

William Coen

Former Secretary General, Basel Committee

For over two decades, William Coen has been intimately involved in increasing the safety and soundness of the global financial system. Most recently he was the former Secretary General of the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) – responsible for setting banking standards worldwide – where he directed and managed the international group.

When Coen joined the BCBS as Deputy Secretary General in 2007, few could predict the global implications of the upcoming U.S. financial crisis. As a result, his role primarily focused on the response to the global crisis and making much-needed changes to the banking sector. Coen navigated the introduction of the Basel III policy initiatives – aimed to strengthen the regulation, supervision, and risk management of banks – and has since overseen the completion of the guidelines. He also chaired the BCBS's Policy Development Group – aiming to improve the resilience of banks and banking systems by formulating policy responses. Integral in the expansion of the BCBS into a truly global organization, Coen participated in growing the Committee from 13 countries in 2009 to now 27 countries around the world.

Exclusively represented by [Leading Authorities speakers bureau](#), Coen draws on his experience making the financial system safer and more sound, including working through the financial crisis and its aftermath, to bring to light the opportunities and potential pitfalls businesses will soon face in the global economy. Using lessons-learned from his time at the global standard setter, he expertly advises audiences on the impact policy has on the world's economy and provides a roadmap for financial growth and success. Able to discuss regulation both philosophically and practically, Coen provides and provokes a dynamic discussion on the role regulation can and should play in business.

Prior to joining the Basel Committee's Secretariat, Coen worked for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in Washington, DC. During his tenure, he honed his expertise by focusing in areas related to banking policy, supervision, and licensing. Coen continues to participate in strengthening the world's financial stability as a board member for the Toronto Centre – promoting stronger, more effective financial regulation and supervision around the globe.