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Evaldas Balkys is Senior Manager at Zanders and heads Zanders' corporate advisory practice in Switzerland. Over multiple years, he has built an extensive background in helping multinational corporations and non-governmental organizations transform their treasury function. Evaldas' interests lie in treasury strategy and organization, treasury operations, financial risk management and, in particular, technology advancements increasing treasury integration. Prior to joining Zanders in 2016, Evaldas built a track record in a variety of roles, including credit and control, financial analysis, and treasury management. Evaldas has a Bachelor's degree in Software Engineering and a Master's degree in Financial Economics. He is a CFA and FRM charterholder. More recently, Evaldas obtained the Diploma in Treasury Management from the Association of Corporate Treasurers (ACT) in the UK. Currently, he is one of the tutors delivering corporate treasury trainings in collaboration with the ACT.

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Sasha Bennett-Roomipoor is the Acting Division Chief of Audit, Risk and Performance Management in USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA). Previously, she was the Deputy Team Lead for Audit and Risk Management in the former Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (2018-2020). Sasha began her career in OFDA, joining in 2011. From 2011-2018, she worked in the USAID Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance's (OFDA) Humanitarian Policy and Global Engagement Division, overseeing a $250M grants portfolio, providing programmatic and public international organization (PIO) guidance to the office, serving as the institutional donor lead for NGOs and UN agencies, and serving on several USAID Response Management Teams supporting critical responses in Syria, Ebola West Africa, and the Lake Chad Basin. Prior to working in USAID/OFDA, Sasha managed IT for development contracts; served as a Resettlement Expert on Mission to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in New Delhi, India; advocated for refugee and asylum-seeker protection at the Refugee Council USA; and worked in refugee resettlement in Atlanta, GA. Sasha got her start in the U.S. Peace Corps, where she served as a community water, sanitation, and health education volunteer in the Upper East Region of Ghana (1998-2000). She has a B.A. from Georgia State University, and a M.S. in Public Policy, focusing on Peace Operations Policy from George Mason University.

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Dr. Tomisin Fashina has over 30 years of experience, predominantly in technology management and financial services. Before joining the Ecobank Group, Tomisin was the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Steward Bank Harare Zimbabwe. He also has been Chief Executive Officer for Yookos, a social media company, and has held several positions at Barclays Bank, including General Manager & Head, Transactional Banking Products, and Channels Management and Director, Cash Management & Payments. Prior to this, at Citigroup South Africa, he held leadership roles in its Global Transaction Services as Division Head & Director, Client Delivery, Sub-Saharan Africa; and Division Head, Electronic Banking & Implementation, Sub-Saharan Africa. Tomisin has a BSc degree in Computer Engineering from Obafemi Awolowo University, MBA in Marketing from the University of Lagos, and PhD in Business Management and Leadership from Capella University.

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John Finnigan is the Global Head of Development Organizations for the Public Sector Group within Citi's Banking, Capital Markets and Advisory division. John is responsible for leading the firm's relationships with supranationals, development finance institutions, and non-government organizations. He and his team leverage Citi's global network to deliver financing, markets and securities services, and treasury and trade solutions that help Development Organization clients promote economic and social progress and contribute to the world's Sustainable Development Goals. Prior to joining the Public Sector franchise in 2013, John held a number of leadership positions in Citi's Treasury and Trade Solutions organization. In his previous role, he served as the North American Head of Client Sales and Relationship Management for Commercial Cards and Payments supporting multinational corporations, financial institutions, and public sector clients. With nearly 25 years of experience in banking, John has an extensive background in servicing the complex needs of the Public Sector. Prior to joining Citi 15 years ago, John held a variety of sales and market management positions with The Bank of New York, US Trust, and Commerce Bank. After receiving his bachelor's degree from the University of South Carolina, John joined The Bank of New York's corporate banking and credit training program.

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Bonnie Glick is a Senior Adviser at the Center for Strategic and International Studies and a Fellow in Harvard's Institute of Politics. Bonnie was unanimously confirmed by the Senate to serve as the Deputy Administrator and Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the U.S. Agency for International Development from January 2019 to November 2020. She worked for 12 years as a Foreign Service officer in the U.S. Department of State, and later worked for IBM as a global account executive, where she co-authored three patents as part of the IBM Research Division. Bonnie served as the Deputy Secretary of the Maryland Department of Aging from 2017 until 2019 under Governor Larry Hogan. In her role as Deputy Administrator and COO at USAID, Bonnie's portfolio covered all Agency programs worldwide (100+ countries) and all Agency operations. She has championed multiple issues including digital transformation, the significance of 5G as a development priority in emerging markets, private sector engagement, democracy and governance, global vaccine distribution, the Abraham Accords, and food security. Bonnie was the executive sponsor of USAID's COVID-19 Task Force where she addressed both the safety and security of the global workforce and the international response to the outbreak.

