

## **Bjørn Førde**

is the Director of the UNDP Oslo Governance Centre [from September 2005]. This follows his position as Resident Representative of UNDP and Resident Coordinator of the UN in Botswana during 2003-2005. He graduated from University of Copenhagen in 1975, with a degree in political science and international relations. Over the years 1975-2002 he worked for the Danish NGO Mellempfolkeligt Samvirke as magazine editor, head of information, coordinator for the Zimbabwe program. From 1995 to 2002 he was the Secretary General of the organisation. He served as a member of the Board of Danida 1998-2002, appointed by the Minister for Development, and he was a member of the Executive Committee of the Danish Centre for Culture and Development 1998-2000, and also served on the Board of the Danish Refugee Council. He was a member of the Steering Committee of Eurostep 1998-2002, and also served as Chair for two terms. He has published more than 25 books on a broad variety of development issues [specific countries, conditions of children, urbanisation, natural resources, environment, social change, etc.], mostly for educational purposes, but also fiction for children and youth.

