Ambassador Dr. Len Ishmael

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**Specialist: EU-ACP Affairs, Africa-EU relationship; China in Europe & Africa, SIDS, Development Cooperation, International Relations & Diplomacy; Geopolitical Analyses & Great Power Competition.**

Former Ambassador to Europe and President of the 79 country ACP Committee of Ambassadors, United Nations Director, World Bank Alternate Governor, Director General of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and Director of LEAD (Rockefeller Foundation). Expert in ACP-EU affairs and international development cooperation. Highly experienced Diplomat and Senior professional with expansive international experience and skills utilized in preparation of geo-strategic & economic briefs and assessments, negotiating multilateral and bilateral development cooperation and financial agreements in Europe, USA, Africa, Asia & Latin America & the Caribbean with extensive operational experience within the frameworks of the United Nations, World Bank and European multilateral and intergovernmental institutions, regional governments, Foundations and Academia. In-depth knowledge of international issues pertaining to corporate governance, international development, geo-political & corporate economic diplomacy. Excellent analytical and strategic expertise and understanding of power structures and global distribution of power. An action oriented, empathetic, experienced and dynamic professional with strong oral and inter-personal skills. ***Experienced speaker & writer on development cooperation with extensive diplomatic and professional contacts and networks in Europe, ACP countries: Africa, the Caribbean & the Pacific; Asia & Latin America.***

**Education**

**Professional**

**University of Pennsylvania, (PENN) Philadelphia USA** Ph.D. Regional Development & Development Economics

**Tufts University: The Fletcher School of International Law & Diplomacy**

**Boston, USA**

GlobalMaster of Arts International Relations & Diplomacy.

**Hunter College of the City University of New York**

Master of Urban Planning

**University of the West Indies Jamaica.**

BA Economics & Geography

**Affiliations/Awards**

**Senior Fellow: Policy Center for the New South (PCNS)**

**Distinguished Visiting Scholar: Fellow of the German Marshall Fund** (**GMF)**

**Associate: European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM)**

**Member: Global Master of Arts Program (GMAP) Advisory Council**: The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

**Honorary Chairperson of FIFAC** (World Federation of Consuls) Women in Diplomacy Committee. September 2017

**Fletcher School Tufts University Endowment Fellow**. July 2017.

**University of the West Indies Chancellor’s**Nominee University Council January 2017

**President** of the ACP Committee of Ambassadors Brussels. 2016 – 2017

**Order of Merit of the Kingdom of Spain:** March 2010.

**Alternate Governor**: World Bank USA. July 2004 – December 2013

**Medal of Merit *of the Commonwealth of Puerto* Rico** - May 2005

**Experience**

08/20 - Present Visiting Professor: **Vrije Universiteit Brussel. Faculty of Law & Criminology**

03/19 – Present **Visiting** **Professor: Mohammed V1 University, Morocco**. Faculty of Governance, Economic & Social Sciences, Ben Guerir & Marrakesh Campuses, Morocco. Courses: Globalization & Integration in Africa, LEAD Campus Program; Geo-Politics & Geo-Economics in an Era of Uncertainty.

09/19 - Present **Advisor: Global Affairs Brussels Diplomatic Academy Vrije Universiteit Brussel**. Strategic engagement in building and promoting the BDA brand in Brussels & international; supporting & building BDA geographic areas of expertise and leading on the Trans-Atlantic relationship; developing BDA networks regionally & internationally; initiating and conceptualizing conferences, high-table discussions, events and leadership series and developing strategic partnerships.

07/19 – Present **Associate: European Center for Development Policy Management** (ECDPM)

Engagement with the intellectual efforts of ECDPM Think Tank.

03/19 - Present **Senior Fellow: Policy Center of the New South (PCNS)**

Researcher and author of publications analyzing EU policy and development cooperation, EU-Africa and EU-ACP relations, and EU/Africa migration & security issues and analyses of topical issues relative to global power dynamics from the perspective of the Global South. Representative of the PCNS at events in Europe.

09/18 - Present **German Marshall Fund of the United States of America Fellow & Distinguished Scholar**

Involvement in the work of the GMF European Headquarters in Brussels and Washington DC, and the international Atlantic Strategy Group

10/17 – Present **Advisor Global Affairs EUROPE** Vice Chancellor, University of the West Indies Jamaica

**02/17 – Present Development Cooperation, International Relations, Diplomacy, Geo-Politics Advisory Services**

*Policy advisor/ Researcher: Geo-strategic, operational and policy assessments in the areas of international development cooperation, negotiations, strategic policy intelligence, corporate economic diplomacy, international relations, Small Island States and Developing Countries. Recent engagements/reports*:

**Moderator** Webinar: German Marshall Fund and Policy Center for the New South: *Covid-19 and the implications for North South Relations.* May 22, 2020

**Host** BDA Webinar Series: The effect of COVID-19 on Africa’s debt; Covid-19 effects on Latin America & the Caribbean economies; Understanding Russia and the CIS countries through the prism of Covid-19. May – July 2020.

