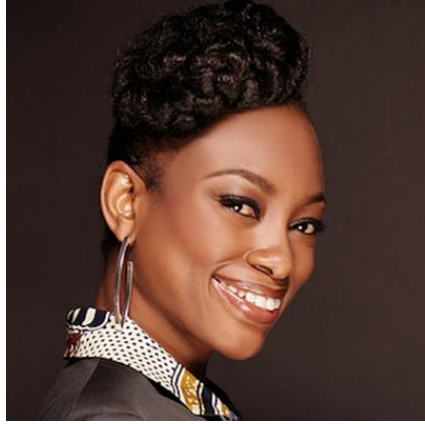




## Meet the Speakers

Session 3.2 | MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2020, 11 AM - 12:30 PM EDT  
CREATING A NATURE-BASED PLANETARY SAFETY NET



**HOST & MODERATOR**  
**FEMI OKE**  
CO-FOUNDER MODERATE THE PANEL

Femi Oke is an award-winning international journalist, broadcaster, professional moderator and co-founder of the diverse moderators bureau "Moderate The Panel." Based in Washington, D.C., she hosts the interactive current affairs show "The Stream" for Al Jazeera English; is a correspondent for the Al Jazeera documentary series "Fault Lines"; and the social media correspondent for NPR's midday news program "Here and Now."



**ILLUSTRATOR**  
**ELEANOR BEER**  
INTERNATIONAL GRAPHIC FACILITATOR

Eleanor is an International Graphic Facilitator based in South Wales UK, who specialises in delivering visual solutions and training services to a range of local, national and international clients. Her aim is to simplify communications through visuals storytelling, helping organisations to become more efficient, creative thinkers and collaborators. For over 15 years, Eleanor has supported global brands like Williams F1, Siemens and The World Health Organisation, to small grass roots charities and groups. As a visual communications specialist, Eleanor combines her drawing and active listening skills with her facilitation experience, to graphically record key messages at events and conferences. Alongside her team of associates, she also helps companies to communicate their strategies and journeys using digitally rich 'big pictures'.



**SPEAKER**

**ELIZABETH MREMA**

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY,  
UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

Ms. Elizabeth Maruma Mrema is the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity. She has worked with the UN Environment Programme for over two decades and was the Director of the Law Division at UNEP. Prior to joining the Law Division, she was Deputy Director of the Ecosystems Division, in charge of coordination, operations and programme delivery. Prior to these duties, she also served as Executive Secretary of the UNEP/Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals. Her work at UNEP has focused on development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, including multilateral environmental agreements at national, regional and international levels.



**SPEAKER**

**ANA MARÍA HERNÁNDEZ SALGAR**

**CHAIR, INTERGOVERNMENTAL SCIENCE-POLICY PLATFORM ON  
BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (IPBES)**

Ana María Hernández Salgar (Colombia) is an expert in the field of biodiversity, with a focus on environmental law, international negotiations and the science-policy interface. In her more than 22 years of experience she has worked at the Alexander von Humboldt Institute, the Ministry of Environment, the Fundación NaturaCert and was a professor at the Universidad del Rosario and the Universidad Javeriana in Colombia. She was recognized as “Person of the Year 2019” by the newspaper “El Espectador” (Colombia) and received the UTadeo 2019 “Respect for the Environment” Award. She has participated extensively in work under the Convention on Biological Diversity, served on the Bureaux of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to combat Desertification and Drought (UNCCD), the Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife to the Cartagena Convention and IPBES. In May 2019 she was elected as Chair of IPBES.



**SPEAKER**

**SIR ROBERT WATSON**

**HEAD OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY GROUP FOR THE UNEP GLOBAL  
ASSESSMENTS SYNTHESIS REPORT  
UNEP**

Sir Robert Watson is one of the most influential environmental scientists worldwide. Watson Chaired and co-Chaired a number of prominent scientific assessments, including: former Chair of Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); Board of Directors of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment; co-Chair of the International Assessment of Agricultural Science & Technology for Development; and multiple International Scientific Assessment of Stratospheric Ozone. He has received many awards for his contributions to science, including the Asahi Glass Blue Planet Prize and the UN Champion of the World for Science and Innovation.



