

REGIONAL FORUM

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

GENEVA | 1-2 March 2018



Guide for Participants



UNECE

Content

Registration.....	2
Venue.....	3
Programme	4
Speakers.....	6
Peer learning round tables.....	7
Side events.....	8
Useful information	9

Registration

Where do I get my badge?

You need to have a badge to enter the venue of the Regional Forum. If you have a valid UN Geneva badge, you will be granted access to the venue.

If you do not have a UN Geneva badge, please visit the UNOG Security and Safety Service at [Pregny Gate](#) (8 - 14 avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva 10) to collect your badge for the Regional Forum. You must present your national photo identification card or passport, both when collecting your badge and when going through security at the entrance of the International Conference Center Geneva (CICG).

You can pick up your badge on Tuesday, 27 February (2pm-6pm), Wednesday, 28 February (8am-6pm) or Thursday, 1 March (8am-6pm). On Thursday morning, before the start of the Regional Forum, there will be a large number of delegates for various meetings so please make sure to arrive in good time.

What is the procedure for Permanent Missions?

Permanent Missions can pick up the badges for their delegation from Pregny Gate as per the usual procedure (by presenting the Note Verbale) from Tuesday, 27 February, afternoon.

What is the procedure if I attend a pre-meeting?

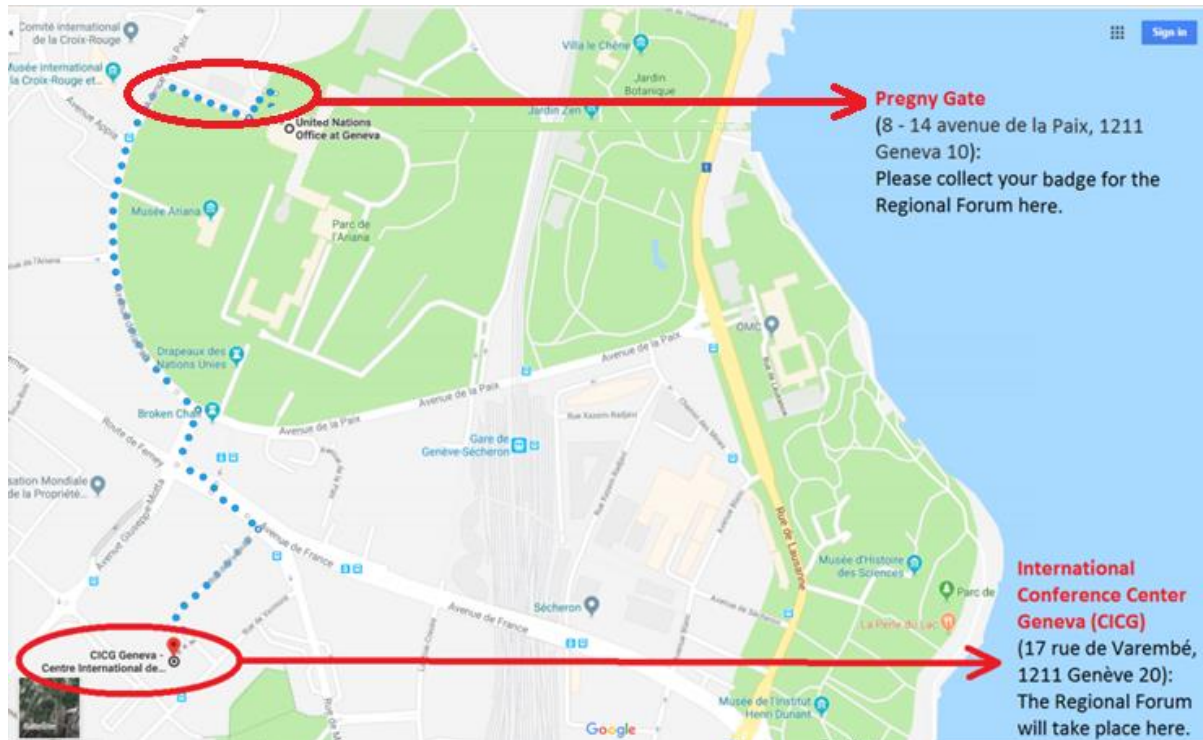
If you attend a pre-meeting (Civil Society or VNR Workshop) on 28 February, please also visit the Security and Safety Service at Pregny Gate at the indicated times to collect your badge. Your badge will be valid for both the pre-meeting and the Regional Forum.

