



Mr. Gordon Alexander is the Director of the UNICEF Office of Research based in Florence, Italy. He is also leading the Innocenti Research Centre (IRC).

Since June 2010, Mr. Alexander has been serving as Director ad interim of IRC in Florence. Between 2001-2010 he was posted in Geneva, Switzerland, where he served in a number of senior positions in the UNICEF Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, including as Senior Adviser for economic and social policy, Senior Policy Advisor to the Regional Director, and as Acting Deputy Regional Director. In these capacities he has provided strategic leadership for UNICEF's policy and analytical work in this rapidly changing region, and played a key role in building its relationship with the European Commission in Brussels.

Prior to moving to Geneva, Mr. Alexander held leadership positions in the UN system in India, where he served as Senior Country Programme Adviser for the UN Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) between 1998 -2001, responsible for facilitating the strategic positioning of UNAIDS co-sponsors in support of the national response to the HIV epidemic. Between 1993-1998, he was the Deputy Director for Programmes in the UNICEF India Country Office, where he was responsible for the development, design and negotiation of UNICEF programmes with the Government of India.

Between 1984-1985, Mr. Alexander served as UNICEF Representative in Aden, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. He had previously served with UNICEF in Hanoi, Vietnam and Kabul, Afghanistan. He joined UNICEF in October 1973 as a United Nations Volunteer based in Mumbai, India.

Mr. Alexander is a national of the United Kingdom. In 1973, he obtained his Bachelor's degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from Oxford University, United Kingdom, and in 1981 he obtained a Master's degree (with distinction) in Community Health in Developing Countries from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London, United Kingdom. He subsequently undertook studies towards a PhD in the field of international economics at the Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva, Switzerland.

Florence, 18 March 2011