**SPEAKER**

**MAMPHELA RAMPHELE**

**CO-PRESIDENT, CLUB OF ROME  
PLANETARY EMERGENCY PARTNERSHIP**

Dr. Mamphela Ramphele has been Co-President of the Club of Rome since 2018. Prior to this position she was a student activist, medical doctor, community development activist, researcher, global public servant and is now an active citizen and a trustee of the Nelson Mandela Foundation. Dr. Ramphele was Vice-Chancellor of UCT, one of four Managing Directors of the World Bank in Washington, DC and Leader of Agang SA, a party for all South Africans. She was also Chairperson of Gold Fields, Circle Capital Ventures (Pty) Limited, Technology Innovation Agency (TIA), Director of Medi-Clinic Corporation Limited and Remgro Limited, and founder of the Open Society Foundation for South Africa and the Citizens Movement.



**SPEAKER**

**DOMINIC WAUGHRAY**

**MANAGING DIRECTOR, WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM**

Dominic Waughray has received a BA and MA from Cambridge University; and an MSc in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, University College London. He has worked with the inaugural Natural Resource Economist, UK Natural Environment Research Council Institute of Hydrology, the international consultancy Environmental Resources Management. Mr. Waughray joined the World Economic Forum in 2006 and held positions as inaugural Director, Environmental Initiatives; Head of Public Private Partnership, Member of the Executive Committee; and since 2018, Head of Centre for Global Public Goods. He is works towards collaboration with the World Economic Forum and international communities on delivering partnerships supporting the Sustainable Development Goals.



**SPEAKER**

**KARIN KEMPER**

**GLOBAL DIRECTOR FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND BLUE ECONOMY PRACTICE AT THE WORLD BANK**

Ms. Kemper joined the Bank in 1996 as a Young Professional. Since then she has held various positions, including as Sector Manager for Social Development, Environment and Water Resources in the South Asia Region, Sector Manager for Environment in the Latin America and Caribbean Region and as Director, Climate Policy and Finance in the Sustainable Development Network Vice-Presidency, with her most recent position as the Senior Regional Adviser in the Latin America and Caribbean Vice Presidency.



**SPEAKER**

**MINNA SALAMI**

**FOUNDER, AFROPOLITAN BLOG**

Minna Salami is a Nigerian, Finnish and Swedish feminist theorist and writer. She is the founder of Ms. Afropolitan and the author of *Sensuous Knowledge: A Black Feminist Approach for Everyone*, which explores topics such as art, nature, beauty, identity, race and gender with an Africa-centred, decolonial and feminist paradigm of knowing. She graduated from SOAS, University of London, with a distinction in Gender Studies where she specialised in black feminisms for her Master's Degree. She is a co-director of the feminist movement, Activate, and she sits on the advisory board of the African Feminist Initiative at Pennsylvania State University and the editorial board of the *Interdisciplinary Journal for the Study of the Sahel*.



**SPEAKER**

**H.E. KOIZUMI SHINJIRO**

**MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT FOR JAPAN**

Mr. Koizumi Shinjiro has been a member of the House of Representatives in Japan since 2009, having represented Yokosuka and Miura City in Kanagawa Prefecture. Since September 2019, he has served as the Minister of the Environment. He belongs to the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and holds various senior positions at LDP. He also served as Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Cabinet Office and Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Reconstruction. He earned Bachelor's Degrees in Economics, Kanto Gakuin University, in Japan in 2004 and Master of Arts in Political Science, Columbia University, in the United States in 2006.



**SPEAKER**

**H.E. SH. PRAKASH JAVADEKAR**

**MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST, AND CLIMATE CHANGE OF INDIA**



**SPEAKER**

**H.E. MYUNG-RAE CHO**

**MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT FOR THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

Dr. Myung Rae Cho is the current Minister of Environment the Republic of Korea. Prior to this appointment, he served as the President of the Korea's Environment Institute (2017-2018) and the Co-President of the Institute for Environmental Justice (2011-2017). As an expert in sustainable development, he also chaired a number of committees for sustainable development at the municipal level and taught at Dankook University as a professor. He holds a Ph.D. in Urban and Regional Studies from University of Sussex and an M.A. in Environmental Planning from Seoul National University.



