



Birgitta Tazelaar

Birgitta Tazelaar is the Deputy Director-General for International Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and a career diplomat with over 25 years of experience in political affairs, human rights, and development cooperation. Birgitta has worked in the Middle East, Southern Africa, and the UK in a variety of bilateral and non-governmental organizations, in both advisory and senior management posts. Before her current job as Deputy Director-General, she was Director of the Middle East and North Africa Department, which followed her role as head of Mission in Ramallah, managing, amongst others, a sizable development cooperation program.

From 2008-2011, Birgitta was the political counselor at the Dutch Embassy in London, responsible for foreign policy areas ranging from security files such as NATO and nuclear, to EU external policy and various crisis areas worldwide. Other postings included deputy head of the human rights division in the Hague, where she was active in promoting women's rights in the UN and spokesperson for the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Before joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Birgitta worked amongst others for the Netherlands Development Agency, mainly in Botswana, in regional planning. Birgitta studied Human Geography in Utrecht and researched in Kenya and Spain.