

REGIONAL FORUM

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

GENEVA | 25 April 2017

Programme

	<p>OPENING (Palais des Nations, Room XVII)</p> <p><i>WELCOME</i> Mr. Christian Friis Bach UNECE Executive Secretary and Under-Secretary-General</p> <p><i>10:00 – 10:10</i> “VOICES OF YOUTH” Opening address by pupils (Eduki Foundation)</p> <p><i>10:10 – 10:50</i> OPENING REMARKS</p> <p>Ms. Laurence Monnoyer-Smith Chair of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development Commissioner-General for Sustainable Development and Inter-ministerial Delegate for Sustainable Development for the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Seas of France</p> <p>Ms. Amina J. Mohammed Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations</p> <p>Mr. Wu Hongbo Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs</p> <p>Ms. Cihan Sultanoglu Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Europe and the CIS, UNDP Chair of the Regional UNDG Team for Europe and Central Asia</p>
10:00 – 10:50	

10:50 – 13:00

POLICY SEGMENT (Palais des Nations, Room XVII)

**THE SECOND YEAR OF THE SDGs IN THE REGION –
KNOWING WHERE WE STAND AND MOVING ON TO PROSPERITY
AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL**

The Policy Segment is organized as an interactive and cross-sectoral panel discussion in the plenary. Within the overall context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the broader theme of the 2017 High-level Political Forum (HLPF), it will focus on a set of key themes: prosperity, health and well-being, and gender (hence, particularly SDG 3 on health and well-being, SDG 5 on gender equality and women's empowerment, and SDG 9 on infrastructure, industrialization and innovation). Through the lens of prosperity, health and well-being, and gender, other SDGs that will be reviewed in-depth at the 2017 HLPF will also be covered, in particular poverty and social protection (SDG 1), nutrition and agriculture (SDG 2), and oceans (SDG 14). The Policy Segment aims at a cross-sectoral exchange and discussion among key policy makers and relevant non-governmental actors (United Nations system, other regional and international organizations, civil society, private sector, academia) with an integrated perspective on the SDG agenda. An informal background document is available to guide the discussions.

Moderator:

Mr. Christian Friis Bach

UNECE Executive Secretary and Under-Secretary-General

Panellists:

Mr. Scott Vaughan (*keynote speaker*)

President and CEO of the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

Mr. Edmond Panariti

Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Administration of Albania

Mr. Martin Tlapa

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Non-European Countries, Economic and Development Cooperation of the Czech Republic

Ms. Laurence Monnoyer-Smith

Commissioner-General for Sustainable Development and Inter-ministerial Delegate for Sustainable Development for the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Seas of France

Mr. Douglas Frantz

Deputy Secretary-General of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Ms. Zsuzsanna Jakab

Director of the WHO Regional Office for Europe

	<p>Mr. John Danilovich Secretary General of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)</p> <p>Ms. Nurgul Dzhanaeva President of the Forum of Women's NGOs of Kyrgyzstan (on behalf of civil society)</p>
13:00 – 15:00	LUNCH BREAK
15:00 – 17:00	<p>PEER LEARNING SEGMENT</p> <p>- PARALLEL REGIONAL ROUND TABLES -</p> <p>The Peer Learning Segment aims at promoting voluntary and more in-depth peer learning and practical exchange of experiences and best practices in SDG implementation. Participants will break out in three parallel Regional Round Tables. Informal concept notes are available for all three Regional Round Tables.</p> <hr/> <p>REGIONAL ROUND TABLE I (Room XXI) NATIONAL AND LOCAL ADAPTATION OF SDGs</p> <p>Round Table I will focus on the ongoing process of adapting the global SDGs to national and local circumstances. Reviewing and adjusting national strategies, plans and instruments is a major first step taken by governments in the region to start SDG implementation. The Round Table will discuss challenges, exchange different approaches, and collect preliminary lessons from devising national and local SDG strategies and programmes, benefitting from a wealth of country experiences, including from the countries from the region that participated or will participate in the Voluntary National Reviews at the HLPF.</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Alan Atkisson President & CEO, AtKisson Group</p> <p>Rapporteur Mr. Edouard Jay Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the WTO and EFTA (UN/ECE, UNCTAD, ITC)</p>

REGIONAL ROUND TABLE II (Room XXII)

SUBREGIONAL COOPERATION FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION

The subregional level is important in a multi-layered system of SDG implementation and follow-up. Neighbouring countries working together can help address issues of common concern, including those of transboundary nature. The subregional level connects the local and national levels on the one hand and the regional and global levels on the other hand. With regard to the key themes for the Regional Forum, this applies in particular to cross-border infrastructure and trade. The Round Table will share experiences and discuss how cooperation within the different UNECE subregions can help advance the SDGs. Round Table II will encourage participation by governments, subregional organizations and bodies, and non-governmental actors engaged in subregional cooperation.

Moderator:

Mr. Jan Dusik

UN Environment, Director and Regional Representative, Regional Office for Europe

Rapporteur

Mr. João Pina de Morais

First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Portugal

REGIONAL ROUND TABLE III (Room XVII)

DATA AND MONITORING

Improving the data situation and building statistical capacities for SDG monitoring remains a significant challenge for all countries in the region and beyond. Statisticians are working at the global and regional levels, including in the Conference of European Statisticians, to develop methodologically sound SDG indicators. Round Table III will provide an opportunity for dialogue between policy-makers and statisticians on the needs, feasibility and limitations of SDG data.

Moderator:

Ms. Laurence Monnoyer-Smith

Commissioner-General for Sustainable Development and Inter-ministerial Delegate for Sustainable Development for the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Seas of France

Rapporteur

Mr. Daniel Carl

Economic Officer, Permanent Mission of the United States of America

REPORTING BACK AND CLOSING (Room XVII)

17:00 – 18:00

17:00 – 17:10

“VOICES OF YOUTH”

Closing address by pupils (Eduki Foundation)

17:10 – 18:00

Reporting Back and Closing Remarks

Rapporteurs of the Regional Round Tables:

Mr. Edouard Jay, Permanent Mission of Switzerland (Round Table I)

Mr. João Pina de Morais, Permanent Mission of Portugal (Round Table II)

Mr. Daniel Carl, Permanent Mission of the United States (Round Table III)

Ms. Berfu Seker

Advocacy Officer, Women for Women's Humans Rights - New Ways
(on behalf of civil society)

Mr. Christian Friis Bach

UNECE Executive Secretary and Under-Secretary-General

Mr. Michael Møller

Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva and
Under-Secretary-General

Ms. Laurence Monnoyer-Smith

Chair of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

Commissioner-General for Sustainable Development and
Inter-ministerial Delegate for Sustainable Development for the Ministry of
Environment, Energy and Seas, France

Further Information and Registration:

www.unece.org/rfsd2017

Contact:

Ms. Monika Linn, Principal Advisor and Director, Sustainable Development and Gender Unit
e-mail: monika.linn@unece.org; phone: +41 (0) 22 917 1315

Mr. José Palacín, Senior Economic Affairs Officer
e-mail: jose.palacin@unece.org; phone: +41 (0) 22 917 16 43

Mr. Michael Kunz, Economic Affairs Officer
e-mail: michael.kunz@unece.org; phone: +41 (0) 22 917 2445

Ms. Felirose Gutierrez, Programme Assistant
e-mail: felirose.gutierrez@unece.org; phone: +41 (0) 22 917 14 88