

Joint Meeting of the Bureaux of the UN Environment Assembly
and the Committee of Permanent Representatives
5 February 2019
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Agenda Item 3

Agenda Item 3: Preparations for the UN Environment Assembly

Proposed UNEA-4 Side Events

12 January 2019

Background

In October 2018, the UN Environment Secretariat invited proposals for side events to the Fourth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly. It informed potential applicants through the UNEA web portal that each side event should be aligned with the overall theme for the Environment Assembly – “Innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production” – and be relevant for one or more of the following focus areas of the theme:

- a) Environmental challenges related to poverty and natural resources management, including sustainable food systems, food security and halting biodiversity loss;
- b) Life-cycle approaches to resource efficiency, energy, chemicals and waste management;
- c) Innovative sustainable business development at a time of rapid technological change.

There will be a maximum of fourteen official side events during the Assembly. The selection process applied a set of selection criteria to identify the most suitable proposals.

One hundred and twenty-nine (129) proposals were received by the Secretariat by the deadline of 11 December 2018 and preliminarily screened and reviewed by the Secretariat. In the screening stage, one point was assigned for fulfillment of each of the following selection criteria:

- I. The themes of the side events should relate to the theme of the Environment Assembly, and at least one of the focus areas of the theme as listed above.
- II. The design and structure of the side event should ensure broad stakeholder participation, including representation from the private sector and civil society in any panel discussion, and it should ensure an interactive dialogue with the audience.
- III. The list of lead speakers / contributors to the event lists should, as far as possible, be geographically and gender balanced.

An excel table containing descriptions of the 129 applications for UNEA-4 side events, with a preliminary screening against the five criteria for evaluation of these events, was circulated to the Senior Management Team on 18 December 2018 the list was reviewed by the acting Executive Director and submitted for information of the Bureau of the Assembly. The approved side events are indicated below.

Approved events

Title	Innovative and Locally-appropriate Waste Management Solutions for a Pollution-free Planet
Organizer	Climate and Clean Air Coalition in partnership with the International Solid Waste Association
Description	This side event will focus on the importance of financing and developing locally appropriate, safe, and sustainable waste management solutions for low-income, and lower-middle-income economies. Furthermore, emphasis will be given to better communications and awareness raising in order to tackle the problem at source by influencing consumption and production habits. (10)
Time and Contact	Monday 11 March, 13:00 hrs tiy.chung@un.org
Title	Building Global Momentum on Marine Plastics Litter
Organizer	Government of Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada; Government of Kenya, National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)
Description	<p>Marine plastic pollution is a global challenge that requires global cooperation. Countries, corporations, and other actors must work together to advance a circular economy approach that will reduce the environmental effects of marine plastic litter and recover the lost economic value of plastic. Recently, there has been a proliferation of initiatives targeting plastic pollution. While this has led to increased attention, it is critical to maintain momentum and where possible increase ambition.</p> <p>An Assembly side event on marine plastic litter will drive global momentum by bringing together key leaders to share best practices and highlight innovative efforts for resource efficiency, inspiring increased action on this important issue. The event will build on the success of the Sustainable Blue Economy Conference in Kenya in November 2018. The event will feature leaders from government, the private sector, and civil society. Government representatives will be regionally diverse. (18)</p>
Contact	Monday 11 March, 13:00 hrs pascale.collas@canada.ca
Title	Innovative Solutions for Sustainable Consumption & Production: Partnerships in Action - The One Planet Network Response
Organizer	One Planet Network, in partnership with the Ministry of Environment of Germany, the Ministry of Environment of Indonesia, Consumers International and Cruelty Free International
Description	Whilst an increasing number of countries and private sector companies have put in place policies and initiatives designed to accelerate the transition towards sustainable consumption and production, there is growing consensus and acceptance that efforts need to be scaled up if we are to achieve SDG 12 by 2030. Indeed, SDG 12 has also been recognized as the least funded goal (Darlberg, 2017) while being one of the most interlinked SDGs, providing critical connections among other goals and making the SDGs more tightly linked as a network (Le Blanc, 2015). The theme of this UN Environment Assembly therefore comes at an extremely important time, when innovative solutions that address the challenges we face today need recognizing and scaling up. This side event seizes upon UNEA4 as a

