



## CFS Gender Workstream – Nomination of the OEWG Chair

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30 July 2020, 9.30-12.30

Virtual meeting (ZOOM platform)

In response to the message sent by the CFS Chair on 3 July 2020, asking CFS Members to nominate candidates for the position of Open-Ended Working Group Chairperson for the CFS policy convergence process on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, the CFS Secretariat received a nomination from Ms Satu Lassila, Permanent Representative of Finland to FAO, IFAD and WFP (Curriculum Vitae in Annex1)

The CFS Bureau will be asked to confirm the appointment of the candidate at its meeting of 30 July 2020.



**Annex:** Curriculum Vitae of Ms Satu Helina Lassila, Permanent Representative of Finland to FAO, IFAD and WFP

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**EDUCATION:**

☐ **Master of Arts in Gender and Development**, 1998, University of Sussex, Institute of Development Studies, Brighton, UK.

☐ **Master of Arts in Social Sciences** (Sociology, Political Science, Philosophy and Media studies and journalism), 1993, University of Tampere, Finland.

☐ **Leadership Studies**, 2009-2010, University of Helsinki.

☐ Specialised courses in **Strategic Leadership and Building Effective Teams**, 2017.

**MAIN AREAS OF SPECIALISATION:**

☐ **Approximately 25 year of working experience** in development cooperation and humanitarian assistance.

☐ **Women’s Empowerment and Gender Equality** Policy, Programming and Mainstreaming.

☐ **Strategic management**, coordination and leadership skills.

☐ Proven capacity to guide and **build successful teams**, create social networks, **mobilize resources and deliver results**.

☐ **Food Security, Livelihoods and Nutrition Policy and Programming**.

☐ Excellent written and oral **communication, advocacy, influencing and training skills**.

☐ Extensive **field experience**, for example from Kenya, Uganda, South-Sudan, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Indonesia and Brazil.

☐ Experience in working with **Governments, UN agencies and civil society organizations**, both at the Headquarters and field level.

**EMPLOYMENT RECORD:**

**1. Permanent Representative of Finland to FAO, WFP and IFAD, Embassy of Finland, Rome. 1.8.2018 – current position.**

**2. Senior Advisor (Humanitarian Assistance), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA), Unit for Humanitarian Assistance and Policy, Helsinki. 1.12.2015- Key tasks included:** Provided effective management support and expert advice to the MFA and Embassies



abroad on matters related humanitarian assistance, refugee programming and disaster risk reduction. Provided expert advice on cross-cutting issues, including gender equality, sexual and gender-based violence in conflicts, SRHR, disability and human rights and linking relief to development approach. Advised on the allocation of MFA's humanitarian funding and follow closely international policy changes and discussions concerning humanitarian and recovery financing. Monitored the development of humanitarian situation in fragile states and disaster-prone countries and the situation of women and girls in conflicts. Provided expert advice on the MFA's positions concerning UN humanitarian system reforms and issues discussed at the Executive Boards of UN agencies. Participated in the design and implementation of evaluations of humanitarian assistance and reporting on results. Provided capacity-building, training and spearhead thematic initiatives.

**Key achievements:** *Coordinated Finland's national commitments and inputs to the World Humanitarian Summit, including to the High-Level Round-Table on Gender Equality. As a part of the core team, contributed to spearheading of the ground-breaking Charter of Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, at the World Humanitarian Summit, endorsed by more than 160 organizations and actors, and successfully advocated for the integration of gender equality issues in the Charter. In the context of the launch of the Syria Humanitarian Response Plan and the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan for 2017-2018, raised the profile of gender equality issues by organising a High-Level Panel focusing on the situation of women and girls.*

**Senior Advisor to the Deputy Executive Director, UN WOMEN, New York. D-1.**

6.1.2014-30.11.2015. Key task included: Assigned as a Coordinator to the UN Women led, system-wide campaign on Beijing plus 20. Provided effective management support and expert advice to the ASG in all matters under her responsibility, including UN system reforms, resource mobilization, inter-governmental issues, civil-society matters and advocacy. Assisted the ASG in supervising the staff and managing the daily work of the Office of the ASG. Supported the ASG in resource mobilization and efforts to promote strategic partnerships with Governments, civil society, the private sector and other UN Agencies. Provided advice on enhancing evaluations, reviews, results-based management, operational efficiency and effectiveness. Provided support and advice to the ASG on matters related to administration, audit, budget and financial management. Strategically promoted and supported UN coordination around gender equality and women's empowerment.