**Host** Webinar: BDA. *The Perfect Storm: How the Covid-19 Pandemic & Oil price crash combine to undermine prospects for geopolitical and economic stability in 2020 and beyond.* May 19, 2020

Horizon ISSG. **Publication**. Len Ishmael: *The Making of a Super Power: How China uses Crises to Deepen and Extend Power & Influence, in Europe and the World*. Horizon ISSG April 2020, Vol. 3 Issue 1.

Policy Center for the New South: **Publication.** Len Ishmael *Africa’s Integration. Not an Option but an Imperative*. PP-20/04 April 2020.

European Parliament: **Speaker**. Meeting of Delegation to the CARIFORUM-EU Parliamentary Committee. *Enhancing Joint Climate Change Action*. March 2, 2020.

**Moderator** BDA Public Lecture: *Climate Change Dialogues. Post Madrid & COP 25.* Speaker Nobel Laureate Bill Moomaw Professor Emeritus Tufts University, the Fletcher School. The Press Club, Brussels. February 2020.

CTA Brussels Policy Briefing #60: **Speaker:** The Future of Food & Agricultural Transformation. *Challenges & Opportunities for Small Island Developing States.* February 2020.

Policy Center for the New South & Case Arabe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Spain: **Speaker:** Africa-EU *Migration & Mobility Dialogue, the Sahel & Maghreb Regions*.Madrid January 2020.

Tufts University: Fletcher School of International Law and Diplomacy: **Speaker** *The Rise of the East: Western Liberal World Order Under Threat. London.* January 07, 2020

Policy Center for the New South. **Book Chapter:** *Global Governance in a Post- American World order: The End of Hubris.* Atlantic Currents, 8th ed. December 2019.

German Marshall Fund: **Speaker & Chair**: Conference. *Security Issues in the Wider Atlantic Including the USA, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean*. Miami. USA November 2019.

Policy Center for the New South. **Publication**: Len Ishmael *Africa & Europe: Different Demographic Trends. Seeds of a Smart Partnership*. PP-19/14 September 2019.

Policy Center for the New South. **Publication**. Len Ishmael *Under-Invested. The Caribbean-African Relationship*.PP-19/08 June 2019.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade & Development Cooperation. **Lecture** Belgium. *Policy Implications of China in Europe & Implications for the European Cohesion & the Trans-Atlantic Relationship*. May 2019.

African-European Centre for Investment & Trade South Africa & Brussels. **Chair** Round Table: *A New Framework for Investment & Trade through a Partnership with Africa.* May 2019.

Simmons University Boston. International Relations Program. **Lectures**. *China in Europe, USA Foreign Policy and the state of the Trans-Atlantic Relationship*. April 2019

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung **Publication** – *EU-Africa Relations Post Cotonou: Carving Space for the Business Sector in the Future Relationship*. April 2019

Policy Center for The New South & German Marshall Fund: **Speaker**. Atlantic Strategy Group on Global Trade. Rabat February 2019

The Fletcher Forum World Affairs: Tufts University: **Lectures** *The Rise of China: Soft Power & Global Ambition. The Case of China’s incursion in Europe*. January 2019

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung **Publication** – *Status of ACP-EU Negotiations: Round 1*. December 2018

Africa, Caribbean, Pacific (ACP) **Report** Consultant/Advisor in support of EU-ACP negotiations Post Cotonou. *Beyond Aid. Support for Middle Income Countries. A New Framework for EU/ACP Cooperation Post Cotonou*. June 2018

**Expert**: House of Lords, Westminster, London: High Level Inquiry into Commonwealth support to Commonwealth Developing Countries Business Sector Post Brexit. November 2017.

Consultant Konrad Adenauer Stiftung – Political Diplomacy: Post Cotonou EU/ACP Relations (April 2018)

European Center for Development Policy Management (ECDPM): **Speaker.** The Future of Europe’s Engagement with Middle Income Countries (June 2018).

