



JINJA-HONCHO

(THE ASSOCIATION OF SHINTO SHRINES)



ALLIANCE OF RELIGIONS AND CONSERVATION

launched in 1995 by HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh KG KT

DELEGATE BIOGRAPHIES

Dr **Husna Ahmad, OBE** is an Islamic Adviser to the Alliance of Religions and Conservation. She is also CEO of Global One 2015, a Muslim women-led international NGO focusing on WASH, agriculture and maternal health. She is also Managing Director of environmental consultancy Green Pearl. She has a PhD in International Environmental Law (specializing in sustainable development) from SOAS, London University. For seven years she was Group CEO of Faith Regen Foundation, set up after 9/11 as a Muslim response to promote interfaith harmony through economic emancipation of communities. In 2010 her work was recognized by HM the Queen and she received an OBE for services to disadvantaged communities. She is the Secretary General of the World Muslim Leadership Forum and is preparing for a conference on Women Leadership which will take place in London in late 2014. She co-authored the *Green Guide to the Hajj* and wrote *Islam and Water, the Story of Hajjar[as]*. She is married with 6 children and lives in London.

Mr **Saif Ahmad** is currently the CEO of Islamic Help, an international humanitarian NGO. He has worked for over 30 years in the private and voluntary sectors as well as with local and central government. In 1998 he became Chief Executive at the North London Muslim Housing Association where he was recognised by The Chartered Institute of Housing with membership for distinguished achievements. In 2001, he set up the Faith Regen Foundation, the UK's first multi-faith regeneration agency that seeks to create employment and education opportunities for some of the UK's poorest communities. In 2006 Saif was headhunted for the post of Chief Executive of Muslim Aid. His vision was to put Muslim Aid on a platform with internationally recognised NGOs such as Oxfam, Save the Children and Christian Aid and he successfully built partnerships with a range of organisations and funders including DfID, UN agencies, ECHO and United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). The partnership with UMCOR was recognised by the former Prime Minister Gordon Brown as a good practice example of cross-faith cooperation. In 2009, Saif founded MADE in Europe, a campaigning body that focuses on working with young Muslims in the UK and more widely across Europe to mobilise them to get involved in tackling international issues such as poverty, climate change and conflict. In 2010, Saif founded Global One 2015, an international aid and development organization with a focus on women's and children's livelihoods, WASH, maternal health and sustainable agriculture.

Dr **Vinya S. Ariyaratne** is the General Secretary of the Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement of Sri Lanka. He has been extensively involved in health programmes related to the war-affected communities in Sri Lanka. In the early 1990s, at the height of the separatist war in Sri Lanka, he initiated an innovative programme to address the psycho-social effects amongst children affected by the war. This programme, which adopted a community based, non-medicalized approach to

healing, helped thousands of children belonging to all ethnic groups. After the tsunami in 2004, Dr. Ariyaratne was responsible for the overall coordination of the Sarvodaya's emergency response and later the entire reconstruction programme (a portfolio of projects worth over USD 15 million. In February 2007, Dr. Ariyaratne was awarded the Degree of Civil Law honoris causa by the University of Durham, U.K. He has served on the boards of several government statutory bodies including the National Child Protection Authority Information and Communication Technology of Agency, Environmental Council, and the Prisons Reforms Committee. He is currently the President of the College of Community Physicians of Sri Lanka.

Reverend **Alfred John Bailey II** serves as the Minister of Missions and Outreach for the New Psalmist Baptist Church in Baltimore, Maryland. Rev. Bailey handles outreach ministries both locally and internationally. He provides essential services to many families in crisis throughout the city, and spearheads partnerships with schools throughout Maryland. Further, he has developed a strong international component within the church, overseeing its Global Policy Committee as it identifies and assesses environmental and conservation-related policy and the implications for the New Psalmist Baptist Church and its networks. This work has taken him from the corporate board rooms and government facilities in the US and abroad, to the slums of Kenya and Mexico. Currently, Rev Bailey is engaged in collaboration with UNICEF and ARC where he leads a global mapping group in identifying Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene practices in 54 countries around the world.

Ms **Jayshree Balachander** worked at the World Bank for 15 years on social sector policy, including related program development, project design and project implementation in several Asian and African countries. Before joining the World Bank in 1992, she worked for 12 years in the Indian Administrative Service, responsible for a variety of Government of India development programs. Her education includes an Executive Development Program at Harvard University, a Master's in Public Policy from Princeton University, and undergraduate studies at the Madras University. She is currently pursuing her enduring interest in preserving and protecting sacred places in India, and is an Adviser to the Green Pilgrimage Network. She lives in Bangalore, India, with her husband, Ganesan Balachander, who is Director of the Ashoka Trust for Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), an environmental think tank that collaborates with ARC in tiger reserves in India.

