

MARGOT ELLIS

UNRWA DEPUTY COMMISSIONER-GENERAL



BIOGRAPHY

Ms. Margot Ellis was appointed Deputy Commissioner-General for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) on 20 January 2010.

Ms. Ellis, a national of the United States of America, brings a wealth of senior management experience in both the international development and private sector arenas.

Since July 2008, Ms. Ellis served as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Acting Assistant Administrator for the Asia Bureau. In this function she oversaw USAID's programmes in 24 countries, spanning from Kazakhstan and Afghanistan to Micronesia and the Marshall Islands.

Prior to that, Ms. Ellis was USAID's Mission Director in Uganda, a position she held for three years. From 2003 to 2005, Ms. Ellis was the Deputy Director for USAID's Mission to the West Bank and Gaza and from 1999 to 2003, the Mission's Director of its Private Enterprise Office and Higher Education Team.

Ms. Ellis joined USAID in 1987 and subsequently worked as a Programme Officer in Zimbabwe and as the Deputy Director and Director of USAID's Private Sector Division in South Africa.

Earlier in her career, Ms. Ellis worked for ten years in increasingly responsible positions in the private sector. During this period, Ms. Ellis worked for leading corporations such as Ford Motors, General Motors, J.P. Morgan Chase, and the American Management Association.

Ms. Ellis graduated from the Columbia University Graduate School of Business with an MBA in Finance and from Cornell University with a bachelor's degree in Economics and Public Policy.

About UNRWA

UNRWA provides assistance, protection and advocacy for some 4.7 million registered Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the occupied Palestinian territory, pending a solution to their plight. The Agency's services encompass education, health care, social safety-net, camp infrastructure and improvement, community support, microfinance and emergency response, including in times of armed conflict. UNRWA is funded almost entirely by contributions. The Agency's core budget for 2010-2011 stands at \$1.23 billion. In 2009, emergency appeals for the West Bank, Gaza and Lebanon amounted to \$827.4 million.