



Dialogue with Multilateral Environmental Agreement Secretariats and GEF

Monday, December 16, 2019

11:30 AM – 1 PM

GEF Secretariat Building, 8th floor's conference room (N8-180)

1899 Pennsylvania avenue NW, Washington, DC

The GEF Secretariat is organizing a dialogue with Secretariats of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) on the margins of the 57th GEF Council.

The MEA dialogue will be an opportunity to share the perspectives of the different environmental Conventions on **the “2020 super year”: where do we stand less than a month ahead and what can be done to deliver on its promises?**

In October 2020, the 15th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP15) is expected to adopt a new global framework for biodiversity with the ambition to reshape our relationship with nature within the upcoming decade. During the same month, the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals management is to take a crucial decision on the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste Beyond 2020. Parties to the Paris Agreement are also preparing to submit new or updated nationally determined contributions (NDCs) by 2020, while a new multilateral agreement on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the high seas could also be reached. Hence the sense of excitement and hope that 2020 will bring the coveted watershed moment that will reframe and spur unprecedented collective action to address the climate, biodiversity and sustainable development crises, towards a new deal for nature and people.

Suggested discussion questions may include the following:

- What are the lessons learnt from the negotiation and implementation of soon to expire frameworks, including the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, the first round of NDC submissions and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)?
- How are linkages and coordination being established among the different Conventions and negotiations?
- What needs to be done by countries, non-state actors, including private sector and civil society organizations, and the Conventions to deliver on the promises of the new deal for nature and people, and maximize the likelihood of its impact?
- How can the GEF, the financial mechanism for the Rio Conventions, support the process and action towards successful implementation of the major agreements and frameworks for the three Conventions?

This session will also provide an opportunity to reflect on the key outcomes of recent Conferences of the Parties (COPs) that are of relevance for the discussion topic or for the GEF.

The dialogue brings together senior representatives of Secretariats of Conventions that the GEF serves as a/the financial mechanism, and the GEF Secretariat representatives. The dialogue is open to Council members and other participants of the GEF Council meeting.

Agenda

Time	Agenda item
11:00-11:30	<i>Registration</i>
11:30-11:45	<p style="text-align: center;">Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Naoko Ishii, CEO, GEF • Ms. Elizabeth Mrema, Acting Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) • Ms. Rossana Silva-Repetto, Executive Secretary, Minamata Convention on Mercury
11:45-12:50	<p style="text-align: center;">Moderated Discussion: Looking ahead to the “2020 super year”</p> <p>Following a short scene-setting presentation by the facilitators, representatives of the Convention Secretariats are invited to provide a 5-minute summary of recent COPs and major meetings and outcomes of relevance to the development of the post 2020 frameworks. They are also requested to highlight their perspectives on opportunities for synergy, action, and support. The moderated discussion with the participants will then explore the discussion questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Basile van Havre, co-chair of the Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (via teleconference) • Mr. Franck Moser, Programme Officer, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm Conventions (via teleconference) <p>Facilitators: Ms. Chizuru Aoki, Lead Environment Specialist, GEF; Mr. Jurgis Sapijanskas, Senior Biodiversity specialist, GEF</p>
12:50-13:00	<p style="text-align: center;">Way forward and Wrap Up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Gustavo Fonseca, Director of Programs, GEF