



Governance Affairs Office



United Nations
Environment Programme

Candidates nominated for election of a representative of for the NGO Major Group to the Major Groups Facilitating Committee of UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

Pursuant to a call that was sent out to all Organisations accredited under the NGO Major Group on 30 March 2017 to nominate 2 candidates to represent the NGO major Group in the Major Groups Facilitating Committee, the following were nominated to be elected.

Ser. No	Name and Organisation of nominated Candidate	Name and Organisation of the nominator	Short Bio of the Nominated Candidate (as submitted by the nominators)
1.	Kadi Kenk- Let's Do it Foundation	Kadi Kenk- Let's Do it Foundation	Kadi Kenk has been a volunteer coordinator of a worldwide cleanup network since 2011 and been working in Let's Do It Foundation since 2013. Her position involved the facilitation of best practice sharing among 100 countries civic networks. Since 2015, her role has been to manage international partnerships for Let's Do It Foundation that includes building relationships and coordinating mutual interests among corporate, civic and institutional partners. Having led the process of accreditation of the organisation in 2013 and since then following the process of members engagement, Kadi has first -hand experience to be the group member as an NGO that is actively contributing to global NGO cooperation and partnering with the UN for achieving joint goals. Also, it has been her duty to lead the mission of World Cleanup Day during the Estonian EU presidency and deal with different stakeholders to deliver the best possible results to advance global improvements on waste management infrastructure. She is used to working with people of different backgrounds, position and culture. Is a great public speaker, and used to remote working.

<p>2.</p>	<p>Prof. Medani P. Bhandari, Ph.D.- Atlantic State Legal Foundation Inc (ASLF)</p>	<p>Dr. Samuel H. Sage, President- Atlantic State Legal Foundation Inc (ASLF</p>	<p>Dr. Medani P. Bhandari has been working as international program coordinator since 2011. His duties include, but are not limited to, directing international programs and serving as an expert in policy fields including climate change, biodiversity conservation, globalization issues that transcend the nation state, global and environmental governance, sustainability, international organization/relations, global policy and public/social policy, conflict over natural resources, and other issues related to sustainable development and environmental change. Dr. Bhandari is also responsible for exploring relevant funding agencies, preparing research and action plan proposals; and continuing to expand ASLF networks with similarly oriented agencies. Dr. Bhandari represents ASLF to United Nations organizations and the World Bank-Global Environmental Facility, and maintains and expands ASLF's relationships while exploring the mutual ground of collaborative works in North America, Europe, Asia pacific, Africa and Caribbean. Dr. Bhandari holds PhD degree from Syracuse University in Sociology, M.A.'s in Sociology (Syracuse University) and Sustainable International Development (Brandeis University), and a M.Sc. in Environmental System Monitoring and Analysis (ITC-The University of Twente, The Netherlands). Dr. Bhandari is experienced in the</p>
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			<p>conservation of biodiversity (including wildlife biology), nature and natural resources, global and international environmental politics, environmental institutions and governance, and forest governance from the grassroots to the national level with a special focus on participatory management, climate change policy and implementation, environmental justice, land cover and land use change, and environmental health hazards. His major specialties include: Biodiversity, Environmental Health Hazards, Climate Change Mitigation, Climate Change Adaptation, International environmental governance, Green Economics, Sustainability, and assessing economic, social and environmental impacts on natural resources. His field experience spans across Asia, Africa, the U.S., Western Europe, Australia, and the Middle East.</p>
3.	<p>Dr Dipayan Dey- South Asian Forum For Environment (SAFE)</p>	<p>★ Dr Amrita Chatterjee, Director- South Asian Forum For Environment (SAFE)</p>	<p>★ Dr Dipayan Dey is an adept professional with two decades of comprehensive experience in environmental action research and ecosystem management towards sustainable environment development in global south. He has been supervising research project on natural resource management; habitat restoration, strategic impact assessment studies on carbon sequestration</p>

