

SEP. 19 UNGA 78 NYC

HIGH-LEVEL EVENT

7 PM - 9 PM ET

NATURE
AND PEOPLE:
FROM AMBITION
TO ACTION



HIGH LEVEL EVENT FOR NATURE AND PEOPLE: FROM AMBITION TO ACTION**DRAFT PROGRAMME**

19.00 - 19.25	Opening featuring Heads of State and Government & Keynote from Jane Fonda
19.25 - 20.00	High Level Panel 1: Progress in tackling biodiversity loss since Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adoption
20.00 - 20.30	High Level Panel 2 - Tackling common challenges, including finance, and delivering on commitments and pledges
20.30 - 20.45	Hot seat segment: lightning round of action announcements
20.45 - 21.00	Closing Segment

MASTER OF CEREMONY**WANJIRA MATHAI**

**Vice President and Regional Director for
Africa at the World Resources Institute**

Wanjira Mathai is the Managing Director for Africa and Global Partnerships at WRI. By investing in local restoration projects, Restore Local is revitalizing forests, pastures and mangrove clusters, fighting climate change and promoting sustainable, income-generating agriculture at scale. She is also the current Chair of the Wangari Maathai Foundation and the former Chair of the Green Belt Movement in Kenya. Over the years, Ms Mathai has also served important strategic and advocacy roles raising the prominence and visibility of global issues such as climate change, youth leadership, sustainable energy and landscape restoration at Women Entrepreneurs in Renewables (wPOWER), the Wangari Maathai Foundation (WMF), and the Green Belt Movement (GBM) the organization her mother, Wangari Maathai (2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate) founded in 1977. Ms Mathai currently serves on the Board of the World Agroforestry Center



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OPENING SEGMENT

OPENING REMARKS

HIS EXCELLENCY JUAN ANTONIO BRICEÑO Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development and Investment of Belize

The Hon. Juan Antonio Briceño is the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, and Investment of Belize since November 2020. Mr Briceño is the Leader of the People's United Party (PUP), and has served previously as leader of the People's United Party and the Leader of the Opposition and Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment. Mr Briceño is also a successful business man, and in partnership with his brother, has businesses service stations, cable and internet companies. Mr Briceño earned a bachelor's degree in Business Management from the University of Texas, and holds certificate courses from the Harvard School of Government and the University of Texas. He is married and together with his wife Rossana, an educator, has three sons.



OPENING REMARKS**THE HONOURABLE PREMIER DALTON TAGELAGI**
Premier of Niue

The Hon. Dalton Tagelagi was elected by the Niue Assembly as the 6th Premier of Niue and is currently in his second term in office. Prior to becoming the Premier, he was elected by his constituency of Alofi South as a member of parliament from 2008. He worked his way up to become a member assisting Minister (MAM) before he became a cabinet minister for Infrastructure and later, a cabinet minister for the Ministry of Natural Resources. Mr Tagelagi is a sports enthusiast and active environmentalist and often enjoys taking visiting diplomats on tours of his bush plantation or to plant a tree in Niue. He strongly advocates for the protection of Niue's oceans and promotes support for the Pacific Region due to the effects of the climate crisis.



OPENING REMARKS**HER EXCELLENCY MS AMINA J. MOHAMMED**
Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

Amina J. Mohammed is the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group. Prior to her appointment, Ms Mohammed served as Minister of Environment of the Federal Republic of Nigeria where she steered the country's efforts on climate action and efforts to protect the natural environment. Ms Mohammed began her career working on the design of schools and clinics in Nigeria. She served as an advocate focused on increasing access to education and other social services, before moving into the public sector, where she rose to the position of adviser to four successive Presidents on poverty, public sector reform, and sustainable development. Ms Mohammed has been conferred several honorary doctorates and has served as an adjunct professor, lecturing on international development.



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KEYNOTE SPEAKER

JANE FONDA

Actor and Activist

Jane Fonda has spent the last several decades fighting for Indigenous peoples' rights, economic justice, LGBTQ rights, protesting the War, gender equality and more. Now, she continues to lead the charge on the climate emergency via Fire Drill Fridays, the national movement to protest government inaction on climate change which she started in October 2019 in partnership with Greenpeace USA, and the Jane Fonda Climate PAC, which is focused on defeating political allies of the fossil fuel industry. She is the author of several books, including the most recent, *What Can I Do: My Path from Climate Despair to Activism*. Fonda continues to fight for the most vulnerable among us, consistently pointing out the intersection between the myriad of causes.