	<p>pivotal moment to embed and accelerate progression towards sustainable consumption and production.</p> <p>The One Planet Network is the network of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (known as the One Planet Network), and one of the formally recognized key implementation mechanisms for achieving Sustainable Development Goals. The One Planet Network, with over 800 partners across its six programmes, is the leading platform bringing together stakeholders in a community to create and collaborate on solutions that accelerate the transformation towards sustainable consumption and production worldwide. This side event will showcase the strength of this multi-stakeholder platform.</p> <p>During this event, members of these One Planet Network programmes will showcase their work that is directly addressing all of the sub-themes of this Assembly. Partners from governments, civil society and the private sector will highlight their work on the ground to address some of the major environmental challenges related to climate change and biodiversity, poverty and natural resource management, including sustainable food systems and food security; as well as showcasing examples of how businesses today are exploring with civil society organizations how to meet a growing consumer demand for products and experiences that meet people’s desire to live ethically and sustainably.</p>
Contact	Monday 11 March 18:00 hrs jack.mcquibban@crueltyfreeinternational.org
Title	Mining and the environment: The African framework to address impacts through innovative solutions
Organizer	African Union Commission
Description	<p>Africa is richly endowed with mineral resources and is a key producer of several minerals. The mineral industry is an indispensable source of export earnings for many African nations. The sector is poised for substantial growth with significant investments planned in new mineral projects. Numerous producers are planning new mines and plants and capacity expansions of existing operations. However, it is recognized that while the mineral wealth of Africa contributes to the socio-economic development of the region, is also associated with severe environmental impacts. Deforestation, loss of biodiversity, destruction of landscapes, topsoil loss, water and air pollution as commonly associated with mining operations. Moreover, mining leaves behind massive amounts of residues, wastes and tailings, which contributes to land loss, soil, water and air contaminations. In certain instances, these impacts extend to the oceans, where vast amounts of mining wastes are being discharged each year and contribute to a global impact. Lack of proper remediation of the mining sites propagates the environmental degradation for a long time even after the operations cease. All the above impacts also contribute to the general deterioration of the health of the project-impacted populations. In Africa, the general role of artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) to mineral production, the creation of jobs and livelihoods, though widely appreciated, addressing environmental impacts of this informal sector remains a challenge.</p> <p>In 2009, the African Union Assembly of Heads of State and Government (AU) adopted the African Mining Vision (AMV) as a strategy for harnessing the natural resources to spur economic development and structural transformation across the</p>

	<p>continent. AMV calls for a transparent and inclusive mining sector that is environmentally and socially responsible, which provides lasting benefits to the community and pursues an integrated view of the rights of various stakeholders. AMV finds it essential to seek Africa-driven solutions for addressing the adverse impacts of the mining sector and to avoid conflicts induced by mineral development.</p> <p>As a tool for realizing the objectives of AMV, African Union Commission is currently spearheading the development of a comprehensive system what will ensure that mineral resources bring not only economic benefits but also good social and environmental outcomes. The United Nations Framework Classification for Resource - African Minerals and Energy Classification and Management System (UNFC-AMREC) is being developed as a unique continental system for the sustainable management of minerals and energy value chain in Africa.</p> <p>The session will examine the development and implementation of UNFC-AMREC and how it supports the development of concepts that promote innovative solutions to transform the environmental challenges into opportunities. Speakers will highlight how new business models and sectoral interlinkages can transform mining to benefit the people and environment of Africa. The session will also highlight how entrepreneurial development can be promoted through an African Investment Club that will support the channeling of African investments to innovative mineral based start-ups that will provide economically, socially and environmentally sound solutions.</p>
Time and Contact	Tuesday 12 March, 13:00 hrs MugenyiF@africa-union.org
Title	Human rights-based approaches to innovation for sustainable development
Organizer	UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, in partnership UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and environment, UN Environment Programme, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Government of Sweden, Indigenous peoples' representatives on traditional knowledge and the new local communities
Description	The event will consider the implications of a human rights-based approach to innovation for sustainable development. It will explore the implications of the Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights which establishes that all persons have a right to benefit from science and its applications, as well as other instruments which protect indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge, for innovation for sustainable development. Potential speakers will represent indigenous peoples, human rights experts, UN agencies, member States and the private sector.
Time and Contact	Tuesday 12 March 13:00 hrs bschachter@ohchr.org
Title	Pollution in South East and Southern Europe: Presentation of the Ministerial Conference "Innovative Solutions to Pollution in South East and Southern Europe"
Organizer	Republic of Serbia, Republic of Italy and UN Environment Programme
Description	UN Environment and the Government of the Republic of Serbia, with the support from the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea, convened a Ministerial Conference on Innovative Solutions to Pollution in South East and Southern Europe