Sr **Mary Bellekom** joined ARC in 2010 after spending many years working in Africa and South America on Education related projects. Mary is a member of an international Catholic religious congregation, La Retraite. She is the Education and Water Project Manager and the Finance Officer at ARC.

Ms. **Katherine Brafford** is an intern with ARC. She is a student in the Honor's program at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, where she recently served as an intern for the Nobel Peace Prize Forum. She studied iconography for six years and, in 2011, initiated and organized *Journey to Light: A Festival of Icons and Chant*, an event with over 200 attendees, many from diverse backgrounds. In

2012–2013, she worked with governmental and non-profit agencies to preserve centuries-old oaks on private land in the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument and to improve habitat for numerous species reliant on the oak woodland. Katherine is also a licensed lay Eucharistic Minister in the Episcopal church. She is interested in pilgrimage, sacred land, sacred forests, and the interface between science and religion. She plans to work with ARC on various projects including the Green Pilgrim Network and Sacred Land.

Ms **Sue Campbell** has a background in journalism and joined ARC in 2011 to help compile *Faith in Food*, a book that will be launched in June 2014. She now works with ARC as a fundraising assistant and provides administrative support to the Africa team.

Ms **Kate Davies** coordinates the Eco-Congregation portfolio for SAFCEI, the Southern African Faith Communities' Environment Institute, a multi-faith environment organisation. The programme supports and encourages non-formal, learning and environmental eco-activism amongst faith communities. Religious congregations are rooted in local communities and can play a pivotal role in education for sustainable living. Kate read natural sciences and taught at Cape Town University before doing postgraduate studies in environmental education. She spent 17 years working in rural communities, churches and schools in the former apartheid 'homeland' of Transkei with her husband, the Anglican Bishop in that region. She supported sustainable agriculture projects and environmental education programmes, developing learning materials and facilitating in-service training for rural teachers with a particular focus on learning for sustainability and climate change. After moving to Cape Town in 2004, she was part of a passionate team who established SAFCEI, with whom she has been working ever since.

Mr **Odell Dickerson, Jr.** is the Chief Operating Officer for the New Psalmist Baptist Church in Baltimore, MD, where Bishop Walter Thomas, Sr. is the Pastor. New Psalmist specializes in empowering people for a better quality of life through preaching, teaching, and outreach. Currently, there are over 7,000 active members. Odell oversees all aspects of the church's operations including the Ministries, Business Office staff and the Office of the Bishop. He is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the church. Odell earned his Masters of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix and specializes in organizing special events, and conferences. A dynamic creative thinker, he currently serves as the Coordinator for the Kingdom Association of Covenant Pastors and "Conversations" – an annual Pastoral Summit for Senior Pastors held in Arizona. He is married to the former Sherri McCann and they share three beautiful children, Odell III, Jalen DeAnn and Caleb James.

Ms **Victoria Finlay** is the Director of Communications at ARC, with specific responsibility for EcoSikh (now in its fourth year) and for the communications element of the Green Pilgrimage Network team. She is also an arts journalist, broadcaster and author of three non-fiction books on art and adventure. She has been engaged by ARC to bring some of the extraordinary stories of people, projects and places to a wider audience.

Ms **Kate Firth** is an executive coach and facilitator specialising in influential interpersonal communication. She has a particular interest in the role of the voice, language and personal impact in leadership. She has worked and studied across the gamut of human experience from managing a women's sexual health clinic, to working in multi-faith chaplaincy, to acting with the Royal National Theatre. She has been involved in the development of the UN Values quest initiative with ARC and the Club of Rome.

Dr **Sh Muhammad Ridwaan Gallant** hails from Cape Town South Africa. He is a PhD graduate from The University of Kwazulu-Natal. His thesis dealt with sustainable development. He also holds a four year Teachers Diploma from Hewat College of Education and Roggebaai College of Education. He studied Arabic at the University of Jordan and Islamic Theology at Ussuludin and Shariah Institute in South Africa. He has done intensive environment research including the importance of water resources and its uses from a faith perspective. He has also researched renewable energy and conservation of forest, wetlands, ocean and seas, rivers and the atmosphere. He lectures at various mosques on the conservation of the environment for the Friday sermon, and is passionate about encouraging communities around South Africa to form eco-congregations.

