

## BIOGRAPHY

### ANDRÉS FRANCO

**Andrés Franco** assumed duties as Secretary of the Executive Board/Director of the Office of the Secretary of the Executive Board of UNICEF on 8 February 2024.

At UNICEF, Franco has served as the Director leading on Multilateral Partnerships in the Public Partnerships Division (2019–2024); Director for Private Sector Engagement in the Private Fundraising and Partnerships Division (2014–2019); Representative in Argentina (2009–2014), Regional Manager, Partnerships and Fundraising, Latin America and Caribbean (2006–2009) and Representative in Peru (2003–2006).

His most recent contributions include an exponential growth of UNICEF partnerships with the World Bank and other international financial institutions; several global complex negotiations, including UNICEF engagement with the Group of 20, and in the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the SDG Summit and other United Nations conferences. His leadership has contributed to a strong emphasis by UNICEF on engagement with countries of the South, including through South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

Franco has shaped UNICEF strong support for the United Nations development system reform and the work of Resident Coordinators. He has also made major contributions in transforming businesses' approaches towards sustainability, including social impact; delivering results for children left behind in high-income countries; and mainstreaming the rights of children in sports and mega-sports events.

Before joining UNICEF, Franco was Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations. During that time, he served as President of the UNICEF Executive Board in 2002 and Political Coordinator for Colombia in the Security Council (2001–2002), among other roles.

He was the Director of the International Relations Department of Javeriana University in Bogotá (1994–1999), where he contributed to the development of the country's current legal framework for internally displaced populations and to the dissemination of international humanitarian law.

Franco, a lawyer, completed an International Baccalaureate at the United World College-USA (Montezuma, New Mexico, United States). He holds a Master's degree in Comparative Law and a Ph.D. in International Affairs from the University of Miami (Coral Gables, Florida, United States). He also is a graduate of the Department of Peace and Conflict Research of Uppsala University's (Sweden) special programs.

Franco is Colombian and is married and has four children.