Venue

How do I get to the venue of the Regional Forum?

The Regional Forum will take place at the [International Conference Center Geneva CICG](#) (17 rue de Varembe, 1211 Genève 20).

Please note that Regional Forum does not take place at the Palais des Nations. From Pregny Gate, where you collect your badge, it is a 15 minute walk to the venue of the Regional Forum, the International Conference Center Geneva (CICG). Please have a look at the [map](#) to find your way:



Please see below a photo of the main entrance of the International Conference Center Geneva (CICG):



Programme

DAY 1: THURSDAY, 1 MARCH 2018

International Conference Center Geneva (CICG)

10:00 – 11:00 **OPENING** *room 2 (plenary, level 0)*

Ambassador Michael Gerber

Chair of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

Special Envoy for Global Sustainable Development of Switzerland

Ambassador Marie Chatardová

President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the United Nations in New York

Ms. Amina J. Mohammed (via video message)

Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

Ms. Olga Algayerova

UNECE Executive Secretary and Under-Secretary-General

Ms. Cihan Sultanoğlu

Chair of the Regional UNDG Team for Europe and Central Asia

11:00 – 12:30 **HIGH-LEVEL POLICY SEGMENT** *room 2 (plenary, level 0)*

TRANSFORMATION TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT SOCIETIES IN THE UNECE REGION

The focus of the High-level Policy Segment will be on SDG progress and challenges in the region. High-level participants from governments and other stakeholders will share experiences on SDG implementation. This will include countries that have already presented Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) at the High-level Political Forum (HLPF). They are invited to speak about the impact of VNRs on SDG implementation in their country. The discussion will also include the science perspective on SDG implementation in terms of evidence-based identification of bottlenecks and involving the science community in policy-making. The segment will include keynote addresses and interventions from high-level participants from the floor.

Moderator: **Ambassador Michael Gerber**

Chair of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

Special Envoy for Global Sustainable Development of Switzerland

Keynote speaker: **Mr. Peter Messerli**

Professor of Sustainable Development at the University of Bern Co-Chair of the UN Global Sustainable Development Report

12:30 – 13:00 **INTRODUCTION OF THE PEER LEARNING** *room 2 (plenary, level 0)*

The Introduction of the Peer Learning Segment will provide an overview of the organization of the round tables in the subsequent Peer Learning Segment, the expectations towards their outcomes and the modalities of the reporting back to the plenary.

13:00 – 15:00 **LUNCH BREAK – Side and special events**

15:00 – 18:00 *PEER LEARNING ROUND TABLES*

The Peer Learning Segment will promote voluntary and more in-depth peer learning and practical exchange of experiences and best practices in SDG implementation. Participants will break out in two sets of five parallel Round Tables centered around the SDGs that are under in-depth review at the 2018 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (New York, 9-18 July 2018).

18:30 *RECEPTION FOR PARTICIPANTS OFFERED BY SWITZERLAND*

Lobby of International Conference Center Geneva (CICG)

DAY 2: FRIDAY, 2 MARCH 2018***International Conference Center Geneva (CICG)*****8:30 – 9:45** *Side and special events***10:00- 12:30** *CONNECTING THE DOTS* *room 2 (plenary, level 0)***SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND LIFESTYLE IN THE REGION**

The plenary will hear reporting back from the round tables in an interactive panel discussion. The discussion will stress interlinkages between the respective SDGs and pathways for integrated policy-making.

12:30-13:00 *CLOSING* *room 2 (plenary, level 0)***Civil society representative****Ms. Olga Algayerova**

UNECE Executive Secretary and Under-Secretary-General

Mr. Michael Møller

Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva

Ambassador Michael Gerber

Chair of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

Special Envoy for Global Sustainable Development of Switzerland

Speakers



Amb. Michael Gerber

CHAIR OF THE REGIONAL
FORUM 2018

SPECIAL ENVOY FOR
GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT OF
SWITZERLAND



Amb. Marie Chatardová

PRESIDENT OF THE ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
(ECOSOC)



Amina J. Mohammed

DEPUTY SECRETARY-
GENERAL OF THE UNITED
NATIONS
(VIDEO MESSAGE)



Olga Algayerova

UNECE EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY AND UNDER-
SECRETARY-GENERAL



Michael Møller

DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF
THE UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE AT GENEVA



