



Sheila Sisulu
Deputy Executive Director
for Hunger Solutions

World Food Programme

Biography

Sheila Sisulu became Deputy Executive Director for Hunger Solutions in the Office of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme in January 2008.

Prior to this appointment, Ms. Sisulu served as WFP's Deputy Executive Director for Policy and External Affairs Department from 2003.

Prior to joining WFP, Ms. Sisulu was South Africa's Ambassador to the United States. Her diplomatic career began in 1997 as Consul General in New York and as Ambassador to Washington two years later.

In addition to her diplomatic skills, Ms. Sisulu has 25 years' experience in South African politics and government. After graduating in 1974, Ms. Sisulu started work as a high school teacher in Soweto, at the same time becoming closely involved with the radical opposition to the apartheid system. With the end of apartheid and the advent of black majority rule, she moved from being a force for change from outside, to being an implementer of change from within – as a special adviser to the national minister of education and a member of the team assigned the task of drawing up new legislation. She was responsible in particular for policy on gender equity, youth development and early childhood care and education.

She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Botswana Lesotho and Swaziland (UBLS) in Lesotho. Ms. Sisulu holds a post-graduate degree as Bachelor of Education (University of Witwatersrand, 1990), as well as honorary doctorates from the University of Maryland and the City University of New York.

Ms. Sisulu is married with a son and two daughters.