Ms **Katriana Hazell** is an independent curator and producer, based in London. She organises events, lectures, exhibitions, performances, and festivals. Since 2009 she has worked with ARC as a consultant to major artistic events including producing the performance *Hearing the Voices of Creation: Many Heavens One Earth* in Windsor Castle in 2009; project managing the book *Stories of the Stranger* published in 2014, and helping to coordinate the ARC/Club of Rome ValuesQuest campaign. From 1997 to 2009 she was Cultural Director of Asia House, London helping to establish it as a major venue for Asian culture in the UK. Before this she curated exhibitions at the Commonwealth Institute, the National Museums of Scotland and the Scottish Arts Council. Exhibitions have included 'The Tiger in Asian Art', 'India: Pioneering Photographers', 'Pakistan: Another Vision', 'The Power of the Mask', and 'Discovering Japan'.

Ms **Alison Hilliard** is Deputy Secretary General of ARC and coordinator of the Green Pilgrimage Network. She began working for ARC in 2004 when she was based in Ethiopia, and pioneered new projects between ARC, the World Bank and the Ethiopian Orthodox Church in Addis Ababa. Before that she was a BBC journalist for many years; her roles included presenting weekly flagship religious current affairs programme Sunday for BBC Radio 4 as well as the World Service's sister programme. She was Israel correspondent for World Service Religion in the mid 1990s, making award-winning documentaries in the Middle East.

Daoist Master **GE Huifang** was in the Chinese military for a number of years when she suddenly realized the call of the Dao. She left the army and then joined Louguan Daoist temple where she remains as a Daoist nun. She attended the ARC Assisi meeting in 2011.

Ms **Claudia HE Yun** is the manager of China programme for ARC. She has worked with ARC since 2009. She is trained as a political scientist. She was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Maryland between 2012 and 2013 and a Tsinghua Scholar at Cambridge University, UK.

Mr **Ian Johnson**, has studied economics at the universities of Wales, Sussex and Harvard and business studies at Harvard. He spent 26 years at the World Bank, starting as an energy economist and financial analyst. For his final eight years he was Vice President for Sustainable Development and for five of those years he was also Chairman of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. Earlier he was an economist with the British Government and he spent five years in Bangladesh working with the UN and an NGO. Since leaving the World Bank Ian Johnson has been an advisor to the government of Chile, a member of the Swedish Commission on Climate Change, senior advisor to GLOBE and chair of its Ecosystems Services Panel, as well as consultant to a number of international organizations. In 2010 he was appointed Secretary General of the Club of Rome.

Mr **Abdalla Kamwana** is a teacher by profession with a Masters degree in Education and Leadership Management. In 1995 he left the teaching profession and joined the Supreme Council of Kenya Muslim (SUPKEM), the Umbrella body of all Muslim Organisations and Mosques. He has been in charge of writing, developing and managing proposals for different donor-funded programmes for SUPKEM. From 2001-7 he was a programme Manager for the National Civic Education Programme and has also been Programme Manager for Democratic, Governance and Human Right Programmes funded by UNDP Kenya, Drivers of Accountability Programme funded by DFID. He has represented SUPKEM in various national Task Forces including one formed in 2011 to realign the Education sector to the new constitution of Kenya. He was a member of the National Steering Committee appointed by East African Presidents to explore and advice on the possibility of the Political Federation of East Africa.

Mr **Olav Kjørven** became the Special Adviser to the UNDP Administrator on the Post-2015 Development Agenda in UNDP's Bureau for Development Policy in October 2013. Before that, he was Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Bureau for Development Policy where he led UNDP's contribution to the Millennium Development Goals and advancing the post-2015 agenda. He co-chaired the UN's work to prepare for a post-2015 development framework, including initiating a global conversation on 'the world we want' to live in. He was a senior advisor to the UN Secretary-General on the Sustainable Energy For All initiative and is also leading the UN's engagement with the G20 Development Working Group. Before his appointment as Assistant Secretary-General in 2007, Mr. Kjørven was the head of UNDP's Environment and Energy Group for two years. From 2001 to 2005, he was State Secretary for International Development with the Government of Norway. Born and raised in Norway, he has a Master of Arts in International Affairs from George Washington University.

Mr **Hajime Komazawa** is director of PR for Jinja Honcho (the Association of Shinto Shrines). Before his current position he was director of the Jinja Honcho

External Affairs department and the Edification department. Before joining Jinja Honcho in 1989 he worked as a Shinto priest at Obihiro Jinja in Hokkaido. He holds a degree from Kokugakuin University, Japan.

Dr **Nanditha Krishna** is a historian, environmentalist and writer based in Chennai, India. She has a Ph.D. in Ancient Indian Culture from the University of Bombay. She is the Director of the C.P. Ramaswami Aiyar Foundation and founder-director of its institutes, including the C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre, which is a Centre of Excellence of the Government of India's Ministry of Environment & Forests. In this capacity she has pioneered the documentation of the ecological traditions of India and restored more than 50 sacred groves. Her works include *Sacred Animals of India*; *Book of Demons*; *Book of Vishnu & Sacred Plants of India*; *Madras Then-Chennai Now*; *Paintings of the Varadaraja Perumal Temple*; *Temple of Varahishwarar*. She is a professor and research guide for the Ph D. programme of the University of Madras and has received several national and international awards. She attended the 2013 Trondheim Green Pilgrimage Network meeting.