	<p>that took place on 4-5 December 2018 in Belgrade, Serbia.</p> <p>The Conference gathered high-level representatives from 15 countries mostly at the ministerial level to discuss the numerous pollution-related challenges and risks for the region and to draw attention on the innovative opportunities to address it. The conference theme built on the findings of UNEA 3 report Towards a Pollution-Free Planet and served as a platform for a preparatory regional consultation for Assembly.</p> <p>The side event will provide a strategic opportunity to present the Regional Vision on Innovative Solutions to Pollution adopted by the 15 participating countries at the global level. Moreover, the Belgrade Conference outcome results, such as the background report on Pollution in the Western Balkans and selected posters on innovative solutions to Pollution, should be further displayed at the margins of the side event.</p>
Time and Contact	<p>Tuesday 12 March 18:00 hrs.</p> <p>bschachter@ohchr.org</p>
Title	The contribution of sustainable finance to a circular economy
Organizer	European Commission and UNEP Finance Initiative
Description	<p>The objective of this side event is to raise awareness on the interlinkages between the circular economy and sustainable finance including managing natural capital related risks. Participants will discuss how current initiatives by e.g. UNEP, the EU and the private sector, can contribute to sustainable consumption and production and a more efficient use of resources through the circular economy approach.</p> <p>The proposed overall purpose is to discuss sustainable finance and circular economy as two mutually supporting enabling policies supporting the required global transformation, as envisioned in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement. Building on recent developments, e.g. the Sustainable Finance Action Plan and the Long-term Strategy for greenhouse gasses emission reductions adopted by the European Community in 2018, the side event will inspire circular economy policy makers to actively engage in the enhancement of frameworks for sustainable finance including sustainability impacts and natural capital risks, and motivate sustainable finance actors from the public and private sector to actively engage on integrating circular economy finance into the sustainable finance agenda.</p> <p>Innovative approaches from governments, the private sector, and civil society to measure and reduce food waste</p>
Time Contact	<p>Wednesday 13 March 13:00 hrs</p> <p>astrid.schomaker@ec.europa.eu</p>
Title	Innovative approaches from governments, the private sector, and civil society to measure and reduce food waste
Organizers	Governments of the United States , Italy and the United Kingdom with other partners;
Description	<p>There has been a groundswell of awareness about, and action towards, reducing food loss and waste across the globe in recent years. Governments, international agencies, the private sector, academia, and NGOs have led innovative efforts to improve measurement of loss and food waste. They are also championing innovative technologies and processes to reduce food loss and waste in operations</p>

and connect food waste producers to donation, recovery, and recycling options. This event would bring together a broad range of stakeholders to present innovative policies, tools, technologies, and processes to help countries measure and reduce their food loss and waste.

Actions that enable solutions for food loss and waste, as well as its social, environmental and economic impacts, are a perfect example of how to implement Innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production, the UNEA4 theme, and all its three sub-themes of environmental challenges, life-cycle approaches, and innovative sustainable business.

At the event, participants will hear about innovative approaches and tools to reduce food waste, such as the Excess Food Opportunities Map and research labs working to create valuable products from otherwise wasted food. Innovative methodologies to measure food waste and associated environmental and economic benefits, including those developed by a Commission for Environmental Cooperation project, could also be highlighted with participation from WRAP and potentially Mexico. WRAP recently won the Roddenberry prize to continue work on food waste in Mexico and are also working with the Pacific Coast Collaborative in the US and Canada to develop and implement a voluntary agreement for food businesses in the region. The North American Region has been working together and has a strong message to deliver at UNEA-4 regarding implementation of policies, plans, and initiatives that tackle social, environmental, and economic challenges of sustainable development.