**Key achievements:** *Successful execution of the UN system-wide UN Women Beijing plus 20 campaign, which culminated in the High-Level meeting, chaired by the President of People's Republic of China, with the attendance of more than 70 Heads of States, committing their Governments to achieving gender equality.*

**Senior Advisor (Humanitarian Assistance), Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA), Department for Development Policy. Helsinki. 1.10.2007-5.1.2014.**

Key task included: Developed the Finnish Humanitarian Policy and Humanitarian Funding Allocation Guidelines. Appointed by the UN Secretary-General, served as a member of the Advisory Group (2009-2011) for the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). Provided



expert advice on the integration of gender equality issues and prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and SRHR in humanitarian response. As a member of the OECD-DAC International Network on Conflict and Fragility and the UNSG mandated task team on the Aid Architecture and Financing Working Group, contributed to the development of the New Deal framework, endorsed in Busan. As a member of the US-led Multinational Experiment 5, contributed to the development of comprehensive interagency crises management strategy framework. Provided effective support and advice to the MFA and Embassies on matters related humanitarian policy, assistance, evaluation and financing. Acted as an Institutional Lead for WFP MOPAN assessment. Developed Guidelines on linking relief to rehabilitation and development.

**Key achievements:** *Developed the 2012 Finnish Humanitarian Policy and Humanitarian Funding Guidelines and carried out policy study on Linking Relief to Development.*

*Contributed to the effective and gender-sensitive management and functioning of the UN Central Emergency Response Fund.*

**Senior Advisor, (Gender and Socio-Economic), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA), Department for Development Policy, Helsinki.** 1.12.2003-30.9.2007. Key task included:

Provided effective support and advice to different MFA units and Embassies abroad on the integration of a gender perspective into strategic planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of in Finnish bilateral development cooperation. Carried out appraisal and review missions to the bilateral partner countries (e.g. Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia, Vietnam, Nepal, Nicaragua, etc), focusing on gender mainstreaming. Provided advice on socio-economic, gender and human rights issues to the units responsible for multilateral cooperation and cooperation with specialised UN agencies, e.g. UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, UNHCR, FAO, IFAD and IFIs. Planned and carried out training and capacity building on gender issues, developed gender mainstreaming guidelines and policy messages. Represented Finland in gender equality related OECE-DAC, EU and UN meetings.

**Key achievements:** *In collaboration with relevant units, spearheaded Finland's first Action Plan on Security Council Resolution 1325. Spearheaded the development of the evaluation concerning Gender Mainstreaming in Finnish Development Assistance. Developed Gender and Budget Support Guidelines.*

**Head of Office, United Nations World Food Programme, Tsunami Operation, Indonesia, Meulaboh. P-4.** 01//2005-04/2005. Provided leadership for the WFP Tsunami Emergency Operation and the Office in Meulaboh, West Cost of Aceh province. Responsible for management, supervision and the kick-start of the humanitarian food assistance programme. Supervision of the 50 international and national staff staff, including personnel in programme, logistics, administration and finance. As a Head of the Agency in Meulaboh, represented WFP in the UN coordination meetings. Acted as the Deputy UN Area-Security Coordinator and vice chairperson of the UN Security Management Team.

**Key achievements:** *Ensured a solid start-up of a gender-sensitive humanitarian food assistance response to a mega-disaster. Ensured effective management and supervision of the office.*

**Regional Programme Adviser, World Food Programme, Central and Eastern African Bureau (ODK), Kampala.** 08/2001 - 11/2003. Advised the Country Offices on the in the



design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of emergency and development programmes. Focused on the programmes in Uganda, Rwanda, DRC, Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya. Acted as thematic focal point for gender, emergency preparedness and contingency planning. Advised in preparation and review of programme, policy and strategy documents, and prepared situation briefs. Participation in the review and assessment missions, provision of capacity building and training. Provided supervision to international and national staff. In 2001-2002 participated in the emergency assessment mission to Zimbabwe and prepared the WFP Emergency Operation (EMOP) programme, budget and operational plan for Zimbabwe. Kick-started the new Zimbabwe Emergency Operation, acted as a Head of Programme and participated in the establishment of a new Country Office in Harare.