OPENING REMARKS**RUKKA SOMBOLINGGI**

Secretary General of Indigenous Peoples Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN) and Co-Chair of the Global Alliance of Territorial Communities (GATC)

Rukka Sombolinggi is the first female Secretary General of the Indigenous Peoples Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN) - the world's largest Indigenous Peoples organization. Rukka is a Torajan from the highlands of Sulawesi, a starfish-shaped island the size of Florida. Her people have gained notoriety for their elaborate funeral rituals and the way they have built a local tourism industry while preserving their cultural identity. She is known for her fiery oratory and her longtime dedication to the indigenous rights movement. Her parents hosted a meeting in 1993 that is often cited as its genesis in Indonesia. Rukka completed her bachelor degree from the Faculty of Agriculture, Hasanuddin University and her Master degree in Political Science from the University of Chulalongkorn, Thailand.



OPENING REMARKS

HIS EXCELLENCY MR VIRGINIJUS SINKEVIČIUS
European Commissioner for the Environment,
European Union

Virginijus Sinkevičius is the present Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries of the European Commission. Prior to this, Mr Sinkevičius held the position of Minister of Economy and Innovation of Lithuania, and previously led the Committee of Economy at the Parliament of Lithuania. He was a Team Lead for Regulatory Affairs at Invest Lithuania, and holds BA in International Relations and Affairs from Aberystwyth University and Master's degree in European International Affairs from Maastricht University.



OPENING REMARKS

HIS EXCELLENCY DR IZIAQ KUNLE SALAKO Minister of State for Environment of Nigeria

Dr Iziaq Adekunle Adeboye Salako is a public health physician, health activist, politician, public analyst, community mobilizer, writer and radio presenter. He holds an MBBS degree from the University of Lagos and Master in Public Health from the Lagos State University, and is currently a doctoral candidate, specializing in Health Policy and Management. Prior to his appointment as Minister of State for Environment, Dr Salako worked in hospitals including Lagos University Teaching Hospital, St' Raphel Hospital and the Lagos State Health Service Commission where he rose to the position of Senior Medical Officer. He was appointed a commissioner in Ogun State in 2007, and went on to serve in three ministries: agriculture, housing and health.



OPENING REMARKS

HIS EXCELLENCY MR STEVEN GUILBEAULT
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
of Canada

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault was first elected as the Member of Parliament in 2019. He has previously served as Minister of Canadian Heritage. Mr Guilbeault is a prominent advocate in the fight against the climate crisis. In 1993, he co-founded Équiterre, the largest environmental organization in Quebec, Canada and served as its Senior Director from 2008 to 2018. He also worked as a Director and Campaign Manager for Greenpeace, and was a Strategic Advisor for more than 10 years at Cycle Capital Management, a Canadian fund dedicated to the development of clean technologies. Mr Guilbeault is a father of four and stepfather of two.



OPENING REMARKS

HIS EXCELLENCY DR LOTAY TSHERING Prime Minister of Bhutan

Dr Lotay Tshering is the serving Prime Minister of Bhutan. He is also a practicing surgeon and has been in the profession for over two decades. His government is lauded for successful management of the COVID-19 pandemic and is also acknowledged for the series of reform initiatives that are underway to transform Bhutan into a high-income country. Believing that health and education are the most sustainable social security and best investment in the people of Bhutan, Dr Lotay Tshering places the two sectors at the heart of all developmental pursuits. Living up to his words, Dr Lotay Tshering makes every day count in service of the nation. The Urologist also has an MBA from University of Canberra. He is a recipient of the prestigious Lungmar scarf and the Druk Thuksey medal from His Majesty the King.



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High Level Panel 1: Progress in tackling biodiversity loss since Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adoption

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MODERATOR

HER EXCELLENCY SILVERIA JACOBS Prime Minister of Sint Maarten

Prime Minister and Minister of General Affairs of St. Maarten, Honorable Ms Silveria E. Jacobs has served as a passionate educator, with a political career spanning over decades. Her dedication is to work for the people of St. Maarten, with a focus on the wellbeing of the island community at large and facilitating greater access to opportunities to all of St. Maarten's citizens. Ms Jacobs' 20 years of experience in education as a teacher, student care coordinator and school manager, exemplifies her commitment and dedication to the youth and the future of St. Maarten.



