

Introducing Minister Patrus Ananias

In his entire political trajectory Patrus Ananias, Brazilian Minister of Social Development and the Fight against Hunger, has worked towards improving social projects as well as fighting hunger and malnutrition. As mayor of *Belo Horizonte* the Minister initiated the highly successful Food Security Policy which resulted in the virtual abolition of hunger in the city. This was achieved by various measures like supporting local production, implementing various food distribution networks and offering free health assessments and food supplements. The Programme will receive the 2009 Future Policy Award presented by the World Future Council.

Patrus Ananias is 57 years old, married and father of two children. Since he began his political career as a member of the Worker's Party in the 70's he was involved in democratic and social movements. He then studied a Bachelor of Science in Law and began to work as an advisor and lawyer for community associations.

The city of *Belo Horizonte* is the capital city of the State of *Minas Gerais* in Brazil's south east. Ananias was town councillor of *Belo Horizonte* from 1989 until 1992 and was elected mayor of the capital city in 1993. When he left the city government in 1997 he became a published author and returned to university to teach science and study a Master's degree in procedure law. In the same year his management was honoured with a United Nations award and became a public management pattern. With more than 520,000 votes in the 2002 elections, Ananias was the most voted federal deputy of *Minas Gerais'* history. Since 2004 Patrus Ananias is Brazil's Minister of Social Development and the Fight against Hunger.

The World Future Council welcomes Minister Patrus Ananias to Hamburg and is delighted to award the first Future Policy Award to *Belo Horizonte* for its Food Security Policy.