Mr. **Emani Kumar** currently serves as one of two Secretary General's for ICLEI Worldwide and also as Executive Director for ICLEI South Asia office with more than 15 years of professional experience on issues related to climate change policy and planning, local governance, renewable energy and energy efficiency, social accountability, systems management and auditing. Apart from overseeing strategic development for the ICLEI South Asia Office, he co-ordinates various initiatives such as the Urban Climate Project, Asian Cities Adapt and other regional programs of ICLEI South Asia. Mr. Kumar started ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) India campaign in August 2001 and served as Director, CCP South Asia till August 2005.

Bishop **Nathan Kyamanywa** grew up in rural Uganda. After school he joined the Church ministry. At a young age he was keen on environmental issues even in the 1960s when environmental issues were not yet at the forefront. He planted seeds for his love of the environment. In 1974 he married to his wife Peace and they have six grown-up children and are now grandparents. Bishop Nathan was called to be a minister of God; a ministry he has tried to do faithfully and which he does happily. During the course of his ministry he was identified as someone who loves the environment. He was honored by the British Council who made him an icon for Climate Change issues for a period of four years. That honor exposed Bishop Nathan to opportunities to address Commonwealth Members of Parliament in London about Climate Change and visit the UK Parliament.

Rev **Berit Lånke** is an ordained pastor of the Church of Norway (Christian/Lutheran). She has served as a parish pastor for 25 years. She has for many years been involved in the ecumenical and international work of the Church of Norway especially with regard to Europa. For some years she was working with the Conference of European Churches (CEC, the regional organization for major Christian churches in Europe, from the Atlantic to the Urals, from North Cape to the Mediterranean). She was the assembly organizer for CEC's 12 general assembly. She was the project leader of the European

Pilgrimage 2000 which was a celebration among churches in Europe regarding the millennium celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. She has involved in inter-religious and inter-cultural dialogues in several situations and has been the main organizer of two conferences on “Holy Places – Places for Conflict or Dialogue” which has led to the “Universal Code of Conduct on Holy Sites”. She is the president for the “European Cultural Route of St. Olav Ways” under the Cultural Route program of the Council of Europe. She has been central in building up the structures of the organized pilgrimage work in Norway by her work as the first manager of Nidaros Pilgrimage Center in Trondheim, Norway and as director of the first National Pilgrim Center of Norway. She is now working as the professional and international manager of the National Pilgrim Center of Norway.

Mr Christopher Ryan Landrum is the In-House Media Specialist for the New Psalmist Baptist Church in Baltimore, Maryland, helping with the audio and video needs of the church. And in their new building, with congregations of more than 2,000 for each service, New Psalmist Baptist Church is on the cutting edge of the audio/video arena. His videographic work spans from major league sports, to the music and entertainment industry, as well as network television. Mr. Landrum is also a partner in a local production company committed to inspire the masses through the art forms of theater, film and music.

Master **LEI Gaoyi** (birth name Lei Xiaorong) became a Daoist Monk of the Quanzhen sect in 2000. In 2014, Master Lei moved to the Zhenren Taoist temple in Ziyang and became the abbot there. Ziyang is in the remote Qinling mountains of Shaanxi province, and in 2014 became a member of the Green Pilgrimage Network.

Ms **LI Jin** has worked as the Principal Staff Member at the International Affairs Department of China Daoist Association (CDA) since 2010. She is in charge of general administration affairs such as developing work plans, managing budget, drafting proposals, planning overseas exchanges and communication programs, promoting the public image of CDA. She helped organize the 2011 International Daoist Forum, and successfully launched another project called “Taoism in the World” in Europe last year. Currently she is planning the third International Daoist Forum.

Mr **Geirmund Lykke** has been working with environmental issues in the city administration of Trondheim in Norway for 18 years. As a politician he has been Group leader for the Christian democrats of the County council for 12 years, and seven years in the City council. He has been deputy of the board of Nidaros pilgrim centre since 2009. He attended the Green Pilgrimage Network meetings in Assisi in 2011 and in Trondheim 2013.