Italy can present an academic perspective on food loss and waste to show their significant domestic efforts and innovative approaches to combat the problem. The UK can present on their significant domestic successes in reducing food loss and waste.

The UN Environment Programme can showcase the Food Waste Index, the methodology for the food waste element of SDG 12.3. UN Environment led in its development with key partners and the final methodology will be presented to countries as a universal approach for food waste to be measured. UNEP can also present on work it has supported with EPA addressing food loss and waste in North America by applying innovative life-cycle based approaches. In addition, the One Planet Network Sustainable Food Systems Programme can showcase its work.

Civil society organizations are also working to address food loss and waste. It is estimated that one third of all food is lost or wasted, representing a massive loss in embodied land, water, labour, and energy (FAO, 2015b) valued at about \$1 trillion annually. While we are producing 50% more food than we eat, there are still 815 million people worldwide going hungry.

WWF International and WRAP can highlight their work on the Save 1/3rd initiative and Hotel Kitchen Toolkit developed by WWF US. Save 1/3 is an innovative global approach bringing together governments, businesses, international organizations and civil society. In addition, WRAP is a world leader on food waste measurement and prevention, currently working with UN Environment and FAO on the Food Waste Index for SDG 12.3. WRAP is also a Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Committee member of two of the One Planet Network programmes (Sustainable Lifestyles and Consumer Information), and a partner for the Sustainable Food Systems

	<p>programme.</p> <p>Presentations from the private sector could highlight innovation in technology and processes that promote food waste reductions, such as new packaging, improved labels, products using previously wasted food, better logistics, effective tools, and motivating public action.</p>
Time and contact	<p>Wednesday 13 March, 13:00 hrs</p> <p>besch.brianna@epa.gov</p>
Title	Leapfrogging to electric mobility: a strategy to detoxify and decarbonize
Organizer	<p>Secretariat for the Environment and Sustainable Development, Argentina, Ministry of the Environment and Energy, Costa Rica. Ministries of the Environment of Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Santa Lucia Uruguay, and private sector/industry organizations (BYD, Renault, BMW, Enel, Engie), Latin American Association for Sustainable Mobility (ALAMOS), European Union.</p>
Description	<p>The transition to electric mobility has accelerated exponentially in the recent years, and Latin America and the Caribbean is no exception. Despite adoption levels of this technology are still at an early stage, several countries and cities in the region are drafting ambitious plans and taking significant steps to accelerate deployment. For instance, Costa Rica launched last year the first law in the region providing targets, incentives and benefits to spark the transition to electric mobility, multiplying by four the sales of EVs, while Santiago de Chile is currently deploying the largest fleet of electric buses outside of China, and five Latin American countries have launched national electric mobility strategies.</p> <p>According WHO-PAHO almost 100,000 premature deaths per year in the Americas are attributable to air pollution. The transport sector is the main responsible for these deaths. In this context the region’s vehicle fleet is expected to triple in the next 30 years, imposing serious climate and local pollution challenges. The region has one of the highest urbanization rates in the world, and transportation is the main cause of air pollution in cities, contributing critically to respiratory diseases, cardiovascular diseases and deaths. These will increase significantly unless technological transformation to e-mobility and integrated approach to transport is accelerated.</p> <p>At the same time, the region has the highest per capita bus fleet in the world, and the world's greenest power matrix, creating an opportunity to promote more efficient and cleaner transportation. The acceleration of electric transport is one of the cornerstones to achieve the reversal of trends in GHG emissions and local pollutants.</p> <p>In October 2018, within the framework of the XXI Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean in Buenos Aires, a “Dialogue of Ministers on Electric Mobility” was launched supported by 14 countries, including Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Granada, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Santa Lucia and Uruguay. The Dialogue facilitates joint efforts and contributes in strategic areas of cooperation, such as common learning in the formulation of regulatory frameworks for electric mobility, design and provision of financial instruments and business models and capacity</p>

