



Narinder Kakar

Professor Emeritus, University of Peace

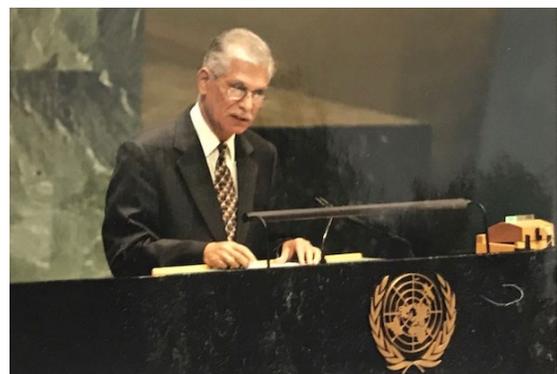
Narinder Kakar has devoted the last 50 years of his professional career to programmes related to development activities – more specifically to sustainable human development and climate change, and to education for peacebuilding. He has had extensive experience working for the United Nations, having started his career with the UN Development Programme (UNDP) in 1968 in Yemen. During his long and distinguished career with UNDP, he served in countries like Yemen, Guyana, Turkey, China, and the Maldives with progressively increasing responsibilities, culminating in the position of UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP. Resident Representative, in addition to serving in senior positions at UNDP Headquarters.

Mr. Kakar is currently accredited to the United Nations as the Permanent Observer for the University for Peace (an institution established pursuant to a UN General Assembly decision), which he joined in 2001 following his retirement from UNDP. Until recently, he also served as the Permanent Observer of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the world's oldest and largest environmental network, dedicated to the cause of natural resources conservation.

While in the Maldives in the mid-1990s, Mr. Kakar was instrumental in co-sponsoring with the Government of Maldives the meeting of the IPCC in 1997, preparatory to the UNFCCC COP meeting in Kyoto, Japan, which resulted in the Kyoto Protocol on climate change. Representing IUCN at the United Nations, Mr. Kakar performed admirably, advocating the cause of environmental conservation and sustainable development. He participated actively in



With former Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon



Speaking before the UN General Assembly



University for Peace



discussions related to the formulation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Recognizing his commitment to conservation causes, the American Museum of Natural History featured him prominently in the renovated Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Hall with an interview on the timeline of the conservation movement started by the 26th President of the United States. Former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton are the two prominent leaders appearing on the same timeline.

Mr. Kakar has served on several boards: as Chairperson of the UN Joint Appeals Board; Chairman of the UN Federal Credit Union (a saving and loan institution with assets of over \$4 billion currently); Member of the Board of Directors of the UN Joint Staff Pension Board (with assets of over \$65 billion currently); and as a member of the Board of Directors of the International School of Beijing. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Elisabeth Haub Foundation, dedicated to promoting the cause of environmental conservation, and is a member of the Jury for the Elisabeth Haub Award for Environmental Diplomacy.

Mr. Kakar has written several articles and papers on socio-economic matters and has edited curriculum and training manuals on different aspects of peace education. He is a Distinguished Senior Fellow with the Global Center for Environmental Legal Studies of the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University, where he taught the course on UN Environmental Diplomacy, and where he serves as Director of the Sustainable Development Research Program. In recognition of his distinguished academic service, the University for Peace conferred upon him the title of Professor Emeritus.

Mr. Kakar speaks frequently on issues related to the United Nations in general and on sustainable development and climate change, and on education for peacebuilding.