

BBC WORLD



Bridging the Digital Divide

BBC/TVE/UNDP “Live” Television Debate On the Occasion of the World Summit for Information Society

PANELISTS

Mark Malloch BROWN



Mark Malloch Brown is Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and Chair of the United Nations Development Group, an umbrella committee for the heads of all UN programmes, departments and funds, working on development issues.

With an honours degree in history from Cambridge University and a Masters in political science from the University of Michigan, Mr Malloch Brown started his career as a journalist. He was a political correspondent for the *Economist Magazine* and founder and editor of the *Economist Development Report*. He subsequently worked for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees then held a post at the World Bank as Vice President for External Affairs and the United Nations. He joined UNDP in 1999.

Kanak DIXIT



Kanak Dixit, a leading south Asia journalist, is editor and publisher of *Himal -South Asian*, a monthly English magazine with a circulation in South Asia, Europe and North America. The subject of ICT's is a regular feature in his Magazine. Mr Dixit also publishes a fortnightly news magazine called *Himal Kharpatrika* and is an author of children's books.

Born in Nepal, Kanak Dixit has university degrees from Delhi and Columbia Universities and has been a journalist since 1971. His interests are in international relations, “clean” energy and the arts.

Per-Kristian (Kris) HALVORSEN



Per-Kristian Halvorsen joined Hewlett-Packard in 2000 as Vice President and Director of the Solutions and Services Technology Centre at HP Labs. The research centre has laboratories in the US, UK, Israel and India and conducts research on information technologies for developing countries and exploring the future of enterprise in the developed world.

Prior to joining HP, Dr Halvorsen was the founding director of the Information Sciences and Technologies Lab at Xerox PARC. This laboratory became a leading centre for research on the fundamental forces driving the evolution of the Web and the Internet. Dr Halvorsen is an inventor of many patents and holds a PhD in linguistics. He has published widely in the areas of linguistics, semantics, natural language processing, knowledge management and information access.

Lyndall SHOPE-MAFOLE



Lyndall Shope-Mafole is Chairperson of the National Presidential Commission on Information and Communications Technology for Sustainable Development, South Africa. Shope-Mafole has held numerous posts on world telecoms bodies, including: member of the restructuring implementation team on the Pan-African Telecommunications Union and member of the Group of Experts on the common Telecommunications Policy Framework for the Southern African Development Community, as well as being vice-chair of the 1998/99 Session of the Council of the ITU in 1998.

The following year she chaired the 1999/2000 Session of Council of the ITU and the Working Group on ITU Reform. In the same year she was vice-chair of the Penang Working Party on the Privatisation of Intelsat, as well as vice-chair of the 22nd Congress of the UPU, and a member of High Level Group on the future development of the UPU.

H.E Amar Leo MOGGIE



Datuk Amar Leo Moggie is the former Malaysian Minister for Energy, Communications and Multimedia, a position he has held twice from 1978-1989 when the post was called Minister for Energy, Telecommunications and Posts and from 1995 to 2004 when it was renamed to reflect the changing nature of communications.

After gaining an MA in History from University of Otago, New Zealand, he started his career as a Civil Servant in the Sarawak State Civil Service in 1966. He then studied for an MBA at Pennsylvania State University in USA and returned to Malaysia to embark on his political career, which began in 1974 when he was elected as Member of Parliament and Member of the Sarawak Legislative Assembly.

Jose Maria Figueres OLSEN



Formerly the President of Costa Rica, Jose Maria Figueres Olsen is currently Senior Managing Director of the World Economic Forum in Switzerland. He is also Chairperson for the United Nations Information and Technologies Task Force, appointed by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in 2000.

Jose Maria Figueres was educated at the United States Military Academy and obtained an Engineering degree from Harvard University. While President of Costa Rica, Senor Figueres was energetic in promoting the use of digital technology for the development of his country.

PANEL MODERATOR

Mishal HUSSEIN



Mishal Hussein is currently a news anchor for BBC World but has also worked as a BBC correspondent in Washington, first anchor of BBC World's 'Asia Business Report' in Singapore, a reporter for BBC's Economics and Business Unit and presenter of business news on BBC World and BBC News 24.

Mishal gained her journalistic experience on Pakistan's *The News*, a widely-read English language newspaper. She has also worked for Bloomberg Television in London and more recently, was co-presenter of a PBS documentary series in America called 'Wide Angle'.