			<p>patterns and possibilities towards downscaling climate impact, risk analysis and adaptive mitigation through community based interventions in SAARC countries under the aegis of UNEP, APN Global Change Research, World bank Group, USAID, DFID, NASA, ICIMOD, IWMI, ICRISAT CGIAR and various other international organizations. His commendable participation in the National Planning Commission of India, WB-NRM council and GEF-CSO council has significantly brought in policy implications. He has been greatly instrumental in regional cooperation in Asia and the Pacific through various partnerships with universities and organizations in BRICS, Japan, Korea and Philippines. He is also a successful community leader, an environmental activist and practitioner and has been recipients of UNEP's Eco-Peace Leadership Award, Kasumiguara Conservation Medal, Asia Green Award, Earthcare Award etc. Under his leadership as Chair, South Asian Forum for Environment [SAFE], a regional civil society organization has been working in South Asia</p>
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		<p>★ Amgalan Terbish, Executive Director of the Development Horizons Foundation (DHF)</p>	<p>towards poverty alleviation and sustainable development partnering with 18 international organizations. SAFE is in consultative status with ECOSOC and a member in UNEA, GEF-CSO Council and UNCCCD. SAFE has been accredited with observer status in UNFCCC, GCF and CANSA. Given a chance he would be able to give commendable leadership to the civil society organizations in UNEA through equity and reciprocity promoting cross regional collaboration and partnership.</p> <p>★ Dr. Dipayan Dey, leads the South Asian Forum for Environment, SAFE - a nonprofit civil society organization working towards sustainable environment development and poverty alleviation in the Indian ecoregion of South Asia and works at science-society interface through community partnership, equity and reciprocity. He is an adept professional with comprehensive experience in tertiary teaching of Plant Ecology and Environmental Science, has nearly twenty years of acumen in environmental research, planning, eco-system management towards</p>
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			sustainable environment development in global south
4.	Dr. Vinitaa Apte - Terre Policy Centre	Ankit Gaurav, Project Leader- Terre Policy Centre	Dr. Vinitaa Apte was consultant in United Nations Environment Programme ,Paris as a communication expert and senior official and international expert on Sustainable Development and Green Economy. She successfully led a global team of Interns & consultants with diverse cultural background in UNEP's Paris office & in TERRE's office. Possesses hands-on experience in forging innovative and award-winning partnerships with governments, NGOs and international organizations on critical issues of strengthening synergies and led a Programme on Sustainable livelihood in the World natural heritages. Strong facilitator and best communicator in consensus building at national and international platforms in difficult environmental negotiations. Renowned for creative concepts and practical programmatic approaches in developing, implementing, reporting and monitoring national strategies for ecosystem nurturing. Innovation-led visionary at global as well as enterprise level in strengthening corporate social responsibility, community-led nature conservation and restoration Status. Key publications and notable Awards: Awards • Received GunwantKamgar Award in 1994 as excellent performer in Bank. • Received Best Actress, Best writer and Best colleague award in

			<p>banking career. • Received UNEP award on 20th Anniversary Montreal Protocol for the 'Outstanding Contribution' to the out reaching of the Montreal Protocol (2007). Publications • Written articles in well-known national and international journals, reports and books. • Published four books and one of the books are now incorporated in Pune University FY BA course. • Presented paper on sensitive ecosystem in the International Conference at Beijing organised by UNESCO • Co Author of the book on rocky plateau. Experience as a team leader: • 2009 -till date: President, TERRE Policy Centre • 2011-2012 : Consultant UN safe Planet campaign , Geneva • 2004 - 2011 : Consultant UNEP Ozone Action.</p>
5.	Richard Kimbowa- Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development	Nicholas Senyonjo Chief Executive Officer- Uganda Environmental Education Foundation (UEEF)	Richard Kimbowa has been in Managing and Coordination CSOs within EAST AFRICA under the CSO Lake Victoria Management Project (LVEMP 11) for the last 10 years. His professional in the ENR Sector and his leadership role would be able to represent us MGFC.UCSD has a wide experience and they have been doing advocacy, communication and networking in key policy issues in East Africa, Africa and Global .He has supported himself to attend UNEP meetings and is capable of mobilizing resources from Development Partners.
6.	Dalia Márquez-	Cecilia Iglesias-	Dalia has been a youth

	Asociación Civil Red Ambiental	Asociación Civil Red Ambiental	representative on the subject of environmental public policies since 2012, at regional level as a global. She has always excelled in the various NGOs in which she has worked with environmental issues in general, building on positions agreed by NGOs and other major groups at the national, subregional and regional levels. Therefore, she is very familiar with the role of representing a broader interest. It knows the practices associated with the multilateral negotiations and therefore it is easy to manage agreements with the members of the State, the NGOs, other important groups, the regional representatives and the intergovernmental agencies. It manages good experience to reach consensus in these spaces of representation, for its ability to handle a fluid communication between sessions which could be the key to ensure better contributions. The fact of having participated actively in previous spaces is very positive because of its experience and commitment to act and promote towards better environmental practices, as well as improved commitment mechanisms, based on a coherent and consolidated message from a consensus process Which involves NGOs as a group.
7.	Kennedy Ochieng Orwa- Environment Liaison Center International (ELCI)	Frank Msafiri, National Chair- Sustainable Environmental Development Watch (SUSWATCH)	Kennedy Orwa is the Executive Director of Environment Liaison Centre International (ELCI), a global membership organization. Before this, he was a Programmes Manager in the same organization,