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Ian Goldin is Professor of Globalisation and Development at the University of Oxford, Professorial Fellow at Balliol College, Oxford University, and from 2006 to 2016 was the founding Director of Oxford University's interdisciplinary Oxford Martin School. He currently leads the Oxford Martin research programmes on Technological and Economic Change, Future of Work and Future of Development. From 2001 to 2006, Ian was Vice President of the World Bank and the Group's Director of Policy and Special Representative at the United Nations. From 1996 to 2001, he was economic advisor to President Mandela and the Chief Executive of the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), transforming it to become the largest investor in infrastructure to over 500 municipalities in the 14 countries of Southern Africa. Previously, Ian served as Principal Economist at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Director of Programmes at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Centre. He has an MSc from the London School of Economics, and an MA and Doctorate from the University of Oxford. Ian has been knighted by the French Government and received numerous awards. He has published over 60 journal articles and 23 books. His most recent is Rescue: From Global Crisis to a Better World. His previous books include *Terra Incognita: 100 Maps to Survive the Next 100 Years*; *Age of Discovery: Navigating the Storms of Our Second*

Renaissance; and *The Butterfly Defect: Why Globalization Creates Systemic Risks and What to Do*, in which he predicted that a pandemic was the most likely cause of the next financial crisis. Other books include *Development: A Very Short Introduction and Is the Planet Full?* He has authored and presented three BBC Documentary Series including *After The Crash*; *Will AI Kill Development?;* and *The Pandemic that Changed the World*. He has provided advisory services to the International Monetary Fund, United Nations, European Union, OECD, and has served as a non-executive Director on six globally listed companies. Ian is an acclaimed speaker at TED, Google Zeitgeist, World Economic Forum, and other meetings, and is Chair of the core-econ.org initiative to transform economics.

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Nicholas Harris is the current Head of Fraud Strategy for the Absa Corporate Investment Bank and is an experienced General Manager in the governance, assurance and risk space, with focus on forensics services and strategic fraud risk management. He is skilled in strategic management of the fraud risk, forensic investigations, governance and enterprise risk management, internal audit, group company policy, and compliance management across financial services, telecommunications, and fintech industries. Nicholas is an expert in establishing fraud prevention strategies across global multinationals with an Afrocentric and Middle East focus. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) focused in Accounting from University of Johannesburg, is a qualified Charted Accountant (South Africa) and a certified Ethics Officer. Nicholas is guest lecturer and presenter at various universities, conferences, and development sessions within South Africa including the Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS), University of Pretoria, Institute of Commercial Forensic Practitioners (ICFP), and the University of the North West.

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Sharon Harvey is a counter-terrorist finance adviser in the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). With a background in international development, including in government, NGOs and academia, she has designed and delivered humanitarian, development and peace-building programmes in Africa, Asia and the Pacific. Sharon has a special interest in working in fragile and conflict-affected states, and has worked in Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sudan, and other countries – including behind rebel lines - to deliver aid to vulnerable populations in some of the world's most challenging contexts. Sharon represents the FCDO in the United Kingdom's Tri-Sector Group and internationally in other fora to develop collaborative, risk-based approaches to delivering aid in complex environments.

