

Biographies of the Candidates for Director General of the WTO

Dr. Jesús Seade Kuri, Mexico

Dr. Jesús Seade Kuri Undersecretary Seade of Mexico was the first to be nominated for the position of Director General with the WTO. He is currently Mexico's Undersecretary for North America and was chief negotiator of NAFTA and USMCA, or TMEC as referred to in Mexico (Treaty of Mexico, U.S., Canada). Most recently, Undersecretary Seade served as the Vice President of Global Affairs at the Chinese University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen, prior to that he was the Vice President of Lingnan University of Hong Kong. Undersecretary Seade has held numerous positions as a global economic diplomat, including: Principal Economist of the World Bank; Senior Advisor at the International Monetary Fund; Ambassador of Mexico to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade; Chief Negotiator in the creation of the World Trade Organization (WTO), and in the accession of Mexico to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development; Mexican Ambassador to the WTO and the first Deputy Director General of the WTO. Undersecretary Seade earned a Ph.D. in Economics from Oxford University in England, and as a chemical engineer at National Autonomous University of Mexico (summa cum laude). Dr. Seade is fluent in all three official WTO languages as well as Portuguese and has conversational knowledge of German.

Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Nigeria

Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala of Nigeria was the second nominated as Director General of the WTO. Dr. Okonjo-Iweala is a global finance expert, economist and international development professional with over 30 years of experience. Dr. Okonjo-Iweala served as Nigeria's Finance Minister from 2003-2006 and 2011-2015, and briefly as Foreign Minister in 2006, being the first woman to hold both positions. In her time as Finance Minister, Dr. Okonjo-Iweala negotiated with the Paris Club of Creditors to wipe out \$30 billion of Nigeria's debt and led reforms that enhanced government transparency and strengthened institutions against corruption.

Dr. Okonjo-Iweala had a 25-year career at the World Bank where she served as a development economist and rose to the number two position of Managing Director. Dr. Okonjo-Iweala has received many awards and recognitions as a top female leader in Africa and the world including: Top 3 Most Powerful Women in Africa (Forbes, 2012); Top 100 Most Influential People in the World (TIME, 2014); Global Finance Minister of the Year (Euromoney, 2005); and the Madeleine K. Albright Global Development Award from the Aspen Institute in 2017. Most recently, Dr. Okonjo-Iweala became an Angelopoulos Global Public Leader at Harvard's Kennedy School and currently serves on many boards including the Board of the African Union's African Risk Capacity (ARC) as the Chair. Dr. Okonjo-Iweala earned a Ph.D. in Regional Economics and Development from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Mr. Abdel-Hamid Mamdouh, Egypt

Mr. Abdel-Hamid Mamdouh was nominated to the WTO Director General position by Egypt where he has served as a negotiator since 1985 and a senior WTO official since 1990. Mr. Mamdouh has held many positions at the WTO including: Assistant to the Deputy Director General of the GATT; Senior Counsellor in the Trade and Services Division; and Director of the Trade in Services and Investment Division, which he held from 2001 to 2017. Mr. Mamdouh was the lead Secretariat official on the negotiation and drafting of the General Agreement on Trade in Services. Currently, Mr. Mamdouh is a

Visiting Industry Professor at the University of London and Senior Counsel at King & Spalding LLP. Mr. Mamdouh is an Egyptian and Swiss national who speaks Arabic, English and French fluently.

Ambassador Tudor Ulianoschi, Moldova

Ambassador Tudor Ulianoschi was nominated by Moldova to the WTO Director General position, where he recently served as Minister of Foreign Affairs followed by serving as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for several years. Under his mandate, Moldova: ratified and implemented the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement and became a member of the WTO Government Procurement agreement; finalized the Association Agreement with the European Union; signed a free trade agreement with Turkey; and, initiated consultations on a free trade agreement with EFTA countries. Minister Ulianoschi was the top Moldovan diplomat in Geneva between 2016 and 2018, serving as the Ambassador to Switzerland and Permanent Representative to the U.N. in Geneva and WTO. During this time, Minister Ulianoschi served on and chaired various committees including: Chairman of the Balance of payments Committee of the WTO, President of the Trade and Development Board at UNCTAD, Vice President of the General Assembly at the WIPO, and President of the Steering Committee on Trade at UNECE. Minister Ulianoschi also previously held a position in the private sector as Senior Vice President of Global Government Relations for a multi-national company based in Canada. Minister Ulianoschi is a Ph.D. candidate at the Free International University of Moldova. He speaks Romanian, English, Russian and French fluently and has intermediate knowledge of Spanish and Arabic.

