

## **PANELISTS BIOS**

### **“Environmental Refugees and Displaced Persons: Protecting the Vulnerable”**

Thursday, Nov. 17, 2011, 2:00 p.m.  
Rayburn B318

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#### **VINCENT COCHETEL**

*Regional Representative, UN High Commissioner for Refugees*

Mr. Cochetel is the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees Regional Representative for the United States and Caribbean, based in the UNCHR's Washington Office. Mr. Cochetel joined UNHCR in 1986. His previous positions include Head of the Investigation Unit of the Inspector General's Office at the UNHCR Headquarters in Geneva, and Deputy Director of UNHCR's Division of International Protection Services and Head of the Resettlement Service.

#### **RICHARD E. SCOTT**

*Chief of Mission, International Organization for Migration*

Mr. Richard E. Scott currently serves as the Chief of Mission in the United States for the International Organization for Migration, a Geneva-based international intergovernmental organization. In this position, he oversees liaison with the U.S. Government and other Washington-based partners. Mr. Scott has more than 35 years of experience responding to migration management and humanitarian response programs worldwide. From January 1977 to present, Mr. Scott has held posts with IOM missions in Kabul, Afghanistan; Amman, Jordan; Moscow, Russia; New York; Geneva, Switzerland; Bangkok, Thailand; and Hong Kong, China.

#### **SUSAN MARTIN**

*Executive Director, Institute for the Study of International Migration*

Dr. Susan Martin—a long-time expert on immigration and refugee policy—came to Georgetown after having served as the Executive Director of the U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform. Prior to joining the Commission's staff, Professor Martin was the Director of Research and Programs at the Refugee Policy Group. She was Assistant Professor at Brandeis University and Lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania. Professor Martin has authored *Refugee Women*, as well as numerous monographs and articles on immigration and refugee policy.

#### **ALICE THOMAS**

*Climate Displacement Program Manager, Refugees International*

Alice joined Refugees International in May 2010 as the Climate Displacement Program Manager. Alice previously worked as a staff attorney in the international program at Earthjustice, where she worked to defend and seek redress for communities from the impacts of pollution and climate change. Prior to working for Earthjustice, Alice served as Deputy Director of the American Bar Association's Asia Law Initiative, where she oversaw the implementation of ABA's technical legal assistance programs in Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Mongolia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. She has also worked in Uzbekistan and Bosnia on issues related to environmental good governance and public participation in environmental decision-making.