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Jingdong Hua is Vice President and Treasurer of the World Bank. He also serves as the Pension Finance Administrator of the World Bank Group. As Vice President and Treasurer of the World Bank, he is responsible for the capital markets operations and oversees an annual funding program of US$60 to 70 billion through debt issuances of International Bank for Reconstruction & Development (IBRD) and International Development Association (IDA). Jingdong leads a global team of capital markets professionals in the prudent management of US$200 billion debt portfolio and US$170 billion asset portfolio managed for the World Bank Group and over 70 clients. He heads the World Bank Treasury's capacity building, advisory and capital market intermediation services in financial analytics, asset management, and financial solutions for its clients. As Pension Finance Administrator of the World Bank Group, Jingdong supervises the investment and administration of the World Bank Groups pension plans—with US$30 billion assets under management invested in a diverse pool of asset classes including fixed income, public and private equities, real estate and alternatives. Previously he was the Vice President and Treasurer of International Finance Corporation (IFC), where he established a global treasury and focused on the development of local currency debt capital markets and innovative financial products and solutions. During his tenure, IFC has significantly increased its local currency financing capacity to benefit private sector clients. Jingdong led market-opening and innovative bond issuances and structured financial products in emerging markets including Rwanda, Nigeria, Indonesia, Colombia, Uzbekistan, and India. He significantly enhanced IFC's loan syndications and co-investment program which has mobilized over US$60 billion for private sector development. Prior to IFC, Jingdong served as Deputy Treasurer at the Asian Development Bank (AsDB) in Manila. He previously held various positions in the treasury departments of AsDB, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in New York, and the African Development Bank (AfDB) in Abidjan. A Chinese national, Jingdong started his career in 1983 with China National Chemical Construction Corporation. He holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Qingdao University of Science and Technology, an MBA in Finance from the University of Texas at Arlington, and a Master of Public Administration (MPA) from Columbia University.

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Cassandra Kaplan is Associate Director of Treasury at Save the Children's (STC) headquarters in Fairfield, Connecticut, and leads the Treasury team under the Deputy CFO. She started her career with STC as an intern in receipts processing over 10 years ago, and has had the privilege to learn and grow with the organization. Most recently, in coordination with STC's Investment Committee of the Board, Cassandra led an Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) review of the endowment portfolio and incorporated mission-aligned investment strategies into STC's endowment investment policy statement. In addition to her Treasury duties, Cassandra supports STC's Gender Equality team, focused on placing gender equality at the heart of STC's programs, advocacy, workplace culture and policies, and partnerships. Cassandra is currently studying for the Certified Treasury Professionals exam.

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Asha Kumari is the Global Head of Treasury Operations at Save the Children International (SCI), a non-profit organisation with the mission to improve the lives of children through education, health care and protect them from the effects of war and violence. SCI is based in over 60 countries and the Treasury team manages funding of international programming of over $1.1bn. Asha joined SCI in 2018 and is responsible for mitigating operational risk by implementing enhanced treasury management systems, processes, and controls. Additionally, she is focused on integrating a global payments project with SCI's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) and its banking partners covering 60 country offices. Prior to joining SCI, she spent a decade at Goldman Sachs, departing as a Vice President in Liquidity Operations and also had overseen process risk and control for Moscow and Zurich Treasury operations.

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Jacob Kurtzer is Director and Senior Fellow with the Humanitarian Agenda, an initiative that leverages the expertise of Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) programs to explore complex humanitarian challenges. Prior to joining CSIS, Jacob spent seven years with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), most recently as head of communications for the ICRC Delegation in Israel and the occupied territories. Previously, he served as head of public and congressional affairs for the Washington Delegation of the ICRC, representing the ICRC to a broad spectrum of audiences in the United States and Canada. In addition, Jacob has conducted field missions in South Sudan, and Rakhine State, Myanmar, and spent nearly three years as a consultant with the ICRC delegation in Pretoria, South Africa. From 2007-2009, he served as the congressional advocate at Refugees International (RI), a humanitarian advocacy organization based in Washington D.C. Jacob began his career as a legislative assistant to Congressman Robert Wexler of Florida covering domestic and foreign policy issues, including managing the Congressional Indonesia Caucus. He earned an M.A. in peace and conflict studies from the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia, where he studied as a Rotary Foundation World Peace Fellow. Jacob holds a B.A. in philosophy from the University of Maryland, College Park, with a citation in religious studies, and is an alumnus of the College Park Scholars Public Leadership program.

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Natasha Kwakwa is responsible for leading the strategy, programme delivery, and impact measurement of Standard Chartered Bank's global community programmes. This includes leading the group responsible for delivering the global initiative, Futuremakers, and impact measurement framework for Standard Chartered Bank's Sustainability Aspirations that demonstrate contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals. Natasha joined Standard Chartered Bank in August 2015, and has held various roles managing goal initiatives, leading the strategic development of Standard Chartered Bank's portfolio of work to support education and youth employability under Futuremakers, and most recently, developing approaches to measure and promote the impact of Standard Chartered Bank's Sustainability Aspirations. Prior to joining Standard Chartered, Natasha designed and led multi-party education and social development programmes in the not-for-profit and public sectors in the United Kingdom, Angola, West Africa, and Brazil. She is fluent in Portuguese, holds a Master's in Education and International Development from the University of London, and an Executive MBA from Cranfield School of Management.

