

## Biographical Notes

**Ahmed Djoghlaf, Ph.D.  
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An Algerian national, Dr. Djoghlaf has pursued a distinguished diplomatic career that has included postings with the government of Algeria and UNEP.

He assumed the position of Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on January 3, 2006. He was named to his previous position as Assistant Executive Director of UNEP in June 2003, following his success as Director and Coordinator of UNEP's Division of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), where he played a key role for some seven years and successfully raised UNEP'S profile. During his tenure at the GEF, the portfolio grew from 6 projects worth US\$ 28 million to 600 projects worth more than US \$1 billion implemented in 155 countries.

Throughout his impressive career, Dr. Djoghlaf has increased his extensive knowledge of global environment processes within the UN system and within the CBD process. Notably, he was the General Rapporteur of the Preparatory Committee of the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), better known as the "Rio Summit". He was Vice Chairman of the Eleventh Session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development and Vice President of the Negotiating Committee on the Framework Convention on Climate Change as well as Chair of one of the two negotiating committees of the Convention to Combat Desertification.

His numerous positions at the CBD included Acting Principal Officer on intergovernmental issues and cooperative arrangements at the Secretariat, during which time he was in charge of meetings including the First and Second Conferences of the Parties. In 1994, in his capacity as Special Adviser to the Executive Secretary of CBD, he was responsible for the preparations for the First Conference of the Parties held in Nassau, Bahamas, in December of that year.

Prior to joining the United Nations, Dr. Djoghlaf held a variety of important posts in the Algerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was advisor on environmental issues to the Prime Minister of Algeria and, prior to that, to three Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Algeria.

He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Nancy, France, as well as four other post graduate degrees including Master of Arts, Government and Politics from St. John's University, New York and a Law degree from the University of Algiers.

Dr. Djoghlaf, who holds the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations, is married and has two children. He and his family now reside in Montreal.

Dr. Djoghlaf speaks Arabic, English and French.

## Professional Experience

- **2003-2005:** Assistant Executive Director of UNEP and Director of the Division of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Coordination;
- **1998-2003:** Director of the UNEP's Division of the GEF Coordination;
- **1996-2003 :** Executive Coordinator of UNEP/GEF Coordination Office;
- **1995:** Acting Principal Officer on intergovernmental issues and cooperative arrangements at the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in charge of the preparation of the Second Conference of the Parties (COP2) of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Jakarta, 1995 and the first meeting of Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, Paris, September 1995. He also served as Secretary of the Panel of Experts on Biosafety, Cairo, Egypt, 1-5 May of that year and of the Open-ended Group of Experts on Biosafety, Madrid, Spain, 24-28 July.
- **May-Dec 1994 :** Special Adviser to the Executive Secretary of the CBD in charge of the preparation of the second meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of the CBD and the preparation of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP1), held in Nassau in December 1994;
- **Jan-May 1994:** Special Adviser on environmental issues to the Prime Minister of Algeria with the rank of Permanent Secretary;
- **1992-1993:** Adviser to three Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Algeria on environmental issues and responsible for the preparation of meetings of the Cabinet of the Government. He also served as Special Assistant to the General Rapporteur of the Rio Summit, June 1992
- **1990-1991:** Assistant Director of Economic Studies in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Algeria, providing strategic and policy advice on international economic and environmental issues to the office of the Minister;
- **1986-1990:** Counselor to the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations, New York, in charge of economic and environmental issues of the General Assembly and its relevant associated organizations and organs such as ECOSOC, and subsidiary bodies: UNEP, UNDP, UNFPA, FAO and UNCTAD;
- **1985-1986:** Assistant Director a.i. of Social, Cultural and Scientific issues in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Algeria, in charge of issues related to the United Nations General Assembly, ECOSOC, UNESCO, IAEA, WHO, UNICEF, UNEP, environmental conventions and UNFPA;
- **1983-1984:** First Secretary at the Embassy of Algeria in New Delhi in charge of economic issues of the Non-Aligned Movement during the Chairmanship of India;
- **1980-1983:** Head of the North-South desk in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Algeria, in charge of the North-South dialogue, including the Global Negotiations process, UNGA, UNCTAD, ECOSOC, Group of 77, Non-Aligned Movement and South-South Cooperation.