Minister Yoo Myung-Hee, South Korea

Minister Yoo Myung-Hee was nominated to the position of Director General for the WTO by the Republic of Korea where she is the first female Trade Minister. Minister Yoo has had a 25-year career in trade where she's been a key free trade agreement strategist for Korea. During this time, Minister Yoo took charge of the WTO affairs in the Korean Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy, and negotiated the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), the Korea-China FTA, and the Korea-U.S. (KORUS) FTA, among other initiatives. Minister Yoo was the first director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade's new FTA Policy Division where she designed Korea's FTA strategy in 2005. This strategy resulted in Korea's FTA network that includes 56 countries, at all levels of development. Minister Yoo has an M.A. in Public Policy from Seoul National University in Korea and her Juris Doctorate from Vanderbilt University, and was admitted to the New York State Bar in 2003.

Ambassador Amina C. Mohamed, Kenya

Ambassador Amina Mohamed was nominated by Kenya to the position of Director General for the WTO. Ambassador Mohamed served as Kenya's Permanent Representative and Ambassador to the WTO from 2000 to 2006 and was subsequently Chairperson for multiple of the WTO's decision-making bodies including: the 2015 Ministerial Conference, the 2005 General Council, 2004 Dispute Settlement Body, and the 2004 Trade Policy Review Body. Ambassador Mohamed then became the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice, National Cohesion and Constitutional Affairs from 2008 to 2011 where she presided over the 2010 Constitution of Kenya. Ambassador Mohamed also served as Assistant Secretary-General of the UN and Deputy Executive Director of UNEP from 2011 to 2013. Most recently, Ambassador Mohamed served as Kenya's Foreign Affairs and International Trade Minister from 2013 to 2018 where she facilitated foreign direct investment inflows to Kenya, increasing FDI into Kenya by 400%.

Ambassador Mohamed earned a master's degree in law from Taras Shevchenko University in Ukraine and received a Postgraduate Diploma in international relations as a Chevening Fellow at Oxford University. She is a UNITAR Fellow and is fluent in English, Russian, Kiswahili and has knowledge of French.

Minister Mohammad Maziad Al-Tuwaijri, Saudi Arabia

Minister Mohammad Maziad Al-Tuwaijri was nominated for the Director General position at the WTO by Saudi Arabia. Minister Al-Tuwaijri began his career at the Saudi British Bank Saudi Arabia where he spent twelve years eventually rising to the position of Group Head of Treasury and Board Member of HSBC Saudi Arabia. Minister Al-Tuwaijri then worked at JP Morgan Saudi Arabia as the Managing Director and CEO, this was followed by serving as Group Managing Director, Deputy Chairman and CEO for HSBC Middle East, North Africa and Turkey. Most recently, Minister Al-Tuwaijri served as Minister of Economy and Planning for Saudi Arabia from 2016 to the present, where he led the effort to increase the Kingdom's diversification objectives and competitiveness. Minister Al-Tuwaijri is a strong advocate of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

Minister Al-Tuwaijri, a former Saudi Air Force pilot, has served on a total of forty-five boards, committees and commissions. Minister Al-Tuwaijri holds an MBA in finance with Honors from King Saud University.

Dr. Liam Fox, United Kingdom

Dr. Liam Fox was nominated for the position of WTO Director General in the final hour by the United Kingdom. Dr. Fox was first elected to Parliament in 1992 and served there until 2010, holding several different ministerial roles including Lord Commissioner of the Treasury and Minister of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, where he answered on Trade Aid and Policy in the House of Commons. In 2010, Dr. Fox was then appointed Secretary of State for Defense. From 2016 to 2019, Dr. Fox served as the UK's Secretary of State for International Trade from 2016 to 2019 where he built a new department of government overseeing the UK's first independent trade policy in 40 years following Brexit. Dr. Fox has discussed the theme of trade, prosperity and security throughout his career, and is an advocate of the ITC's 'SheTrades' initiative.

Dr. Fox was born in Scotland where he earned a MB ChB degree from the University of Glasgow Medical School. Dr. Fox then worked as a general practitioner, divisional surgeon, and civilian army medical officer before being elected to Parliament. Dr. Fox also previously worked as a speech writer to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Dr. Fox wrote a book in 2013 titled 'Rising Tides' and is currently working on another book about pandemics.