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Karby Leggett runs the Public Sector and Development Organisations (PSDO) team globally, responsible for Standard Chartered Bank's coverage of Ministries of Finance, Central Banks, Development Organisations and other Government-related institutions across its global footprint. Previously he was Asia Head of the PSDO business. Karby ran Standard Chartered Bank's Capital Markets business in the Greater China & North East Asia region, where he was responsible for the origination and execution of bonds, syndicated loans, and asset-backed securities. He also ran the Supranational, Sovereign & Agency (SSA) Debt Capital Markets (DCM) business for Standard Chartered, covering a broad range of clients across Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Before joining Standard Chartered, Karby worked at Goldman Sachs where he oversaw the firm's Europe, Middle East, and Africa sovereign ratings advisory and risk management function. His key government clients at both Goldman Sachs and Standard Chartered include governments in China, Hong Kong, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Vietnam, Egypt, Qatar, Abu Dhabi and Libya, as well as certain government and private sector entities in each country. Karby has over 25 years of experience in capital markets, finance, risk management, and sovereign ratings advisory and international affairs including a decade during which he worked as a foreign correspondent for The Wall Street Journal, covering China and the post 9-11 conflict region in the Middle East. Karby has lived in China, Korea, Japan, and the Middle East, and speaks fluent Mandarin. He is based in Singapore.

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Nyagaka Ongeri is the Founder and CEO of Ubora Advisors. Ubora is a financial advisory firm that serves U.S. corporates and international development organizations primarily working in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) including Africa. Ubora employs an Enterprise Risk Management Framework in its work with clients melding financial and impact metrics in a schematic that optimizes decision making for Chief Financial Officers and Treasurers. Prior to this, Nyagaka was Head of Global Corporates in the Americas for Barclays PLC. In this role he had responsibility for building the corporate banking dialogue and business with top U.S. clients with operations in Africa, Europe, the Middle East and Asia. From 2009 to 2011, Nyagaka was Head of Global Finance and Risk Solutions (GFRS) for Absa Capital in Johannesburg, South Africa. This role encompassed managing the bank's financing products across Absa's 13 African presence countries. Nyagaka joined Absa Capital in August 2009 from Barclays Capital in New York where he was Co-Head of the Financial Institutions Debt Capital Markets Group for several years. He joined Barclays Capital in 2001 from JP Morgan in South Africa. It was during his time in South Africa that Nyagaka Ongeri co-founded the Student Sponsorship Program of South Africa (SSP), a non-profit leadership organization that has provided scholarships and mentors to thousands of high school students in South Africa since inceptionin2000. He also is a member of the board of MREF (African Medical Relief Foundation), a 50-year old organization dedicated to empowering the people of Africa through better health to escape poverty and improve their quality of life. Nyagaka is a graduate of Howard University where he received a Bachelor of Business Administration (Honors). He also is a graduate of Harvard Business School and has successfully completed the CFA examinations. Nyagaka is an avid mountain climber and marathon runner, having recently scaled Mt. Kilimanjaro and Elbrus and completed seven marathons.

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Sassan Cyrus Parandeh is the Treasurer of ChildFund International, an international child development organization. During his tenure he volunteered to serve as ChildFund's Country Director in Kenya where he oversaw the welfare of 1,200,000 children. While there, Sassan used his Treasury expertise to introduce the first ever large-scale institutional use of mobile-money. This technology provided financial services to regions of the world that were previously "unbanked." For this, ChildFund won the 2014 Grand Pinnacle Award from the Association for Financial Professionals. Sassan also is a regular contributor to the AFP Exchange Magazine and the Global Treasury blog "gtnews." He has been published extensively in academic peer reviewed journals such as The Journal of Business Continuity and the Journal of Corporate Treasury Management. He is quoted frequently in the Wall Street Journal and the Economist's Treasury Perspectives Magazine. In June 2018, he was aired on the BBC's Storyworks. Mr. Parandeh is a Certified Treasury Professional (CTP) with global experience from Dole Food Company, Litton Industries Inc., The City of Long Beach in California, and Platinum Equity LLC. He has a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, and possesses a Master of Public Administration (MPA), as well as a bachelor's degree in Mathematical Economics from California State University, Long Beach.

