H.E. MARCO ROMITI, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations

Coordination of the II Committee’s work, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, environment, energy and climate change. Relations with UNDESA, with UN Funds and Programs (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNOPS). G7 and G20. ECOSOC’s Reform. Global Compact.

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NAVID HANIF, Assistant Secretary-General, UN Economic Development in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)

Mr. Navid Hanif is the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). He is also the UN sous Sherpa to the G20 finance and main tracks. He joined UNDESA in 2001. He was Senior Policy Adviser in the Division for Sustainable Development and member of the team for the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in 2002. He served as the Chief of Policy Coordination Branch and later Director in the office for Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) support and the Director for Financing for Sustainable Development Office. He was the first head of the DESA Strategic Planning Unit established in 2010. He was Principal Officer in the Office of the United Nations Secretary-General, Vice-Chair of the UN High Level Committee on Programming (HLCP) and Co-Coordinator of the UN team on repositioning of the UN Development System that led to major reforms in 2018. He has contributed several articles on financing and investing in the SDGs in various journals and reports. He holds MIA, International Political Economy, Columbia University (NY), & M.A., English Literature, Government College University (Lahore).

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H.E. ALBERTO BARACHINI, Undersecretary of State, Presidency of the Council of Ministers of Italy

Alberto Barachini is Undersecretary of State to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers with responsibility for information and publishing, appointed by the Council of Ministers in November 2022. Mr. Barachini was elected Senator in 2018 and he was nominated Chairman of the Parliamentary Commission for the General Guidance and Supervision of Media Public Services from August 2018 until September 2022. He was also a member of the 8th Parliamentary Standing Commission (Public Works, Communication). He was re-elected Senator in the XIX legislature, starting in 2022. He is now member of the 7th Parliamentary Standing Commission (Culture, Cultural Heritage, Public Education). Mr
Barachini has worked as a presenter and journalist covering national and international politics, reporting from Albania, Bulgaria, Germany, Iceland, Iraq, the United States, Tunisia and Spain. In 2002 he received the "Indro Montanelli" journalism award. In recent years, he has given lectures on television journalism at IULM, LUMSA, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore and NABA. He holds a degree in Modern Literature from the Faculty of Arts of the University of Pisa.

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ERNESTO OTTONE R., Assistant Director-General Culture Sector, UNESCO

Mr Ernesto Ottone R. is the Assistant Director-General for Culture of UNESCO. Prior to this position, Mr Ottone R. served as Chile’s first Minister of Culture, Arts and Heritage from 2015 to 2018. As Minister of Culture, he created a Department of First Peoples, a Migrants Unit and strengthened copyright laws and heritage protections. During this time, he also chaired the Regional Centre for the Promotion of Books in Latin America and the Caribbean (2016 – 2017). From 2011 to 2015, Mr Ottone R. served as Director-General of the Artistic and Cultural Extension Center of the University of Chile, which manages the National Symphony Orchestra of Chile, the Chilean National Ballet (BANCH), the Chile Symphony Choir and the Vocal Camerata. From 2001 to 2010, he held the position of Executive Director at the Matucana 100 Cultural Center in Santiago. Mr Ottone R. holds a Master’s degree in Management of Cultural Institutions and Policies from the University of Paris IX Dauphine (1998) and a Bachelor of Arts in theatre from the University of Chile (1995).