Cihan Sultanoğlu

CHAIR OF THE REGIONAL
UNDG TEAM FOR EUROPE
AND CENTRAL ASIA



Cristiana Paşca
Palmer

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
OF THE SECRETARIAT OF
THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY








Peter Messerli

PROFESSOR OF
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF BERN

CO-CHAIR OF THE UN
GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Peer learning round tables *(1 March 2018, 15:00-18:00)*

SDGs	Time	Round Table	Room
 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	15:00-16:30	<u>Making universal access to water and sanitation a reality in the UNECE region</u>	room 5/6 level 3
	16:30-18:00	<u>Sharing water: balancing competing needs in a context of declining resource</u>	room 3 level 0
 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	15:00-16:30	<u>Improving the efficiency of the energy system</u>	room 18 level -1
	16:30-18:00	<u>Transforming energy in support of the 2030 Agenda</u>	room 4 level 0
 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	15:00-16:30	<u>Financing the transition to sustainable cities and communities: challenges and opportunities</u>	room 2 (plenary) level 0
	16:30-18:00	<u>Promoting resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements</u>	room 5/6 level 3
 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	15:00-16:30	<u>Successful approaches to delivering on Sustainable Consumption and Production by 2030</u>	room 4 level 0
	16:30-18:00	<u>Towards a circular economy: innovation for sustainable value chains</u>	room 2 (plenary) level 0
 15 LIFE ON LAND	15:00-16:30	<u>Sustainable Forest Management and the SDGs</u>	room 3 level 0
	16:30-18:00	<u>Biodiversity at the heart of sustainable development</u>	room 18 level -1

How do I prepare for round tables?

At round tables, country representatives and other stakeholders will share concrete case studies from their national experience, propose solutions to identified problems and discuss how best practices can be adopted by peers. Round table discussions will be interactive and steered by participants. For a free-flowing, fruitful discussion we would appreciate, if participants could read through the [case studies](#) of their selected round tables in preparation for the discussion.

Side events

Thursday, 1 March 2018, 13:15 - 14:30

Title	Organizer	Room
Fashion and the SDGs: what role for the UN?	UNECE	room 2 (plenary hall)
Adolescents and Youth as partners to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals	Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, UN SDG Action Campaign, European Youth Forum, UNFPA EECA Regional Office, several UN Youth Delegates	room 3 (level 0)
Achieving the SDGs by participation of all – in the light of SEA/EIA procedures; Perspectives of the Czech Republic, Georgia, EU and UNECE	Czech Republic	room 4 (level 0)
Rural women, migration and agriculture	FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia and the International Organization for Migration	room 18 (level -1)
SDG 6 in-depth review: UN-Water Synthesis Report 2018 on Water and Sanitation	UN-Water	room 15 (level -1)

Friday, 2 March 2018, 8:30 - 9:45

Title	Organizer	Room
Gender Equality as an Accelerator for SDGs Implementation	The United Nations Issue-Based Coalition on Gender Equality for Europe and Central Asia Region	room 3 (level 0)
EAEU sustainable development and its experience of the SDG implementation at sub-regional level	Eurasian Economic Commission	room 7/8 (level 2)
Mechanisms for citizen engagement and measurement for the implementation of Agenda 2030	UN Volunteers and International Labour Organisation	room 4 (level 0)
Making the business case for sustainable infrastructure: the SAVi methodology	International Institute for Sustainable Development, IISD	room 15 (level -1)

Useful information

Is there free wifi available?

Yes, you will be able to connect to free wifi from all corners of the International Conference Center (CICG).

Username : unece

Password : forum2018

#RFSD2018?

Follow the latest updates and take part in the conversation about the Regional Forum and progress towards the SDGs in the region on social media via [#RFSD2018](#).

Find more information on the website of the Regional

Forum: <https://www.unece.org/rfsd2018.html>.

Who to call in emergencies?

For urgent matters related to the Regional Forum, please contact Ms. Felirose Gutierrez (Programme Assistant, Sustainable Development and Gender Unit, UNECE) on her phone +41 (0) 22 917 14 88.

In true emergencies, please dial the following emergency numbers: General emergency calls: 112. Ambulance: 144. Police: 117. Fire service: 118.

Where can I have lunch?

A self-service restaurant is located on the 1st floor of the International Conference Center Geneva (CICG), which is open between 11am and 2pm.

Have a successful #RFSD2018!