Mr. **Raphael Kinoti Magambo** is the National Director of A Rocha Kenya. His first degree training was a Bachelors in Veterinary Medicine. He later on undertook a Masters degree in Development Studies. He has 15 years of experience in community work with NGOs in the areas of Veterinary medicine and surgery, Community mobilization, Peace building and conflict resolution and Environmental conservation. A Rocha Kenya is a Christian based NGO which is

involved in biodiversity conservation. A Rocha is currently in 19 countries in different parts of the world. In Kenya, A Rocha carries out research on environmental issues, environmental education and Community based sustainable environmental utilization projects.

Mr. **Fachruddin Mangunjaya** is Vice Chairman of Center for Islamic Studies, Universitas Nasional, Jakarta, Indonesia. An activist, writer and conservationist, he grows among the lovely tropical rain forest of Kalimantan, Indonesia. Obtained PhD in Environmental Management and Natural Resources from Bogor Agricultural University (IPB). Starting conservation career about 23 years from 1991 as project officer in WWF Indonesia Program. He authored several environmental and conservation books and more than 200 - articles on the environment, Islamic environmentalism, climate change, sustainable development, biodiversity and environmental management in the Indonesian media. He is The Climate Reality Leaders voluntary fellow presenter on climate change trained by Al Gore. Mentioned as “Muslim Eco Warrior” according to islamonline.net. He thought Environmental Politic at Post Graduate Program, Faculty of Political Science at Universitas Nasional as well as some basic subject in biological science at Faculty of Biology Universitas Nasional. Intensively involved in several activities related to religion and environment. Lead Writer for Indonesian Biodiversity Action Plan (IBSAP) Update (2014-2020). Invited activist at the Windsor Celebration 2009 (www.windsor2009) for the celebration of “Many Heaven One Planet A Faith Commitment For Climate Change Actions” by Alliance of Religion and Conservation (ARC) and UNDP. Istanbul Declaration for Muslim Seven Year Action Plan for Climate Change (M7YAP), and Green Hajj and Indonesia at Assisi Green Pilgrimage Network, Assisi Italia, November 2011.

Master **MENG Zhiling** is the spokesperson and vice president for the China Daoist Association. He is a master of personal cultivation, Daoist meditation, and scriptures. He eats one meal a day, according to vegetarian principles. He is also responsible for Daoist training and education programmes at the CDA.

Mr **Alexander Mercer** is the official photographer for ARC, and is also representing EMF and the Valley Foundation at Ise. He studied graphic design at the Royal Art Academy in The Hague and was accepted at the Fine Arts department at the Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam. He has worked professionally as a photographer. Both EMF and Valley have also supported the ARC Water project. He lives in Amsterdam.

Ms **Joséphine von Mitschke-Collande** graduated from Panthéon-Sorbonne University Paris in Political Sciences. She holds an MSc in International Relations from Bristol University. She worked as a Blue Book trainee at the European Commission at the Directorate General Environment in the International Relations, Governance and Development Unit. There, she was in charge of European Commission relations with organization such as the United Nations, UNEP and OECD on environmental and sustainable development issues. Later she worked as an intern at the European Commission Delegation to the United

Nations in New York. joined the Club of Rome in February 2010 and is currently employed as a research analyst.

Ms **Pippa Moss** is the Personal and Events Assistant at ARC. She has been involved in the planning of this meeting and also helped to organize the Green Pilgrimage Network meeting in Trondheim in 2013 and the launch of the Green Pilgrimage Network in Assisi in 2011.

Mr **Hamed Muguluma** is the Executive Director of Humanitarian Efforts And Relief Uganda (HEAR Uganda). Mr. Hamed was born in 1962. Between 1987-2001 he obtained a Post Graduate Diploma in Management, a Bachelor of Arts Degree, a Post Graduate Diploma in Education and a Certificate in Project Planning and Management. He taught at Kibibi Secondary School, worked with Muslim World League/International Islamic Relief Organisation as a Project Coordinator and as Public Relations Officer, served as Chairman and Member District Service Commission for both Kiboga and Kampala districts and worked with The Association for International and Intercultural Exchange of Germany as a coordinator for Uganda. He was/is member to several Boards and commissions like, Interreligious Council of Uganda (IRCU), Uganda Muslim Supreme Council (UMSC), Kabasanda Technical Institute, Uganda Faith Network on Environment Action (UFNEA), etc. He follows Global Contemporary Challenges like the Global Environment Challenges and concern (Climate Change), global interreligious relations and a passion for agriculture and tree planting basing on Quranic teachings.