**01/14 – 02/17 Ambassador: Joint Missions of the Eastern Caribbean States to the Kingdom of Belgium and Europe**

Ambassador Ishmael represented four countries of the Eastern Caribbean (St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, St Kitts & Nevis and Dominica) through the ECS joint Embassy to the Kingdom of Belgium and the European Union. In that capacity, the Ambassador negotiated Schengen Visa waiver agreements for the ECS, prepared intelligence and policy assessments, engaged with EU Institutions, the European Parliament and negotiated bilaterally with individual member states. Ambassador Ishmael was appointed President of the 79 Member Brussels based African, Caribbean & Pacific (ACP) Committee of Ambassadors and was Chair of the ACP Private Sector Committee. Ambassador Ishmael is a regular speaker on issues of wider international significance through engagements with US, European & North African Think Tanks & Academic Centers on geostrategic European and transatlantic issues and is a recognized expert on matters of specific reference to global development cooperation & political economy.

**05/04 – 12/13 Director General: Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)**

The OECS is a Vienna Convention, Treaty based regional inter-governmental grouping of nine countries located in the Eastern Caribbean. Among the significant accomplishments during Dr. Ishmael’s tenure as DG were the design of a new Treaty establishing the OECS Economic Union and associated new regional institutional architecture on June 18th, 2011; negotiating the OECS Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the EU, enhancing development cooperation with third countries resulting in a number of countries presenting Ambassadors to the OECS, including the EU, Spain, Mexico, Brazil, Finland, Germany, France, Great Britain, Cuba, the USA, and Austria augmenting sources of development support to the OECS from USD 2m to $198m/annum; negotiating the ascension of Martinique as an associate member of the OECS, and leading assessment and rebuilding efforts post natural disasters in a number of countries.

**8/97 – 5/2004 Director, United Nations: Economic Commission for Latin America & the Caribbean** Regional Headquarters for the Caribbean/Chile/NYC.

Director: United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean - Regional Headquarters responsible for 23 countries, with international headquarters in Santiago, Chile, and New York City.

The Director of the regional HQ for the Caribbean provided technical, policy and strategic advisory services to member governments in areas of Private Sector development, trade, social, economic and environmental importance to Small Island Developing States, including trade agreements, competitiveness, sustainable development and preparations for various global summits including those related to Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Financing for Development.

**2/95-8/97 Director, Lead International, USA (Rockefeller Foundation)**

**USA, Brazil, Russia, Africa, China, Latin America, Indonesia, Canada, Japan, Pakistan.**

As Director and CEO of Leadership for Environment & Development (LEAD) with headquarters in New York City, the Chief Executive engaged globally with Governments in Russia, Africa, China, Indonesia, Thailand, Brazil, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Japan, Canada, the USA & Pakistan. LEAD was founded in 1991 by the Rockefeller Foundation to pursue sustainable development at the global level through development of partnerships with Governments and Universities based on international relations and technical cooperation. Responsibilities included management LEAD HQ in New York City and oversight of National /Regional Programs world-wide

**4/88 - 2/95 Development Planning International Consultant**

**CEO, *Development Planning Services*, New York, USA**

Consultancy services to Governments and Development Agencies internationally, including DFID, CIDA, USAID The World Bank, GTZ (Germany), the OAS, IADB, UNDP, UNEP, IUCN, FAO, EU, UNCHS.

