



Ambassador Thomas Gass

Assistant Director General, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

From 2013-2017, he served as Assistant Secretary General at the Department for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in New York. Prior to his position at the United Nations, he served from 2009 to 2013 as Head of the Mission of Switzerland to Nepal.

Before his posting to Nepal, from 2004 to 2009, Mr. Gass was Head of the Economic and Development Section at the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN in New York, where he represented Switzerland's interests in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), its subsidiary Commissions, the General Assembly and the Executive Boards of the major UN Funds and Programmes. During this time, Mr. Gass was also the Chair of the Donor Group of the UN Global Compact.

Mr. Gass has also served as Deputy Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Guyana (2002-2004), as Policy Advisor and Programme Officer for the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (1998-2002), and as Regional Director for Europe with the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute in Rome (1996-1998).

Born in 1963, Thomas Gass holds a PhD in natural sciences from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich and a MSc and engineering diploma in agricultural sciences from the same Institute. He is married and father of three adult children.