Pacific Forum

Nika Saeedi / Policy Specialist on Gender, Political Processes, and Peacebuilding, UN Development Programme

Respected scholars point to measurable declines in deaths from war since the devastation of the Second World War. But protracted conflicts plague many nations causing death and suffering and blocking progress towards fulfilling lives for citizens. Worse, human rights abuses are on the rise, with human rights challenged both by populist narratives and by extremists nursing grievances and prepared to destroy peace. Religious actors and religious narratives are part of the problem when they fuel tensions and prevent reconciliation. They are part of the solution when they draw on their deep commitments to peace and respect for human dignity. That involves active peacemaking and, deeper still, on modern conceptions of societies where different cultures, religious beliefs, and approaches are celebrated. A further challenge is the securitization of development through narratives that focus on countering or preventing violence extremism. This session aims to highlight for religious leaders and for the G20 Summit promising ways to translate potential into action.

People Dialogue Session [4b]: “Highlighting Priorities for 21st Century Education: Values, Change, and Practice”

Theme: “Education challenges: neglected religious dimensions”

Chair: Michael Young / President, Texas A&M University; Former Chair, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)

Speakers:

Dicky Sofjan / Core Doctoral Faculty, Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies (ICRS), Universitas Gadjadara (UGM)

Ishmael Noko / Founder and President, Interfaith Action for Peace in Africa

Rahul Karad / Executive President, MAEER's MIT World Peace University

Sir Timothy O'Shea / Honorary Professor, University of Edinburgh and Open University

The connection between educational attainment and development is well understood. Access to schooling has improved dramatically throughout the world. But the content of schooling varies

dramatically. The quality of some schooling is so low that it hardly classifies as education. Elsewhere school content is technically adequate but without an effective purpose. In many parts of the world, youth are drifting, attracted by superficial escapes and tending to develop an intolerance of their neighbors. A key issue today concerns appropriate roles that religion can play in education going forward. Are there ways, for example, that teaching about religion can encourage student motivation and engagement in education? Another has to do with exploring the extent to which teaching about religion (as opposed to teaching religion) can make a positive contribution both to secular and to religious educational institutions. What is the experience of religious delivery of education? To what extent can schooling that takes into account faith assets and faith challenges help provide purpose? To what extent can such schooling offer an appreciation and tolerance of neighboring perspectives and faiths? To what extent can religious schooling support values of social cohesion, in particular diversity and inclusion. This session will explore G20 and related approaches to core education challenges, specific ideas about how religious actors can contribute to addressing them, and neglected challenges that belong on G20 agendas.

Planet Working Session [4c]: “Torn by Controversy: Cons and Pros of Extractive Industries”

Theme: “Religious responses to tensions around extractive industries”

Chair: Brian Adams / Director, Centre for Interfaith and Cultural Dialogue, Griffith University

Speakers:

Séamus Finn / Chair of the Board, Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility

Sulak Sivaraksa / Founder, International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB)

Raymond Ambray / Catholic Priest, Diocese of Tandag, Philippines

Extractive industries play vital roles in economic systems. Mineral, oil, and gas resources provide significant opportunities and fuel economies. However, many ventures face mounting controversies including from religious communities. Pitfalls include environmental degradation, corruption, encroachment on indigenous lands, and human rights violations. Religious voices contribute both to awareness and to dialogue in many settings, identifying problems and risks and working for just and sustainable solutions that are in line with international standards and local development priorities. This session will feature leading interfaith and international development leaders who are actively involved in dialogue, negotiations, and protests, with a view to tracing constructive paths forward.