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Steve Perry has directed global treasury operations for Catholic Relief Services at HQ and in over 100 developing programming countries for 29 years. He is responsible for establishing agency-wide best practices, treasury strategies, policies and procedures. He supervises a treasury staff of three, which is responsible for liquidity and banking with 300 international accounts with 30+ global bank relationships. He oversees insurance and foreign currency risks and conversions in 40+ major and exotic currencies. He enforces security and compliance with federal and international regulations on terrorist vetting and OFAC. Steve is a Certified Treasury Professional, Certified Public Accountant and holds an MS in Taxation.

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Charles Pirotte received his law degree from the University of Liège (Belgium). He post-graduated in European Union law at the College of Europe (Bruges). Previously working in the Commission departments responsible for the free movements of goods and environment policy, he now is employed in the Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO). After having worked in the area of civil protection, Charles has been dealing over the last years with various legal issues and partner relations in DG ECHO. He currently is the Deputy Head of Unit of Unit ECHO E1 - International and Interinstitutional Relations, Legal Framework.

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Jay D. Price is the Global Treasurer of Mercy Corps and has responsibility for Treasury, Insurance and Tax. He has spent his career in the treasury departments of several multi-national corporations, all of which have been acquired. He focuses on treasury operations, tax efficient liquidity, cash forecasting, mergers & acquisition, integration, foreign exchange, and retirement plans. He holds a Bachelor of Science from Oregon State University in Business Administration and a Masters in Business Administration from Indiana University.

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Dr. Peter Scoblic is a co-founder and principal of Event Horizon Strategies. He also is a fellow at Harvard's Kennedy School, a senior fellow with the International Security Program at New America, and an instructor in Harvard's Professional Development Program, where he teaches behavioral decision-making. Peter has published widely on strategic foresight, including in The New York Times, The Washington Post, Science, Harvard Business Review (HBR), and Foreign Affairs. His 2018 article on the CIA's forecasting office won the Bobby R. Inman Award in Intelligence Studies, and his 2020 article "Learning from the Future" was anthologized in HBR's 10 Must Reads on Organizational Resilience. Previously, he served as the executive editor of both The New Republic and Foreign Policy. He also was the deputy staff director of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, where he worked on approval of the New START agreement and was the chief foreign policy speechwriter for Chairman John Kerry. In 2008, Viking Press published his book, U.S. vs. Them, an intellectual history of American foreign policy. Peter received his doctorate from Harvard Business School, where his research on strategic foresight won the Wyss Award for Excellence. He has certificates in wargaming from the Naval War College and the Military Operations Research Society, as well as a certificate in scenario planning from the Oxford Scenarios Programme at Saïd Business School. He received his A.B. in political science, with honors, from Brown University.

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Paolo Sison is the Director of Innovative Finance at Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Gavi is a public-private partnership committed to saving lives and protecting people's health by increasing access to immunisation in poor countries, and is a leading force in innovative finance for development. Gavi's innovative finance mechanisms include the International Finance Facility for Immunisation (IFFIm), the Pneumococcal Advance Market Commitment, the Gavi Matching Fund and the COVAX Advance Market Commitment. As part of the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Gavi has been coordinating the COVAX Facility, a global risk-sharing mechanism for pooled procurement and equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. Before joining Gavi, Paolo spent ten years in investment banking in London, most recently as Director, Global Banking and Markets at HSBC, where he was responsible for equity and equity-linked origination in the financial services sector across Western Europe and Central and Eastern Europe Middle East and Africa (CEEMEA). His capital markets experience includes fixed income, hybrid and derivative origination, and structuring. Previously, he spent six years in Manila and in Tokyo, with Ayala Corporation's Strategic Planning Group and with Mitsubishi Corporation's Development & Coordination Department. During that time, he looked after the business groups' investments in the financial services and industrial sectors, and was actively involved in business development in the Asia-Pacific region. Paolo holds an MSc in Finance from London Business School and an MBA from the Asian Institute of Management.

