Wednesday, 6 April 2022, Hybrid and virtual (side events) sessions

8:30 – 9:45
Side events

10:00 - 13:00
Opening and High-level Policy Segment

Venue: Geneva, Palais des Nations, Room XX

Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the UNECE Region

OPENING

H.E. Mr. Edil Baisalov
Chair of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development
Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan

Ms. Amina J. Mohammed
Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

Ms. Olga Algayerova
UNECE Executive Secretary and United Nations Under-Secretary-General

Ms. Mirjana Spoljaric Egger
Vice-Chair of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Europe and Central Asia and Director of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS

HIGH-LEVEL POLICY SEGMENT

Keynote address by Dr. Åsa Persson
Research Director and Deputy Director of the Stockholm Environment Institute
Member of the Independent Group of Scientists for the 2023 UN Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR)
The keynote speech will set the scene for the high-level debate and highlight the latest scientific findings on the SDGs, taking into account the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and related recovery measures. In addition, the process to prepare the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) and its preliminary framework will be introduced to the audience.

PLENARY DEBATE

Statements by high-level representatives of member States and reporting of key messages from pre-meetings (Forum of Mayors, Civil Society Forum, Joint IPU/ECE webinar with parliamentarians)

13:00 – 15:00  Lunch break

15:00 – 17:00  Side events

Venue: Geneva, Palais des Nations, Tempus Rooms 1, 2 and 3

Peer learning round tables

SDG 4 (hybrid)
Quality education

Quality education and lifelong learning in the context of COVID-19: sharing best practices and lessons learnt for enhancing inclusion policies and strategies

Outline

SDG 14 (hybrid)
Life below water – oceans, seas and marine resources

Enhancing ocean literacy and the sustainable development of regional seas

Outline

SDG 17 (hybrid)
Partnerships for the goals (I)

Data and Statistics for Sustainable Development

Outline

SDG 17 (online – 15:00-17:30)
Partnerships for the goals (II)

Accelerating digital development through multistakeholder partnerships

Outline

17:15 – 18:30  Side events

Thursday, 7 April 2022, Hybrid and virtual (side events) sessions

8:30 – 9:45  Side events

10:00 – 12:00  Peer learning round tables
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Venue: Geneva, Palais des Nations, Tempus Rooms 1, 2 and 3

SDG 5 (hybrid)
Gender Equality
Accelerators of gender equality and women’s empowerment in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic
Outline

SDG 15 (hybrid)
Life on land – terrestrial eco-systems, forests, desertification, land degradation, biodiversity (I)
Action to protect and restore terrestrial ecosystems
Outline

SDG 15 (hybrid)
Life on land – terrestrial eco-systems, forests, desertification, land degradation, biodiversity (II)
Urban forests for future proof cities
Outline

SDG 4 (online)
Quality education
Rebalancing people, planet and prosperity: ESD as key enabler for the 17 SDGs and Agenda 2030.
Outline

13:00 – 15:00
Lunch break

15:00 – 17:00
Side events
Special Event: Gender and Business

Plenary Session and Closing
Forward-looking policies for a sustainable COVID-19 recovery

H.E. Mr. Edil Baisalov
Chair of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development
Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan

Mr. Liu Zhenmin (tbc)
Under-Secretary-General of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations

The session will discuss forward-looking polices to promote a sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, based on the key messages from the peer learning sessions on the SDGs under in-depth review (4, 5, 14, 15, and 17). Particular attention will be given to policy coherence and addressing trade-offs in SDG policies and COVID-19 recovery measures at regional, subregional, national and local levels. In this context, experiences from UNECE member States that have presented or will present Voluntary National Review (VNRs) at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development will be discussed, with emphasis on VNRs as a means to promote policy coherence and multi-level collaboration. Lessons from Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) and from the regional and subregional levels will also be considered.
The session will feature a multi-stakeholder panel, composed of two representatives from member States, a mayor and a representative of civil society.

PLENARY DEBATE

CLOSING

Ms. Olga Algayerova
UNECE Executive Secretary and United Nations Under-Secretary-General

Mr. Edil Baisalov
Chair of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development
Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan

17:15 – 18:30 | Side events

Registration

Registration to participate to the 2022 Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE region is open under the following link: https://indico.un.org/event/36313/registration

The deadline for registrations is 18 March 2022, 23:59 (CET).

Call for policy actions

Governments wishing to share a concrete policy action, challenge or success story in one of the sessions of the Regional Forum 2022, please contact regionalforumunece@un.org.

Format of the sessions

The Regional Forum on 6-7 April 2022 will take place as a hybrid meeting, with the possibility to participate either online or in-person (at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland – subject to potential COVID-19 restrictions).

Starting on 31 March, the bulk of the side events will take place in the core period of 4-7 April as fully virtual sessions.
Contact

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The Regional Forum is convened by UNECE, in close cooperation with the UN Regional Collaborative Platform in Europe and Central Asia.