PANELLIST

HIS EXCELLENCY MR GUSTAVO MANRIQUE
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility of Ecuador

Gustavo Manrique is the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility of Ecuador, prior to which he served as the Minister of Environment, Water, and Ecological Transition. Mr Manrique began his professional career in different socio-environmental and agricultural companies, participating in consultancies in over 2000 environmental projects. Mr Manrique obtained the first Guinness record for the city of Quito for recycling, along with 93,000 students he was also a finalist of "The Catalyst" by Lux Awards (2018), and considered one of the 100 most influential leaders in climate change in Latin America (2020). From the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition and also from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility, he worked on the largest debt swap for conservation in history, saving Ecuador US\$1.1 billion in sovereign debt and contributing US\$450 million for the Galapagos Islands.



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PANELLIST

HER EXCELLENCY MS STEFFI LEMKE

Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation,
Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection of Germany

Steffi Lemke was born in Dessau on the Elbe and studied agricultural sciences in Berlin. She was a co-founder of the party die GRÜNE (the Green party) of the GDR, and served as a member of the Bundestag for BÜNDNIS 90/DIE GRÜNEN (the Greens), including for a time as Parliamentary Secretary. In 2002, Ms Lemke was elected to the office of federal party manager, which she held until 2013. She served as Parliamentary Secretary and Nature Conservation Spokesperson of the Greens parliamentary group before her election to the position of Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection.



PANELLIST**HER EXCELLENCY MS MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA**
Minister of Environment and Natural Resources of the
Philippines

Ms Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga is the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources of the Philippines. She is the Chairperson of the Cabinet Cluster on Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation, and Disaster Risk Reduction and the designated representative of President Marcos to the Climate Change Commission as Chairperson. Ms Loyzaga previously served as the President of the National Resilience Council, a member of United Nations International Office for Disaster Risk Reduction's Asia Pacific Science Technology Advisory Group, and on the Science Advisory Board of the Integrated Research on Disaster Risk International Center of Excellence-Taipei. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Government from Georgetown University and Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the Ateneo de Manila University.



PANELLIST

JENNIFER JR LITTLEJOHN

**Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Oceans
and International Environmental and
Scientific Affairs, United States of America**

Jennifer “J.R.” Littlejohn is a career foreign service officer and serves as the Acting Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. Ms Littlejohn has held multiple national security and public policy positions in Washington and abroad. Ms Littlejohn earned a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy from the National Defense University; a Master of International Affairs from Columbia University; and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Morgan State University.



PANELLIST

DEBORAH SANCHEZ

Director, The Community Land Rights and Conservation Finance Initiative (CLARIFI)

Deborah Sanchez is an Indigenous woman from the Honduran Moskitia. She has an extensive background in working on forest certification, climate change, and economic development projects based on the promotion of the recognition and respect for Indigenous Peoples and local communities' rights. Ms Sanchez was most recently Coordinator of forest, climate and biodiversity area at the Mesoamerican Alliance of People and Forest. She was also a member of the Executive Committee and interim executive director of the People Forest Partnership.



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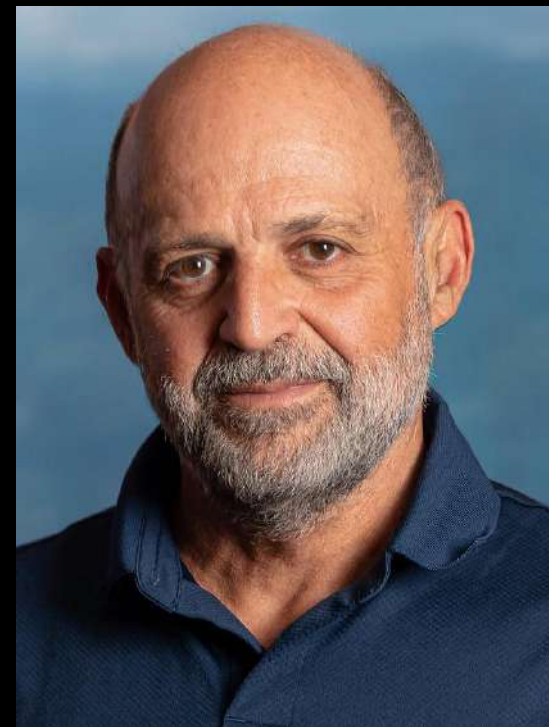
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**High Level Panel 2 - Tackling common challenges,
including finance, and delivering on commitments and
pledges**