Urgent Issues Dialogue Session [4d]: “Human Trafficking and Modern Forms of Slavery: Towards New Partnerships in a G20 Context”

Chair: David Cohen / Director, WSD Handa Center for Human Rights and International Justice, Stanford University

Speakers:

Kevin Hyland / Ireland's Member, Council of Europe Independent Group of Experts for Trafficking; Former Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner, UK
Denise Coghlan / Lead, Jesuit Refugee Service Cambodia; Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Purnaka L. de Silva / Director, Institute for Strategic Studies and Democracy (ISSD)
John McCarthy / Former Ambassador to the Holy See from Australia; Chairman, Sydney Archdiocese Antislavery Task Force

Theme: “Religious contributions to global campaigns to combat human trafficking and modern forms of slavery.”

There is wide international consensus on the evils of human trafficking and different forms of modern slavery, but far less on what is needed to address these issues. International law, police action, and national efforts yield results but they fall well short of hopes and expectations. Many religious initiatives address the issues. They include compelling calls at senior leadership level and more local, people-centered programs. However, coordination among them and with secular actors is patchy. This panel will look to strengthening both moral leadership and practical means to bring these scourges to an end, with calls for action to the G20 Leaders.

Dialogue Session [4e]: “Institutional challenges: Governments Engaging Religion”

Theme: “G20 governments: approaches to relationships with religious institutions”

Chair: Judd Birdsall / Executive Director, Transatlantic Policy Network on Religion and Diplomacy; Managing Director, Cambridge Institute on Religion & International Studies

Speakers:

James Alexander / Lead Program Analyst, U.S. Department of State
Azza Karam / Senior Advisor, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
Coordinator, UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Religion and Development

Governments and religious communities interact in very different ways in different countries as well as in transnational institutions. And with dynamic political and religious realities today these relationships are questioned and tested from many directions. Several G20 governments have explicit arrangements to engage religious communities in the areas of foreign policy and global development. This dialogue session will highlight evolving approaches and questions that surround them, both from the perspectives of governments and religious institutions.

11-12:30 “Formal Inauguration of the Forum - Working for Peace, People, and Planet: Challenges to the G20”

Moderator: Haruhisa Handa / Chairman, Worldwide Support for Development (WSD)

Introductory Greetings:

W. Cole Durham Jr. / Founding Director, International Center for Law & Religion Studies
Faisal bin Abdulrahman bin Muaammar/ Secretary General, KAICIID

Welcome:

William F. Vendley / Secretary General of the World Conference of Religions for Peace

Messages to the Forum from Religious Leaders**Concluding Greetings:**

Vishwanath Karad / UNESCO Chair Holder for Human Rights, Democracy and Peace
Nedžad Grabus / Grand Mufti of Ljubljana; Co-chair, Muslim Jewish Leadership Council (MJLC)
Gunnar Stålsett / Bishop Emeritus of Oslo; Honorary President, Religions for Peace

This formal inauguration of the Forum will include greetings from the hosts and from other invited leaders. The keynote speeches will aim to outline the challenges facing global leaders (religious and political alike). These will include the core challenge of inequality, among and within nations, and highlight avenues of dialogue and action to address it. The linked topics of conflict and peace, development of human capacities and addressing poverty, and protecting the planet will be addressed in both the keynote addresses and in messages from senior world religious leaders.

12:30-14:00 “Why We Can Hope: Peace, People, and Planet”

Moderator: Haruhisa Handa / Chairman, Worldwide Support for Development (WSD)

Keynote: David Cameron / Former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

Panelists:

Enda Kenny / Former Prime Minister (13th Taoiseach) of Ireland; Patron of WSD
David Cameron / Former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
Sir John Key / Former Prime Minister of New Zealand, Patron of WSD
Graça Machel / Stateswoman, First Education Minister of Mozambique; Deputy Chair, The Elders; International advocate for women and children

The central theme for this plenary is that because a just and sustainable world ARE possible, working together to achieve it is an imperative. It will examine ethical challenges that come from progress and explore approaches to overcoming challenges linked to inequality and exclusion. It aims to draw together themes from different tracks and sessions (planet, people, and peace) and link them to global challenges of building what is termed a just economy. How should global agendas take into account the deep religious yearnings of over 80 percent of the world’s population? With religious leaders among the world’s most trusted and respected guides, how can their insights and drive contribute to global agendas? What practical steps can help to overcome patterns of exclusion and discrimination, so that, indeed, no one is left behind?