**SPEAKER**

**H.E. YASMINE FOUAD**

**MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT FOR THE ARABIC REPUBLIC OF EGYPT**

Dr. Yasmine Fouad is Minister of Environment of the Arabic Republic of Egypt since June 2018. She holds MSc in Environmental Science and PhD in Political Science / Euro Mediterranean Studies. Her expertise is in Environment and International cooperation with more than 20 years' experience working in Government, UN organizations, NGOs and Universities. She had gained an extensive experience in climate change and biodiversity conservation related issues through her diversified work with academic, government and non-government organizations and International organizations. She has been selected as a lead author to chapter four of the IPCC Special Report on "Climate Change, Desertification, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Food Security and Greenhouse Gas Fluxes in Terrestrial Ecosystems".



**SPEAKER**

**H.E. HUANG RUNQIU**

**MINISTER OF ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT FOR THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

He served as the vice minister of the Ministry of Environmental Protection (superseded by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment in 2018) from March 2016 to April 2020. Prior to joining the MEE, He was the vice president of Chengdu University of Technology and the vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the Sichuan Provincial People's Congress. He graduated from the Hydrology Department of the Chengdu College of Geology (currently known as the Chengdu University of Technology) with a major in Engineering Geology. He has a postgraduate education, holds a PhD degree in engineering and the professional title of professor.



**SPEAKER**

**RT. HON. ZAC GOLDSMITH**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR PACIFIC AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
UK GOVERNMENT**

Rt Hon Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park is the Minister for Pacific and the Environment at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. He was first appointed as a Minister of State in the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, the Department for International Development and Defra on 13 February 2020. He was previously Minister of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and at the Department for International Development from September 2019 to February 2020 and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and at the Department for International Development on July 2019 and September 2019.



**SPEAKER**

**MARINA VON WEISENBERG**

**SENIOR MINISTERIAL ADVISOR, NFP CBD/SBSTTA FOR FINLAND  
MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOR FINLAND**

Senior Ministerial Adviser at the Finnish Ministry of the Environment in charge of international biodiversity and environment affairs and National focal point for the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Issues for Finland. She has participated during her long career, 25 years in several biodiversity related multilateral negotiations, UN Environment conferences, including technical expert groups, led by IUCN and the CBD. Recently chair of the working party on international environmental issues in the EU during the Finnish EU chairmanship. She has also been co-chairing Work on synergies for improving effectiveness and good governance between Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). She has been a member of the IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature) Council 2008-2016 and appointed Vice-President for IUCN.



**SPEAKER**

**H.E. FERNANDO ANDRÉS LÓPEZ LARREYNAGA**

**MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR EL  
SALVADOR**

Fernando Andrés López Larreynaga - His commitment for conserving natural resources and the integration of an environmental vision in a sustainable economy are part of the ideals that he has managed to integrate into the different stages of his professional development. Graduated from Architecture of the University Dr. José Matías Delgado, in El Salvador, he has always had a special interest in sustainable architecture and the conservation of ecosystems. His skills in the creation of sustainable development projects related to the environment, personnel management, architecture and being results-oriented, with strong negotiation and conflict resolution skills, has guided his professional life throughout the different phases of an architectural project, and led him to a successful public management in the Municipality of San Salvador, and now, as Minister of Environment and Natural Resources of El Salvador.



***SPEAKER***

**PER OLSSON FRIDH**

**STATE SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION, MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF SWEDEN**

Per Olsson Fridh is State Secretary to the Minister for International Development Cooperation, overseeing Sweden's Policy for Global Development and the development cooperation components of the Swedish Feminist Foreign Policy. Prior, Per Olsson Fridh was State Secretary to Minister for Culture and Democracy, chair of the Swedish Green Party in Stockholm and Secretary-General for the Swedish Centre for International Youth Exchange. Per Olsson Fridh lives in Stockholm, is married with two children and holds a BA of Arts in Sociology from Lund University and a BA of Arts in Human Rights from Malmö University.



***SPEAKER***

**VALÉRIE PLANTE**

**MAYOR OF MONTREAL**

Valérie Plante is a Canadian politician. She is mayor of Montreal and ex officio president of the Metropolitan Community of Montreal (CMM) since November 16, 2017. Elected to the municipal council of Montreal during the municipal elections of 2013 under the Banner of 'Projet Montréal', she became party leader on December 4, 2016.

