Ms Christiana Figueres was appointed Executive Secretary of UNFCCC in May 2010. She has been involved in climate change negotiations since 1995. In the same year, she founded the Center for Sustainable Development of the Americas (CSDA), a non-profit think tank for climate change policy and capacity-building, and directed until 2003. From 1994–1996, she served as Director of the Technical Secretariat, Renewable Energy in the Americas (REIA). She has served as Minister Counsellor at the Embassy of Costa Rica in Bonn, Germany (1982), Director of International Cooperation in the Ministry of Planning in Costa Rica (1987–88), and Chief of Staff to the Minister of Agriculture (1988–90). Ms Figueres has served on several boards of non-governmental organizations involved in climate change issues. She is a widely published author on design of climate solutions.