

CSD-16 Partnerships Fair Chairperson Biography

Diane Quarless

Ms. Quarless is Chief of the Small Islands Developing States Unit in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations.

She began her career as a diplomat in the Foreign Service of the Government of Jamaica. She was assigned twice to the Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the United Nations in New York, most recently as Deputy Permanent Representative during 1998 to 2002. She was an active member of the Alliance of Small Island States, and Jamaica's representative in all environment and sustainable development forums.

She was elected a Vice Chair and Rapporteur on the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and served as co-Chair on Partnership Initiatives for the Summit.

Trained in international relations, she also holds a Masters degree in Development Studies with specialization in Environmental Management.