Welcome Remarks

John Gandolfo is IFC’s Vice President and Treasurer. In these capacities, Mr. Gandolfo leads a global team responsible for managing IFC’s financial position, safeguarding the organization’s international triple-A rating and maintaining IFC’s standing as a premier issuer in the global capital markets.

Mr. Gandolfo leads IFC’s Treasury and Syndications global team in delivering on IFC’s strategy to create markets and mobilize private capital for development. The team manages over $100 billion in liquid assets, global market borrowings, and derivatives transactions. It is responsible for strengthening local-currency financing by arranging and executing local-currency and risk-management transactions for clients and raising third-party capital through innovative syndication and mobilization platforms such as the Managed Co-Lending Portfolio Program (MCPP).

Prior to taking the role of IFC Treasurer, Mr. Gandolfo was Director and Chief Investment Officer of the Pension and Endowments Department at the World Bank. His team managed $27 billion of World Bank Group pension and other retirement-benefit portfolios invested across a range of asset classes and strategies.

Over a highly successful career spanning more than 30 years in the World Bank Group, Mr. Gandolfo acquired broad experience in financial markets and treasury operations. As Director of the Quantitative Strategies, Risk and Analytics Department, he was responsible for the development of strategic and tactical asset allocations, risk management, and financial modeling for the asset management, capital markets, and banking businesses. Before that, he was the Director of the Investment Management Department. He began his career in IFC’s Financial Management and Planning Department.

Mr. Gandolfo, a U.S. citizen, holds a BA from the University of Pennsylvania and an MBA from the George Washington University.
Ms. Stephanie von Friedeburg serves as Interim Managing Director and Executive Vice President (MD EVP) at IFC, a member of the World Bank Group and the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in developing countries. Ms. von Friedeburg is leading the implementation of IFC’s strategy to create projects and attract private investment where it is needed the most. Her priorities include increasing opportunities for women, scaling up investments to fight climate change, and promoting digital development.

Ms. von Friedeburg has also served as IFC’s Chief Operating Officer since December 2017 and leads all IFC investment operations and advisory services, delivering private sector capital and solutions to create jobs, positive development outcomes, and opportunities in the world’s poorest and most fragile countries. In addition to overseeing new business, she manages IFC’s $59 billion debt and equity portfolio in more than 100 countries.

Ms. von Friedeburg began her World Bank Group career at IFC, spending more than two decades in IFC investment operations where she developed strong regional expertise in Africa and Central and Eastern Europe, as well as in numerous industry sectors, including telecom, media, general manufacturing, and mobile technology. With extensive experience in business development, execution of transactions, and portfolio management, Ms. von Friedeburg has helped increase IFC’s development impact in emerging markets, including through the growth of mobile technology in the developing world and IFC’s first large financings in Russia and Eastern Europe in the post-Soviet era.

Ms. von Friedeburg also served as IFC’s Chief Strategy and Resources Officer, where she led the development of IFC’s new strategy and aligned the organization’s resources to support its mission. Prior to this, leveraging her more than ten years of experience investing in telecom and IT start-ups in emerging markets, she served as the World Bank Group Chief Information Officer, transforming the Group’s IT operations and better equipping it to fight poverty in the 21st century.

Ms. von Friedeburg is an advocate for the advancement of women and a champion of diversity and inclusion, serving as Co-Chair of IFC’s Diversity & Inclusion Council, and founding women’s networks at two international finance institutions.

Ms. von Friedeburg holds a seat on the Global Business Initiative External Advisory Board for Georgetown University’s McDonough School of Business, as well as on the CIO Advisory Board for Greylock Partners. She is Director Emeritus of the Board of the Bank Fund Staff Federal Credit Union.

In addition to an MBA from the Wharton School, Ms. von Friedeburg holds a Master of Arts from the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania and an undergraduate degree from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.
Carter Roberts is President and CEO of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) in the United States. WWF, the world’s largest network of international conservation organizations, works across 100 countries and enjoys the support of 6 million members worldwide.

Roberts leads WWF in creating initiatives that combine science, market signals, and the wisdom of communities to protect the natural resources upon which all life depends. He has worked with communities and heads of state in North America, Africa, Latin America and Asia; and has built partnerships with some of the world’s largest corporations, including Walmart, Mars, and Coca-Cola to set new industry standards for resource efficiency.