		Kenya Chapter	<p>which has in the past played interface between UNEP and CSOs worldwide. Kennedy therefore builds on a wealth of institutional capacity and experiences that will enable him and ELCI deepen CSO engagement with UNEP. Kennedy holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from Daystar University and a Certificate in Institutional Management and Business Planning (International), from Plymouth University, United Kingdom. For over twelve years, Kennedy has promoted information exchange and advocacy through local and international CSO networks to bear on environmental change. His roles have grown from technical support in project implementation, institutional (including networks) capacity building, to policy and strategy development. He has experiences in ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, renewable and energy efficient technology, sustainable lands management, and sustainable agriculture. Kennedy is currently overseeing ELCI's delivery within the themes of Agriculture and Food Security, Climate Change and Energy; and Biodiversity and Natural Resource Management. Kennedy understands the value of collective and competent actions by CSOs to cause environmental sustainability. He has championed a number of national and international policy processes through CSO networks and through strategic national and international partnerships. These</p>
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			responsibilities require an ardent negotiator, strong team orientation, diplomacy and a visionary strategist. Kennedy established the Samaki-Net, a network of CSOs supporting sustainable management of fresh water fisheries in Kenya and East Africa; led the establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform on People Centred Land Governance (PCLG) in Kenya; currently hosts and supports advocacy and growth of Africa CSO Network on PCLG. He has experiences with GEF, IUCN, UNCBD and UNCCD, and is an active and regular participant in UNEP processes including the on-going preparations for UNEA-3.
8.	Peter Denton - The United Church of Canada	Sue Riddlestone- Bioregional Development Group (Bioregional)	Denton participated in UNEA-1 and UNEA-2 (and related OECPR meetings) as Major Groups and Stakeholders Regional Representative for North America to UNEP, and Governing Council 27 as Alternate Regional Representative for RONA. He also participated in the Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum the last three times, as well as the Science Policy Forum preceding UNEA-2. In other roles with UN Environment, he was elected Rapporteur at the Global Intergovernmental Multi-Stakeholder Consultations in Berlin (2014) to establish parameters for GEO 6. He then contributed to several chapters of the GEO 6 Regional Assessment for North America. He represented UNEP at the Second International Seminar on Environment, Religion and

			<p>Culture in Tehran (2016), presenting a paper and moderating the final plenary panel. He has also involved in several initiatives through UNEP's Ten Year Framework of Programmes for Sustainable Production and Consumption (10YFP) and has published two issues in Perspectives. Adjunct Associate Professor of History at the Royal Military College of Canada, he holds five degrees, including a Ph.D. in Religion and the Social Sciences (McMaster), and is an ordained minister in The United Church of Canada, which is accredited with UN Environment. He has published six books, including: Live Close to Home (2016); Technology and Sustainability (2014); and Gift Ecology: Reimagining a Sustainable World (2012). Founder and principal consultant at greenethics.ca, inc., he chairs the Policy Committee of the Green Action Centre, Manitoba's oldest environmental organization (founded 1985). Given the short time frame before the meeting, his previous experience with the MGFC as a Regional Representative and his familiarity with UNEA processes, Peter would be able to make a useful contribution to the planning and operation of UNEA-3.</p>
9.	Mithika Mwenda - Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)	Ken Mwathe, Policy and Advocacy Coordinator- BirdLife International, Africa Office, Nairobi	Mr. Mithika Mwenda Currently the Head of Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA), Mithika Mwenda has distinguished himself as a creative, strategic thinker, dynamic, consummate networker