Dr **Soubadra Devy Muthukumarsamy** started her career as an ecologist in Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve which is in the southern tip of the Western Ghats and a hot spot for biodiversity in India. She is interested in the role of plant-animal interactions in maintenance of biodiversity. In recent years she has started working on conservation issues in and around protected areas. Today our major parks and sanctuaries sit on cultural landscapes dotted with shrines and temples which draw a growing number of people. The impact of this on biodiversity is being felt in many protected areas particularly after the Indian government implemented the Forest Rights act, considered as a landmark legislation that has restored peoples' right over forests. Her team at ATREE is examining how protection and human-use can be reconciled for better conservation. The focus of their study has been on tiger reserves as flagships for programmes to address this issue.

Mr **Mithika Mwenda** is the Secretary General of Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA). Before he joined the climate justice movement in 2006, he was actively involved in Kenya's community mobilization for expanded democratic and constitutional transformation, where he rose from a provincial Youth Coordinator to a Co-Convener of the National Convention Executive Council which spearheaded constitutional reforms in the Country. In his undergraduate University days at Moi University he was Student Leader in the 15,000-member Student Union. He started his climate change work as the Programme Officer with Climate Network Africa before moving to the All Africa Conference of Churches where he served as the Climate Change Officer, helping Churches and

Church Leaders to understand the nexus between religion and climate change, and the moral aspect of the climate crisis. PACJA has emerged as a formidable environmental platform, bringing together around 1,000 Civil Society Organisations from diverse backgrounds in 45 Africa countries.

Mr **Mutsuyoshi Nishimura**: Being a foreign service officer of Japan, he was Consul-General in Chicago in 1994. He became Director-General for European Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1997. He was Ambassador to the OECD (1999-2002) and to Mexico (2003-2005). Since 2005, he was Ambassador in charge of Global Environment and Chief Climate Negotiator of Japan. In 2008 he was appointed Special Advisor to the Cabinet in charge of climate change. He was member of the UNSG-organized High Level Group for Climate Financing. He is currently Senior Research Fellow at Japan Institute for International Affairs (JIIA).

Mr. **Christophe Nuttall** joined (United Nations Institute for Training and Research) in 1993 in charge of information society. Since the World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002) he developed the decentralization cooperation programme at where he has developed a network of 12 training centers around the world for local and regional authorities. He has launched the international multi partnerships initiative on access to basic services, adopted at the 2007 UN-HABITAT board and adopted at the 2009 ECOSOC, leading for the 2011 UN human right to access water. Since August 2005, he joined UNDP where he has been the Director of the Hub for Innovative partnerships. He was leading for the UN system the development of partnerships with local / regional authorities in line with the UN Reform. He has developed a number of initiatives among which the Territorial approach to Climate change, which aims at charting a new low-carbon route to development at sub national level with official recognition by UNFCCC's parties at Cancun COP 16. In January 2012, based on exchanges between Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon, and approved by R20's members and partners he was nominated first Executive Director of R20: Regions in Action. Christophe Nuttall, among different projects, has been able to set up the first large scale 50 MW solar PV in sub Saharan Africa (Mali) and the first large scale shift for Led street light in Brazil. He is now building a unique development public – private partnership finance instrument for renewable energy in Africa with a UN pre investment facility, a dedicated holding of private equities, in relation with development banks, thus permitting unlocking the required green finance deal flow.

Fr **Charles Odira** was born in Kenya in Homa Bay district. He has five brothers and a sister. Academically he is a PhD in Missiology (Practical Theology) with specialization on religious studies from Pontifical Urbaniana University in Rome. Fr Charles was ordained a deacon in the Catholic Church in 1999. A Catholic priest in 2000. He has since worked as a parish priest in different parishes. He is currently working for the Conference of the Bishops of Kenya as National Executive Secretary for the commissions of Pastoral and lay apostolate, commission for Ecumenism and the commission for interreligious dialogue. Fr Charles coordinates and represents the Catholic Church on environmental initiative programs in partnership with ARC.

Mr **David Ombisi** has been a Programme Officer with UNEP's Regional Office for Africa since 2002. A Kenyan national, Mr. Ombisi holds a Masters degree in Environmental Planning and Management from the University of Nairobi. Mr Ombisi has also attended several training courses in environmental management and conservation. At the Regional Office for Africa, he is responsible for the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment as well as activities related to Health and Environment in Africa. He works with Civil Society organizations and others, including faith-based groups in the region to ensure their engagement in UNEP's work. His areas of expertise include issues related to environmental policy and strategy development, environmental impact assessment, health and environment linkages, solid waste management and environmental education.

Ms **Dorcas Beryl Otieno OGW** is Executive Director of the Kenya Organization of Environmental Education, which is a Kenya Chapter of Foundation of Environmental Education (FEE). She is also a Senior Lecturer in the School of Environmental Studies at Kenyatta University. She has served in many capacities including: the coordinator for FEE programs in Kenya; a member of the Kenya Steering Committee for ESD, co-ordinator of the Regional Center of Expertise Greater Nairobi on ESD, Vice Chair of the African Civil Society Committee for the UNEP Governing Council, member of the Nile Basin Kenya Country Environmental Education Steering Committee. She received a presidential award of the Order of the Grand Warrior of Kenya for her work in improving environmental management in the Public Sector.