Roberts earned his MBA from Harvard Business School following a BA from Princeton University, and subsequently held marketing management positions for Procter & Gamble and Gillette. He went on to lead international conservation and science programs for fifteen years at The Nature Conservancy.

Roberts serves on the Boards of the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy at Duke University and the Grantham Institute for Climate Change at Imperial College and the London School of Economics. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and served on the International Finance Corporation’s Advisory Panel on Sustainability and Business.
René Karsenti, senior advisor to the International Capital Market Association (ICMA), is President of the Association, having previously served as Executive President.

From 2009 to 2011, Mr. Karsenti was also Chairman of the International Council of Securities Associations (ICSA) and from 2008 to 2014, Chairman of the European Capital Market Institute (ECMI).

From 1995 until joining ICMA in 2006, Mr. Karsenti was Director General of Finance at the European Investment Bank (EIB) in Luxembourg, having previously served as Treasurer of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in London from its inception in May 1991 to 1995.

Prior to joining EBRD, from 1979 Mr. Karsenti held a variety of senior positions in the treasury organizations of the World Bank Group (IBRD & IFC), including as IFC Treasurer.
Santiago Bayas Paredes was appointed General Manager of Banco Pichincha in 2018 after previously serving as Executive Vice President of Finance & Risk. He also served as Vice President of the Treasury.

The Banco Pichincha is the largest private bank in Ecuador, by capitalization and by number of depositors. It is the primary bank of the Pichincha Group (Grupo Pichincha), a business group that includes the companies associated with the bank and businesses related to Fidel Egas Grijalva and his family, which include Diners Club of Ecuador, Picaval and Teleamazonas.

Georgina Baker is IFC’s Vice President for Latin America and the Caribbean, and Europe and Central Asia. In this role, she’s responsible for a committed IFC portfolio of nearly $30 billion.

Previously, Ms. Baker served IFC in two capacities: as Director of Syndications and as Deputy Treasurer, based in London, where she headed Treasury Operations for Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa.

As Director of Syndications, Ms. Baker was responsible for IFC’s syndicated lending program—the oldest and largest among multilateral development banks, with a portfolio totaling more than $15 billion. It includes the Managed Co-lending Portfolio Program (MCPP), an innovative platform launched in 2016 that successfully allocated $3 billion in under 18 months.

Prior to that, Ms. Baker managed IFC’s suite of trade and supply-chain finance products, starting with IFC’s flagship trade program, the Global Trade Finance Program. In her 25 years at IFC, Ms. Baker has held positions in several areas—including manufacturing in Eastern Europe and financial-sector investments in South Asia, Europe, Central Asia, and the Middle East and North Africa.

Before joining IFC, Ms. Baker worked in the United Kingdom and Indonesia as a mechanical engineer. She holds an MBA from the London Business School.
Eva Halvarsson has acted as the CEO of the Second Swedish National Pension Fund -- AP2. She heads up an organization with more than SEK 345 billion (approx. USD 43 billion) under management in virtually every asset class, and one that is active in all parts of the world; AP2 is one of northern Europe's largest pension funds.

Ms. Halvarsson began her career as an accountant, progressing to the point that before joining AP2, she spent ten years working for the Swedish Government where she was responsible for the governance and management of the large and extensive portfolio of state-owned companies.

Eva Halvarsson has had a distinguished and varied leadership career. She took part in the working group that put into effect the Swedish Corporate Governance Code in 2004. She also spent several years, serving on the Swedish Corporate Governance Board. Eva has been a board member of several large companies and has chaired the nomination committees of some of Sweden’s largest listed companies. She recently left after serving for ten years as the Deputy Chairperson of the board of the University of Gothenburg.

Justine Bell has spent much of her career helping business leaders and governments find solutions to the global challenges of climate change and sustainable development.

She has provided advisory services for a few global financial institutions and governments across Europe, Africa, India, South East Asia and Latin America. Her areas of focus include sustainable development in emerging economies, climate change mitigation/adaptation strategies, climate finance, economic valuation and market-based instruments for managing natural resource assets.