**Key achievements:** *Establishment of a new country office and solid start-up of a gender-sensitive humanitarian food aid response in Zimbabwe. Establishment of emergency programmes and contingency plans across the Region.*

**Regional Gender Adviser for Horn of Africa and Great Lakes Region, based in Kenya, WFP Regional Office Nairobi.** 04/99-07/2001. Provided expert advice and guidance to the WFP Country Directors and Offices, Government and civil society counterparts on gender issues concerning the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the emergency, protracted relief, refugees operations and development programmes. Acted as a training organiser and resource person on topics related to gender and socio-economic analysis. Mainstreamed gender equality into programme and financing documents. Supported the Emergency Flood Operation in Mozambique and prepared Food-for-Work Guidelines for the recovery phase.

**Key achievements:** *Training of more than 300 WFP staff on gender analysis and participatory methods. Integration of gender into key planning documents. Solid humanitarian and recovery response to the 2001 floods.*

**Programme Officer, Service Centre for Finnish Development Co-operation (SCFDC) in Mozambique.** 01/94-08/97. Provided advice and guidance on project planning, implementation and monitoring to Forum Mulher - an umbrella organisation providing coordination to all entities working on gender issues in Mozambique. Supported Finnish NGO-projects in Mozambique and liaised between the Government and NGO partners. Carried out a feasibility study focusing on the northern part of Mozambique for programme design purposes. Regular reporting on the Mozambican peace process and on the economic, political and social developments of the country to the Finnish Media.

**Key achievements:** *Designed and implemented the first ever advocacy campaign against domestic violence in Mozambique with the opening up of shelters for the victims of violence and provision of other support services.*

**Executive Secretary, African Star Association in Finland.** 08/92- 08/93. 01/94-07/97. Daily management and supervision of the Association, supervision of the development projects, internal administration and finance, public relations and resource mobilization.

**Volunteer, The Christian Youth Exchange in Brazil.** 08/90-08/91. Working with community development, women's empowerment and income generating projects in Porto Alegre.



**Short-term development consultancies:** Designed and implemented training courses on Logical Framework and carried out short-term consultancy assignments for Service Centre for Finnish Development Co-operation, Solidarity Foundation and UNIFEM-Finland. Also worked as a researched assistant in the University of Tampere.

**OTHER RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL TRAINING:**

- ☐ 4-days training on Leadership and Strategic Management, Helsinki 2017
- ☐ 2-days training on Leading and Building Effective Teams, Helsinki 2017
- ☐ 5-days workshop on Cash-Based Assistance in Humanitarian Assistance, Helsinki 2017
- ☐ Workshop on Evaluation of Humanitarian Assistance, Helsinki 2017
- ☐ 2-days workshop on Public Finance Management and Budget Support, Helsinki 2012
- ☐ 5-days workshop on Nutrition in Food Aid Programming, Nairobi 2003
- ☐ 10-days course on Emergency Preparedness and Rapid Response in Sweden 2001
- ☐ 5-day workshop on Targeting in Complex Emergencies, Nairobi 2001
- ☐ 5-day workshop on Training of Trainers, Nairobi 2003

**SOME PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS:**

- ☐ **Key Notes Speaker in the Seminar “Addressing the Dynamic Face of War”.** Whole of Government Approach - The Finnish Experience. Organised by US Joint Forces Command. Istanbul, Turkey.
- ☐ **Linking Relief to Rehabilitation and Development. A Policy Perspective.** MFA Finland.
- ☐ **Concept Note of Budget Support and Gender Equality.** Nordic Plus Network on Gender Equality. Working Papers, Helsinki.
- ☐ **Training Manual.** Gender Sensitive Food Aid Programming in Emergencies. Training Manual for WFP Gender Trainers. Nairobi.
- ☐ **Food For Work Guidelines.** WFP Mozambique.

**COMPUTER SKILLS:**

- ☐ Advanced skills in MS Office applications.

**WORKING LANGUAGES AND LEVEL:**

English (Excellent), Portuguese (Excellent), Spanish (Basic), Swedish (Basic), German (Basic).