Mr **Martin Palmer** has been working on the links between religion and the environment since the early 1980s. He is Secretary-General of ARC, a non-governmental secular organisation founded by His Royal Highness Prince Philip in 1995, which assists 11 world faiths in developing environmental and conservation projects worldwide. A theologian, author and environmentalist, he is a regular contributor to BBC radio and television programmes, and his work on sacred sites worldwide has won awards. He is the author of more than 20 books on religious topics such as *Faith in Conservation*, *Sacred Britain*, *The Atlas of Religion*, and is also a renowned sinologist. His translations include the *Dao de Jing*, *Chuang Zi*, the *I Jing*, as well as early Christian texts in Chinese. His Penguin translation of the Confucian Classic *The Shang Shu (Most Venerable Book)* is published in July 2014.

Mr **Gopal Patel** heads the Bhumi Project, an initiative that works with the international Hindu community to raise awareness about environmental concerns. One focus is addressing environmental problems faced in pilgrimage sites in India, including Dwarka, Rishikesh and Puri. In February 2014 the Project organised the first ever international Hindu Environment Week. Bringing together numerous partners, Bhumi saw over 3,000 people taking part. The Project is based at the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies with an additional office in Mumbai, India.

Ms **Gugah Praharawati** is a graduate from the Faculty of Biology at National University, Jakarta. She is Project assistant in implementing Ekopesantren

project, an education program for biological diversity awareness program and conservation actions to warer in Islamic boarding school (pesantren), in West Java, Indonesia.

Mr **REN Ping** is a Confucian businessman and the CEO of Hui Ming Inc. a privately-owned hydropower company with an estimated total worth of more than 5 billion RMB (500 million GBP). He is called 'China's King of Hydro Power'. He is also the president of Wen Lan Academy in Hangzhou and the president of Hangzhou Chamber of Commerce.

Ms **REN Xuehua** was born in 1991 in Jingning, Zhejiang. She is now studying at the Zhejiang Economy and Trade College and worked at the HangZhou WenLan Academy as an intern. In the past year, she has worked at "Nature Grace" a teenagers' spirit public forum as a volunteer. Through those forums she realized that it was her duty to be responsible for the society and the natural environment. While her father, Ren Ping, promotes and practices Confucianism, she prefers to solve problem with Buddha's wisdom, and is dedicated to spreading the Buddhist culture. Although sometimes she and her father have different opinions on some issues, they still have each other's back!

Mr **Yoshiro Sada** is from the Mokichi Okada Association (MOA) which has been a trustee organization of ARC since 1995. Mr Sada has an M.A in Religious Education from Boston College, USA. He has been working for MOA for 35 years in the field of international exchange.

Rev Dr. **Fredrick Shoo** was born in Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. He is married to Janet and blessed with three daughters. Bishop Shoo works with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, Northern Diocese, currently as the Assistant Bishop. For 30 years he has been active in environmental issues, especially in tree planting in the Kilimanjaro Region. He is nicknamed the "Tree Bishop" for this reason!

Mr **Emani Shackleton** was born and raised in Japan. He is volunteering to help ARC and Jinja Honcho prepare for this event, before he starts at Doshisha University in Kyoto at the end of the summer.

Mr. **Michael Shackleton** is a special advisor to ARC on Japanese religions. He was born in the UK and currently is an Associate Professor of Social and Cultural Anthropology and the Director of International Cultural Studies at Osaka Gakuin University in Japan. He has been connected with ARC for many years and has attended most of ARC's events as an advisor and consultant.

Mr **Gunbir Singh** is at Ise as the chairman of EcoAmritsar, set up since 2013 by EcoSikh to lead the move of Amritsar (Holy city for Sikhs in India) towards green pilgrimage, working with a range of key stakeholders in the city. He is in his other life the CMD of Bambino Holdings, a travel, investment and sustainable products company in Amritsar. He is also the Managing Trustee of the Dilbir Foundation; chair for the Punjab branch of WWF-India; a Member of the Consultative Review Group at the National Planning Commission for

Empowerment of Minorities and the Financial Secretary for Khalsa College Charitable Society, Amritsar. He is passionate about service, community programs, social upliftment and environment.