MODERATOR**MR CARLOS MANUEL RODRIGUEZ**

**Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson, Global
Environmental Facility (GEF)**

Carlos Manuel Rodriguez was selected as CEO and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility in June 2020. Mr Rodriguez, a Costa Rican national, was a pioneer in the development of Payment for Ecosystem Services and strategies for forest restoration, ocean conservation, and decarbonization. During his three terms as Environment and Energy Minister, Costa Rica doubled the size of its forests, made its electric sector fully renewable, and consolidated a national park system that has made the Central American country a prime ecotourism destination. Mr Rodriguez has also founded and served on the board of several environmental NGOs and tropical research institutes. After his second tenure as minister, he was Vice President for Global Policy at Conservation International for 12 years.



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THE RT HON THÉRÈSE COFFEY

Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Thérèse Coffey was appointed Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on 25 October 2022, having been a Minister in the Department between July 2016 and September 2019. She has also been Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, and Deputy Prime Minister, between 6 September 2022 and 25 October 2022, and Secretary of State at the Department for Work and Pensions between 8 September 2019 and 6 September 2022. Ms Coffey is a graduate of University College London (UCL) with a PhD in chemistry, and is the Conservative MP for Suffolk Coastal in May 2010.



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HER EXCELLENCY SUSANA MUHAMAD Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Colombia

Susana Muhamad González is a Colombian politician, environmentalist and political scientist of Palestinian descent. She was named by Reuters as one of the 25 most pioneering women leading the fight against the climate crisis. Prior to her appointment as Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, she held the positions of Secretary of the Environment and Secretary General of Bogotá, and was a sustainable development consultant for Shell Global Solutions International in The Hague, Netherlands. Ms Muhamad is a regionally, nationally and internationally recognized environmentalist whose work focuses on positioning Colombia as a world environmental leader, complying with international agreements on climate change and biodiversity loss and working for the protection of environmental defenders and combating deforestation in the Amazon Arc.



PANELLIST

HIS EXCELLENCY MR ESPEN BARTH EIDE
Minister of Climate and the Environment of Norway

Espen Barth Eide is Norway's Minister of Climate and Environment. Prior to this, he held various parliamentary positions including Climate and Energy spokesperson, Foreign Minister and Minister of Defense. Mr Eide was Managing Director and Member of the Managing Board of the World Economic Forum, and served as UN Under-Secretary General and the Secretary General's Special Adviser on Cyprus (2014-2017), chairing the negotiations aiming at reunification of the divided island. In his academic career, Mr Eide, a political scientist, worked as a senior fellow at the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs specializing on international security, European integration, defense and international relations.



PANELLIST

CRISTIÁN SAMPER

Managing Director and Leader for Nature Solutions at the Bezos Earth Fund, on behalf of Protect Our Planet challenge

Dr Cristián Samper is the Managing Director and Leader for Nature Solutions at the Bezos Earth Fund, overseeing work related to the protection and restoration of nature, as well as the transformation of food systems. He is also the leader of the Protecting Our Planet challenge, a coalition of 11 philanthropies that have pledged to invest \$5 billion to support the implementation of 30x30. Dr Samper previously served as President & Chief Executive Officer of the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), overseeing the largest network of urban wildlife parks, as Director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, and was the founding director of Colombia's Alexander von Humboldt Institute. Raised in Colombia, Dr Samper studied biology at the Universidad de Los Andes and earned his MA and PhD from Harvard University.



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PANELLIST

ZDENKA PISKULICH

Managing Director, Enduring Earth

Zdenka Piskulich is the Managing Director of Enduring Earth. Working with the founding organizations, Zdenka leads this ambitious collaboration to accelerate and strengthen conservation around the world through partnerships, ongoing funding, and local leadership. Prior to joining Enduring Earth, Ms Piskulich led Forever Costa Rica and was the president of the Network of Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Funds. Previously, she worked at The Nature Conservancy for over thirteen years as a Director for Costa Rica's Program and as Director of the International Private Land Initiative. She also served as Executive Coordinator of the Center for Environmental Law and Resources. She is a lawyer and has a master's degree in international development from the American University in Washington DC, U.S.