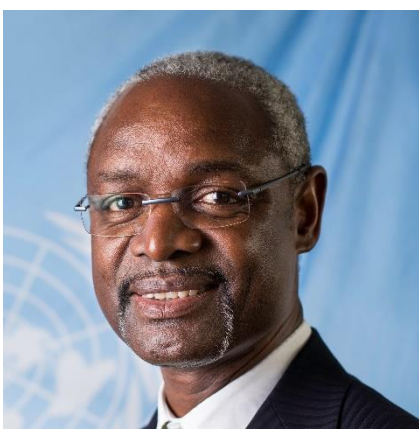


***SPEAKER***

**PATRICIA ESPINOSA**

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE**

Ms. Espinosa is the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Ambassador of Mexico to Germany since 2012 and from 2001 to 2002, Ms. Espinosa was Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mexico from 2006 to 2012, bringing over 30 years of experience at highest levels in international relations. As Chair of the Third Committee of the UNGA (1996), she played a key role in the adoption of the Beijing Platform for Action. Ambassador of Mexico to Austria, Slovakia, Slovenia and the UN in Vienna (2002-2006), Chief of Staff to the Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs (1989-1991) and responsible for economic issues at the Permanent Mission to the UN in Geneva (1982-1988).



**SPEAKER**

**IBRAHIM THIAW**

**UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION**

Ibrahim Thiaw of Mauritania was appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General as Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in 2019. Thiaw brings to the position almost 40 years of experience in sustainable development, environmental governance and natural resource management. In 2018, he was Special Adviser to the Secretary-General for the Sahel and supported ongoing efforts to advance the recalibration of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel and the development of the UN Support Plan for the Sahel. Previously, he served as Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director of the UNEP and Acting Director General, of the International Union for Conservation of Nature.



**SPEAKER**

**FRANCES OGWAL**

**NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGER (BIODIVERSITY AND RANGELANDS)  
THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

Mr. Francis Ogwal is a Natural Resources Manager (Biodiversity and Rangelands) at the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA). Francis has 26 experience in the field of biodiversity and environment management. Francis has many years of experience on international issues on biodiversity spanning over one and half decades, having served as the National Focal Point for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) for Uganda since 2005 to date. At the national level, Francis effectively guided Uganda in the review and updating of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), development of the National Biodiversity Finance Plan and establishment of a National Clearing House Mechanism.



**SPEAKER**

**BASIL VAN HAVRE**

**POST 2020 OEWG CO-CHAIR  
DIRECTOR GENERAL BIODIVERSITY POLICY AND PARTNERSHIPS  
DIRECTORATE CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE**

Mr. Basile van Havre (Canada) is a Co-Chair for the Convention on Biological Diversity's Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. He has over 27 years of experience working in Canada's Environment Department. In addition to being Canada's CBD focal point, his roles included Director General of Biodiversity and Partnerships and Director of Population Conservation and Management at the Canadian Wildlife Service, Chair of the CITES Elephant working group and CBD Discussions on Indigenous Knowledge and Repatriation, Co-Chair of the International Joint Commission on Great Lakes Water Quality Board, Director at the Meteorological Service of Canada.





**SPEAKER**

**HINDOU OUMAROU IBRAHIM**

**COORDINATOR OF AFPATAND CO-CHAIR OF INTERNATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES FORUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim is an environmental activist and geographer. She is the Coordinator of the Association of Peul Women and Autochthonous Peoples of Chad and served as the co-director of the pavilion of the World Indigenous Peoples' Initiative at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change COP21, COP22 and COP23.



**SPEAKER**

**H.E. SVENJA SCHULZE**

**MINISTER FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, NATURE CONSERVATION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY OF GERMANY**

Svenja Schulze is a German politician of the Social Democratic Party (SPD) from Münster in Westphalia. Schulze currently serves as Minister of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety in the fourth coalition government of Chancellor Angela Merkel. From 15 July 2010 to 30 June 2017, she was State Minister of Innovation, Science and Research of the State North Rhine-Westphalia.