		<p>and team builder, with wide experience working and catalyzing transformative change in communities, civil society and other sectors He has led the growth of the PACJA into a formidable organisation. He took his undergraduate studies in Moi University where he was a student Leader, before joining Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology for Masters of Science in Public Policy Analysis. Mithika has authored and presented several Papers in various Forums, including African Commission for Human rights and people's Rights as well as the UN Human Rights Council. He has previously served as the African Regional representative to the UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum, which PACJA has played a key role in strengthening. In 2016, the influential Pan African Magazine, Le Afrique, named him among the top 50 African Intellectuals due to his contribution to climate policy discourses in the continent and globally. He represents African Civil Society as Observer to the Participants Committee of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility of the World Bank. He also represents Civil Society in the Steering Committee of Africa's flagship Climate Policy and Practice Coordination Platform, CliMDEV Africa, spearheaded by the African Union Commission, African Development Bank and UN Economic Commission for Africa. Mithika will certainly bring his vast</p>
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			experience of networking and policy analysis into Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum.
10.	Dr. Shahriar Hossain- Environmental and Social Development Organization (ESDO)	Siddika Sultana, Executive Director- Environmental and Social Development Organization (ESDO)	Dr. Shahriar Hossain is the pioneer and the key personality of global anti polythene / Plastic movement. He is a man who had spent the 13 year campaign and lobbying against the plastic bags and was the main architect of the ban of polythene bags in Bangladesh. His idea and contribution marked as millstone to make a great change in the field of environmental livelihood and economic as well as in environmental protections and nature conservation. Dr. Shahriar is a committed personality for social development and rights. He initiated a concept of eco-friendly livelihood in Bangladesh for a sustainable environment and development. On his concept he started working to develop and modeling an eco-village in rural Bangladesh. Since 1990 he is serving the poor people through ESDO, he is an ideal personality in Bangladesh because he is fighting against the evil causes of environmental degradation and damage of livelihood. He renders his service with the notion of volunteerism. From 1990 to date he serves ESDO as a full time volunteer. From the childhood education to Ph.D. Shahriar's dream comes to truth to be an environmental activist. He has a clear mission to serve for nature and life. In the field of social services in Bangladesh and the Asia, he started with a self-effacing approach for social and

			<p>environmental changes in early 90es. He has been contributing global environmental justice and economic issues through many international organizations like IUCN, IPEN, World Alliance and GAIA. Dr. Shahriar actively contributes as an expert in UNEP chemicals unite, particularly as a mercury waste expert and he led the civil society groups in INCs of Minamata Convention. He was attended UNEA-2 and actively participated in many social agendas and a working group meeting. His skills and experience can help and enrich the NGO Major Group participation to MGFC.</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Oyuntsetseg Oidov, Founder of Development Horizons Foundation, (DHF), Mongolia</p>	<p>Amgalan Terbish, Executive Director of the Development Horizons Foundation (DHF)</p>	<p>Ms. Oyuntsetseg Oidov is an enthusiastic female leader with more than 20 years of professional experience in the areas of national and regional development policy, she has been responsible for strategic planning processes, programmatic and operational management of regional and country offices in the UN specialized agencies with a focus on public-private and civil society cooperation. She would be able to bring her years of experience to the role of the member of the Major Groups Facilitating Committee and continue to foster equitable green development, green growth and social inclusion within Mongolia and elsewhere. DHF that she is heading is a nonprofit civil society organization working towards supporting human development, improving livelihoods through promoting</p>

			<p>green economy, green growth and building capacity for environmental governance, gender mainstreaming and South-South cooperation. It is strategically important to cross fertilize and replicate international best practices in the priority areas of energy efficiency, conservation, urban development and clean air, through strategically developing better infrastructure and user-friendly transportation systems and attracting public and private investments in the green development processes.</p>
12.	<p>Leida Rijnhout- Friends of the Earth Europe</p>	<p>Jeremy Wates, Secretary General European Environmental Bureau (EEB)</p>	<p>Leida is a Dutch national with a background in cultural anthropology and more than 30 years of experience in international development cooperation, environmental justice and sustainability. For many years, she has facilitated and coordinated NGOs to realise their active engagement in UN processes on sustainable development and environment. She was heavily involved in WSSD in 2002 and at Rio+20 in 2012, including all the preparatory meetings. After serving as the Executive Director of ANPED (Northern Alliance for Sustainability) for many years, from Jan 2014 to Sept 2016 Leida worked as Director of Global Policies and Sustainability at the European Environmental Bureau, Europe’s largest federation of environmental NGOs, where she was active in the Post2015/HLPF process, serving as Organising Partner for the Major Group of NGOs. She was the European Focal</p>

			<p>Point for NGOs for 10YFP SCP and also represented the ENGOs in OECD environment-related processes. Since Sept 2016 she has been Programme Coordinator for Resource Justice & Sustainability at FoE Europe. Leida represented the NGO Major Group on the MGFC for UNEA-2 and was appointed as Co-Chair, in which capacity she co-organised the successful Major Groups and Stakeholders' Forum that preceded UNEA-2. If re-elected, Leida will continue to bring extensive experience with regard to both process and content issues. She has an impressive track record in facilitating NGO engagement (maintaining mailing lists of interested NGOs, ensuring good information flow, setting up and managing Google-docs for joint statements, support on logistics, etc) as well as in preparation of position papers, organizing input to meetings, where she would aim to connect UNEP activities with each other and with other global processes like SDG/HLPF, UNECE and OECD. Permanent dialogues and coordination with the focal points of the other Major Groups and Stakeholders would be an important part of the job for her.</p>
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