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YOUTH SEGMENT

YOUTH SEGMENT**LELA DEVINE**

**Member, Youth Leadership Council and
Board Director, Earth Echo International**

Lela DeVine is a B.A. candidate at Barnard College of Columbia University majoring in Molecular Biology and minoring in Anthropology and Public Policy. Lela is an undergraduate researcher with a background in marine pharmacology and microbiology. Her environmental and ocean advocacy stems from her experiences in her hometown of Hilo, Hawai'i, and focuses on scientific communication in the policy context, Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), and research. She currently serves on the Board of Directors and as a Youth Leadership Council Member at EarthEcho International, placing youth at the forefront of critical ocean and climate conversations.



YOUTH SEGMENT

BODHI PATIL

Founder and CEO, Inner Light, and Co-Creator, Ocean Uprise

Bodhi Patil is a UN-recognized, award-winning, GenZ ocean-climate “Solutionist” dedicated to improving the interconnectedness between ocean health and human health. He is the Founder & CEO of Inner Light, empowering a generation to build inner resilience for climate resilience and planetary wellbeing. He is co-creator of Ocean Uprise and SeaDragon Studios and advises several love-based climate organizations on a mission to protect our blue planet. He is a student leader in the BA + Masters of Management program at the University of British Columbia studying oceans, climate action, and business. He has been featured by the United Nations, Forbes, Economist Impact, Wildlife Conservation Society, Oceanic Global, and has presented to world leaders at over 10 global climate conferences. Connect with him and learn more about his mission [here](#).



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**Hot seat segment: lightning round of action
announcements**

MODERATOR**MONICA MEDINA**

President and CEO, the Wildlife Conservation Society

Monica P. Medina joined the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) in 2023 as President and CEO, overseeing the WCS mission to save wildlife and wild places. Prior to this, Ms. Medina worked in the U.S. Department of State as the first U.S. Diplomat Designated to Advocate for Global Biodiversity and served as U.S. Assistant Secretary for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. At the U.S. Department of State, Ms. Medina was pivotal to the Biden Administration's adoption of the 30x30 goal—the protection of at least 30 percent of the planet's land and oceans by 2030. She also served as the Senior Director for Ocean Policy at the National Geographic Society, and as the ocean lead at the Walton Family Foundation. She has had a distinguished career in advancing conservation, science, and environmental policy on behalf of people and wildlife.



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HOT SEAT PANELIST

HER EXCELLENCY MS SARAH EL HAÏRY
Secretary of State for Biodiversity of France

Sarah El Haïry is Minister of State for Biodiversity, attached to the Minister for the Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion. She worked at various capital raising firms before joining the Up Group as a regional executive. In 2017, she was elected Member of the National Assembly and became a member of the Finance Committee. The following year, she was elected as Parliament's rapporteur on a bill aimed at improving the financial situation of associations. In 2018, she moved to the MoDem head office and became the party's spokesperson and then vice-president in 2022. In 2020, she was elected as Municipal Councillor in Nantes and Community Councillor in the Nantes Métropole. Ms El Haïry was appointed Minister of State for Youth and Engagement in 2020, and in 2022 she was appointed Minister of State for Youth and General National Service. In July 2023, she became Minister of State for Biodiversity.



HOT SEAT PANELIST

HONORABLE MINISTER JÉRÉMIE KATIDJO-MONNIER
Minister of Environment of New Caledonia

Jeremie Katidjo Monnier is a young political leader from New Caledonia and rising figure of ocean protection in the Pacific region. After being appointed Minister of Environment in 2022, he engaged in an ambitious policy to make the 1.3 million km² National Park of the Coral Sea a reference for biodiversity protection.



HOT SEAT PANELIST

KIRSTEN SCHUIJT
Director General, WWF International

Kirsten Schuijt joined WWF International in January 2023 to lead and coordinate the federated global conservation organization. Prior to joining WWF International, Ms Schuijt was CEO of WWF-Netherlands for over 6 years transforming it into a highly influential, data-driven conservation organization with a strong focus on resilient landscapes and societal movement. Ms Schuijt has extensive experience in conservation and leading non-profit organizations, having worked in international conservation for twenty-five years, twenty of which were in various leadership positions in WWF. Prior to WWF, she worked in Kenya and Malawi with local communities on wetland conservation. Throughout her career, she has had a particular interest in the relationship between nature and socio-economic systems.



