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**Forum of Ministers of Environment  
of Latin America and the Caribbean**

**Notification by the Regional Director  
United Nations Environment Programme**

**The XXII Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment  
Bridgetown (online) 18- 19 January 2021**

1. In accordance with the Recommendations and Conclusions of the Intersessional Meeting of the Forum (Bridgetown, 5-6 November 2020) and with the decisions taken at the meeting of the Bureau of the Forum of Ministers held on 2 October 2020, and further taking into account the exceptional circumstances associated with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the XXII Meeting of the Forum and is expected to convene online in Bridgetown, on 18 and 19 January 2021.
2. The overarching theme for the Forum is “**The Environmental Dimension of COVID-19 Sustainable Recovery Response for Latin America and the Caribbean**”, which will be addressed during the high-level sessions and Ministerial Panels.
3. Advanced version of the provisional agenda for the XXII Forum is available on the forum’s website: [XXII Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean \(unenvironment.org\)](https://unenvironment.org/xxii-meeting-of-the-forum-of-ministers-of-environment-of-latin-america-and-the-caribbean)
4. The online session of the XXII Forum will open at 9:00 am (Panama time) on Monday, 18 January 2021, and conclude at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday 19 January 2021. The session is expected to consider and adopt decisions and a political declaration (Bridgetown Declaration and COVID Call of action). It will include online sessions and panels for Ministers of Environment and other high-level representatives.
5. The Meeting of High-Level Officers/Negotiation Committee, which has celebrated five preparatory meetings (23 October, 12 November, 10, 11 and 18 December) serves as the main preparatory meeting for the Forum. The Meeting of High-Level Officers /Negotiation Committee will have its last meeting on 7 January 2021. The result of its work will be transmitted to the Bureau of the XXII Forum.
6. The online session of the XXII Meeting of the Forum is expected to be preceded by additional high level and side events, foreseen to be organized in advance of and during the XXII Forum.

7. The Forum of Ministers of Environment adopts mutatis mutandis the rules of procedure of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, noting that the practice of the forum has been to adopt decisions by consensus. In accordance with rule 16 of the rules of procedure of the UNEA, each member of the Forum shall be represented by an accredited representative, who may be accompanied by such alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.
8. The XXII Meeting of the Forum is open to the participation of representatives of specialised agencies, United Nations entities and other intergovernmental organisations and regional economic integration organisations. Representatives of these entities are requested to communicate their intention to participate as observers in the meeting to the Secretariat (rolac.foromin@pnuma.org) so that the Secretariat can make necessary arrangements.
9. All delegates and participants, including representatives of United Nations entities, specialised agencies and other intergovernmental organisations and international non-governmental organisations, must register online in advance of the meeting. The letter of accreditation shall be on official letterhead and must include the name(s) of the delegate(s) or representative(s). **Please note that online registration for the XXII Meeting of the Forum of Ministers will be required to participate in the meeting.** Please see instructions attached for Webex and Interactio Interpretation online service (Webex Events Guide). The link for the registration will be sent in a separate email. Test calls will be available for countries to participate. Dates will be sent in the first week of January.
10. In the spirit of Sustainable Development Goal number 5 – to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls – all delegations, representing Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations, and the private sector, are encouraged to ensure an equal balance of representation of women to the XXII Forum.
11. Above mentioned documents as well as all other relevant documentation for the XXII Forum will be made available through the dedicated website of the forum mentioned above.
12. Member States and stakeholders should address all communication concerning the XXII Meeting of the Forum to:

Leo Heileman

Regional Director and Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean  
of the United Nations Environment Programme

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