

Mr Nitin Desai
Chairman
TERI

Mr Nitin Desai joined TERI as Distinguished Fellow in August 2005 after a long and illustrious career with the Government of India and the United Nations. A graduate of the London School of Economics, Mr Desai retired from the UN in 2003 as Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs. Prior joining the UN, he was Secretary and Chief Economic Adviser in India 's Ministry of Finance. He served as Deputy Secretary-General of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), a position to which he was appointed in June 1990. His international contributions towards development and promotion of sustainable development as the goal of policy gained significant prominence, first as Senior Adviser and principal draftsman for 'Our Common Future', and then as Deputy SecretaryGeneral for the Rio Earth Summit. After his retirement Mr Desai continued his association with the UN as a Special Adviser to the UN Secretary General for Internet Governance until December 2010 and chaired the UN's Working Group on Internet Governance . Mr Desai has been associated with many Committees of the Government of India including the National Security Advisory Board, the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change, and several Committees set up by the Planning Commission, the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Reserve Bank of India. Mr Desai is an Honorary Professor at the Indian Council for Research in International Economic Relations, a Trustee of the Delhi Policy Group, an Honorary Fellow of the London School of Economics and Political Science, UK. He writes a monthly column for the Indian financial daily, The Business Standard.