14:15-15:15 Lunch**15:30-17:00 “Action agendas: Testing ideas with Experience from Field Realities”**

Moderator:

Lord Carey of Clifton / 103rd Archbishop of Canterbury

Introductory Speech:

Elder Gerrit W. Gong / Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Responding Remarks:

Gunnar Stålsett / Bishop Emeritus of Oslo; Honorary President, Religions for Peace

Denise Coghlan / Lead, Jesuit Relief Services Cambodia; Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

Mohammed Abu-Nimer / Senior Advisor, KAICIID

Ganoune Diop / Director of Public Affairs & Religious Liberty, Seventh-day Adventist Church

Jonathan Duffy / President, Adventist Development and Relief Association (ADRA)

A critical group of religious actors are involved each day in addressing needs across the world: especially both international and national faith-inspired organizations. They are linked in differing ways to religious institutions but all share deep ethical commitments to ending poverty, building peace, and supporting human flourishing. They work in constant interaction with political and business entities. This panel aims to test ideas emerging from the Forum discussions against the realities they experience on a daily basis.

Dinner Reception**Sunday, June 9****9:00-10:15 Dialogue Sessions****Peace Dialogue Session [5a]: “Interfaith and Intercultural Dialogue for Action”**

Theme: “State of the Art: Interreligious dialogue and the SDGs”

Chair: Brian Adams / Director, Centre for Interfaith and Cultural Dialogue, Griffith University

Speakers:

James T. Christie / Professor of Whole World Ecumenism and Dialogue Theology, University of Winnipeg

Kiran Bali / Magistrate and Global Chair, United Religions Initiative

Chris Ferguson / General Secretary, World Communion of Reformed Churches

Christian Krieger / President, Council of European Churches

Fletcher Harper / Executive Director, GreenFaith; Global Steering Committee, Interfaith Rainforest Initiative

Mohammed Elsanoussi / Executive Director, Network for Religions & Traditions

Interreligious dialogue and action takes many forms in different world regions. At the global level efforts to highlight the common good and to speak truth to power are significant. More

local efforts address practical challenges in many ways. This panel will draw on best practices and take stock of efforts to link the moral authority of religious communities in relation to global agendas.

People Dialogue Session [5b]: “Aging Societies”

Theme: “Honoring the Elders: Mobilizing positive traditions of respect in addressing aging societies”

Chair: Juan Navarro Floria / Professor of Law, Pontificia Universidad Católica

Speakers:

Miguel Angel Schiavone / Rector, Catholic University of Argentina

Marco Ventura / Director, Centre for Religious Studies, Fondazione Bruno Kessler; Professor of Law and Religion, University of Siena

This session will address the central G20 challenge of seeking action that responds to the realities of aging societies, present and future. It will review the state of knowledge and specific national experiences, including Japan, as it copes with changing demographics. A theme to explore is to build on the strengths of traditions that call for honor to elders.

Planet Dialogue Session [5c]: “Mobilizing for Action”

Theme: “A dialogue between Elders and Youth on the future of the planet”

Chair: Gunnar Stålsett / Bishop Emeritus of Oslo; Honorary President, Religions for Peace

Speakers:

Kim Tran / Core Member, Fridays for Future Japan

John Paul Masubay / SSH Mentee, Tacloban, Philippines

Denise Coghlan / Lead, Jesuit Refugee Service Cambodia; Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

Sulak Sivaraksa / Founder, International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB)

This session will focus on actions in the area of planet, with a special focus on youth voices. The voices of young people are shaping contemporary ideas and politics especially around the challenges of climate change. The session will feature dialogue between youth leaders and “elders”, looking to constructive and bold paths forward.