	<p>building.</p> <p>During the side event, representatives from the governments, financial institutions and private sector will present their national perspectives on how to leapfrog to electric mobility while at the same time creating investment opportunities and green jobs.</p>
Time and Contact	<p>Wednesday 13 March 18:00 hrs</p> <p>pholzman@ambiente.gob.ar; andrea.mezamurillo@gmail.com</p>
Title	<p>Ministerial roundtable on main outcomes of 2018 UN Biodiversity Conference and the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework</p>
Organizer	<p>Ministry of Environment, Egypt, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, UN Environment Programme</p>
Description	<p>In November 2018, all stakeholders gathered for the 14th Conference of the Parties to the UN Biodiversity Convention (CBD COP14), that took place for the first time in Africa and the Middle East, in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. It was preceded by the African Ministerial Summit on Biodiversity and the High Level Ministerial Segment of COP 14.</p> <p>The African Ministerial Summit on Biodiversity was held on 13 November 2018, under the theme: Land and ecosystem degradation and restoration: Priorities for increased resilience in Africa. Participants adopted a political declaration, Africa biodiversity priorities for inclusion in post 2020 global biodiversity framework and African Action Agenda on Ecosystem Restoration for Increased Resilience and country commitments on ecosystem restoration.</p> <p>The High-level Segment of the UN Biodiversity Conference was held from 14-15 November 2018, under the theme Mainstreaming of biodiversity into the sectors of energy and mining, infrastructure, manufacturing and processing, and health. The High-level Segment included: panel discussions on the importance of investing in biodiversity for people and planet, and the post-2020 framework and 2050 vision; and round tables on mainstreaming biodiversity in the infrastructure, manufacturing and processing, energy and mining, and health sectors. Participants adopted the Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration on Investing in Biodiversity for People and Planet in which the General Assembly of the United Nations was invited to convene a Heads of State Nature Summit (Nature Summit 2020) before the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2020, to highlight the urgency for action at the highest levels in support and full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and a post 2020 New Deal for Nature.</p> <p>The event will galvanize political support towards a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, which will replace the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.</p>
Time and Contact	<p>Thursday 14 March, 13:00 hrs</p> <p>hhzedan@hotmail.com</p>
Title	<p>The NextWave of Innovation: A P4G State of the Art partnership having maximizing impact today on one of our most pressing global challenges - plastic pollution in the marine environment</p>

Organizer	Lonely Whale is an award-winning incubator for courageous ideas that drive impactful market-based change on behalf of our ocean. Founded in December 2015 by UN Environment Goodwill Ambassador Adrian Grenier and Lucy Sumner, Lonely Whale is inspired by the power of community to create the change needed to ensure a healthy planet.
Description	<p>NextWave Plastics is keeping plastic in our economy and out of the ocean through developing the first global network of ocean-bound plastic suppliers and permanently locking up this material into company products that will never make their way back into the ocean. In doing so, NextWave is achieving full circularity and having direct impact on the marine environment.</p> <p>A private sector-led, collaborative initiative NextWave Plastics was originated by Dell Technologies and convened by Lonely Whale, a not-profit organization. Joining Dell Technologies in their quest to evolve product design and material sourcing practices to achieve sustainable consumption is their top market competitor HP Inc., as well as General Motors, Herman Miller, Humanscale, IKEA, Interface and Trek Bicycles.</p> <p>Joining these member companies are suppliers PlastixGlobal, Bureo, Polindo and NetWorks and public-sector collaborators including UN Environment, New Materials Institute, The 5 Gyres Institute and the Zoological Society of London</p> <p>Together, NextWave members are having direct impact today on plastic pollution towards a goal to permanently eliminate a minimum of 25,000 tonnes of plastic from entering the ocean. Supply chains are being developed to source that material across a minimum of seven countries and their development will serve as a scalable model for other initiatives to adopt.</p> <p>Event attendees will hear directly from private sector leaders the necessary strategies that foster true collaboration across and within industries and geographic boundaries, how these strategies are being applied to create maximum impact today on our most pressing social and environmental issues and early supply chain development learnings that are shaping future directions for sustainable consumption.</p> <p>Attendees will see first-hand the innovation leading to products being made by NextWave Plastics members that are permanently locking up ocean-bound plastics and learn how these products are being designed to ensure full circularity can be achieved, the barriers that have been realized and how these have been addressed.</p> <p>The side event will also feature the critical importance of addressing social needs and interests in the development of the first-ever global network of ocean-bound plastics suppliers. Best practices for achieving maximum benefit to communities from which the material is being derived as well as early learnings will be conveyed to foster continued knowledge sharing.</p>
Time and Contact	Thursday 14 March, 13:00 hrs dun@lonelywhale.org
Title	Advancing the sustainability of chemicals throughout the life cycle