Dr **Rajwant Singh** was born in Calcutta and went to the United States in 1979. He is a dentist, running three dental offices in the DC area. He has been participating in Sikh community affairs since his early youth. He founded the Guru Gobind Singh Foundation, a Sikh congregation based in Rockville, Maryland which organizes youth camps for Sikh children and conducts classes in Punjabi and Sikh history and philosophy. In 1993 he was the first Sikh leader to be invited to the White House and was invited to several prayer breakfasts by President Bill Clinton. He has worked with President Obama's administration on many issues. Dr. Singh helped launch EcoSikh in New Delhi in 2009. This organization has engaged over 2000 Sikh organizations and religious bodies to observe Sikh Environment Day every March 14. He has engaged two sacred cities in India to join the worldwide Green Pilgrimage Network. Dr. Singh is Founder and Chairman of the Sikh Council on Religion and Education (SCORE) which serves as a think tank and represents Sikhs in various forums and venues.

Mr **Oliver Smith** is the Director of Transformations at WWF-UK. Before joining WWF he was a computer programmer, management consultant and IT director of a computer retail company. His roles at WWF have included being in charge of Strategy and Performance Management; principle author of the WWF-UK strategy for 2006-2010; and acting Director of Programmes from January until July 2007. He is now in charge of national teams in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Freshwater, Species, Business Programme Support and Government Partnerships Teams at the headquarters of WWF-UK. Oliver is a trustee of ChemTrust and also a trustee of ARC.

Rev **Tsunekiyo Tanaka** is the President of Jinja Hocho (Association of Shinto Shrines). In addition to his duties as President, he is the Head of the prefectural branch of the Association of Shinto Shrines, Chairperson of Japanese Religionists' Congress for World Federation, a Member of the Administration of Religious Affairs of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and General Director of the National Federation of Hachiman Shrines. He graduated from Kokugakuin University in 1969 with major in Shinto Studies. He became Chief Priest of the Iwashimizu Hachimangu in 2001 and was elected to be President of Jinja Honcho in 2010.

Mr **Paul Vallely** is a writer and consultant on religion, international development, and business ethics. He is the author of the best-selling biography *Pope Francis - Untying the Knots*. He is Visiting Professor in Public Ethics and Media at the University of Chester and Senior Honorary Fellow at the Brooks World Poverty Institute at the University of Manchester. He was seconded to Tony Blair's Commission for Africa and was co-author of its final report. He worked with Bob Geldof, deciding how to spend the money raised by Live Aid. He is an adviser to the Archbishop of Canterbury and has been an editorial adviser to the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales. He is a former executive editor of the Independent on Sunday and now writes for *The*

Independent on Sunday, The Guardian and the *Church Times*. He was nominated for the UN Media Peace Prize for his reports from 30 countries in the developing world.

Bishop **Walter S. Thomas, Sr.** is the pastor of the New Psalmist Baptist Church in Baltimore, Maryland. Since 1975, under his leadership, the church body has grown from 200 to more than 7,000 active members. He is a highly regarded executive and personal coach with over 30 years of experience in working with church leaders and building effective ministry teams around the world. Bishop Thomas received his Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from the University of Maryland. He earned his Master of Divinity degree from the Howard University School of Religion in Washington, D.C. and a Doctor of Ministry degree from Saint Mary's Seminary & University in Baltimore, Maryland. On January 31, 2005 he was elected to the office of Bishop by the Kingdom Association of Covenant Pastors.

Mr **Karl Wagner** is a biologist by training and an environmental campaigner by profession. He has conceptualized, developed and managed successful large environmental campaigns, nationally and internationally for WWF. Examples of the latter include the global Living Planet Campaign and European campaigns, targeting EU legislation on fisheries and chemicals (REACH). He has over the past 25 years developed, masterminded, supervised or contributed to many campaigns for a number of international organisations around the world. Karl currently acts as Director for External Relations for the Club of Rome in its headquarter in Winterthur.

Professor **YAO Xinzhong** is Professor of Ethics and the Dean of School of Philosophy, Renmin University of China. Previous posts he held include Professor of Religion and Ethics, and Director of China Institute at King's College London; Senior Research Fellow at The Ian Ramsey Centre, Oxford University; Professor of Chinese Religion and Head of the Department of Theology, Religious Studies and Islamic Studies at University of Wales, Lampeter. He has published widely in the fields of Confucian Studies, Religious Studies and Ethical Studies, with books in English including *Confucian Studies* (with Wei-ming Tu, Routledge 2010), *Chinese Religion—A Contextual Approach* (with Yanxia Zhao, Continuum 2010), *Religious Experience in Contemporary China* (with Paul Badham, University of Wales Press 2008), *Wisdom in Early Confucian and Israelite Traditions* (Ashgate 2006), *Encyclopaedia of Confucianism* (Routledge 2003), *An Introduction to Confucianism* (Cambridge University Press 2000).