She is currently the Deputy CEO & Director of Market Development at the Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI). Her primary focus is emerging markets where she works closely with both public and private sector actors in developing national policy guidelines and investment roadmaps that will enable access to green bond financing. Currently, she provides oversight and leadership to CBI's regional and country teams in China, India, ASEAN and Africa where market development programs are underway.
Panel: The Next Green Mile

Mindy Lubber is the CEO and President of the sustainability nonprofit organization Ceres. She leads an all-women executive leadership team and 125 employees working to mobilize the most influential investors and companies to tackle the world’s biggest sustainability challenges: climate change, water scarcity and pollution, and inequitable workplaces.

She has been at the helm since 2003, and under her leadership, the organization and its powerful networks have grown significantly in size and influence.

As a well-known global thought leader, Lubber has inspired coalitions of institutional investors, corporate boards, C-suite executives and other capital market leaders to factor environmental, social and governance issues into decision-making.

She is frequently quoted in top business and financial news outlets and pens a regular column for Forbes.com on a variety of sustainability topics that have strengthened the business case for action and elevated concepts, such as climate and water risk.

Sasja Beslik, an internationally renowned ESG financial expert, joins Bank J. Safra Sarasin from Nordea Asset Management where he had been Head of Group Sustainable Finance for Nordea since 2017.

He joined Nordea in 2009 as Head of Responsible Investments and Identity and was promoted to Chief Executive Officer at Nordea Investment Funds in 2011, when he was also a consultant to the World Bank.

Beslik was Deputy CEO and Head Stewardship & Engagement at Banco Funds & ABN AMRO Asset Management in Sweden from 2004 to 2009. He holds a Bachelor’s degree in economics and journalism from Stockholm University.

In 2017 Beslik was named "Sustainability Leader of the Year" by The New Economy magazine and won the "Swedish Banking Profile of the Year" award from Privata Affärer magazine in 2017. In 2013, he received the Order of the Seraphim from the King of Sweden for outstanding contributions to Swedish environmental and sustainability theory. He is a well-known blogger and influencer on ESG.
**Break It Down – Debrief & Wrap Up**

Jacob Michaelsen is head of Sustainable Finance Advisory at Nordea, the largest Nordic bank and leading Investment Bank in the region. Through this role, Jacob is in constant dialogue with investors, issuers and the broader market on all matters related to the sustainable bonds market and sustainable finance more broadly.

**Jacob Michaelsen**  
Head of Sustainable Finance Advisory, Nordea

Denise Odaro heads investor relations globally for IFC. She joined IFC Treasury in 2012 as a member of the funding team specifically tasked with establishing the investor relations function to augment IFC’s $14 billion funding program—constituting global, sustainable (ESG) bonds, structured MTNs, discount notes etc.

Denise has been a member of the Executive Committee of the Green and Social Bond Principles since its inception. She has been co-Chair of the Social Bonds Working Group since 2016. In 2018, Denise served an assignment at ICMA within the Secretariat for Principles. During her tenure at ICMA, Denise led the drafting of the updates to the Social Bond Principles and the Sustainable Bond Guidelines, the High-Level Mapping to the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the Harmonized Framework for Impact Reporting for Social Bonds.

Previously, she was an Underwriter in the Energy group at MIGA, The World Bank Group’s political risk mitigation arm. Prior to joining The World Bank Group through its Young Professionals Program, Ms. Odaro worked for Lehman Brothers as a Debt Portfolio Manager and on loan syndications at GE Capital and secondary loan markets at Goldman Sachs. She holds an M.B.A from Cornell University, an MSc from The University of London (SOAS) and qualified as a Barrister at The Honorable Society of Lincoln’s Inn. Denise was selected for the 2019 cohort of the Emerging Leaders Program at Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

**Esohe Denise Odaro**  
Head of Investor Relations, IFC
Flora Chao oversees IFC’s global funding operations based in Washington, DC. Her team covers both public and private debt capital markets, as well as structured and plain vanilla bond issuances.

Previously, she oversaw funding operations in the Asia region, including Australia, New Zealand, China, India and Japan. Prior to joining funding operations, Flora was in the Treasury Client Solutions department at IFC, specializing in structured finance transactions in Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

She began her career at Goldman Sachs in its Asset Backed Securitization group and then moved to Morgan Stanley to help start its public sector student loan securitization group. Ms. Chao holds a Master in Finance from Princeton and a Bachelor’s degree cum laude in Applied Mathematics from Harvard.