### **Diplomatic Experience**

- Chairman of one of the two Committees of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee of the Convention on Desertification, 1993-1994.
- Vice-Chairman of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee of the Framework Convention on Climate Change and Chairman of one of the Committees established at the seventh session on the *Preamble, the Objective and the Principles of the Convention*, 1991-1994;
- Member of the Perez Guerrero Expert Group on Economic Co-operation among the Developing Countries, 1991-1994;
- Chairman of the Trust Fund on the implementation of the Caracas Programme of Action on South-South Cooperation jointly managed by UNDP (TCDC Unit) and the Group of 77, 1992-1993;
- Vice-Chairman of the Eleventh Session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development, April 1991;
- Special Assistant to the President of ECOSOC and to the Chairman of the Ministerial Segment, 1991;
- Member of the United Nations Expert Group on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, 1990-1991;
- Member of the ECOSOC Committee on the Use and Development of New and Renewable Sources of Energy, 1988 and 1990
- Member of the UNDP Expert Group on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, New York, April 1990;
- Assistant to the Chairman of the Group of 77 on matters related to Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries, in charge of the implementation of the Caracas Programme of Action and the meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Economic Cooperation among developing countries, 1988-1990;
- Member of the High level Committee on Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries, 1987 and 1989;
- Coordinator of the Group of 77 on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries at the 44th session of the General Assembly, New York, 1989;
- Member of the Special Commission of ECOSOC on the In-depth Study of the United Nations Intergovernmental structure in Economic and social Fields, 1987-1988
- Coordinator of the Group of 77 on the Restructuring of the United Nations in the Economic and Social fields at the 45th session of the General Assembly, New York ,1990;
- Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Whole of the elaboration of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, and Chairman of informal consultations on issues related to international debt, 1989-1990;
- Chairman of the African Experts Group on economic issues, New York, 1989-1990;
- Member of the Ministerial Contact Group of the OAU on African External Debt, 1988;
- Coordinator of the African Group on matters related to Least Developed Countries at the 7th session of UNCTAD, Geneva 1987;
- Spokesman of the African Group on Commodities at the 6th session of UNCTAD, Belgrade, 1983;
- Member of the Ministerial Steering Committee on Economic issues of the Non Aligned Movement, Harare, 1988;
- Member of the expert Group on Money and Finance for Development of the Non Aligned Movement, 1984.

### **Convention on Biological Diversity-related Experience**

- Assistant to the President of the First Global Ministerial Environment Forum, Malmo, Sweden 29-31 May 2000;
- Member of the UNEP support team to the Chairman of the UNEP Ministerial Committee on the International Environmental Governance, 2001-2002;
- Member of the UNEP support team to the Chairman of the Second Global Ministerial Forum, Cartagena, Colombia 11-14 February 2002;
- Assistant to the President of the Second Global Ministerial Forum, and main author of the report on the Dialogue Among Civilizations from an environmental perspective, Nairobi, 8-9 February 2001;
- Member of the High level Expert Committee of the Group of 77 on the preparation of the South Summit, Jakarta, Indonesia, August 1998;
- Special Assistant to the President of the South Summit, Havana, Cuba April 2000;
- Chairman of the Scientific Committee for the preparation of the meeting on Religion and Environment, 2001;
- Rapporteur of the International seminar on religion and Environment, Teheran, June 2001;
- Chairman of the Search Committee for the reconstitution of Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the GEF in 1997, 2002 and 2003.

### **Lectures and publications**

Dr. Djoghlaif has lectured frequently on topics related to the Global Environment Facility and financing of sustainable development and is the author of a number of articles on topics ranging from the Spiritual and ethical dimensions of the Environment (*Dimension spirituelle et éthique de la question de l'environnement*) and Environmental *dimension of peace and security* to *The Beginnings of an International Climate Law* and *The External Indebtedness Crisis of the Third World*