

Deborah Seward was appointed in February 2011 as Director of the Strategic Communications Division in the Department of Public Information. In that role, she has responsibility for the oversight of the UN's 63 Information Centres around the world. She also oversees the Communications Campaign Service which provides guidance on a wide variety of priority UN issues, including peace and security, development and human rights.

Before joining the UN, she spent more than 20 years with the Associated Press, serving in Moscow, Paris, Warsaw, Berlin and New York, where she was International Editor from 2003-2005. Her assignments have taken her to more than 30 countries in Europe, the Middle East and Latin America. She also served as Director of the Central Newsroom at Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Prague, Czech Republic in 2006-2007. She is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, studied at L'Institut d'études politiques de Paris and was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University.