

UN SCIENCE-POLICY-BUSINESS FORUM ON THE ENVIRONMENT



Third Global Session
18-20 February 2021

Integrated Solutions
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SCIENCE
POLICY
BUSINESS
FORUM

Making peace with nature: The defining task of the 21st century

Multilateralism: Science, Policy, Innovation, Action!



FEB 20th
17:00 - 19:00 EAT
ONLINE

Making peace with nature: The defining task of the 21st century

Multilateralism: Science, Policy, Innovation, Action!

"We face a surplus of multilateral challenges and a deficit of multilateral solutions. Advancing the nature agenda will be a critical test for multilateralism."

António Guterres, UN Secretary General

In January, this year, the UN Secretary-General launched the UN@75 initiative, kick starting the world's largest conversation on global challenges, and the gap between 'the future we want' and where we are headed, if current trends continue. One million respondents reaffirmed the essential role of the United Nations in responding to global challenges, calling for more international cooperation, not less.

The survey also pointed to overwhelming concerns on the climate crisis and the destruction of our natural environment. Responding to these findings, Member States recommitted to a

reinvigorated multilateralism, noting that the urgency for all countries to come together, to fulfil the promise of the nations united, has rarely been greater.

As we continue to address the global pandemic, as it rises and ebbs across the world – the three planetary crisis identified by UNEP's Medium Term Strategy: The climate crisis; the nature crisis and the pollution crisis – show no signs of dissipating. And this is because our patterns of unsustainable production and consumption are eroding at a relentless speed, the natural foundations on which life and prosperity depend.

We face three imperatives in addressing the climate crisis: first, we need to achieve global carbon neutrality within the next three decades. Second, we have to align global finance behind the Paris Agreement, the world's blueprint for climate action. Third, we must deliver a breakthrough on adaptation to protect the world – according to UNSG.



The closing session will look at the following thematic:

Making peace with nature is the defining task of the 21st century. Do we have the systems in place to 'make the peace' with the systems that sustain our very lives?

How can the world arrive at a networked, inclusive and effective environmental multilateralism – one that advances the nature agenda? How do we ensure that no one is left behind?

What transformative shifts are required to address the COVID19 and climate crises? How can technology and innovation play a part in this transformation?

Is the private sector on track in its decarbonization efforts? How do we measure success across economies and sectors?

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