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Bob Stark has over 20 years of experience in treasury, driving product and market strategy for many of the best known technology providers in the industry. As the head of market strategy at Kyriba, Bob works directly with clients, partners, and industry influencers to ensure Kyriba is at the forefront of CFO and treasury technology. Bob has provided treasury management strategy to some of the world's largest companies, and is a frequent speaker and author on treasury, risk management, and the cloud at Association for Financial Professionals (AFP), EuroFinance, Association of Corporate Treasurers (ACT), Sibos, and other industry events. Bob resides in Vancouver, Canada and is a graduate of Simon Fraser University in British Columbia.

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Bhairav Trivedi, Crown Agents Bank's Group Chief Executive Officer Designate, has over 30 years of experience in the financial services industry, with a strong focus on payments and payment processing, cross-border remittance, and financial technology. He has held senior roles at leading financial institutions around the globe, including – from 2012-17 – as Group CEO of Network International Payment Solutions, a United Arab Emirates-based payments provider for the Middle East and Africa. Bhairav has been President and Chief Operating Officer of Sigue Global Services Ltd., a global money transfer company, and was Managing Director, Global Head of Remittance Services at Citi's Global Transaction Services from 2008 to 2010. He also founded PayQuik (acquired by Citi in 2008) and has worked at McKinsey and Company, Fair Isaac, and Providian Bancorp. He joined Crown Agents Bank in January 2021 after a nine-month stint as Group CEO of LSE-listed Finablr – having been appointed to oversee the company's successful sale to Prism Advance Solutions (completed in December 2020). Bhairav holds an M.B.A. from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, a Masters in

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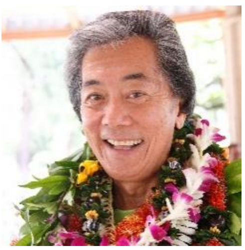
Christine Zaninetti is the Deputy Head of Finance, and Head of Treasury and Property Insurance at the International Committee of the Red Cross based in Geneva, Switzerland. Previously, Christine worked for Elizabeth Arden International as Purchasing Analyst, Cash Management Assistant, and FX Exposure Manager. Then she joined Unilever Corporate Audit as Senior Auditor, and Bulgari as Corporate Credit Risk Senior Manager. Christine received her Masters in Economics from University of Geneva (Switzerland).

10TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE GALA EVENT
SPECIAL GUESTS



Roy Sakuma
Teacher

For millions around the world, the laid-back sounds of the ukulele go hand and hand with the Hawaiian Islands. For local people in Hawaii, the name Roy Sakuma is synonymous with the instrument he has promoted and played with a passion for over fifty years. Roy has become Hawaii's foremost ukulele teacher and authority on ukulele instruction, helping keep this cultural mainstay alive through Roy Sakuma Ukulele Studios, teaching over 50,000 students, many of whom have gone on to become famous performers, including Jake Shimabukuro. More than just a teacher, Roy is a preserver of Hawaiian culture and music. In 1971, when very little interest in the ukulele existed, Roy produced the first and original annual ukulele festival "event" to showcase the virtuosity of the ukulele. Today, ukulele festivals occur all over the world. Roy & Kathy Sakuma established the Ukulele Festival Hawaii in 2004 as a nonprofit charitable organization as their life work to preserve interest in the ukulele. And as producer of multiple award-winning albums, Roy Sakuma has brought the versatility of the ukulele to a much wider audience through the Roy Sakuma Productions record label, working with Grammy Award winning and record-breaking artists, such as James Ingram, Ohta-san, and Daniel Ho, connecting traditional Hawaiian sounds to the heart and soul of Hawaii's rich musical heritage. Over the last decade, Roy has expanded his love of the ukulele to a message of loving one another and one's self through the ukulele, by speaking with students, parents, health professionals, corporations, community organizations, and the military on suicide prevention, bullying, mental illness and substance abuse.

Jake Shimabukuro
Musician

Jake Shimabukuro first came to the world's attention with his deeply beautiful and original take on George Harrison's "While My Guitar Gently Weeps" in a viral video that dominated YouTube in 2005 with over 15 million views. In the 21st century, Jake has virtually reinvented the four-string instrument and is the most influential and iconic ukulele player of this generation, topping Billboard World Music Charts. His strong ties to the ukulele are forged by years of lessons as a young student at Roy Sakuma Ukulele Studios and further developing his craft by studying the likes of ukulele masters Eddie Kamae, Ohta San, and Peter Moon. While balancing his tremendous professional achievements with his wife and two sons, Jake also remains firmly rooted in his commitment to community by frequently performing at schools and urging youngsters to find their passion and live drug-free.