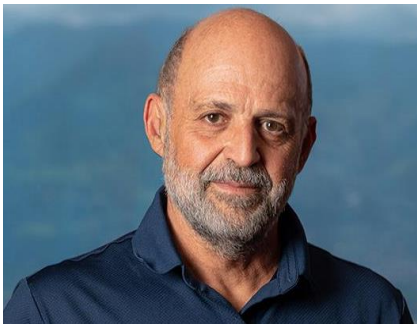


**SPEAKER**

**PETER THOMSON**

**UN SECRETARY-GENERAL SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE OCEAN**

Ambassador Peter Thomson is a Fijian diplomat who served as President of the General Assembly of the United Nations from 2016 until 2017. He was Fiji's Permanent Representative to the United Nations between 2010 and 2016. In 2014, he was elected President of the Executive Board of the UNDP, UNFPA, and the UNOPS. He led the Fiji team of diplomats that in 2013 chaired the Group of 77 and China – the UN's largest negotiating group comprised of 133 developing countries. He was elected President of the International Seabed Authority's Assembly in 2011 and as President of its Council in 2015. In 2017, U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appointed Ambassador Thomson as the first UNSG's Special Envoy for the Ocean, in which he is driving the implementation of SDG14.



**SPEAKER**

**CARLOS MANUEL RODRIGUEZ**

**CEO AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY**

Lawyer by profession, politician by choice, and conservationist at heart, Carlos Manuel Rodriguez was elected as CEO and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility by its governing body, the GEF Council, in June 2020. The Costa Rican Environment and Energy Minister was a pioneer in the development of Payment for Ecosystem Services initiatives and strategies for forest restoration, ocean conservation, de-carbonization, and is an expert on environmental policy, multilateral environmental negotiations, and financing for nature conservation. His positions over the past 30 years include: Director of Costa Rica's National Parks Service, founder of many environmental NGOs, expert negotiator in UNFCCC, CBD, and UNCCD, and participant in negotiations for the creation and implementation of the GEF and Green Climate Fund.



**SPEAKER**

**ALICE RUHWEZA**

**REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA, WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE (WWF)**

Alice joined WWF as Regional Director for Africa in July 2019. Prior to WWF, Alice worked for Conservation International, first as Executive Director of the Vital Signs Programme. She later served as Interim Vice President of Sustainable Production and was promoted to Vice President of Programs and Partnerships. Before joining CI, Alice was Team Leader of the Global Environment Finance Unit in Africa for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), worked for the National Environment Management Authority in Uganda, Forest Trends (USA), the World Bank, UNEP Economics and Trade Branch, the UNFCCC Secretariat, the Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development, and the Institute for European Environmental Policy.



**SPEAKER**

**BRIS ROCHER**

**CEO GROUP ROCHER**

Bris Rocher has been the CEO of the Yves Rocher Family Empire since 2010. Vice-president of the Yves Rocher group from 2003 to 2006, he assumes full responsibility for foresight, human resources, internal audit, risk management, as well as the group's development in Asia. Previously, he worked as a manager at the audit firm Arthur Andersen, in the United States. Since his appointment to the group's general management in 2006, he has set up a new organization, by market, in order to put brands back at the center of the firm's strategy. He also initiated, in collaboration with Stephane Bianchi, Deputy CEO of the group, a transformation and modernization plan for the brand.



***SPEAKER***

**REMY RIOUX**

**CEO, AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT (AFD)**

Rémy Rioux is the chief executive officer of the Agence Française de Développement (AFD). During his career, Rémy Rioux, Senior Advisor at the Court of Auditors, has alternately held responsibilities in France and to support development in Africa. He works for France's economic and financial policy and conducted control missions in the energy and defense sectors at the Court of Auditors from 1997 to 2000, and subsequently from 2002 to 2004.



***SPEAKER***

**REBECCA MOORE**

**DIRECTOR OF GOOGLE EARTH**

Rebecca Moore directs Google's geospatial initiatives driving environmental and social impact, including Google Earth, Earth Engine, and Environmental Insights Explorer. She initiated the development of Google Earth Engine in 2009 as a planetary-scale cloud platform bringing an unprecedented amount of satellite data online for the first time, together with petapixel-scale computation, enabling data scientists to easily derive actionable insights about our changing planet. Rebecca also conceived and leads the Google Earth Outreach program, which supports nonprofits, governmental institutions and indigenous communities in applying Google's mapping tools to the world's most pressing problems affecting people and planet.