Urgent Issues Dialogue Session [5d]: “Media in the Spotlight: Peace, People, and Planet Demand a Robust Religious Literacy”

Chair: Paul Raushenbush / Senior Vice President, Auburn Seminary

Speakers:

Desi Anwar / Senior Journalist/Anchor, CNN Indonesia

Federico Ruoizzi / Deputy Secretary General, Foundation for Religious Studies

Francesca Cadeddu / Secretary General, European Academy of Religion
Hajime Ozaki / Senior Editor, Management & Planning Office, Kyodo News
Rabbi Diana Gerson / The Interfaith Alliance for Safer Communities

Widely varied journalists and writers inform policymakers, global citizens, and communities on vital issues across the G20 agendas. Or misinform them. As first-hand witnesses and first line interpreters of narratives about life, including the complex ways of religion and faith, media professionals have distinctive responsibilities and opportunities to provide valid information and thoughtful analysis. Their decisions about what stories to cover and how matter, never more than in today's troubled world. This panel will review the contemporary media terrain as to its influences, positive and negative, on understandings of religious matters, looking to practical ideas on what might help enhance religious literacy at different levels.

11-12:45 “Ideas to Action”

Greetings & Summary of June 8: Katherine Marshall / WFDD

Keynote 1: Graça Machel / Stateswoman, First Education Minister of Mozambique; Deputy Chair, The Elders; International advocate for women and children

Keynote 2: Sir John Key / Former Prime Minister of New Zealand; Patron of WSD

Moderator: Azza Karam / Senior Advisor, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Coordinator, UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Religion and Development

Speakers:

Sharon Eubank / President, Latter-day Saints Charities

Joshtrom Isaac Kureethadam / Director of the Ecology Department, Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development

Audrey Kitagawa / Chair, Parliament of the World's Religions

David Moore / General Counsel, U.S. Agency for International Development

This plenary will draw from the Forum's central themes and highlight next steps. It will draw on the specific recommendations emerging from working groups and sessions, that are expected to highlight action on: refugees and religious peacebuilding, a focus on education and on children, the rainforest initiative and on lessons for extractive industries, and on trafficking and good governance. The session will report on initiatives of G20 governments to engage with religious actors and to address issues of religious freedom.

13:00-14:30 “Towards 2020”

Keynote: Enda Kenny / Former Prime Minister (13th Taoiseach) of Ireland; Patron of WSD

Chair: Mohammed Abu-Nimer / Senior Advisor, KAICIID

Speakers:

Juan Navarro Floria / Professor of Law, Pontificia Universidad Católica

Xinping Zhuo / Director, The World Religion Research Institute of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Abdallah Al Humeid / Member of the National Council for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Alvaro Albacete / Deputy Secretary General, KAICIID

Rahul Karad / Executive President, MAEER's MIT World Peace University

Kim Tran / Core Member, Fridays for Future Japan

This session will highlight the path from Germany to Argentina to Japan, with insights on possible themes for 2020 and beyond. Youth participants will offer their voice.

14:30-15:30 Lunch

15:30-17:00 “Closing Plenary”

Chair: Haruhisa Handa / Chairman, Worldwide Support for Development (WSD)

Speakers:

Enda Kenny / Former Prime Minister (13th Taoiseach) of Ireland; Patron of WSD

Faisal bin Abdulrahman bin Muaammar / Founding Secretary General, KAICIID

Osama Al Azhari / Inter-Parliamentary Union; Senior Advisor to President El Sisi for Religious and Cultural Affairs

Ján Figel’ / Special Envoy for the Promotion of Freedom of Religion or Belief Outside the European Union, European Commission; former EU Commissioner on Education.

The Road to Recommendations:

W. Cole Durham Jr. / Founding Director, International Center for Law & Religion Studies

Katherine Marshall / Executive Director, World Faiths Development Dialogue

Closing Greetings:

Lord Carey of Clifton / 103rd Archbishop of Canterbury