BIO – Sam Paltridge

Sam Paltridge, Ph.D., is in the Directorate of Science Technology and Industry, for the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

He joined the OECD as a communication analyst in the Division of Information Computer and Communications Policy (ICCP) in 1993. He was a principal author of the Communications Outlook series between the 1995 and 2005 editions; and was principal administrator of ICT statistics in the OECD's Economic Analysis and Statistics Division between 2005 and 2007, before shifting to be part of the Secretariat team that organised the OECD Seoul Ministerial on the Future of the Internet Economy in 2008. Since that time he has headed up the unit in ICCP that deals with communication infrastructure and services including working on the OECD's high level meeting on the Internet Economy in 2011.

Sam has also served in a number of advisory roles to governments, such as the Australian Government's Broadband Advisory Group, and he is a former member of the organising committee for the Telecommunications Policy Research Conference (TPRC) held each year in Washington. He has served on the Scientific Advisory Council of LIRNEasia, Sri Lanka, since 2005. Sam's work with the OECD involves working closely with other international organisations on ICT policy and, in 2005, he chaired the International Telecommunication Union's World Meeting on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators. Paltridge is currently the OECD's representative on the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers' (ICANN) Government Advisory Committee (GAC) and was one of the founding members of the GAC in 1999. He was also the initial OECD representative to the Multistakeholder Advisory Group for the Internet Governance Forum.

BIO – Makhtar Fall

Mr FALL is a Telecommunication Engineer (specializing in radiocommunications). He also holds a Masters in Business and Administration (MBA) (option: Finance and Accounting).

Mr FALL is currently the Head of Regulatory and Market Environment Division (Telecommunications Development Bureau / International Telecommunication Union) since January 2009.

Regarding his professional background, Mr FALL begun his career at the Senegalese incumbent national telecommunications operator (Sonatel), with the following responsibilities: Head Frequency Management Department; Head International Affairs Department; Permanent Secretary of the West African Telecommunications Conference (CTOA).

At March 2002, he joined the Senegalese regulatory authority body (ARPT), where he occupied the following posts: Director of Studies and International Affairs; Technical Director (In charge of Radiocommunications, Follow up of operators, International Affairs, Studies ….).

Mr FALL also conducted many activities on the following areas: Trainer on spectrum management and radiocommunications at ESMT and the National Telecommunication School and Senior Expert on spectrum management for the International Telecommunication Union (as such, carried out a number of expert and training missions in Africa for ITU/BDT).

Mr FALL was the representative of Senegal to the ITU Council from 2002 to 2008.

BIO – Victor Mulas

VICTOR MULAS, ICT Policy Specialist, World Bank
Victor Mulas works in the connectivity and innovation practices of the ICT Unit of the World Bank. He has provided broadband policy strategic advice to clients, including technical assistance (TA) for Broadband Strategy Plan in Egypt, sector reform in Lebanon and rural broadband policy strategy for Vietnam. Currently, Victor is leading a project to develop a mobile internet ecosystem in Lebanon and providing technical assistance in Thailand and Colombia to develop and implement innovation centers in rural areas and smart cities strategies and urban innovation labs, respectively.
Prior to the World Bank, Victor worked for Telecommunications Management Group, a global consulting firm, where he advised governments and multinational ICT companies worldwide in regulatory strategy. He has also worked as head of regulatory affairs for the affiliate of the Tiscali group in Spain. Victor holds an MBA with an International Business Diplomacy certificate from Georgetown University and a Law Degree from Universidad Autonoma de Madrid.

BIO – Magnus RENTZHOG –

Magnus Rentzhog is a Senior Adviser at the Swedish National Board of Trade (Kommerskollegium), providing support to the Foreign Ministry of Sweden in negotiations, both in the WTO and in bilateral and regional agreements. He has worked extensively on trade in services and investment related issues and conducts research in these areas. His research focuses on the growing importance of services in manufacturing (servicification), services and global value chains and e-commerce (digitalization of trade). Magnus is a Swedish representative at the EU Trade Policy Committee (Services and Investments) and co-chaired the committee during the Swedish presidency (autumn 2009). He holds an LLM in EC-law from the University of Essex, UK, as well as bachelor degrees in international law (University of Örebro) and economics (Uppsala University).

BIO – Hosuk Lee-Makiyama

Hosuk Lee-Makiyama is Director of the European Centre for International Political Economy (ECIPE). He has published several papers and articles for ECIPE since 2010 on EU-China/Far East relations, World Trade Organization, services trade, innovation and the digital economy.

Prior to joining ECIPE, he was the Senior Advisor on WTO issues to the EU Presidency of Sweden, serving in Geneva as EU chairperson on trade in services, intellectual property, customs-technical issues and their related UN/WTO-bodies. He represented the EU in World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and served also on the executive committee of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). He also worked in the private sector advising Fortune 500 companies and served on the European board of governors of a top 3 US PR/advertising group.

Lee-Makiyama appears regularly in European, US and Chinese media, and was named one of the 20 most influential people for open internet by the readers of the Guardian UK in 2012.