Organizer	Organizers and partners, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature, Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, Chemicals and Health Branch of UN Environment
Description	<p>As reported in the Global Chemicals Outlook II, megatrends like population growth and increase in chemicals production worldwide, with emerging economies forecasted to achieve the highest growth rates, are crucial challenges for our global society. The report recognizes that large amounts of hazardous chemicals are continuously released to indoor and outdoor environments, in addition to large volumes of hazardous wastes generated. The impacts of chemical pollution on human health and ecosystems remain significant, despite a range of valuable chemicals management instruments and approaches developed and applied over the past decades. The megatrends and related market demands create challenges concerning health and environment impacts in the future, but also opportunities for innovation and change. Given the need to advance innovative solutions, a number of private sector actors in the chemical industry and downstream sectors have put in place proactive initiatives to advance sustainability of chemicals within global supply chains and through private standard setting.</p> <p>To scale up innovative and proactive private sector solutions throughout the life cycle, existing private efforts need to be supported through policy making. This interplay as well as sharing experiences, successes and challenges of these initiatives is crucial in complementing public sector regulatory frameworks.</p>
Time and Contact	Thursday 14 March 18:00 hrs stephan.contius@bmu.bund.de
Title	The correlation between migration and environment: what do we do next?
Organizer	Permanent Mission of Morocco and International Organization for Migration
Description	<p>This event relates will highlight the Global Compact for Migration and will relate to focus area a) Environmental challenges related to poverty and natural resources management, including sustainable food systems, food security and halting biodiversity loss</p> <p>In recent years, environmental migration questions have increasingly featured in global environmental and climate change policy discussions, notably under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in previous United Nations Environmental Assemblies, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. On the migration policy side, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, the first international migration agreement to be negotiated among United Nations Member States, proposes comprehensive measures for states to increase cooperation to address the drivers of environmental migration. As policy discussions intensify on a topic seen as a key challenge of today and tomorrow's global governance, this event will give to the participants of the United Nations Environmental Assembly the opportunities to discuss the following points interactively:</p> <p>1) What is the current evidence on the poverty, natural resources management and migration nexus? This part of the event will present a couple of case studies from two to three different regions of the world.</p>

	<p>2) Global governance of environmental migration: what are the entry points for policymakers to bring issues of poverty, natural resources management and migration to global attention?</p> <p>3) Reflections on concrete solutions: What can UNEA parties do to respond to the immense migration challenges posed by poverty and poor natural resources management? Where would this action fit under the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Global Compact for Migration and other relevant global policy instruments?</p>
Time and Contact	Friday 15 March, 13:00 hrs mtraore@iom.int
Title	Ministerial Luncheon: Innovative Policies and Solutions for Circular Economy
Organizer	Ministry of the Environment of Finland, Government of Japan, Government of Kenya
Description	<p>The High-level Luncheon will underline the need for systemic thinking and focus on sustainable and circular economy solutions that contribute broadly to the theme of the Assembly, namely Innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production.</p> <p>The key message for the event will emphasize that a systemic transition to circular economy is an excellent strategy and tool to steer the world towards climate resilient, resource efficient and inclusive sustainable development. This message would be reinforced in the event by driving forward concrete practices and examples of circular economy innovations, such as those related to, for example, marine plastic litter, public procurement, construction materials, nutrition recycling etc.</p> <p>The event will present the outcome of the Yokohama World Circular Economy Forum, and also take forward results and outputs from other relevant UN and international events and processes, such as PAGE Ministerial Conference in Cape Town on 10-11 January 2019 and the progress made in various thematic programmes under the One Planet Network / 10YFP. In addition, the latest scientific findings linked to the theme could be presented by international scientific panels.</p>
Time and Contact	Friday 15 March 13:00 hrs annika.lindblom@ym.fi