**Speaking Engagements (Select)**

* Press Interview Covid-19: the EU and EU/Africa Relations May 2020
* European Parliament: Meeting of Delegation to the CARIFORUM-EU Parliamentary Committee. *Enhancing Joint Climate Change Action*. March 2, 2020
* CTA Brussels Policy Briefing #60: The Future of Food & Agricultural Transformation. *Challenges & Opportunities for Small Island Developing States.* Speaker. February 2020.
* Spain-Morocco Relationships: Sharing Perspectives in a Dynamic Neighborhood. “Africa-Eu Question of Migration and Mobility Dialogues.” Policy Center for the New South & Casa Arabe, Madrid. January 28, 2020.
* Tufts University: Fletcher School of International Law and Diplomacy: *The Rise of the East: Western Liberal World Order Under Threat. London.* January 07, 2020
* Atlantic Dialogues**:** Morocco. Speaker. “Turbulence & Change in the Balance of World Power.” Marrakech, December 2019
* Brussels Diplomatic Academy Conference. “Sustainable Development in Turbulent Times: Can Europe Lead the Way?” Brussels. December 2019
* German Marshall Fund**:** “Illegal Flows inthe WiderAtlantic – Cooperation in the Transatlantic Relationship.” Miami. November 2019
* Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. “China in Europe & Implications for EU Policy Coherence’. Brussels. May 2019
* Simmons University. International Relations Program**.** *China in Europe, USA Foreign Policy and the state of the Trans-Atlantic Relationship*. Boston. USA April 2019
* African-European Centre for Investment & Trade: South Africa & Brussels. Round Table A New Framework for Investment & Trade through a Partnership with Africa. Conference Chair May 2019
* European Center for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) Europe’s Engagement with Middle Income Countries & the Developing World. Speaker. June 2018
* German Marshall Fund. Luso-Americana Foundation. OCP Policy Center Morocco. The Trans-Atlantic Relationship & Global Risks. Lisbon. Portugal. May 2018
* Konrad Adenauer Stiftung. La Collina, Italy. The Future of EU-Africa, Caribbean & Pacific Relations, Post Cotonou. Co-Host.April 2018
* House of Lords, Westminster, (London). Expert APPG-TOP High Level Inquiry: Commonwealth assistance to helping Developing Countries out of poverty through Trade. Expert Witness. November 2017
* Konrad Adenauer Stiftung. (Brussels). Diverging Governance Paradigms? EU and US views on Global Development. Speaker. November 2017
* Emerging Transatlantic Trends: Threats and Opportunities for the Caribbean in a Multi-Polar World. Institute des Ameriques, University of Bordeaux, EU-LAC Foundation. Latin America & Caribbean Week, Paris. Speaker June 2017
* Political, Economic & Diplomatic Integration between Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe. Instituto para a Promocoa da America Latine e Caraibas. Portugal. Speaker May 2017
* The Caribbean & Portugal: Unveiling Opportunities – IPDAL. Portugal Speaker. May 2017
* EU/Africa/ACP Relations Doing Less with More. Maltese EU Presidency/ECDMP. Speaker January 2017
* ACP/CARIBBEAN – EU Relations Post Cotonou. ECDPM BOARD MAASTRICHT. November 2016
* Building Bridges: The Role of Small States in Global Governance. 11th World Congress of Consuls, 2015. Istanbul, Turkey. Feature Speaker. September 2015
* Why the Development Index Matters. Center for Global Development. London September 2015
* Opportunities to support Agri-business in the ACP-EU Cooperation Instrument. FAO/IICA/CTA 2nd Pacific/Caribbean Agri-business Forum. Barbados August 2018
* How to Improve the Impact and Efficiency of Technical Assistance Programs Through Innovations and Creative Methods. Vanuatu. June 2015.
* Halting Climate Change & Building Resilience. COLEACP. European Development Day. Brussels. June 2015

**Recent Publications/ Reports, Briefs.**

Ishmael, L. *The Impact of Covid-19 on the African Integration. Book Chapter.* Forthcoming. Policy Center for the New South. December 2020.

Ishmael, L. *The Making of a SuperPower: How China uses Crises to Deepen and Extend Power & Influence, in Europe and the World*. Horizon ISSG April 2020, Vol. 3 Issue 1.

Ishmael, L. *Africa’s Integration. Not an Option but an Imperative*. Policy Center for the New South PP-20/04 April 2020.

Ishmael, L. *Global Governance in a Post- American World order: The End of Hubris.* Book Chapter: Atlantic Currents, 8th ED. Policy Center for the New South. December 2019.

Ishmael, L. *Africa & Europe: Different Demographic Trends. Seeds of a Smart Partnership*. Policy Center for the New South. PP-19/14. September 2019.

Ishmael, L. *Under Invested: The Caribbean – African Relationship*. Policy Center for the New South. Publication. PP-19/08 June 2019.

Ishmael, L. *EU-Africa Relations Post Cotonou: Carving Space for the Business Sector in the Future Relationship*. Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Consultant April 2019

Ishmael, L. *The Rise of China. Soft Power & Global Ambition. The Case of China’s Growing Reach in Europe*. The Fletcher Forum World Affairs. Publication. Winter (January) 2019 VOL 43:1.

Ishmael, L. *Status of ACP-EU Negotiations: Round 1*. Report. December 2018. Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

Ishmael, L. Beyond Aid. Support for Middle Income Countries. A New Framework for EU/ACP Cooperation Post Cotonou. Report. ACP. June 2018.

Ishmael, L. What Next for the EU-ACP Relationship? The Future, Post Cotonou. Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Consultant: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung. May 2018

German Marshall Fund Luso-Americana Foundation, OCP Policy Center Morocco. Tensions in the Trans-Atlantic Relationship. Where Lies the Future? June /2018.

House of Lords, Westminster. The Challenges Facing Developing Countries. A Strategy for Commonwealth Support Post Brexit. November 2017.