HOT SEAT PANELIST

AMBROISE FAYOLLE

Vice President, European Investment Bank

Ambroise Fayolle was appointed Vice-President of the European Investment Bank in February 2015. He is currently responsible for climate action and environment, development policy, the European Guarantee Fund, and is Board member of the European Investment Fund. He also oversees the activities of the Bank in France, Germany and many countries in Africa and of the Pacific Ocean. A graduate of the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA), he spent most of his career in various positions at the French Treasury Department and in the IMF and the World Bank, including as a Board member of the two institutions for 8 years.



HOT SEAT PANELIST**DR RICHARD JEO**

**Chief Field Officer, Asia-Pacific,
Conservation International**

Dr Richard Jeo directs Conservation International's work in the Asia-Pacific region, overseeing strategies and outcomes in 13 countries. He guides the organization's role in international and regional networks, as well as partnerships with both the private and public sectors to achieve the best outcomes for people and nature. Prior to joining Conservation International, Dr Jeo served as the Montana state director for The Nature Conservancy, where he led programs that permanently protected more than 250,000 acres of critically important private lands and played a leadership role in some of the largest successful conservation deals ever completed. Dr Jeo received his Ph.D. in neuroscience from the California Institute of Technology in 1998 and continues to conduct conservation research. He is based in Singapore.



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CLOSING SEGMENT

CLOSING REMARKS**HIS EXCELLENCY MR FRANZ TATTENBACH CAPRA**
Minister of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica

Franz Tattenbach Capra is the Minister of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica, and a current doctoral candidate in Economic Development and Peace Sciences at Cornell University. Prior to joining the Ministry of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica, Mr Tattenbach Capra served as President and CEO of IISD, where he led the transformation of the institute into a multi-company entity through starting IISD-Europe. As its Executive Director, he transformed FUNDECOR from a nascent Costa Rican NGO to an influential, internationally recognized organization for its effective work in reversing deforestation in private and community-owned tropical forests through their valuation through property rights, environmental services and the innovative sustainable management mechanisms with group certification and payment for environmental services (PSA) to owners.



CLOSING REMARKS**HER EXCELLENCY MS MARIAM ALMHEIRI****Minister of State for Food and Water Security of the United Arab Emirates**

Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri is the UAE's Minister of Climate Change and Environment. She leads the nation's comprehensive efforts to accelerate climate action, safeguard ecosystems, enhance biodiversity, and strengthen food security by developing and implementing impactful strategies, policies, and initiatives. A member of the COP28 UAE Higher Committee, Ms Almheiri oversees the national preparations for the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to be hosted in Dubai this year. Ms Almheiri draws on her experience as Minister of State for Food Security and as Minister of State for Food and Water Security. In these roles, she led the monitoring of national food stocks and water supply, directed investments in food technology innovation and built international partnerships.



CLOSING REMARKS**DR DAVID COOPER**

Acting Executive Secretary, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Dr David Cooper is the Acting Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Prior to his appointment, Dr Cooper served as the Deputy Executive Secretary at the CBD Secretariat, where he assisted the Executive Secretary by leading the strategic and planning activities of the Secretariat, as well as the intergovernmental processes and activities under the Convention and its two protocols - the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing. Dr Cooper has more than 30 years of experience in environmental and agricultural science and policy, and international negotiations, including more than 20 years with the CBD. He has built strong and productive working relationships with Parties in all regions and with partners in civil society, international organisations, and the scientific community



CLOSING REMARKS**MS INGER ANDERSEN**

Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Inger Andersen is Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme. Between 2015 and 2019, Ms Andersen was the Director General of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Ms. Andersen has more than 30 years of experience in international development economics, environmental sustainability, strategy and operations. For 15 years at The World Bank, Ms. Andersen held several leadership positions including Vice President of the Middle East and North Africa; Vice President for Sustainable Development and Head of the CGIAR Fund Council. Prior to the World Bank, Ms. Andersen worked for 12 years on drought, desertification; and water management at the United Nations including at the UN Sudano-Sahelian Office and UNDP.



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